



Figure 3. Effect of growth stage (Zadoks) on Relative Forage Quality (RFQ) for cereal rye, triticale, and wheat in 2014 and 2015. A linear mixed-effects model was used to describe this relationship with block nested in site as a random effect. The interaction between growth stage and species was significant in 2014 ($P < 0.001$, $R^2_c = 0.87$) and 2015 ($P = 0.02$, $R^2_c = 0.59$). In 2014, $y = 314 - 2.88x$ for cereal rye, $y = 215 - 1.08x$ for triticale, and $y = 311 - 2.90x$ for wheat. In 2015, $y = 245 - 1.79x$ for cereal rye and $y = 220 - 0.68x$ for triticale.