



# PASTURE MANAGEMENT CALENDAR

## **Winter/Early Spring (December 1 – April 15)**

- Plan for the year
- Remove animals during thaw and when muddy

## **Spring (April 15- May 15)**

- Keep animals off grass till 6-8 inches tall
- Set up fences for rotating and exclusion from creeks and wetlands
- Plant cool season grass
- Flash graze

## **Late Spring/ Early Summer (May 15- June 15)**

- Chemical control of annual weeds and second year growth of biennial weeds
- Start rotating pastures
- Plant warm season grass
- Mow and/or harrow as needed

## **Summer (June 15- August 15)**

- Rotate pastures as needed
- Harrow as needed
- Mow as needed
- Fertilize as needed<sup>1</sup>

## **Summer/Early Fall (August 15- September 15)**

- Rotate pastures as needed
- Harrow as needed
- Mow as needed
- Fertilize as needed<sup>1</sup>

## **Fall (September 15- October 15)**

- Best time for chemical control of perennial weeds and first year growth of biennial weeds
- Send soil samples to U of M for fertilizer recommendations.<sup>2</sup>
- Remove animals before frost
- Harrow as needed
- Rest one area – let grass grow to 10-12 inches

## **Late Fall (October 15- November 30)**

- Remove horses before/during frost and when muddy
- Rest one area
- Harrow
- Animals can graze when grass is dormant

1. Fertilizing around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and Labor Day will help boost growth during warmer periods. Use a soil test to determine how much fertilizer to use.
2. Only needs to be done every 2-3 years.

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