

## Alfalfa Information for West Texas

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The following documents and websites contain information, including New Mexico (alfalfa is the #1 cash crop) and Oklahoma, helpful to West Texas alfalfa producers. Alfalfa publications in Texas are limited as the Texas A&M System currently has little agronomic alfalfa research in West Texas.

### **Texas Alfalfa Production, B-5017**

(1997, including information tailored to West Texas)

[Special note for the Texas High Plains: page 5 lists 10" of water required per ton of production, based on flood irrigation. 6-7" per ton is realistic for the South Plains under sprinkler irrigation, slightly lower for the Panhandle. The equation on page 5 lists maximum evapotranspiration (ET) from alfalfa at 0.35"/day. This is probably a realistic average for June-August in the Texas High Plains, although it can be far exceeded on hot windy days. See the supplement at <http://lubbock.tamu.edu/othercrops>]

### **Suggestions for Weed Control in Pasture and Forages, B-5038 (1998)**

(includes Texas information for weed control in alfalfa)

### **Integrated Pest Management Guide for Texas Forage Crops, B-1401 (2002)**

(includes Texas information for pest insects and their treatment for alfalfa)

The above Texas A&M documents are available at <http://tcebookstore.org>

**Relevant alfalfa production information for West Texas is maintained at <http://lubbock.tamu.edu>**

#### Other Resources Available on the Internet

Oklahoma State Univ. has an **outstanding** collection of production information, crop and insect images, etc. for all aspects of alfalfa decision making, production, and marketing. This website is organized by topic, often in a "question-and-answer" format, and is highly recommended. It includes the 2001 "**Alfalfa Production Guide for the Southern Great Plains**," publication E-826.

<http://alfalfa.okstate.edu/index.htm>

New Mexico State Univ. has many good alfalfa publications available, including annual variety testing reports from which include data from test sites relevant for West Texas (Artesia, Tucumcari, Las Cruces) located on the Web at <http://www.cahe.nmsu.edu/pubs> For the '2004 New Mexico Alfalfa Variety Test Report' link to <http://www.cahe.nmsu.edu/pubs/research/agronomy/var04.pdf>

For a list of New Mexico alfalfa publications (paper copy; many online) see the backside of this page.

<http://www.alfalfa.org> Website of the National Alfalfa Alliance. Includes general alfalfa information, including the "Fall Dormancy & Pest Resistance Ratings for Alfalfa Varieties, 2004/2005 Edition" which lists essentially all U.S. alfalfa varieties by FD rating along with individual variety resistance to key insects and diseases as well as the new 'Winter Survival' ratings.

<http://www.naaic.org> Website of the North American Alfalfa Improvement Conference. Industry, testing, and conference information and updates.

Company websites often offer extensive production and varietal information online. Check your favorite seed company's website to see what they might have to offer.

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