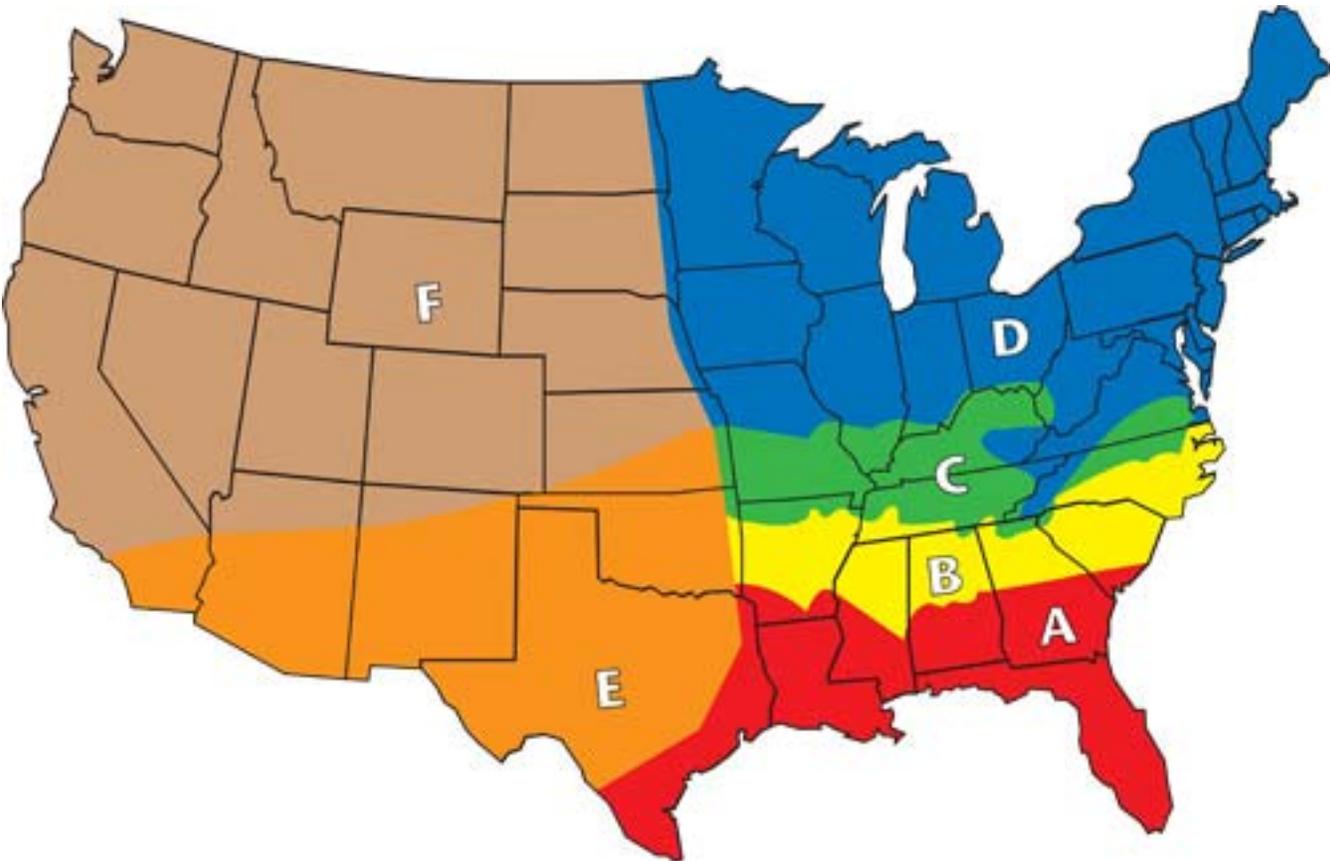


 **Seasonal Tips**



Select A Month For Regional Tips

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER

**MAY**

- If not already done, take soil samples and apply ag lime if needed. **A,B,C,D,E**
- Monitor pasture and small grain grazing pressure and rotate pastures or adjust cattle stocking rates accordingly. Do not graze fescue or annual ryegrass below 3" in height. Orchard grass and other winter annuals should be grazed to a height no lower than 4". Harvest excess forage from rotational grazing paddocks as hay or silage. **A,B,C,D,E**
- On mixed grass and legume pastures, flash graze excess grass forage to allow legumes to develop and compete. **C,D**

- Apply herbicides to control winter annual weeds (thistle, mustards, buttercup, chickweed, henbit, Carolina geranium, bittercrest, little barley, curly dock, wild garlic, etc.) in pastures and hayfields. Consult with your local Ag Extension office or farm supply dealer for weed control information and labeling for your area. **Caution:** The application of broadleaf weed control herbicides can result in severe legume injury. Legume plantings made within one year of applying an herbicide containing picloram may be successful. **C,D**

- Spring seed MaxQ tall fescue. **C,D**

- Seed perennial and annual warm season grasses (bermuda, bluestem, eastern gamma grass, switchgrass, bahia, dallisgrass, millet, sorghum, sorghum x sudan, etc) once soil temperatures stabilize at 65° or higher. **A,B,C,D,E**

- Spring seed alfalfa. **D,C**

Harvest cool season forages for hay or silage at the 'boot' stage for optimum forage quality. Harvest legumes at the 50% bloom stage. Moisture content prior to baling hay should be no more than 18-20% if no preservative is used. Moisture content for balage or silage should be 60-65%. **A,B,C,D,E**

Apply 60-80 lb N/A and soil test recommended P&K to newly planted summer annual forages and to perennial warm season pastures and hayfields after spring green-up. For maximum uptake, apply fertilizer just prior to expected rainfall of ½ inch or more. **A,B,C,D,E**

- If renovating toxic endophyte fescue pastures to non-toxic endophyte fescue varieties (MaxQ) destroy all existing toxic fescue plants by the application of a labeled non-selective, non-residual herbicide. Consult your local Ag Extension office or farm supply dealer for herbicides labeled for your area. **B,C,D,E**

Scout pastures and hayfields for late spring and summer annual weed pests (annual grasses, dogfennel, mayweed, bitter sneezeweed, horsenettle, brambles, etc). Consult your local Ag Extension office or farm supply dealer for herbicides labeled for your area. **Caution:** The application of broadleaf weed control herbicides can result in severe legume injury. Legume plantings made within one year of applying a herbicide containing picloram may not be successful. **A,B,C,E**

- Apply an additional 40-60 lbs N/A to cool season pastures where a second cutting of hay will be taken. **B,C,D**

- Monitor recently harvested hay for bale temperature. Bale temperatures of 120-140°F are considered normal. Bale temperatures above 160°F can cause the hay to mold and/or catch fire. **A,B,C,D,E**

- Finish planting cool season forages in early May. **D**
- Scout for alfalfa weevil and potato leafhopper infestations and apply control measures if needed. **D**