

PASTURE & HAYLAND TREND & CONDITION RATING

COOPERATOR _____ DATE _____
 FIELD OFFICE _____ PLANNER _____
 TRACT(s) _____ FIELD NO(s) _____
 SUITABILITY GROUP _____ IRRIGATED [YES] [NO]
 SPECIES _____
 SOIL _____ SLOPE _____ pH _____
 SALINITY HIGH [] MODERATE [] LOW []
 HEAVING POTENTIAL HIGH [] MODERATE [] [LOW []
 FERTILIZER AMENDMENTS NITROGEN _____ LEGUME NITROGEN _____
 PHOSPHORUS _____ POTASSIUM _____ OTHER(s) _____
 FORAGE YIELD _____ Lbs/Ac. (Air-Dry Annual Production)

Pasture and Hayland Apparent Trend Worksheet

	Rating Values	Rating* Assigned	
		<u>Current</u>	<u>Future</u>
<u>PLANT VIGOR</u>			
• Best suited plants are healthy, robust, deep green-colored leaves, well-rooted, not chlorotic, with vigorous regrowth.	(5)		
• Best suited plants are weak, small-sized, pale yellowish-colored leaves, inadequately rooted, with slow and non-uniform regrowth.	(1)	_____	_____
<u>COMPOSITION CHANGE</u>			
• Best suited plant community relatively stable, annual plant community flourishes only very unusual climatic conditions.	(5)		
• Best suited plant community relatively unstable, invasion by weedy species, many old and decadent perennial plants.	(1)	_____	_____
<u>SOIL</u>			
• Soil surface friable, no compaction layer, no apparent erosion or past erosion being healed.	(5)		
Soil surface capped, much bare soil surface, stone cover, compaction from trampling or plow layer, excessive plant hummocking, accelerated soil movement evident.	(1)	_____	_____
<u>PLANT RESIDUES</u>			
• Plant residue level of accumulation adequate for specific plant community.	(5)		
• Plant residue level of accumulation considerably below or above that considered reasonable for specific plant community.	(1)	_____	_____
	TOTAL	_____	_____

* When necessary, assign values between 1 and 5.

APPARENT TREND (Check One): Upward (>15) [], Static (8-15) [], Downward (<8) []

Remarks: _____

Pasture and Hayland Condition Rating

For each set of questions (1-7), check either Good, Fair or Poor

Current Future

GOOD

- _____ _____ (1) Best suited plants are being used - adapted to soil, climate, and management objectives
- _____ _____ (2) Full stand of best suited plants for site - generally >2 plants / sq. ft. on non-irrigated and >4 plants / sq. ft. on irrigated land.
- _____ _____ (3) High level of fertility - manure being scattered when field is grazed. Commercial fertilizer being applied as needed (favorable climate, adequate irrigation water supply, economic feasibility, etc.).
- _____ _____ (4) Rhizomatous species not sod-bound.
- _____ _____ (5) No weed species present throughout field.
- _____ _____ (6) Forage Harvest Management and/or Prescribed Grazing practices being followed.
- _____ _____ (7) No appreciable negative effects on either surface or ground water (nutrients, organics, pesticides, toxics, salinity, sediment, others).

FAIR

- _____ _____ (1) Plants adapted to soils and climate but not necessarily meeting management objectives.
- _____ _____ (2) Medium stand of adapted plants - 1 to 2 plants / sq. ft. on non-irrigated to 2 - 4 plants / sq. ft. on irrigated land.
- _____ _____ (3) Medium level of fertility - manure being scattered irregularly when field is grazed. Commercial fertilizer being used irregularly (even under favorable climate, adequate irrigation water supply, economic feasibility, and etc.).
- _____ _____ (4) Rhizomatous species becoming sod-bound.
- _____ _____ (5) Few weedy species beginning to show up throughout the field.
- _____ _____ (6) Harvesting is at an intensity to minimally maintain stand, protect the soil, and with minimum water loss. Forage Harvest Management and/or Prescribed Grazing practices not completely followed.
- _____ _____ (7) Only slightly negative effects on either surface or ground water (nutrients, organics, pesticides, toxic, salinity, sediment, others).

POOR

- _____ _____ (1) Plants in stand generally not meeting management objectives.
- _____ _____ (2) Inadequate stand of plants adapted to site - generally <0.5 plants / sq. ft. on non-irrigated to <1 plant / sq. ft. on irrigated land. Soil erosion generally evident.
- _____ _____ (3) Low level of fertility - manure not being scattered when field is grazed. Commercial fertilizer not being used (even under favorable climate, adequate irrigation water supply, economic feasibility, and etc.).
- _____ _____ (4) Rhizomatous species sod-bound.
- _____ _____ (5) Weedy species occurring throughout the field. Brush species may be invading.
- _____ _____ (6) Forage Harvest Management and/or Prescribed Grazing practices not being followed. Overgrazing evident and/or less than minimal stubble heights remaining following hay harvest.
- _____ _____ (7) Evident negative effects on either surface or ground water (nutrients, organics, pesticides, toxic, salinity, sediment, others).

NOTE: 4 of the 6 factors must be met to assign condition rating. Assign next lower condition rating if above criteria are not met. Indicate condition by circling the appropriate class.