

## Robert Zupancic's commonly used Pasture and Hay Seeding Recommendations that meet NRCS Standards for Permanent Seedings

### Pastures

Seeding 1 (preferred seeding for most grazers on moderately productive soils)

Orchardgrass	6-8 lbs/ac
Tall Fescue (e-)	5-6 lbs/ac
Red Clover*	6-7 lbs/ac

\* Works even better if the Red Clover is frost-seeded after the grasses are established, but for NRCS cost-share would have to wait until the clover is seeded to receive cost-share.

\*\* Plan on Frost-seeding additional White clover (0.5-1 lbs/ac) in year 2 or 3.

Seeding 2 (preferred seeding for most grazers on highly productive soils with short pasture rotations)

Orchardgrass	8-12 lbs/ac
Red Clover*	6-7 lbs/ac

\* Works even better if the Red Clover is frost-seeded after the grasses are established, but for NRCS cost-share would have to wait until the clover is seeded to receive cost-share.

\*\* Plan on Frost-seeding additional White clover (0.5-1 lbs/ac) in year 2 or 3

Seeding 3 (preferred seeding for most grazers on low productive soils) (this should not be more than 50% of their grazing acres because endophyte free fescue is not completely drought tolerant)

Tall Fescue (e-) 10-15 lbs/ac check UK variety trials for varieties that work under heavy grazing pressure

Orchardgrass 3-5 lbs/ac

White Clover\* 1 lbs/ac or Annual Lespedeza 15 lbs/ac

\* Be very careful with extremely aggressive white clovers because they can take over the whole seeding. It is a possibility to frost-seed the white clover after grass establishment.

Seeding 4 (summer pasture for producer with excellent management)

Orchardgrass	6-8 lbs/ac
Alfalfa (grazing type)	10-12 lbs/ac

\* Plan on Frost-seeding Red Clover (6-8 lbs/ac) as the alfalfa disappears

Seeding 5 (sacrifice areas or heavily used paddocks) (very small percentage of the total grazing acres)

Tall Fescue (e+)*	10-15 lbs/ac
Red Clover	6 lbs/ac
White Clover	0.5 lbs/ac

\* Can only be cost-shared through EQIP with approval from Grazing Specialist or State Agronomist.

Seeding 6 (early growth in spring and late growth in winter on highly productive soils) (make sure this is less than 10% of the total grazing acres)

Perennial Ryegrass*	10-15 lbs/ac
White Clover	0.5-1 lbs/ac

\* Using multiple varieties and types within a mix will insure that there is additional summer drought tolerance and winter kill tolerance.

**\* All seeding rates are based upon Pure Live Seed (PLS)**

## Hayfields

Seeding 1 (high productivity, well drained soils with high pH)

Alfalfa 12-16 lbs/ac

Orchardgrass\* 3-5 lbs/ac

\* Use a late-maturing (grazing type) Orchardgrass to best match the maturity of the first cutting of alfalfa.

Seeding 2 (moderate productivity, moderately well drained soils) (this mixture is not for horse producers or the horse market; strictly a beef, dairy, sheep, and goat type of hay)

Red Clover\* 8-12 lbs/ac

Orchardgrass\*\* 6-8 lbs/ac or Tall Fescue (e-) 10-14 lbs/ac

\* Some varieties of Red Clover are a lot better for making dry hay than others.

\*\* Use a late-maturing (grazing type) Orchardgrass to best match the maturity of the first cutting of red clover.

Seeding 3 (moderate productivity, somewhat poorly drained soils) (also use this mixture for landowners that don't have hay equipment and depend upon the neighbors to harvest hay. Typically this is a 1 or 2 times per year hay cutting)

Timothy\* 4-6 lbs/ac

Red Clover 4-6 lbs/ac

\* Harvest height should be 3-4 inches minimum to increase the persistence of the timothy. Some improved varieties of timothy are able to be cut multiple times per year.

\*\* This combination will typically need 30-75 lbs of N/ac in early Spring to make maximum yields.

Seeding 4 (Alfalfa only hay for dairy or horse producers) (must be on highly productive soils with good drainage and high pHs)

Alfalfa 12-20 lbs/ac

Seeding 5 (predominately grass type hay)

Orchardgrass 8-12 lbs/ac or Tall Fescue (e-) 10-15 lbs/ac

Red Clover 4-5 lbs/ac

**\* All seeding rates are based upon Pure Live Seed (PLS)**