

Forages program - Best Field First

Wednesdays, September 14 & 28 and October 12 & 26, 2022, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

On-line or in-person meetings ~ Cost \$20.00 (includes all sessions)

Register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/county/douglas/events>

This educational program assists forage producers in making decisions on managing pastures and hayground. Topics include using maps to determine physical soil properties, to estimate current and potential production, and to form management units. This information is then used to take soil samples for fertility testing and to make agronomic, economic input decisions. Part of this process includes the option of selecting to focus work on your best field first. This can help producers prioritize funding for inputs and time spent on multiple fields. At the completion of the program custom reports will be provided which will be useful in future classes and consultations on forage production.



Yields of hay (Tons)			
Map	Map unit name	Rating	Acres
37A	Chapman-Chehalis complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes	5.00 	2.4
149F	McMullin-Reston complex, 30 to 75 percent slopes		77.0
188D	Pengra silt loam, 2 to 20 percent slopes	2.92	3.8
188E	Pengra silt loam, 20 to 30 percent slopes	2.92	28.2
202B	Redbell silt loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes	3.00	5.7

Example ranch map and data table with soil type designations and estimates of acreage and productivity (tons/acre). Reports also contain field conditions, such as drainage and soil depth, that can be used to select appropriate forage species.

The class is scheduled to occur in three or four sessions including an introductory presentation viewed in real time or as a recording, supplemental information to be reviewed on the participants' own time, work session(s) as a group or one-on-one with the instructors, and a presentation on Natural Resource Conservation Service programs for agricultural fields.

See page 2 of this flyer for the schedule and information about the process.

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Best Field First – program outline

- Session I – Using Potential & Current Forage Yield in Management Decisions
 - Presentation by Shelby Filley, OSU Extension Service
 - Live, Roseburg/live-streaming on Wed., September 14, 6 – 7:30 PM
 - Recording available after livestream session
- Session II - Work sessions with instructor (*Prerequisite - Session I*)
 - Produce individualized maps, reports, and plans
 - Online group meetings
 - Wednesday, September 28, 6 – 7:30 PM
 - Wednesday, October 12, 6 – 7:30 PM
 - Online or in-person individual meetings available
 - By appointment
 - In selected western Oregon counties
- Session III - Supplemental information (Access on your own)
 - Forage Calculator I (Excel spreadsheet)
 - Videos expanding on introductory materials
 - Reading material for further study
- Session IV - NRCS Landowner Conservation Programs
 - Presentation by Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - Livestreaming on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 6 – 7:30 PM
 - Recording available after livestream session

Contact information:

- Shelby Filley
- Shelby.filley@oregonstate.edu
- 541-236-3016

Joining an Online Zoom Meeting

Many online Extension classes are delivered through “Zoom” meetings. Upon registering through Ideal Logic (OSU online registration site), you will get an email invitation with a Zoom link to attend the class. Click on the link to join the meeting and, if you don’t already have it, you will be prompted to download Zoom to your device. You do not have to sign-up for a Zoom "account" to join the meeting.

You will be in a waiting room until the host admits you, so use this time to test your speakers and camera (not required). The host will do the rest. If you are not comfortable with the process, ask the facilitator for a practice meeting prior to the class. You may be asked to sign a consent form to participate and be included in any session being recorded for future use.