

FORAGE SPECIES/VARIETY SELECTION RESOURCES FOR THE MIDWEST

By Paul Peterson, Forage Agronomist, University of Minnesota

The economic impact of sound, research-based forage species and variety selection decisions is often under-estimated. The University Extension Services associated with the four states in the Midwest Forage Association continue to be actively engaged in research on the latest species and varieties available to you in the marketplace. If you haven't completed your forage seed purchases for 2004, the MFA has a number of good resources available, both on the web and in hard copy publications, which can provide research-based information to guide your species and variety selection decisions.

Minnesota

- Minnesota Variety Trial Results (MP 110-2004) Jan. 2004 - alfalfa, corn silage, clovers, grasses
- On-Farm Cropping Trials: Northwest and West Central Minnesota, Jan. 2004 - corn silage, grasses, grass-legume mixtures, emergency forages
- <http://www.maes.umn.edu/maespubs/vartrial/vt-cntnt.asp> - alfalfa, clovers, grasses, corn silage
- <http://forages.coafes.umn.edu> - alfalfa, corn silage

Wisconsin

- <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/alfalfa/> - alfalfa variety selection tool
- <http://cecommerce.uwex.edu/pdfs/A1525.PDF> - alfalfa, red clover, birdsfoot trefoil, grasses
- <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/forage/alf03.htm> - alfalfa, clover, grasses
- <http://corn.agronomy.wisc.edu/HT/2003/Text.htm> - corn silage

North Dakota

- <http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/aginfo/variety/forages.htm> - forage cereals, grasses
- <http://www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/plantsci/hay/r794w.htm> - grasses
- <http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/aginfo/variety/index.htm> - alfalfa

South Dakota

- <http://plantsci.sdstate.edu/forages/> - alfalfa
 - Printed copy of alfalfa variety trial results on web
- <http://www.alfalfa.org> - National Alfalfa Alliance: detailed disease resistance ratings of most alfalfa varieties on the market

Contact the MFA office if you'd like to receive printed copies of any of the above publications by mail.