2018 Georgia Grazing School:
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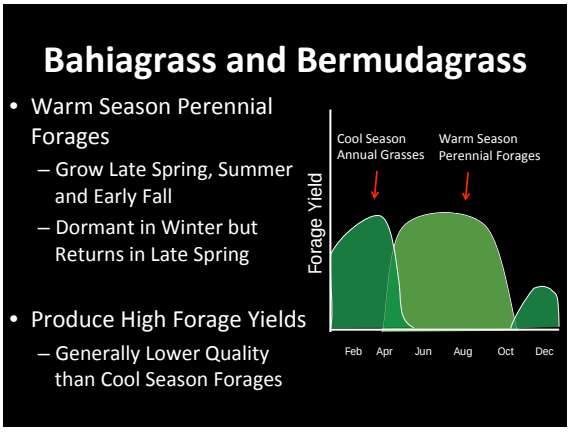
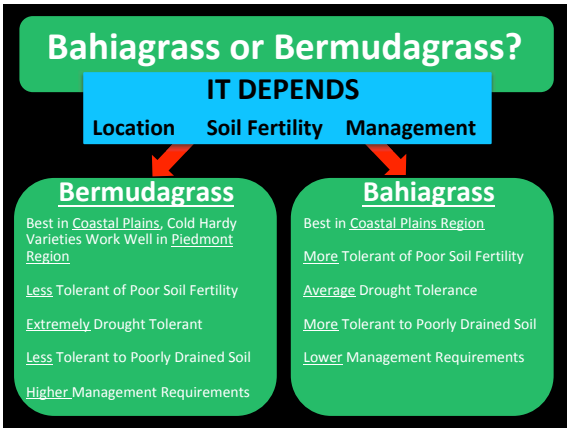
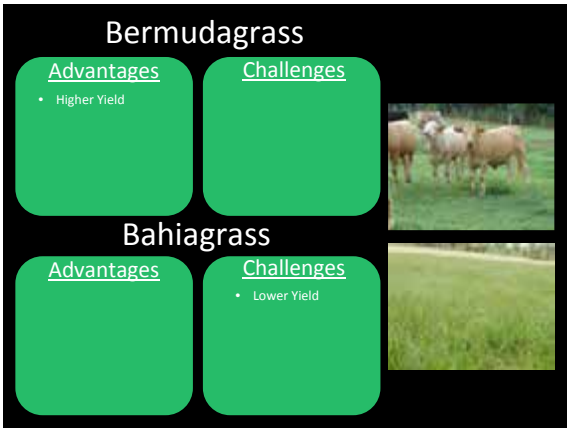
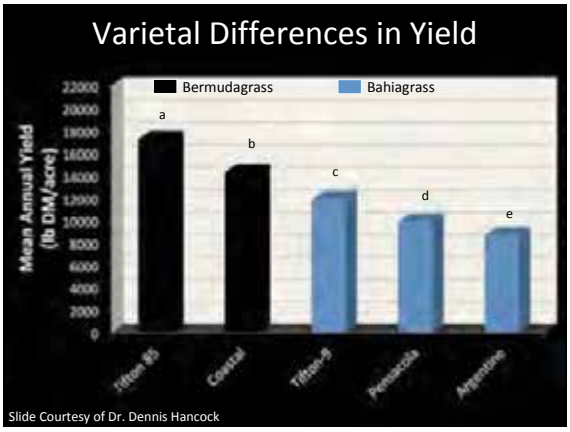
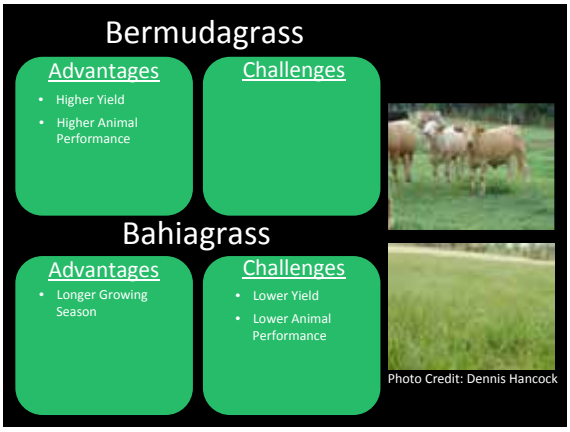
Tayler Denman
Program Coordinator











