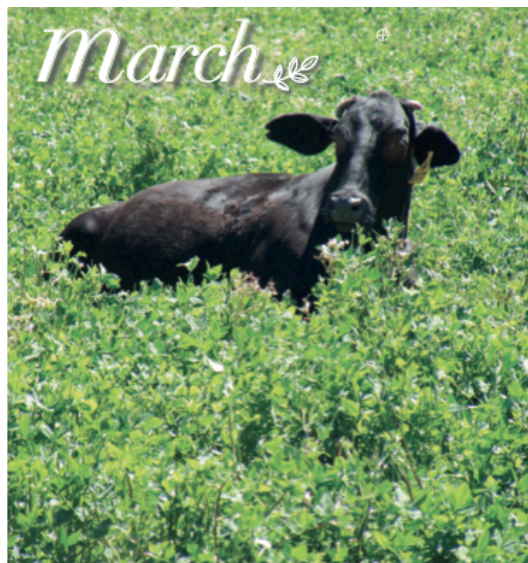


Eastern Texas Forage Calendar



Increase the use of winter pastures and begin grazing of cool-season legumes. Begin preparing to establish bermudagrass pastures or hay meadows.

All East Texas regions

Clover: 4,500-pound stocker per acre or 1.5 cow-calf pairs per acre.

Ryegrass: Graze four to five 500-pound stockers per acre or 1.5 to 2 cow-calf pairs per acre.

Small grain and ryegrass

• Pasture productivity will increase dramatically, allowing for a 30 to 100 percent increase in stocking rate, depending on the climate.

• To optimize animal performance per acre, add stockers by mid-March to April 1.

• Apply nitrogen and increase the stocking rate to 1,800 pounds of animal weight per acre.

• Another option is to eliminate the March nitrogen application and not increase the stocking rate.

Establishing bermudagrass: Disk under any winter pasture during the last seedbed preparation.

Hay production: Test the soil in the hay meadows. If needed, apply phosphorus and potassium. However, do not apply nitrogen until the warm-season perennials have broken dormancy and started growing (could be as early as April or as late as June, depending on the weather).

March						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Notes

Above: Cow in pasture overseeded with arrowleaf clover.
— Photo by Jennifer Cantelero

Pineywoods and Post Oak Savannah

Establishing bermudagrass

• Will before planting time, identify a reliable source of Tifton 85 or Coastal sprigs. (It may be too early to establish Tifton 85. **This is the time for Coastal.**)

• Dormant sprigs of Coastal bermudagrass can be planted this month.

• Apply any recommended phosphorus and limestone and incorporate it into the soil.

Blackland Prairies

Establishing bermudagrass

• Will before planting time, identify a reliable source of Tifton 85, Coastal, or Tiggs sprigs.

• Apply any recommended phosphorus and limestone and incorporate it into the soil. About 45 pounds per acre of phosphorus is usually adequate.



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