

Green Gold Report – May 25, 2015 – CENTRAL

Presently I don't have enough information to predict HAY DAY but because of the similarity to the Eastern results June 1st is a very good guess.

SITE	RFV NIR	RFV PEAQ	Height	CP
Brunkild				
Gnadenenthal	197	205	21	24
Minnedosa	253	268	12	31
Newton	233	237	16	25
Plum Coulee	280	260	13	30
Portage	266	287	10	25
AVERAGE	245.8	251.4	14.4	27

This is the first report from the Central area that we have most of the fields now being sampled. Comparing this area to the Eastern we are at a very similar stage regarding the NIR, the PEAQ and the proteins. Normally with Green Gold we recommend that if you are targeting 150 hay that you cut at 170 RFV for silage you can normally cut somewhere in the 160 range depending on curing time. Since the 21st of May the alfalfa has grown only 1-3 inches. Although this seems to be slightly below normal GDD accumulations are presently above normal and therefore we should start to see the alfalfa jump in height and maturity. All fields sampled still in the late vegetative stage but many were close to entering the early bud stage.

The field in the Gnadenenthal area is well advance and producers in those areas maybe cutting sooner. Assuming a 5pt drop/day Hay Day here would be May 30th

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What I'm Hearing

Producers are still reporting that the alfalfa is in the late vegetative stages as of Monday, Reports Wednesday have some fields entering the early bud stage. Here is a picture of alfalfa from the Plum Coulee area in the late vegetative stage.



Crop reports from MAFRD have in the Southwest reported- Warmer temperatures over the past week has progressed pastures to nearly the 3 leaf stage. More cattle are being moved to pasture, with some supplemental feeding required until pasture growth is sufficient. Alfalfa growth remains slow due to the cooler temperatures and frost of the previous week; however, it is recovering and starting to resume growth. Dugouts remain at 90% to over-capacity in the region.

For the Central-Rainfall and warmer temperatures improved forage growth. Some cattle have been moved to pasture. Pastures overgrazed last year are slow to recover, as are hay fields where a late cut was taken.

What is Hay Day?

Hay Day is the estimated day that alfalfa will reach a RFV of 170. Past experience has shown that approximate 20 points are lost during the haying process and the time taken to get the entire crop cut, cured and baled. Silage shortens this process and therefore the quality can be higher. Grass/alfalfa mixes can and do reduce the RFV by 20-30 points depending on the % of the blend.

Nutritionist like to target hay in the 135-150 RFV towards Dairy cows in the 1st trimester and towards dairy calves. The RFV hay from 125-140 is fed to the dairy cows in the last 200 days and heifers 12-18 months of age. Hay at 115-130 makes excellent Beef cow and heifer 12-18 month old feed and any from 100-115 is good for the Dry cow and heifer between 18 and 24 month.