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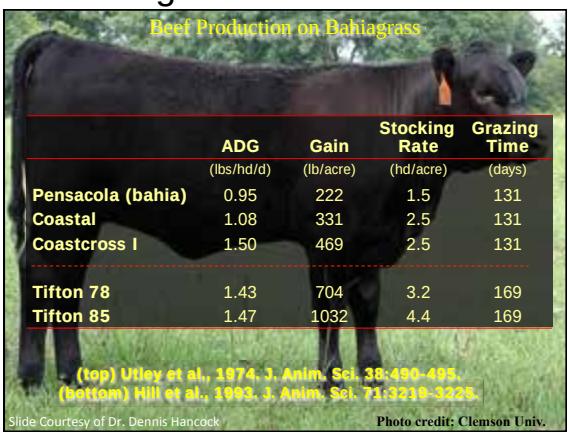

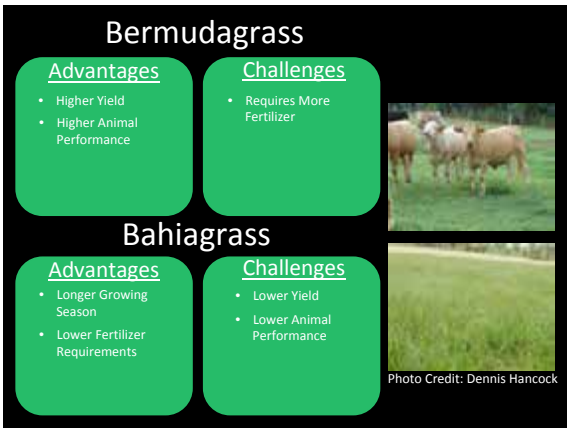

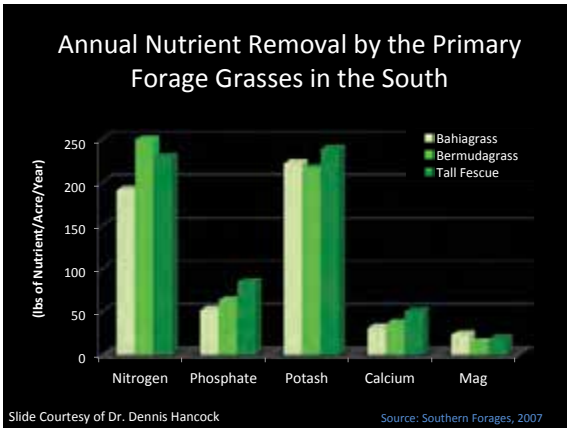

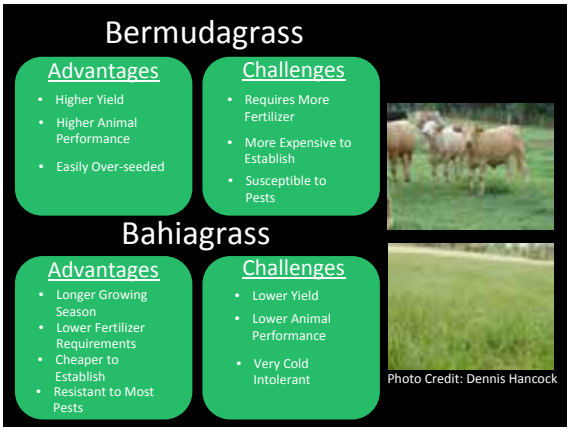

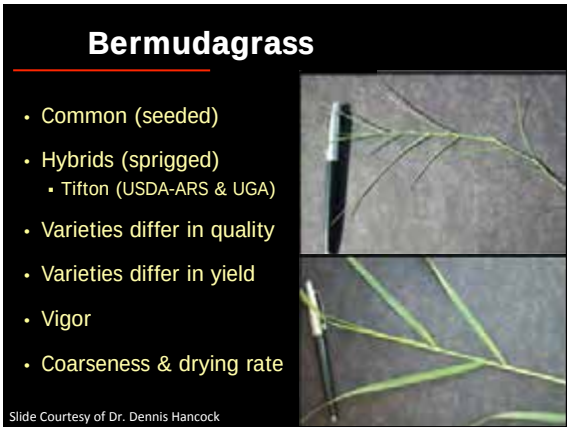

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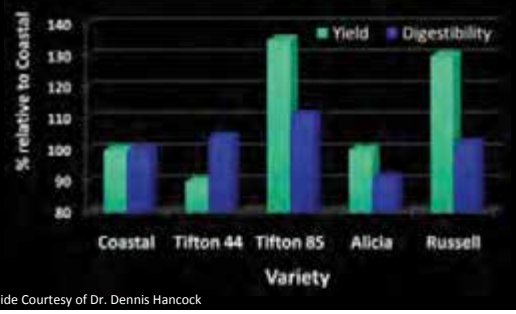
Yield and Digestibility of Bermudagrass Hybrids



