



Animal Enhancement Activity – ANM29 – On-farm forage based grazing system

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

No additional criteria are included here, but clarification of the national criteria is provided. All protein and energy needs must be provided on-farm. In other words, no protein or energy supplements can be brought in from off-farm. However, mineral supplements can be purchased off-farm.

Additional State Clarification of Criteria:

- 1) Develop key grazing areas per pasture. At least one key grazing area per grazing management unit.
- 2) Determine at least one key forage plant per key grazing area.
- 3) Determine pre- and post-grazing average stubble heights for key forage plants. Suggested pre- and post grazing heights of common Nebraska range and for age grasses are based on NRCS Prescribed Grazing practice specifications Table 3 (see page 2).
- 4) Prepare a contingency plan for events such as fire, flooding, drought, hail, insects, etc.
- 5) Follow [NRCS Forage Harvest Management standard \(511\)](#), for on-farm hayfield management.

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

Additional State Documentation Requirements:

Complete the table below to document approved operation/maintenance and management activities:

To be completed by NRCS and Producer during planning			To be completed by Producer during certification (if different than planned)	
1	2	3	4	5
Tract	Field	Acres	Begin And End Grazing Heights	Date Measurement Taken
<i>EX. 1</i>	<i>R1</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>8 inches 6 inches</i>	<i>05/01/2012 06/11/2012</i>

EX= EXAMPLE, COLUMNS 1-3NRCS COMPLETES, COLUMNS 4-5PRODUCER COMPLETES

I certify that the forage based grazing system supplies all roughage (forage and hay) requirements for my livestock operation and meets these specifications including the NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET documentation requirements. I understand that I will submit the following minimum documentation to NRCS:

- 1) A grazing management plan with expected days of occupation for each grazing management unit, and actual days of occupation.
- 2) Submit a contingency plan for events such fire, flooding, hail, drought, insects, etc.
- 3) Submit a hayland management plan, if appropriate. Including pre-determined post-harvest average standing stubble heights.

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____



^{1/} **Table 3. Recommendations for Beginning and Ending Grazing (Heights and Dates) for Nebraska Pastures**

Species	Begin Grazing		End Grazing	
	^{2/} Minimum Height of Vegetative Growth (inches)	Approximate Date*	^{2/} Minimum Residual Height (inches)	^{2/} Minimum Residual Height Before Killing Frost (inches)
Alfalfa, Alsike & red clover	6	May 15	3	6
Big & Sand bluestem	10	June 1	6	10
Birdsfoot trefoil	6	June 1	3	6
Cicer milkvetch	8	May 20	5	8
Creeping foxtail	6	May 1	3	6
Crested wheatgrass	4	April 20	3	6
Eastern gamagrass	18-20	June 1	8	10
Indiangrass	10	June 1	4	10
Intermediate wheatgrass	6	May 1	5	8
Meadow brome	6	May 1	5	6
Orchardgrass	6	May 1	5	8
Pubescent wheatgrass	6	May 1	5	6
Reed canarygrass	8	May 1	4	8
Russian wildrye	6	May 1	3	4
Smooth brome	6	May 1	4	7
Switchgrass	10	June 1	6	10
Tall fescue	6	May 1	3	6
Tall wheatgrass	7	May 1	4	8
Timothy	6	June 1	4	5
Western wheatgrass	6	May 1	3	6

^{1/} Height is the average height when **leaves** are lifted in a vertical position. ^{2/} In Vegetative Zone I, the Panhandle of Nebraska, all heights listed in Table 3 should be adjusted downward by 25% for all species.