

FAQ 3

What Are the Recommended Grazing Intensities for Various Pastures?

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Enterprise	Stocking Rate (per animal)	Enterprise	Stocking Rate (per animal)
Cow-calf, low intensity	5 acres	Sheep, low intensity	0.5 acre
Cow-calf, intensive	2 acres	Sheep, high intensity	0.2 acre
Stocker calf, low intensity	1 acre	Dairy, intensive seasonal	2.0 acres
Stocker calf, intensive	0.5 acre		

From *Getting Started Grazing: An Introduction to Management-Intensive Grazing*. Ohio Rural Rehabilitation Program.

Factors to consider when stocking pastures:

1. How many head of livestock am I planning to graze?
2. How many acres of pasture do I have available?
3. What is the forage mix and its grazing capabilities? How dense is my plant stand?
4. What time of year will I be grazing the pasture?
5. Where is my water source?

Resources for Grazing Intensities for Various Pastures

Resources	Sources
<i>Getting Started Grazing: An Introduction to Management-Intensive Grazing</i> . Ohio State University.	http://ohioline.osu.edu/gsg_index.html
1996 <i>Missouri Grazing Manual</i> . Excellent resource. University of Missouri.	Highlights and ordering information: http://muextension.missouri.edu/xplor/manuals/m00157.htm
<i>Proper Livestock Grazing Distribution on Rangeland</i> . Several portions applicable to Indiana pasture mgmt.	http://www.ianr.unl.edu/pubs/RANGE/g504.htm
<i>Rotational Grazing</i> (ID-143). University of Kentucky.	http://www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/id/id143/id143.htm

Purdue's Rotational Stocking Management page	http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/forages/rotational/pastures/rot_stock_mgmt/rot_stock_mgmt.html
<i>Pasture Carrying Capacities in Times of Drought.</i> North Carolina State University.	http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/drought/dro-26.html

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