

PLANNING ON GRAZING LANDS (OK-ECS-017)

Overview

This course will teach basic inventory and evaluations of forages and livestock used to calculate the balance between forage supply and animal demand. It will also cover planning Grazing Management and explore the variety of grazing management strategies available. These would include those used by research entities as well as those utilized by clients. The course will include prescribed grazing on cropland, rangeland, pastureland, and grazed forest. It will also cover facilitating practices and can be customized to fit specific areas and forage types. This course can be both field and classroom sessions.

Objectives

Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Complete forage inventories on common forage production systems including rangeland, tame pastures and grazed cropland and forest using different techniques
2. Understand harvest efficiencies and determine proper utilization of different forage species.
3. Summarize inventory information to determine total production, grazeable forage, carrying capacities and construct and interpret plant growth curves, develop monthly forage budgets, and create a forage balance report.
4. Understand and describe to a client the major ecological processes of the landuses.
5. Know how to plan, evaluate, and document prescribed grazing.
6. Describe to a client the impact of different grazing strategies. Included in this discussion will be both the positive and negative aspects of a chosen grazing management strategy. This could include integrating prescribed grazing with other practices such as brush management, prescribed burning, pest management, wildlife upland habitat management, and nutrient management.
7. Design and recommend specific monitoring methods and techniques to be utilized on a prescribed grazing plan.

Prerequisites

Must have planning responsibilities. Plant ID recommended.

Duration

This will be a two-day course. The content can be determined by those requesting the training and customized by the presenter to the needs of the students.