



Plant Enhancement Activity – PLT16 – Intensive management of rotational grazing

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

Additional State Criteria and State Clarifications

Implementation of this enhancement **requires** development and implementation of a prescribed grazing plan that includes rotational grazing to address the following:

1. The intensity and frequency will allow for the recommended residual forage heights for common pasture species in Nebraska based on NRCS Prescribed Grazing practice specifications ([528S](#)) Table 3:
2. The minimum days of rest per paddock will be 30 days.
3. The minimum number of paddocks per herd will be 4.
 - a. Implementation of this enhancement will require increasing the existing number of paddocks by two. (i.e. If current system includes 3 paddocks, after implementation of this enhancement the number of paddocks in use will be 5 or more.)
 - b. Use of temporary fencing such as polywire and step in posts may be utilized to achieve the required number of paddocks.
 - c. The rotational grazing system must alternate which paddocks are grazed first and rotate the order of sequence in each subsequent year.
 - d. Utilize Nebraska Planned Grazing Tool or equivalent for planning the rotational grazing system.
4. Rangeland will typically be a once through grazing system, while introduced pastures may be grazed more than once depending on residual height.
5. Provide a sufficient quantity of high quality drinking water based on livestock requirements for each paddock. This may require increasing the number of watering points, movable water or temporary/permanent alleyways.

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

Additional State Documentation Requirements:

- Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Jobsheet(NE-ECS-528) or equivalent.
- Provide a map or aerial photo showing the paddock(s) making up the system prior to implementing this enhancement and following implementation.
- Planned grazing sequence of paddocks in each grazing system on Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Jobsheet-Grazing Schedule (NE-ECS-528) or equivalent.
- Post-grazing photographs of vegetation following the livestock occupation.
- Measurements of key forage plant heights (before and after grazing)

NE-ECS-528 is located within the [Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Design Tool](#).



United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service

NE-PLT16 2014 Ranking Period 1

I certify that the following information meets specifications and have been provided to NRCS:

1. Prescribed grazing plan that addresses the criteria listed for this enhancement, Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Jobsheet (NE-ECS-528) or equivalent.
2. Map or aerial photo showing the pastures/paddocks making up the rotational grazing system including changes in pasture(s)/paddock(s) as a result of this enhancement.
3. Planned grazing sequence on Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Jobsheet-Grazing Schedule (NE-ECS-528) or equivalent.
4. Documented changes in number of paddocks on Table above.

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____

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