

## 2019 Alfalfa Quality Watch



### Quality Information from 5/28/19

Difficult to imagine making hay with this weather pattern. Non-the-less below are the alfalfa PEAQ RFVs as of 5/28/19. Harvest if possible in western areas of Sheboygan County toward the end of this week. We need sunshine. Alfalfa fields on heavy soils lag behind due to winter injury and saturated field conditions.

PEAQ - RFVs are about 15 - 20 RFV points higher than forage coming out of storage due to respiration and dry matter (leaf) losses. Keep in mind the quality vs. yield trade-off when harvesting alfalfa.

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

Please find the PEAQ chart from 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 and samples will be taken on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.**

Thanks to our Sponsors: Adell 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.**

Location	Sample Date	PEAQ RFV	Plant Ht (inches)	Growth Stage
Batavia	5/28/19	195	23	Vegetative
Hingham	5/28/19	185	25	Vegetative/very early bud
Cedar Grove	5/28/19	205	21	Vegetative
Town of Mosel	5/28/19	237	16	Vegetative
Town of Wilson	5/28/19	230	17	Vegetative

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