

## SEASONAL PASTURES FOR YEAR-ROUND GRAZING IN TEXAS BLACKLAND AND GRAND PRAIRIE REGIONS

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There is no combination of grasses and legumes to plant which will provide year-round grazing within the same fenced area or pasture. *The best pasture mixture* is the best grass and the best legume adapted to (1) the soil, (2) the *seasonal* need and, (3) grazing management practices to be followed. Cool-season perennial grasses will not thrive on the same land with warm-season perennial grasses. There is no advantage to planting several cool-season perennials in one pasture, because in a short time only one of the species will thrive due to soil and grazing management practices. The same is true of a mixture of several warm-season perennials.

The best perennial warm-season grass to use will depend on the location--soil and climate--and one of the legumes listed will go with each grass.

Land presently infested with Johnson grass should be renovated, fertilized with nitrogen and phosphate and planted to oats, wheat or barley and madrid or hubam sweet clover. Johnson grass is an excellent forage--grazing, hay or silage --plant when properly managed. To plant other perennial grasses on Johnson grass areas is to invite trouble and disappointment.

Sweet sudan and Chinese red or other cowpeas makes an excellent warm-season supplemental pasture. Sweet sudan alone may be used. Different fields may be planted with the mixture on different dates to assure good grazing at different periods in the warm-season of the year.

In the drier parts of the regions fescue or other cool-season perennial grasses are not presently recommended. The cool-season annuals will yield as much or more. The perennials are not expected to survive the summer drouth and high temperatures.

Cool-season supplemental pastures are a very important part of a pasture program. Oats may be used in place of wheat, while barley has the advantage of furnishing earlier grazing and more grazing in December and January than wheat or oats. Winter supplemental pastures should be planted on well-drained soils because stock should not be allowed on wet and muddy fields.

Anytime excess grazing or pasturage exists on a given pasture, the forage should be cut for hay or silage. It should be done for good pasture management. Forage is not good quality when allowed to mature. Besides, no pasture program is fool-proof and a reserve of hay and silage is needed for drouths or cold weather. Also, too, hay should be available to cattle anytime they graze good succulent pasture.

A well planned fertilizing and renovating schedule is an essential part of a pasture program. Mowing equipment for weed control and reverting pasture plants to a vegetative condition is also a necessary part of a pasture program. A field of Atlas sorgo specifically for silage may be needed.

All pasture crops or combination of pasture crops are not illustrated on the calendar but sufficient examples are given to illustrate the need for *seasonal pastures*.

PASTURES ARE A CASH CROP - - TREAT THEM AS SUCH

# SEASONAL PASTURES FOR YEAR-ROUND GRAZING IN THE BLACKLAND & GRAND PRAIRIES



JOHNSON-OATS

DALLIS

BERMUDA

FESCUE

BUFFALO

SIDE OATS GRAMA

SUDAN

WHEAT

BARLEY



MADRID

ALFALFA

BUR

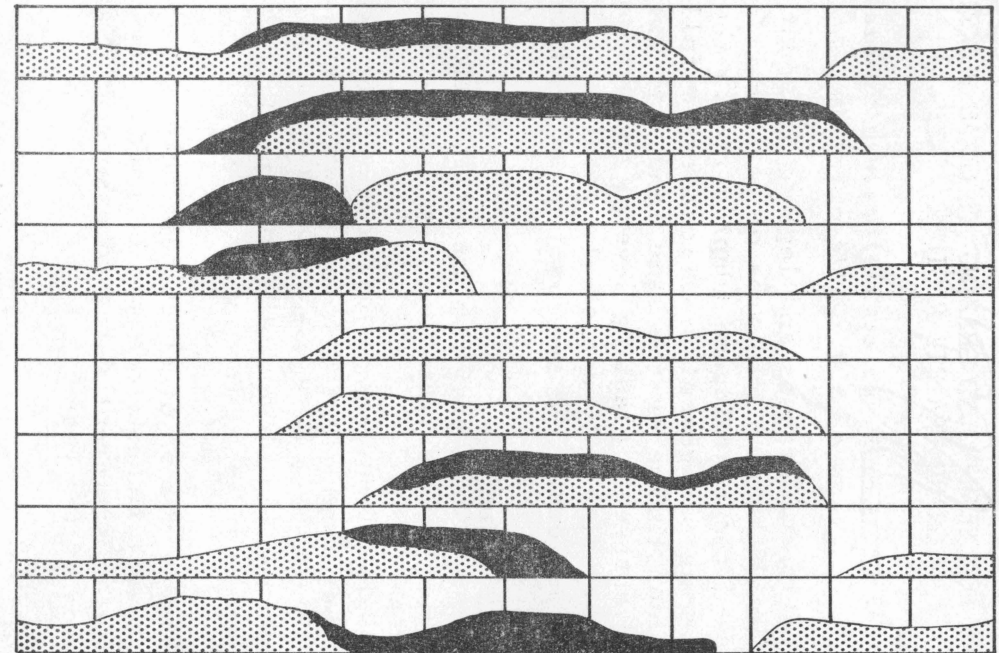
BLACK MEDIC

COWPEAS

HUBAM

MADRID

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC



Supplement with hay

Agricultural Extension Service  
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