









in rural communities - its value for soil conservation, nitrogen fixation, energy savings, crop rotation, and wildlife habitat is unsurpassed.

Alfalfa must offer a competitive value for farmers in order to provide these benefits and maintain or expand its acreage base. Being recognized in policy and research funding decisions is critical in keeping pace with other cropping choices.





Value of Alfalfa Production

\$12.6 billion in 2014



NAFA Priorities

NAFA requests agencies use sound science in policy development and adhere to established comment procedures.

Alfalfa Safety Net

 Forage Crop Insurance (enhance existing APH program; work with developers to craft new revenue and/or quality policies)

• Public Research

- · ARS
- Request continued support for U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center
 - Establish two western positions to work in collaboration with the USDFRC
- Request continued support for St. Paul ARS Forage Unit (i.e., fill vacant positions)
- Request continued support for Logan ARS Units (Bee Lab & Forage Unit)(i.e., fill vacant positions)
- Maintain support for Prosser position

· NIFA

- Request continued funding for Alfalfa Seed and Forage Systems Research Program
- Work with NIFA on land grant commitment to forages (i.e., fill vacant forage positions)
- · Continue to work with NIFA on grant opportunities (e.g., BRAG)

Emergency Forage Strategy

- NASS Data
 - Secure value reporting for alfalfa green chop/haylage
 - Improve accuracy of alfalfa yield reporting (i.e., survey questions)

Maintain and Enhance Key Export Markets

- When appropriate, work with ASTA, agencies, and other national associations to establish LLP tolerances
- Refine coexistence strategies, when appropriate, to meet requirements of key export markets

Crop Protection Tools

- Continue to work with EPA to support and maintain seed industry crop protection tools (seed industry has non-food use status)
- Continue to work with EPA to support and maintain forage crop protection tools

Miscellaneous

- Monitor the Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- Monitor RFS2 certification process





Persistence. SUCCESSI ere to established comment

NAFA STRATEGIES & POLICY ISSUES

NAFA requests agencies use sound science in policy development and adhere to established comment procedures.

Alfalfa Safety Net

- Forage Crop Insurance (enhance existing program; work with developers as they craft new revenue and quality policies)
- → Title 1 status

McConnell Includes Alfalfa Crop Insurance Language in Farm Bill's Manager's Report

Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) showed his support for alfalfa by inserting language in the Manager's Report of the 2014 Farm Bill. The language inserted appeared as follows:

"The Managers recognize alfalfa to be an important domestic forage crop valued for nitrogen fixation, soil conservation, crop rotation, and as a natural habitat. The Managers view alfalfa as having great potential for the national cash hay market and as an affordable means of supporting the forage and intensive grazing needs of the horse, cattle, and dairy sectors. However, from 2002 through 2011, alfalfa acreage has declined 15.7 percent, and in 2012 alone acreage declined an additional 10 percent. The Managers stress the importance of an alfalfa crop insurance policy to ensure that producers have the risk management protection that they need to produce this important crop. The Managers urge the Secretary to include information regarding regional differences in cultivation in the alfalfa crop insurance study."



- Forage Seeding Program
- Actual Revenue History (ARH)



NAFA STRATEGIES & POLICY ISSUES

- Maintain and Enhance Key Export Markets
- ➤ When appropriate, work with ASTA, agencies, and other national associations to establish LLP tolerances
- ➤ Refine coexistence strategies, when appropriate, to meet requirements of key export markets



The National Alfalfa and Forage Alliance (NAFA) strongly supports the availability and continued use of biotechnology in agriculture. These advances will allow American farmers to effectively compete in the world market and will enable American farmers to supply abundant, safe, high quality food, fiber and renewable fuel desired by global consumers.

NAFA acknowledges and respects different markets and methodologies of food, fiber and renewable fuel production. We believe that science based stewardship management practices allow for the coexistence of these different markets and methodologies in production agriculture.

NAFA believes collaborative efforts among all stakeholders are required to develop methodologies that enable coexistence.

