

## 2020 Alfalfa Quality Watch



### Quality Information from 5/26/20

A cool May has delayed Alfalfa growth and development but warm temperatures this past weekend and in the upcoming week will change that quickly.

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. 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 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 again on Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Sheboygan County Forage Council Board: Steve Arentsen, Nathan Casper, Matt Gartman, Brad Laack, Cody Mullikin, Jory Stapel and Eli Wilterdink.

**Take time to be safe.**

Mike

Location	Sample Date	PEAQ RFV	Plant Ht (inches)	Growth Stage
Batavia	5/26/20	205	21	Late Veg
Hingham	5/26/20	211	20	Late Veg
Cedar Grove	5/26/20	205	21	Late Veg
Town of Wilson	5/26/20	237	16	Late Veg

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