

2016 Alfalfa Quality Watch

Goal-Relative Feed Value (RFV) of 150



Quality Information from 5/19/16

Look for opportunities to harvest high quality forage in Western areas of Sheboygan County. Alfalfa plant height drives forage quality much more than growth stage. Cool weather delays “bud” development.

On average we lose roughly 3-5 RFV points per day depending on temperatures. PEAQ and Scissor Cut RFVs are about 15-20 RFV points higher than forage coming out of storage due to respiration and dry matter losses. Alfalfa fields sampled are either 2nd or 3rd year production fields.

Quality measurements will be taken again on May 23. For more information contact Mike Ballweg at (920) 459-5910. Future results will be posted on our UW-Extension website: <http://sheboygan.uwex.edu/>

Thanks to our sponsors: Adell Coop, Kettle Lakes Coop and the Sheboygan County Forage Council Board: Matt Gartman, Cody Mullikin, Nathan Casper, Matthew Ramel, Jory Stapel, Silvana Stemper and Tom Wilterdink.

Take time to be safe.

Mike

Location	Scissors Cut Analysis				Field PEAQ Estimates		
Sample Date <i>May 19, 2016</i>	CP %	ADF %	NDF %	RFV	Maturity	Plant Ht (inches)	PEAQ RFV
Batavia	23.37	28.31	34.54	180	Late Veg.	26	180
Glenbeulah	24.06	27.71	32.79	191	Vegetative	22	200
Cedar Grove - D	21.05	28.41	34.20	182	Vegetative	21	205
Hingham - East	21.91	29.46	35.31	174	Vegetative	23	195
Hingham - West	-	-	-	-	Vegetative	19	217
Town of Wilson	-	-	-	-	Vegetative	18	224
Haven	-	-	-	-	Vegetative	20	211

From link below is the Alfalfa Quality PEAQ chart. With this chart and a yardstick you are able to measure the alfalfa quality of individual fields on your farm.

<http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/files/2014/01/PEAQTable.pdf>
