

Optimizing Forage Quality and Production on Depleted Farmland to Extend the Grazing Season Increase Yields

Final Report for FNE02-432

Project Type: Farmer

Funds awarded in 2002: \$7,283.00

Projected End Date: 12/31/2004

Region: Northeast

State: Maine

Project Leader:

[David Potter](#)

Project Information

Summary:

Note to reader, attached is the complete final report for FNE02-432.

The original study planned to test and compare three practices designed to extend the grazing season and improve quality and productivity on 36 acres of grassland (old, run our potato fields). The practiced involved no-till seeding of forage rape, various timed applications of lime and cow and chicken manures, the harvest or clipping of forages, rotational grazing and broadcast and no-till seeding of rye and clover. The successful establishment of forage rape was critical to test and compare two out of three practices, but the crop could not be established after two attempts to no-till seed into light sod. The study generated some valuable information. The use of forage annuals won't necessarily help extend the grazing season. The delivery of inputs and the timing of inputs are important factors. Spending money on expensive seed should be delayed until after the response of native grasses and clovers has been assessed. Overall, our study goals were achieved.

- [FNE02-432 Final Report](#)
- [FNE02-432 Lab Results](#)
- [FNE02-432 Outreach Articles](#)

Cooperators

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Research

Participation Summary

Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture or SARE.



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