Adopted by NAFA board of directors 4/26/07

Mark Wagoner, NAFA Chairman



Organization Research Education Policy Media Helpful Links NAAIC

Bioenergy

Biotechnology

APHIS Amended Order

Coexistence Forum »

Coexistence Documents

Supreme Court Ruling on

Roundup Ready Alfalfa

NAFA's Statement on

Roundup Ready
Grower Opportunity Zones



NAFA Coexistence Documents

- Coexistence Principles & Glossary of Terms (NAFA, 2015)
- Grower Opportunity Zones for Seed Production (NAFA, 2015)
- Procedures for Forming a Grower Opportunity Zone (NAFA, 2015)
- Best Management Practices for Genetically Enhanced Alfalfa Seed Production (NAFA, 2015)
- Best Management Practices for APS Alfalfa Seed Production (NAFA, 2015)
- Coexistence for Alfalfa Hay Export Markets (NAFA, 2014)
- Coexistence for Alfalfa Seed Export Markets (NAFA, 2014)
- Coexistence for Organic Alfalfa Seed and Hay Markets (NAFA, 2014)
- Gene Flow in Alfalfa: Biology, Mitigation, & Potential Impact on Production (CAST, 2008)
 Electronic Version
 Hardcopy Version







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Helpful Links

NAAIC

Bioenergy

Biotechnology

APHIS Amended Order

Coexistence Documents

Supreme Court Ruling on Roundup Ready Alfalfa

NAFA's Statement on Roundup Ready

Grower Opportunity Zones



GROWER OPPORTUNITY ZONES & NON-GE SEED PRODUCTION AREAS

AP-SENSITIVE GOZ. This is a zone for seed production of APS alfalfa seed and conventional alfalfa seed. As outlined in NAFA *Best Management Practices for Genetically Enhanced Alfalfa Seed Production*, GEA seed production would not be allowed in an APS GOZ.

The following APS GOZs have been grower requested/approved - click to link to the GOZ map identifying GOZ boundaries for each:

Parts of Canyon & Owyhee Counties, ID and Malheur County, OR (January, 2012)

Part of Park County, WY (January, 2012)

Phillips and Blaine Counties, MT (April, 2015)

Stillwater and parts of Yellowstone Counties, MT (August, 2015)

Parts of Big Horn County, WY (August, 2015)

Broadwater County, MT (August, 2015)

GE GOZ. This is a zone for seed production of GE and conventional alfalfa seed that is destined for markets that are not APS. APS alfalfa seed production would not be practical in a GE GOZ. As outlined in NAFA Best Management Practices for Genetically Enhanced Alfalfa Seed Production, Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA) certified seed production isolation requirements apply between GE and conventional seed within a GE GOZ. NAFA Best Management Practices for Genetically Enhanced Alfalfa Seed Production isolation requirements apply between a GE seed production field in a GE GOZ and the nearest conventional seed production field outside the GOZ border.

The following GE GOZs have been grower requested/approved - click to link to the GOZ map identifying GOZ boundaries for each:

Part of Canyon County, ID (July, 2011)

Parts of Walla Walla County, WA & Umatilla County, OR (July, 2011)

Orovada Valley, NV (August, 2011)

Lovelock Valley, NV (August, 2011)

Box Elder and Cache Counties, UT (August, 2011)

Jerome and Minidoka Counties & part of Twin Falls County, ID (August, 2011)

Oneida and Franklin Counties, ID (August, 2011)

Big Horn County, MT (August, 2011)

Washakie County, WY (August, 2011)

Parts of Malheur County, OR & Canyon and Payette Counties, ID (September, 2011; April, 2015)

Fremont County, WY (September, 2011)

Heart Mountain Area, WY (December, 2011)

Carbon County, MT & parts of Park and Big Horn Counties, WY (January, 2012; April, 2015)

Mesa County, CO (September, 2012)

Part of Canyon County, ID (October, 2012)

Rosebud and Treasure Counties, MT (April, 2014)

Part of Big Horn County, WY (March, 2015)

Parts of Ada and Owyhee Counties, ID (April, 2015)

Parts of Umatilla and Morrow Counties, OR (April 2015; August, 2015)

Parts of Big Horn and Park Counties, WY (October 2015)



一暨(2015)国际苜蓿会议 2015 International Alfalfa Congress



美国优良牧草种植 (Growing Quality U.S. Alfalfa)



商业首者干草种植者根据产量潜能 ,抗虫性,抗病性和耐寒性来选择 适合的种子来建植新首营地。 Commercial affalfa hay growers typically establish new stands by choosing certified seed based on yield potential, pest resistance, and winterhardiness.



