



# 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) \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 3)  
 Daily DMI required for herd (Line 3 times number of animals) \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 4)

## Estimating Pasture Mass (forage dry matter):

Height	Average Density* Pasture lbs. DM/acre	Low Density Pasture lbs. DM/acre	High Density Pasture lbs. 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 - Attending pasture walks or discussion groups are a great way to learn how to make these estimates more accurately!

## Calculating Available Dry Matter:

Available Forage Dry Matter = Pre Grazing Mass - Post Grazing Mass  
 Example: Pre Grazing 6" 2400  
           Post Grazing 2" 1200  
                               = 1200lbs DM/acre

Your Farm: Pre Grazing Mass \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 5)  
               Post Grazing Mass \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 6)  
                               = \_\_\_\_\_ (Line 7) **available dry matter/acre**

## Calculating Paddock Size:

Paddock size (in acres per day) = Daily DM Required / Available dry matter

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

(There are 43560 square feet in an acre, which is a square that is about 210 feet on a side)

## Calculating Rest Period:

Maximum Possible Rest Period = Your total pasture acres / Paddock size

pasture acres available  
 ----- = \_\_\_\_\_ maximum rest period  
 paddock size in acres per day (Line 8)