

Tall Grazing in Dairy Operations: Maintaining Forage Quality & Production

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“Definitions” from attendees for tall/mob grazing:

- Large animal numbers on fenced small paddocks grazing down tall “stored” growing plants for short periods (1 day or less) allowing for longer regrowth periods before returning to graze again.
- A lot of cows on a small area for a short time.
- Tall grass grazing: Viewed as headed grass on the verge of rank.
- Mob grazing: tall, mature grass grazed with high stock rate. Lower grass quality. Soil improvement. Tall grazing: tall, just headed-out grass. Better grass quality for dairy??
- Wait till grass is very tall and then put cows on pasture to eat top 1/3 of plants and trample down the rest to feed the soil.
- 18” + grass grazing with a sizable (200+) head herd with frequent moves.
- Grazing a small area with a large group of animals for a small period of time with a proper and adequate rest and regrowth period.
- High level of animal body weight on a field for a short period of time to match the forage.
- Grazing at a height that is close to high quality dairy hay/haylage using very high stocking rate.
- High density grazing for short periods of time 100,000# per acre.
- High density, short duration grazing.
- Grazing grass past ideal maturity so there is lower quality but higher quantity.
- Taking nature as a guideline.
- High density grazing for short periods in small paddocks where “most” of the upper portions of grass are grazed + the rest trampled into the ground to increase organic matter and fertility.
- Trampling; high density; beef; carbon sequestering; weeds.

- Ultra high stock density grazing OR where the mafia (mob) eats.
- Group of cows moving from pasture to pasture devouring the grass/other plants growing in the field.
- Grazing high density for a short time, leaving plenty of grass that is trampled down.
- Grazing patterns to maximize pasture rotation and nutrition for well-balanced nutrition.

Compiled by Dr. Kathy Soder, Mena Hautau, Dr. Aimee Hafla and Brian Moyer