干草种複者使用大方移打翻机设置 打包出口规模。打包机的湿度传感 器,可以帮助控制水分含量。 Many commercial hay growers use large square balers that can be set to export sizes. Moisture sensors can help growers harvest at a consistent moisture content.



苜蓿应该种在紧实的苗床上,播种 量为0.9-1.5公斤/亩,苜蓿地寿命 一般为5年或更长。

Alfalfa is grown in a firm seed bed usually at 12-20 pounds of seed per acre, and stands can last five years or longer.



成捆的干草或者被储存在干草谷仓 ,或者用防水布严密包裹来确保质

Bales are stacked under hay barns or tarps that help maintain quality.



第一茬应该在初花期收获,随后每 28-33天收获一次,直到生长季末

Growers mow first cutting of established alfalfa stands at first flower stage, then harvest every 28-33 days as the growing season pages its end



干草出口企业进行紧密捆绑包裹以 保证干草质量。

Hay export companies compact bales and often wrap them to maintain quality.



如图所示,成排的干草被收割,它 们将需要被摊开直至完全干燥以保 证安全打包。

Windrows are raked and may need to be tedded before they are dry enough to be safely baled.



最终,我们得到了优质的紫花苜蓿 干草。 Result: High-quality U.S. alfalfa hav

for feeding dairy cows and other livestock. Gold Membe livestock. Idaho Alfalfa & C John Deere Support Seed C

美国牧草联盟 (National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance)

NAFA致力于确保苜蓿和饲料行业在國內以及国际上所有环节的有效竞争和发展。 NAFA's mission is to ensure the ability of all segments of the alfalfa and forage industry to compete effectively and profitably, domestically and abroad.

NAFA的目标是要建立行业共识,确保利益相关,并成为一个苜蓿和饲料行业的倡导者。 The objective of NAFA is to be a forum for consensus building among the various stakeholders and to be an effective advocate on behalf of the alfalfa and forage industry.

NAFA 钻石会员 (Diamond Members):



Platinum Members:

America's Alfalfa
California Alfalfa Seed Research Board
CROPLAN®
DEKALB®
NEKGROW
Washington Alfalfa Seed Commission
W-L Research

Gold Members: Idaho Alfalfa & Clover Seed Commission John Deere Summit Seed Coatings Western Ag Enterprises



Silver Members:

California Alfalfa & Forage Association Idaho Hay & Forage Association JR Simplot Kansas Forage & Grassland Council MacDon Industries Ltd. Midwast Forage Association Montana Alfalfa Seed Committee Nebraska Alfalfa Seed Commission Newdao Alfalfa Seed Commission Newdao Alfalfa Seed Commission Washington State Hay Growers Association

Wyoming Alfalfa Seed Council



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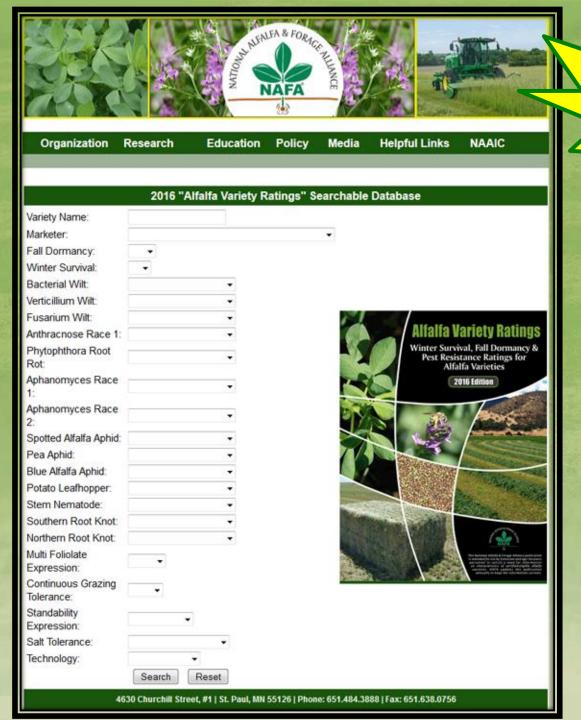


