



National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“Growing Alfalfa in the South” & “Understanding Forage Quality,” Now Available on NAFA Website

St. Paul, MN – The National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance (NAFA) has recently made two publications available on its website (www.alfalfa.org) – an updated and enhanced version of *Growing Alfalfa in the South*, as well as a reprinted version of *Understanding Forage Quality*.

With alfalfa acreage increasing in the South, NAFA, with the help of Dr. Garry Lacefield, updated its *Growing Alfalfa in the South* publication which offers a comprehensive look at the considerations and requirements of growing what is known as the “Queen of Forages” in the southern USA.

“While growing alfalfa in the Midwest and other parts of the country may be commonplace, that is not necessarily the case in the South. That’s starting to change though. We’re starting to see greater interest in southern alfalfa production in an effort to avoid the costs of transporting it from other areas of the country,” said Lacefield, who along with four fellow scientists (Dr. Don Ball Auburn University, Dr. Dennis Hancock University of Georgia, Dr. John Andrae Clemson University and Dr. Ray Smith University of Kentucky), authored the publication. “This publication is a valuable tool to help move alfalfa production forward in the southern U.S.,” Lacefield added.

While alfalfa has not yet attained the status in the South that it has in other parts of the country, economic conditions have increased the demand for high-quality forage in the South. Production problems such as a lack of well-adapted varieties, pest infestations, and limited yields have, in the past, conspired to create a challenging environment for the production of

high quality, persistent alfalfa in the South. *Growing Alfalfa in the South*, however, is a publication intent on changing this reality.

Updated with in-depth information regarding such topics as variety selection, inoculation, weed and insect control, fertility, harvesting, storage, and other economic considerations growers should make, *Growing Alfalfa in the South* is a step-by-step guide to producing, harvesting and storing high quality alfalfa hay – a must for anyone considering alfalfa production in the southern U.S.

In addition, NAFA is making available reprinted versions of *Understanding Forage Quality*. A collaboration of some of the leading forage agronomists from across the United States, *Understanding Forage Quality* gives producers an in depth look at the factors which affect forage quality and the tools to analyze and better manage those issues. Topics such as species differences, temperature, maturity, fertilization, and variety effects, just to name a few, are all included in this thorough publication. *Understanding Forage Quality* provides valuable information about forage quality and forage testing that can be used to increase animal performance and producer profits.

Low resolution copies are available to download free by visiting www.alfalfa.org. Hard copies are available for a nominal fee, get yours today!