

## **Annual and Perennial Forages**

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### **Annual and Perennial Forages for Fall/Winter Grazing**

#### **Abstract**

Favoured for lower cost and labour requirements, extending the grazing season by maintaining beef cattle on pasture has been adopted by many producers on the Prairies. Grazing of stockpiled forages in the fall/winter following early season grazing reduces the need for mechanical harvesting and lowers manure management costs relative to feeding cattle in confinement. As the objective is low cost pasture-based, non-confined feeding, the identification of forages that can retain their nutritive value and support desired levels of animal productivity is essential. Stockpile grazing of perennial grass and legume species that retain nutritive value late in the growing season, alone or in combination, offers the potential for low input grazing. Additionally, annual forages, traditionally harvested as grain crops may also offer viable options to extend the grazing season for beef cattle.



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