

# Where Can I Get The Answer To My Question?

by Carl S. Hoveland

Crop & Soil Sciences Dept., Univ. of Georgia

**G**rowing and managing pastures and hay crops involves a lot of decision making. This means that often a question comes up which needs to be answered knowledgeably and quickly. What clover should I plant on tall fescue or bahiagrass sods located on low wet land? What grass will hold up well in a horse pasture? Do I need to scarify seed of arrowleaf clover that I harvested? What forages should I plant to attract quail on my farm? I am having trouble with fescue toxicity in my beef cow herd so is there anything I can do to reduce the problem without plowing up my old infected tall fescue pastures? Why is johnsongrass spreading in my Coastal bermudagrass hay fields but not in pastures? What seeding rate should I use for no-till planting of red clover? Is yellow jessamine vine toxic to cattle? Why is nitrate toxicity more of a danger at certain times of the year than others? Can I use leftover soybean inoculum on my crimson clover seed? How deep should I plant ryegrass seed; orchardgrass seed; red clover seed? Is chicken litter as good as commercial fertilizer?

Generally, the best place to get answers to these and other questions is the county extension office. They have available the results and recommendations on forage varieties, time to plant, how to plant, how to plant, and soil test information. They know local problems and what works best in your area. They keep up to date on new problems, solutions, and opportunities. If

they don't know the answer to your question, they can get it for you. On many questions, personnel of the Natural Resource Conservation Service can assist you.

Many Georgia cattle producers have found the book **Southern Forages** a useful source of information in answering problem questions and helping them do a better job of growing and utilizing pastures and hay. As one of the authors (the other two being Dr. Don Ball, Extension Forage Specialist at Auburn University and Dr. Garry Lacefield, Extension Forage Specialist at the University of Kentucky) we wrote this book to provide useful information on establishment, management, and utilization of forage crops by different classes of livestock. Topics such as weeds, forage quality, nutrient requirements of livestock, grazing management are covered as well as related areas such as plants for wildlife and also environmental aspects of forages. It is a practical book, written in language so that anyone can understand it.

**Southern Forages** is a 6 x 9 inch paperback book with 32 chapters and an appendix of 34 tables with much useful information. It contains more than 150 color photographs, including over 60 closeups to aid in identifying southern forage grasses and legumes. Special features include closeup black and white photos of grass and legume seeds, color photos of poisonous plants, forage

adaptation zones, forage systems for each climatic zone, seasonal growth curves for key forage plants, seeding rates, depths, and other planting information.

Since publication of the first edition in 1991, more than 13,000 copies have been sold, mostly to livestock producers. Though not originally planned as a textbook, it is being used in forage courses at more than 35 colleges and universities in the USA. It has been translated and published into Polish and plans are for translation into Spanish and Portuguese.

A new revised and expanded second edition of **Southern Forages** was published in 1996. A number of chapters have been rewritten and updated with the appendix expanded with eight additional pages. The new edition has been increased to 264 pages from the original 256 pages. Basically, the Second Edition of **Southern Forages** is the same book, only better!

**Southern Forages** is published by the Phosphate and Potash Institute, 655 Engineering Drive, Suite 110, Norcross, GA 30092-2843. Books can be ordered by sending them a check payable to "Potash and Phosphate Institute" for \$29 which includes shipping and handling. **Southern Forages** is a practical and useful Christmas gift for a cattle producer. This book can help answer a lot of questions and provide information when it may be quickly needed.

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