

**Quality Information from 5/25/18**

What a difference 2 warm days made on the growth and development of the Alfalfa crop. From May 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 25<sup>th</sup>, the PEAQ RFV dropped 18 RFV points, from 203 to 185, when averaged across all Sheboygan County locations. Alfalfa growth and fiber concentrations will continue to increase rapidly with warm temperatures. Harvest is recommended starting Memorial Day weekend for high quality alfalfa forage in areas away from Lake Michigan.

Dairy producers and nutritionists are frequently targeting RFQs greater than 150. Develop your feeding strategy with your nutritionist to ensure rations have the correct proportions of protein, energy and fiber.

PEAQ - RFVs are about 15 - 20 RFV points higher than forage coming out of storage due to respiration and dry matter (leaf) losses.

You can monitor the quality of individual alfalfa fields on your farm with a yardstick and the PEAQ Chart.

Please find the PEAQ chart form the link below.  
<http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/files/2014/01/PEAQTable.pdf>

On average we lose approximately 3-5 RFV points per day depending on temperatures.  
**Quality measurements will be taken again on Wednesday, May 30th.**

Thanks to our sponsors: Adell Coop, Country Visions Coop and the Sheboygan County Forage Council Board: Steve Arentsen, Nathan Casper, Matt Gartman, Brad Laack, Cody Mullikin, Matthew Ramel and Jory Stapel.

**Take time to be safe.**  
 Mike

Location	Scissors Cut Analysis				Field PEAQ Estimates		
Sample Date May 25, 2018	CP %	ADF %	NDF %	RFV	Maturity	Plant Ht (inches)	PEAQ RFV
Batavia	22.74	29.89	40.57	150	Early Bud	27	175
Cascade	24.69	26.33	35.91	177	Early Bud	27	175
Hingham - West	26.19	27.69	37.53	167	Vegetative	27	175
Cedar Grove - S	20.52	28.76	40.23	154	Vegetative	24	190
Cedar Grove - A	22.94	30.78	40.55	149 ?	Vegetative	22	200
Town of Wilson	21.37	30.62	41.84	145 ?	Vegetative	22	200

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>

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