

Quality Information from 5/25/17

We all know we need sunny dry warm weather to make hay and finish planting. Look for opportunities to harvest high quality alfalfa forage especially in areas away from Lake Michigan.

RFVs, measured from the PEAQ chart, dropped by 3 points per day since last Thursday May 18. The decline in RFVs was slightly less than long term averages because of the cooler temperatures.

PEAQ and Scissor Cut RFVs are about 15-20 RFV points higher than forage coming out of storage due to respiration and dry matter losses. Alfalfa fields sampled are either 2nd or 3rd year production fields.

This will be the last quality measurement for this year. For more information contact Mike Ballweg at (920) 459-5910. Results are posted on our UW-Extension website:
<http://sheboygan.uwex.edu/>

Thanks to our sponsors: Adell Coop, Kettle Lakes Coop and the Sheboygan County Forage Council Board: Nathan Casper, Matt Gartman, Brad Laack, Cody Mullikin, Matthew Ramel, Jory Stapel and Tom Wilterdink.

Take time to be safe.
Mike

Location	Sample Date	PEAQ RFV	Plant Ht (inches)	Growth Stage
Batavia	5/25/17	176	26	Early Bud
Glenbeulah	5/25/17	190	24	Late Veg.
Cedar Grove	5/25/17	211 – 176	20 – 27	Late Veg.
Hingham – East	5/25/17	172	27	Early Bud
Hingham – West	5/25/17	176	26	Early Bud
Town of Wilson	5/25/17	211	20	Vegetative
Town of Mosel	5/25/17	217	19	Vegetative

From link below is the Alfalfa Quality PEAQ chart. With this chart and a yardstick you are able to measure the alfalfa quality of individual fields on your farm.
<http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/files/2014/01/PEAQTable.pdf>