Associate Members:

American Seed Trade Association
Anderson Hay & Grain Co.
Calibrate® Technologies
FMC
Harvest Tec
Hayday Farms Inc.
Michigan Forage Council
Michigan Forage Council
Monsanto BloAg
Nelson Irrigation Corporation
New Moxico Hay Association
Oregon Hay & Forage Association
Oregon Hay & Forage Association
The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation
Valley Irrigation



PUBLICATIONS Click image to view pdf format of publications. Quantity Subtotal Publication Price Per Publication Minimum order quantity of the following NAFA publications is 25 (any combination) Alfalfa Variety Ratings Winter Survival Fall Dormancy & Pest Resistance Ratings \$0.50 0 \$ 0.00 for Alfalfa Varieties 2016 Edition Alfalfa Germination & Growth \$2.50 0 S 0.00 Alfalfa Analyst \$2.00 0 S 0.00 Alfalfa for Profit \$0.50 0 S 0.00 Alfalfa The High-Quality Hay for Horses \$2.00 S 0 0.00 Alfalfa, Wildlife and the Environment The Importance and Benefits of Alfalfa \$2.00 S 0 0.00 in the 21st Century \$2.00 \$ 0.00 Growing Alfalfa in the South 0 S Understanding Forage Quality \$2.00 0 0.00 Gene Flow in Alfalfa: Free Biology, Mitigation, - plus \$2.00 additional 0 S 0.00 and Potential Impact on Production shipping/handling fee (No minimum order quantity; 25 maximum)



Searchable Satabase!



Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar

Fort Wayne, Indiana. November 17-19, 2015

AGENDA

Tuesday, November 17

	• *	
1:00	Welcome, Seminar Orientation and Overview	Dan Undersander
1:10	History and Importance	Dan Undersander
1:30	Genetics, Variety Testing and Variety Selection	Dan Undersander
2:45	Seed and Seed Production	Marvin Hall
3:15	Break	
3:30	Gene Flow in Alfalfa Seed and Forage Production	Dan Undersander
4:15	Growth and Development	Marvin Hall
5:30	Adjourn	

Wednesday, November 18 morning

8:00	Soils, Fertility and Manure Management	Marvin Hall
0.00		Mai viii Fiaii
9:00	Establishment	Kim Cassida
10:00	Break	
10:15	Irrigation and Water Use	Dan Undersander
10:45	Pest Management	Dan Undersander
12:15	Lunch	

Wednesday, November 18, afternoon

1:00	Quality Terms and Definitions	Neal Martin
1:30	Production Management	Kim Cassida
1:50	Harvesting: Options, Losses, and Decisions	Neal Martin
2:45	Break	
3:00	Mowing and Field Drying	Marvin Hall
3:30	Silage Preservation	Neal Martin
4:10	Hay Preservation	Dan Undersander
5:15	Discussion	
5-30	Adjourn	

Thursday, November 19

8:00	Alfalfa in Rotations	Dan Undersander
8:30	Role of Alfalfa in Dairy Diets	Randy Shaver
9:30	Alfalfa - Custom (Contract) Harvesting	Dan Undersander
10:15	Break	
10:30	Economics	Marvin Hall
11:15	Alfalfa: Crop of the Future	Neal Martin
11:45	Discussion and Wrap-Up	Dan Undersander
12:00	Adjourn	

Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar



INCREASE YOUR ALFALFA KNOWLEDGE

With today's technology expanding at a rapid pace, there is much to be learned about alfalfa. The Alfalfa Intensive Training Seminar, sponsored by the National Alfalfa and Forage Alliance, gives participants the knowledge they need to make the best of their alfalfa investment.