Slide Courtesy of Dr. Dennis Hancock

Recommended Sprigged Varieties of Bermudagrass

Tifton 85

Advantages
- Larger Stems, Broader Leaves, Taller
- Highest Yields
- Highest Digestibility

Challenges
- Slow Drying Time
  - Up to a day longer
- Not as Winter Hardy

Photo Credit: Dennis Hancock

- Recommended South of Athens and I-20

Russell

Advantages
- VERY Winter Hardy
- Similar Yield to Tifton 85
- Quicker to Establish than Tifton 85

Challenges
- Less Drought Tolerant
- Lower Digestibility

- Recommended Throughout Georgia, Especially North Georgia where Tifton 85 Would not do well.

Tifton 44

Advantages
- VERY Winter Hardy
- Good Persistence
- Excellent Leaf Spot Resistance

Challenges
- Slow to Establish
- Lower Digestibility
- Poor Establishment from Tops
- Low Yield

- Recommended Throughout Georgia, but will Grow Better in North Georgia

Coastal

Advantages
- VERY Drought Tolerant
- Good Persistence
- Excellent Leaf Spot Resistance

Challenges
- Not as Cold Tolerant
- Lower Digestibility
- Low Yield Compared to Tifton 85

- Recommended Throughout Lower Piedmont and Coastal Plains Regions

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NOT Recommended in Georgia

- Alicia
  - Susceptible to leaf – spot
  - Low digestibility
- Callie
  - Cold Intolerent
- Coastcross I
  - Cold Intolerent
- Grazer
  - Poor yield

Seeded Varieties

- Compared to Hybrid Varieties
  - Low Yields
  - Low Quality
  - Low Persistence
- Difficult to Find Seed
  - Poor Seed Producers
- Cheyenne
- CD90160
- KF - 194

Recommended Varieties of Bahiagrass

Tifton-9

Advantages
- Good Digestibilty
- High Yielding
- Good Seedling Vigor

Challenges
- Less Tolerant of Close Grazing
- Cold Intolerant

- Recommended in areas not suitable for Bermudagrass (Shade, Low Fertility)

TifQuick

Advantages
- Faster Establishment than Tifton-9
- Otherwise Same as Tifton-9

Challenges
- Less Tolerant of Close Grazing
- Cold Intolerant

- Recommended in areas not suitable for Bermudagrass (Shade, Low Fertility)

UF - Riata

Advantages
- More Cold Tolerant
- Longer Growing Season
- Better Disease Resistance

Challenges
- Not Suited for North Georgia

- Recommended in areas not suitable for Bermudagrass (Shade, Low Fertility)

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Bermudagrass Establishment

Sprigging

- Dormant Sprigging
  - February – March
  - Quicker Coverage in Establishment Year
- Spring Sprigging
  - May – June
- Moist, Well Prepared Seedbed
- 30 – 50 bushels per acre (Commercial Spriggers)
- 50 – 75 bushels per acre (Broadcast Application)
  - Then lightly disc into the soil

Fertilization

- Apply Lime, Phosphorus (P), and Potassium (K)
  - Prior to planting
- 35 – 50 lbs N / acre
  - When Sprigs Begin to Grow
- 50 – 75 lbs N / acre
  - Later, to allow for rapid ground coverage

Bahiagrass Establishment

Basics of Bahiagrass

- Usually est. in early spring
  - To decrease weed competition
  - Fit with crop rotation
- Limited grazing in est. year
  - Weak seedlings
  - Greatly improved with faster establishing varieties ('TifQuik') and irrigation
- Sod-seeding limited by long growing season & competition

Slide Courtesy of Dr. Dennis Hancock

Establishing Bahiagrass

Best management practices

1) Well-prepared seed bed – 8-10 lbs of seed/A
   - Only to be used if soil erosion potential is minimal
   - Early to late spring (prep earlier)
     - Firm soil with cultipacker and plant (D or B)

2) No-till drill into killed residue – 10-12 lbs of seed/A
   - Early to late spring

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Bahiagrass Fertilization

- Soil test and use recommended P & K fertility and lime application rates
- Apply 35-50 lbs of N/acre at emergence
- Another 50-75 lbs of N/acre in early to mid-summer (aids grow-in)
- Apply 100-200* lbs of N/acre in second year
  - * Use high rate only for very intensive grazing mgmt or hay production

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