

CROP NOTES for July 27, 2009 - Emergency Forage Options

Past issues of Crop Notes are posted at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/info/crops.htm>

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HAIL DAMAGE

Emergency Forage Options

For the very worst hail damaged fields with no anticipated recovery of the crop, emergency forage options remaining for the 2009 crop season are few. Assuming the spring herbicide program allows, probably the best emergency forage option is oats. We are too close to fall to assume that warm-season grasses (sorghum-sudan, etc) have time to contribute much, especially with the cooler than normal summer weather. There is some research available on what oats may offer as an emergency forage. I assume this is the most economical option (again, if the spring herbicide program allows). These are linked below:

University of Wisconsin. Table 1 is most useful.

http://soybean.uwex.edu/library/grain/forage/documents/small_grains_for_Fall_and_spring_forage.pdf

University of Illinois, northern research farm, still a little south of our area, and oats not harvested until late October.

http://www.cropsci.illinois.edu/research/rdc/dekalb/publications/2008/NIARC_ForageOatLateSummerSeedingStudy,2005-07.pdf

Options to Utilize Badly Hail Damaged Corn

Here is an article written in 2002 that applies to our situation, titled "Forage Use Options for Wind-Damaged Immature Corn"

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/newsrel/ForageUse072902.pdf>

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