

Observation	Condition	Action
At green-up		
Large dead areas		Plan to rotate.
Small dead areas	Some stand loss	Consider reseeding small areas.
Random injury of a few plants or very small areas	Some stand loss	Consider stand as a whole; if it's too thin to keep – rotate; if unsure – recheck in 2 weeks.
General plant health appears normal	Little to no damage observed	Recheck in 2 weeks to be sure.
Recommended plant counts per square foot		
	Full alfalfa stand	Alfalfa-grass mix
Seeding year	>20 plants in fall	>12 plants in fall
1 st production year	>12 plants in spring	>8 plants in spring
2 nd production year	>8 plants in spring	>6 plants in spring
3 rd production year	>5 plants in spring	>4 plants in spring
At 3-inch growth		
Damaged areas larger; plant health deteriorating	Stand is getting worse	Is stand adequate? No, rotate. Yes/maybe, recheck in 2 weeks.
General plant health normal or improving	Little or no damage	Plan for normal harvest.
At 6-inch regrowth		
Plant growth is far enough along for the stem-count evaluation method.	>55 stems per sq.ft.	Plan for 100% normal season yield.
	55-40 stems per sq.ft.	Expect 0 to 30% season yield reduction.
	<40 stems per sq.ft.	Consider rotating unless grass mix is present; if so, fertilize with N to encourage the grass.