

to control flies in dairy barns

You'll find it pays to spray with ${\it Diazinon-just}$ one residual application on dairy barn walls and ceiling, kills flies for weeks.

Diazinon saves time and labor, gives you lower cost per day of protection. So spray less... pay less for effective fly control. Ask your farm supply dealer for Diazinon—one of the safer phosphate insecticides.



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METHOXYCHLOR



Follow label directions. May be used on food crops up to seven days before harvest.



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Poorly managed pastures like this are expensive. These cows use a big share of their energy just walking to find enough to eat. Unless they are given a heavy feed of hay and grain, their production will drop severely. The value of this pasture could be multiplied several times by clipping the weeds, applying fertilizer and following the practice of rotational grazing.

IMPROVED FORAGE CAN BOOST FARM PROFITS

"Highly productive pastures offer livestock producers one of their greatest income boosting opportunities." Proof of this statement was given at a recent meeting of soil and crop specialists. Their figures showed that farmers who had begun pasture improvement programs were able to double, and in some cases triple, profits on meadow and hay land.

Records from studies on a number of Michigan farms showed that improved forage practices boosted net farm profits about \$14 an acre. This was on farms where about half the acreage was in hay and meadow which means profit on the forage land alone was increased better than \$25 per acre. The improved practices used consisted of lime, starter and top-dress fertilizer application based on soil tests along with modern weed control and harvesting practices.

Similar practices have permitted Indiana farmers to boost beef production on a summer grazing and feeding program by 150 to 200 pounds per acre. Figuring the extra beef at only 20¢ a pound that's an increase in gross sale per acre of \$30 to \$40. On dairy farm studies right here in the state, improved practices boosted milk production

per acre by 30% to 50%.

Fertilizer use and timing of application offer one of the best ways to boost grass yields. In Wisconsin, 500 pounds per acre of a 16-8-8 fertilizer was topdressed on pasture to see what effect it would have on increasing pasture yields. On the fertilized acreage, yield was 9,487 pounds per acre. On the unfertilized portion, yield was only 1,837 pounds per acre—a difference of almost four tons! But that isn't all—fertilized forage contained over 15% protein while the unfertilized came up to only 10%. That extra 5% protein could help on the supplement bill.

Over the years the college researchers have found that a 2-1-1 fertilizer ratio fits the needs of grass pasture better than a

1-1-1 fertilizer mix. Even on legume or legume-grass mixtures a small amount of nitrogen helps to get plants off to a good start. However, for legumes alone, adequate amounts of phosphate and potash are tar more important. Also, don't forget lime. Without proper amounts of lime, plants will not make full use of plant nutrients available in the soil.

Generally, you can get fairly good early spring growth without topdressing. The pinch comes later on when plants need more nutrients for optimum growth. Recognizing this, several pasture specialists are now advising that you delay topdressing until after early spring grazing or the first cutting of hay has been removed. By delaying topdressing you are not bothered with the problem of excessive early growth which your cattle may not clean up. Besides you'll lengthen your grazing season and improve yields later in the summer when you are in greater need of forage.

Getting high pasture yields in itself is not enough. You must also manage so your livestock will make full use of the forage after you produce it. One way of insuring this is to rotate or strip graze. Pastures, when rotated properly, can give you 20% to 40% more feed than when they are grazed continuously. The advantage of strip grazing is even greater than this. Using strip grazing, you can fence off a part of the field with an electrically charged wire to provide a day's to a week's grazing. Then move them onto another part of the field.

Naturally cattle will not always graze pastures as close as you might like, especially in the spring when forage may grow faster than cattle can eat it. As a result, ungrazed portions mature and drop in feed value. To overcome this, mow your pastures after each grazing. This will encourage new, tender growth. At the same time mowing will help in keeping weeds in check.