

2016 Alfalfa Quality Watch

Goal-Relative Feed Value (RFV) of 150



Quality Information from 5/23/16

Warmer temperatures this past week pushed alfalfa growth & development. Look for opportunities to harvest high quality forage in all areas of Sheboygan County. Remember that alfalfa plant height impacts forage quality more than growth stage.

PEAQ - RFV measurements averaged across all locations dropped 6.2 RFV points/day this past week from May 16th to May 23. Generally we would lose 3 – 5 RFV points/day.

PEAQ - 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.

For more information contact Mike Ballweg at (920) 459-5910. Future results will be posted on our 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 23, 2016</i>	CP %	ADF %	NDF %	RFV	Maturity	Plant Ht (inches)	PEAQ RFV
Batavia	20.65	29.51	35.23	174	Early bud	30	160
Glenbeulah	22.79	30.12	35.65	171	Early bud	26	176
Cedar Grove - D	19.95	30.84	37.00	163	Early bud	26	176
Hingham - East	20.51	31.17	37.07	162	Early bud	28	168
Hingham - West	23.58	27.39	34.02	185	Vegetative	25	185
Town of Wilson	18.98	29.65	35.14	174	Early bud	25	181
Haven	17.68	30.05	35.89	170	Early bud	25	181

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

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