

MINNESOTA GRASS AND LEGUME FORAGE YIELD PERFORMANCE TRIALS INSTRUCTION - 2008

The procedures to be followed in the 2008 Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station **grass and legume forage yield** performance trials are as follows:

A. Eligibility of Entries

1. Experimental entries

Application for testing will be made by company designation (name and number). Parts 1, 2, 3 and 5 must be completed on the attached "Application for Entry" form. The company is obligated to notify the testing station if the experimental designation is changed or a variety name assigned.

2. Released varieties

Application for testing will be made by the variety name or number. The company requesting a test will submit the information required on parts 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the attached "Application for Entry" form.

B. Right to Reject

The testing station reserves the right to reject an application when:

1. The seed arrives late.
2. Sufficient seed is not available for the trials.
3. It is known that the seed is misrepresented.
4. Facilities are not available.
5. Sufficient data are already available on a released variety.
6. The species is not being seeded in the current year

C. Entry Fee

The entry fee for the grass and legume forage production performance trial is \$400.00. If the entry(s) are accepted for testing, a letter regarding payment of the fee for testing will be sent to you.

D. Description and Location of Test

The test will be seeded in Rosemount, Minnesota with a minimum of four replications. Standard varieties will be included for comparison. Forage yields will be taken for three years after the seeding year, unless the stands become unproductive earlier. Additional information on maturity, disease resistance, lodging, winter injury, etc. may be obtained. Additional locations will be utilized if available at the University of Minnesota Experiment Stations.

E. Species to be Tested

Grass and legume varieties to be included in the forage production performance trials may include Timothy, Reed Canarygrass, Tall Fescue, Orchardgrass, Meadow Fescue, Perennial Ryegrass, Smooth Bromegrass, Birdsfoot Trefoil, Red Clover and possibly other species if interest is sufficient. The Experiment Station reserves the right to NOT initiate tests of all mentioned species.

F. Approval of Application

The testing station will notify the applicant of the rejection of its application in writing within a reasonable time after receipt of the application.

G. Deadline for Seed Entry

Seed shall be supplied to the testing station by April 10, 2008 of both experimentals and varieties. Seed may be considered for inclusion in the trials after this date if the testing station is notified and concurs.

H. Seed Requirements for Testing

For grasses, the entrant will submit a 250-gram sample of forage grass seed properly labeled. If limited seed is available for testing an experimental, a 75 g sample of grass seed properly labeled will be accepted for testing and will be included at only one location. For legumes, the entrant will submit a 250-gram sample of forage legume seed properly labeled. If limited seed is available for testing an experimental, a 75 g sample of legume seed properly labeled will be accepted for testing and will be included at only one location. The entrant by signing the "Application for Entry" form is certifying the seed is a true sample of the designated experimental entry or is representative of the variety being sold.

I. Use of Seed

Seed received for testing experimental entries will NOT be used for increase, selection or distribution by the testing station.

J. Publication of Results

The testing station will summarize the data and make appropriate statistical analyses. Each entrant will be provided with a summary of data for the entries and check varieties. The information will be made available upon request to other researchers and forage producers. If you do NOT want information on the forage production data of your experiments made available, please submit this request in writing at the time of application. The information on released varieties will be made available for general distribution and may be included in the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station "Varietal Trials of Farm Crops", Item No. Ad-MR-1953 and in the Progress Report on Forage Research.