The Effect of Grazing Management on Forage and Grain Production from Rye, Wheat and Oats

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Winter varieties of small grains provide opportunities for lengthening the grazing season and for shortening the winter feeding period. Pasturage from them is not expensive and with them milk production is stimulated when prices are usually high.

The purpose of this study was to determine the potentials of winter rye, winter wheat and winter oats for the production of both pasturage and grain and to ascertain the effect of grazing management on such productions.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Investigations in midwestern and southern states have done much to determine the vegetative performance of different species and varieties of small grains over a wide range of climatic and soil conditions. Most of these trials have incorporated clipping practices simulating pasture conditions (2, 3, 7) rather than actual grazing, and a wide range of harvest schedules were used. Others have employed grazing by sheep (7) and beef cattle (1). Many of the responses observed have been confirmed in this study by grazing with milking cows.

Of particular interest is the statement by Swanson (6) of Kansas in 1935 that limited fall and winter pasturing did...