

Managed Grazing Class

Worksheet 1

The answers for this worksheet can be found by reading ‘Pastures for Profit’ pages 1-7 or from the power point lecture ‘Managed Grazing 101’

1. The relationship between a pasture plant’s quantity, and its quality is pretty much inverse. As quantity rises, quality goes down. Draw the graph that illustrates this concept. What is the name of the point in the plant’s growth cycle is typically the best time to graze or harvest to get a good compromise between volume and quality?

2. In terms of plant growth, why must graziers exclude animals from a paddock for a month or so after a grazing event?

3. What is the new ‘technology’ imported from New Zealand that allowed managed grazing to become a reality?

4. How is it possible, biologically, that the same acreage can produce double the forage for grazing simply by using managed grazing.

5. Speculate on why a farmer might not use managed grazing.

6. Describe an advantage of managed grazing in terms of human health.

7. Describe two environmental or sustainability benefits of managed grazing.

8. Describe how managed grazing is beneficial to the animals doing the grazing.

9. Give two reasons why grazing might be beneficial for the farmer who adopts this practice.

10. What are the current trends for adoption of managed grazing by farmers? Speculate on what institutional barriers are in place that discourage farmers from trying grazing.