

# PASTURE WORKSHEET

## Estimating Forage Dry Matter Intake (DMI):

Average body weight \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 1)  
 Estimated DMI (as % of Body Weight) \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 2)  
 Daily DMI required for single animal \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 1 x Line 2)  
 Daily DMI required for herd/flock \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 3 x # of animals)

## Estimating Pasture Mass (forage dry matter):

Height	Average Density* Pasture # DM/acre	Low Density Pasture #DM/acre	High Density Pasture #DM/acre
8"	2600	2200	2800
6"	2400	2100	2600
4"	1800	1500	2100
2"	1200	1000	1400
1"	900	600	1000

*\*Lbs of Dry Matter per acre at each height varies widely with plant density and species.*

## Calculating Available Dry Matter

Available Forage Dry Matter = Pregrazing mass – Postgrazing mass  
 Example: Pregrazing Height of 6" = 2400  
               Postgrazing Height of 2" = 1200  
   = 1200 # DM/acre available to harvest

Your Farm: Pregrazing Mass \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 5)  
               Postgrazing Mass \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 6)  
   = \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 7) **Available DM/acre**

## Calculating Paddock Size:

Paddock size (acres per day) = daily dry matter (DM) required / Available dry matter

Daily DM Required (Line 4)  
 ----- = \_\_\_\_\_ Paddock size in acres per day (Line 8)  
 Available DM/acre (Line 7)

## Calculating Rest Period:

Maximum Possible Rest Period = your total pasture acres/paddock size

Pasture acres available  
 ----- = \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum rest period  
 paddock size in acres/day (Line 8)

- **There are 43,560 square feet in an acre (210 x 210 for a square paddock)**

**Average regrowth periods:** in a dry season, the re-growth periods will be longer. The fertility of your pastures and their management history will also have an impact on the time it takes your pastures to recover. Keep records of recovery time on your farm each year for future reference.

12 to 15 days in late April to early May  
 18 days by May 31  
 24 days by July 1  
 30 days by August 1  
 36 days by September 1  
 42 days (and longer) by October 1