

WORKSHEET I: FEED AND FORAGE SUPPLY

Explanation and Guidance

Before you use the Worksheet, use notebook or other paper to make a list of every field, pasture, allotment, range pasture, leased and rented ground, etc. that contributed or will contribute to feeding your cattle from spring turnout 2021 to spring turnout 2022. Also include on your list all purchased forage or feed and supplements that you have purchased or you anticipate will be purchased for this period. (For the purposes of this exercise, you will be interested in everything that contributes to the forage and feed needs from weaning 2021 until turnout 2022, but as long as you are making a list, it will probably be easier to include everything.) The order of your list means little, but once you have it made, you can organize it however you like.

Print out "Worksheet I: Feed and Forage Supply". Start with a capital A in the Ref. Code column. (see the example of this Worksheet) From your list, fill in the first field name under Field Name, its size under Acres, and its Usual Uses under that column (color coded green on the example sheets.) Leave the other columns blank for now. Leave about an inch of space and enter a capital B in the Ref. Code column. Follow that with the information for the next field on your list for the same columns. Continue on until you run out of fields. Enter the next consecutive capital letter in the Ref. Code column and enter the name of your protein supplement lick, one letter and one line for each, and one letter and one line for each purchased feed product. When you finish you will have a worksheet that contains every place and item of forage or feed or supplement that will contribute to your cattle until turnout 2022. All of this information, one line for each entry and the entries spaced about an inch apart (or more if you write big) may fit on one of the Worksheet pages or you may need to print out more or simply rule columns on notebook paper and keep entering until you run out of items to enter.

Go back to the first entry, A. In the Usual Uses column you have written pasture, or hay, or spring pasture, or something else. Now you want to get serious about what field A will do for your cattle during the period in question, from weaning 2021 to turnout 2022. If the field contributes just one thing, say spring grazing, go to the Ref. Code column and enter "A1". Skip over to the "Yield This Year" column and directly across from the A1, enter what you expect or know that field will provide this year (color coded red on the example sheets.) In this case it might be expressed in AUMs since it is grazing ground. If you historically put 160 replacement heifer calves on this field from mid-October to mid-November and you think it is about average this year, you might enter 150 AUMs in the "Yield This Year" Column. Since this entry is for grazing ground, there's really nothing to put in the "Storage" column unless you want to enter "standing" or "grass" or whatever. In the "Form" column you will enter "standing". Leave the other columns blank again.

If your next field "B" is used for hay and then used for fall grazing, you would go to the "Ref. Code" column under "B" and enter B1. Skip across to the "Yield This Year" column and enter the amount of hay you took or expect to take from this field this year; you might put, "300 T, 600 bales". In the next column, "Form" you will enter the type of bale, "3X4" or "round" or whatever they are. Then go back to the Storage column and note where this hay is or will be stored. (Here you have choices: if this hay is pretty much all alike in quality and all in one shed you might enter "North Shed, N end". If it is different qualities because some of it got rained on or some of it is just not as good of ground, and you separate it by quality where you can get at it, you might have two or three "Storage" entries. What you should do if that is the case is make the first quality "B1", the second quality "B2", each on its own line. Note the example in red on the attached example sheet. (In this instance it goes unused and is available.)

After you have entered the hay under "B" as one or more entries, the next entry will be "B2" or maybe "B3" if you had two qualities of hay. Under "Yield This Year" you will enter the AUMs of fall grazing you will get from this same field, again, see the example sheet.

Continue on for each field. Consult the example sheet or use your own notation. When you finish, print out a copy of Worksheet II: Winter Feed and Forage Supplies and Worksheet IV: Fall Feed and Forage Supplies. The first items of information that goes on each of these Worksheets is already on Worksheet I and simply needs to be transferred. Follow the Explanation and Guidance for each of these Worksheets.