Register on-line at alfalfa.org

Join us November 17-19, 2015 in Fort Wayne, Indiana

Instructors:



Dr. Kim Cassida Michigan State University



Dr. Dan Undersander Extension Agronomist University of Wisconsin



Randy Shaver Dairy Nutritionist University of Wisconsin



Dr. Neal Martin Former Director U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center, Consultant



Marvin Hall Extension Agronomist Penn State University



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Public Research

- ➤ USDA's research portfolio needs to be better balanced to provide needed research for the nation's 3rd most valuable field crop. The decline in acres can be partially attributed to the lack of public research.
- Much public research funding is devoted to the "big 5" (wheat, cotton, corn, soybeans, and rice). The value of all hay in 2013 was \$23 billion; alfalfa alone was \$13 billion. This compares to wheat at \$14.4, cotton at \$5.2, and rice at \$3 (corn is \$62.7 and soybean is \$41.8).
- 2012 CRIS Report data indicate ARS allocated \$44.6 million (109.9 scientist years) to corn, \$42.6 million (104.2 scientist years) to cotton, \$42.1 million (95 scientist years) to wheat, \$34.5 million (82.9 scientist years) to soybean compared to just \$3.7 million (9.9 scientist years) to alfalfa.
- NIFA's research commitment to alfalfa and forage crops is equally dismal. In fact, at many land grant universities throughout the nation the forage program has either been eliminated or rolled into cropping systems.





Public Research

- > ARS
 - Request continued support for U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center; hire new director
 - Establish two western positions to work in collaboration with the USDFRC
 - Request continued support for St. Paul ARS Forage Unit (i.e., fill vacant positions)
 - Request continued support for Logan ARS Units (Bee Lab & Forage Unit) (i.e., fill vacant positions)
 - Work to restore seed grower funding from the Logan Bee Lab
 - Maintain support for Prosser position

Success! ARS Hires Boggess as New U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center Director

NAFA's highest priority in terms of ARS was the appointment of a new Director for the U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center. NAFA worked with ARS in prioritizing this need. In May Dr. Mark Boggess was selected as the new Director.

Success! USDA-ARS Allocates \$100,000 for Alfalfa Pollinator Health Initiative



Public Research

- > NIFA
 - Request reauthorization of Seek funding for Alfalfa and Forage Research Program in Farm Bill; seek funding
 - Work with NIFA on land grant commitment to forages (i.e., fill vacant forage positions)
 - Continue to work with NIFA on grant opportunities (similar to BRAG offering)

Success! \$1.35 Million in Research Funding

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS).

The request for proposals for the AFRP was distributed in June and resulted in the collection of 23 proposals requesting more than \$3.7 million in funding.



Research Programs

The National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance was instrumental in securing funding for two research programs supporting the alfalfa industry:

- Alfalfa Pollinator Research Initiative (APRI)
- Alfalfa and Forage Research Program (AFRP)

The APRI, administered through USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS), is devoted to ensuring the availability of healthy non-Apis pollinator populations essential for alfalfa seed production. APRI research focuses on pollinator management, production, safety, epidemiology and disease management, and genetics and demographics.

The AFRP, administered through USDA's National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA), supports integrated, collaborative research and technology transfer to improve the efficiency and sustainability of conventional and organic forage production systems. The program is devoted to improving alfalfa forage and seed yield, improving persistence, improving alfalfa forage and seed harvesting and storage systems, improving estimates of alfalfa forage quality, and breeding.

Find information by entering one or more of the drop-down search options:

Researcher	Please Select	•	
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Categories	Please Select		•
Research Program	Please Select ▼		
S	earch Reset		



