**Updates on Forages Work in Wisconsin**

1. Which of the following is not true of alfalfa in regards to drought stress?
   1. Drought causes immediate and permanent damage to established alfalfa, the stand is likely to fail.
   2. Established alfalfa has deep roots, allowing it to scavenge deep subsurface moisture.
   3. Alfalfa is native to a semi-arid climate with intermittent periods of drought.
   4. Established Alfalfa can cease growth and become dormant when water is no longer available.
2. Given our dry conditions in 2023, what change would you expect to see in plant back restrictions of alfalfa from certain pesticides vs. what is written on the label?
   1. Expect shorter than normal
   2. No change expected
   3. Expect longer than usual
   4. Plant and find out
3. Your neighbor is going to terminate their alfalfa stand after several years of good yields, since the stand started to thin out. But they are new to alfalfa production- so they asked for advice! What advice should you NOT give?
   1. You will suggest that your neighbor should watch out for autotoxicity in alfalfa: if you replant alfalfa in the same field, toxins from the previous alfalfa crops will damage root development in the new alfalfa crop, which will cause significant failure.
   2. You will mention to your neighbor that there are a lot of nitrogen credits for crops following alfalfa termination, and that should be considered when planning nutrient management strategies.
   3. If your neighbor is considering planting alfalfa in a field that was harvested for corn this year, you will remind them to check the label for carry-over effects from corn herbicides that can damage alfalfa establishment and growth – especially because the carry-over effect is worst in drought.
   4. You will suggest to your neighbor to plant alfalfa again, in the same field, next year. After all, if the field was producing well, we should keep the good times going!
   5. You will remind your neighbor that alfalfa has autotoxicity – in other words, the chemicals it produces are only toxic to other alfalfa plants, and they should not be concerned about a different crop being planted following alfalfa termination.
4. When alfalfa is interseeded into corn silage, alfalfa is typically planted within 3 days after corn and both crops grow together. Corn is then harvested at the end of the first growing season, and alfalfa starts the second growing season fully established. Which one below is NOT true?
   1. Corn seeding rate needs to be reduced to 28,000-32,000 seeds/acre.
   2. Alfalfa helps maintain soil cover in the fall of the year of establishment, as well as in the spring of the following year, helping reduce erosion and protecting water quality.
   3. Disease pressure to alfalfa is never a concern.
   4. In the second year of the interseeded system, alfalfa produces as much yield as a second-year alfalfa stand planted alone.
   5. Increase in disease incidence of alfalfa requires extra care for this crop in the interseeded system.
5. Planting alfalfa interseeded into corn is a novel production system, but a lot of research has already been done on its benefits and challenges. What are some things we already know about this system?
   1. Corn silage typically presents a yield drag of ~10% when interseeded with alfalfa compared to planted alone.
   2. Alfalfa can compete with corn for water and nutrients.
   3. When corn silage and alfalfa are interseeded together, we have two crops growing at the same time, so more management practices are needed compared to planting corn or alfalfa alone.
   4. When considering a 4-year period, the alfalfa interseeded system is more profitable than traditional production systems that rotate between corn and alfalfa or other forages.
   5. All of the above.