

# FORAGES

Forages are plant materials of grass, legume, or grain origin that are consumed by livestock.

## Testing Standards

The KDA Forage Testing Program follows standards outlined by the National Forage Testing Association (NFTA)

## Selling Forages

With the KDA's Forage Sales Directory, producers can post their forages for sale, and livestock producers can locate forages available for sale. Producers can search the Forage Sales Directory/Tested Hay by county, relative feed value (RFV) range, bale size, and type of forage.

The Hay Hotline is available for producers in need of supplemental forages.

Visit [kyagr.com/marketing/hay-hotline.html](http://kyagr.com/marketing/hay-hotline.html) or call (502) 782-4118.

## Sampling Hay

KDA recommends producers and county extension agents complete a free one-hour course provided by the NFTA, "Hay Sampling Certification," to ensure samples are properly collected. Visit [foragetesting.org](http://foragetesting.org) to learn more.

## READY TO LEARN MORE?

For more information, scan the QR code with your smart device.



[kyagr.com/marketing/forage-program.html](http://kyagr.com/marketing/forage-program.html)



**KENTUCKY**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**AGRICULTURE**

# KENTUCKY FORAGE TESTING



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## CONTACT KDA

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## TESTING FORAGE

- Contact your county extension agent to make an appointment to take samples, or submit your samples to KDA.
- Samples are analyzed at the Frankfort laboratory.
- Results are emailed to the producer and county extension agent.
- Forages that are listed for sale will be visually evaluated.

Sample report shown below

## TESTING BENEFITS

- ✓ The Kentucky Department of Agriculture's Forage Testing Program provides nutritional value information for Kentucky producers.
- ✓ Helps producers feed their animals a balanced ration and overall healthy diet.
- ✓ Yearly testing helps evaluate the fair market value of forages.
- ✓ Compare quality from year to year to evaluate management practices.
- ✓ Knowing forage nutritional value helps minimize cost and maximize production.

## SAMPLE ANALYSIS

	AS RECEIVED BASIS	DRY MATTER BASIS
Moisture, % . . . . .	14.49	0.00
Dry Matter, % . . . . .	85.51	100.00
Crude Protein, % . . . . .	19.28	22.55
Heat Damaged Protein, % . . . . .	0.50	0.58
Available Protein, % . . . . .	19.28	22.55
Dig Protein Est., % . . . . .	14.53	16.99
ADF (Acid Detergent Fiber), % . . . . .	26.79	31.33
NDF (Neutral Detergent Fiber), % . . . . .	32.67	38.21
TDN Est., % . . . . .	53.43	62.48
TDN, Horse, % . . . . .	50.64	59.23
ENE EST, THERMS/CWT. . . . .	44.75	52.33
NE/LACT, MCAL/LB. . . . .	0.54	0.63
NE/MAINT, MCAL/LB. . . . .	0.54	0.63
NE/GAIN, MCAL/LB. . . . .	0.32	0.37
RFV (Relative Feed Value). . . . .	157.02	

### DM (Dry Matter)

Percentage of feed after subtracting water.

### CP (Crude Protein)

Mixture of true protein and non-protein nitrogen.

### ADF (Acid Detergent Fiber)

Portion of forage that is highly indigestible.

### NDF (Neutral Detergent Fiber)

Portion of forage that is only partially digestible. Limits intake. The lower the NDF, the more an animal will eat. A low NDF is desirable.

### TDN (Total Digestible Nutrients)

Digestible components of fiber, protein, fat and nitrogen-free extracts in the diet.

### RFV (Relative Feed Value)

Combines the digestibility and potential intake of a forage into one number, which increases as forage quality increases



## A TESTED SAMPLE REPORT

KIM FIELD	1234 ROUND BALE RD	HAYSVILLE, KY 40123	(555)555-5555
Crop Type: . . . . .	ALF-ORCHARD	RFV: . . . . .	157.02
Lot No.: . . . . .	304-296-019-13	Color: . . . . .	GREEN
Cutting Date: . . . . .	7/28/2024	Odor: . . . . .	FRESH
Cutting #: . . . . .	3	Leaf Retention: . . . . .	75-90%
Bale Size: . . . . .	14X18X36	Mold: . . . . .	NONE
# Bales: . . . . .	2800 bales	Wgt: . . . . .	60 lbs/bale
		TDN(%): . . . . .	62.48
		CP(%): . . . . .	22.50
		ADF(%): . . . . .	31.33
		NDF(%): . . . . .	38.21
		Rain Damage: . . . . .	NO
		TDN-Horse (%): . . . . .	59.23