Organization

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Helpful Links

NAAIC

2015 Alfalfa Pollinator Research Initiative (APRI)

- . The Role of Lactobacillus Kunkeei in Alfalfa Leafcutter Bee Nutrition
- Quinn McFrederick, University of California-Rvierside (\$21,332)
- · Effects of Pest Management Practices on Pests and Alfalfa Leafcutting Bees in Alfalfa Seed
 - Jim Barbour, Idaho State University (\$15,406)
- Enhancing and Protecting Populations of Alfalfa Seed Pollinators
- Doug Walsh, Washington State University (\$15,406)
- Understanding the Effects of Nutrition and Juvenile Hormone on Reproductive Output in Alkali Bees (Nomia melanderi)
 - Karen Kapheim, Utah State University (\$13,815)
- . Interactions Among Alternative Forms of Developmental Mortality in Alfalfa Leafcutting Bees
- Kevin O'Neill, Montana State University (\$8,000)
- Lethal and Sublethal Effects of a Systemic Pesticide on Alfalfa Leafcutter Bees
- T'ai Roulston, University of Virginia (\$20,594)
- · Validation and Development of Traps for Pests of Megachile rotundata
- Theresa Pitts-Singer, USDA-ARS (\$5,843)

2014 Alfalfa Pollinator Research Initiative (APRI)

- · Effects of Pest Management Practices on Pests and Alfalfa Leafcutting Bees in Alfalfa Seed
- Jim Barbour, University of Idaho (\$15,406)
- . Understanding the Effects of Nutrition and Juvenile Hormone on Reproductive Output in Alkali Bees
- Karen Kapheim, Utah State University (\$22,454)
- . Probiotic Prospecting for Alfalfa Leafcutting Bees
 - Quinn McFrederick, University of California (\$18,894)
- Lethal and Sublethal Effects of a Systemic Pesticide on Alfalfa Leafcutter Bees
- T'ai Roulston, University of Virginia (\$23,802)
- Enhancing and Protecting Populations of the Alkali Bee Nomia Melanderi
- Doug Walsh, Washington State University (\$19,444)

Alfalfa and Forage Research Program 2015 (AFRP)

- Re-Establishing IPM Recommendations for Aphids in Alfalfa Hay in the Low Desert
 - Avman Mostafa, University of Arizona (\$206,000)
- Developing Molecular Markers for Enhancing Resistance to Drought and High Salinity in Alfalfa
- Long Xi Yu, USDA-ARS (\$215,000)
- Potato Leafhopper Threshold Revised for Alfalfa Host Resistance and Alfalfa Grass Mixtures
- William Lamp, University of Maryland (\$215,000)
- Impact of Microbial Inoculants on the Quality and Fermentation Stability of Alfalfa Round-Bale Baleage
- Rocky Lemus, Mississippi State University (\$213,333)
- Management Tools to Improve Forage Quality and Persistence of Alfalfa
- Debbie Cherney, Cornell University (\$203,213)
- Subsurface Drip Irrigation, Deficit Irrigation Strategies, and Improved Varieties to Improve Alfalfa Water Use Efficiency Under Drought Conditions
- Dan Putnam, University of California Davis (\$195,000)

Alfalfa and Forage Research Program 2014 (AFRP)

- . The Effect of Hay Rake Type on Ash Content of Alfalfa Hay
 - Dan Undersander, University of Wisconsin (\$155,884)
- . Developing an Alfalfa Hay Export Market in the Humid Eastern United States
 - Chris Teutsch, Virginia Tech (\$156,140)
- . Root Traits to Enhance Nutrient and Water Use in Alfalfa
- Deborah Samac, USDA-ARS (\$156,230)
- Subsurface Drip Irrigation, Deficit Irrigation Strategies, and Improved Varieties to Improve Alfalfa Water Use Efficiency Under Drought Conditions
- Dan Putnam, University of California-Davis (\$156,254)
- Using a New In Vitro Method and Fiber Model (TTNDFD) to Improve Estimates of Digestibility of Alfalfa for Dairy Cattle
- Dave Combs, University of Wisconsin (\$156,280)
- Nutritive Value and Forage Accumulation of Alfalfa and Alfalfa-Mixtures as Influenced by Forage Management
- Renata La Guardia Nave, University of Tennessee (\$156,287)
- Yield Improvement and Fall Dormancy Characterization in Alfalfa
 - Charlie Brummer, University of California-Davis (\$156,287)
- Implementing Lygus Management Strategies in Alfalfa Seed Production
 - Doug Walsh, Washington State University (\$156,675)



By collaborating together



We can achieve more!