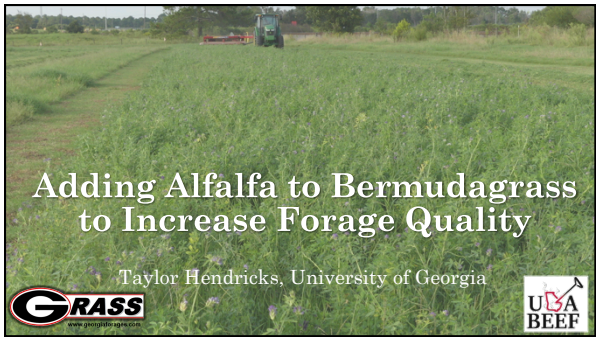
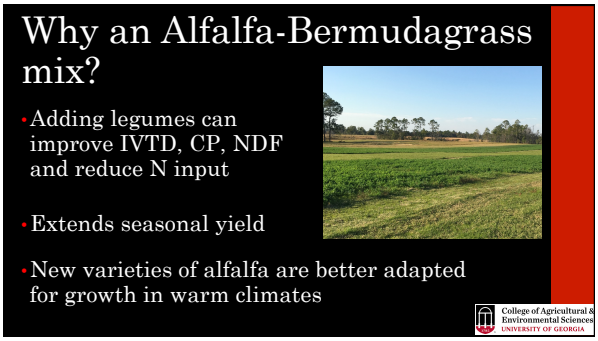
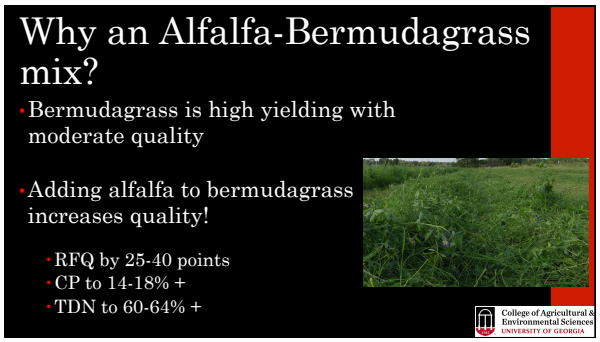
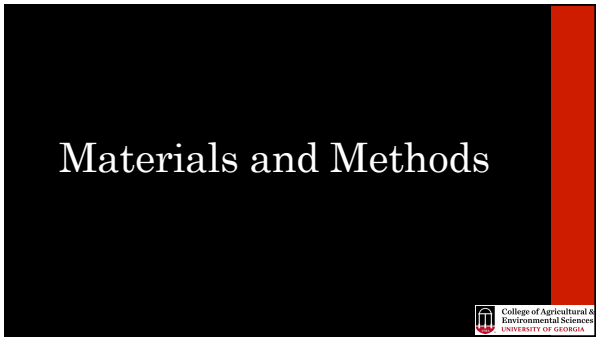
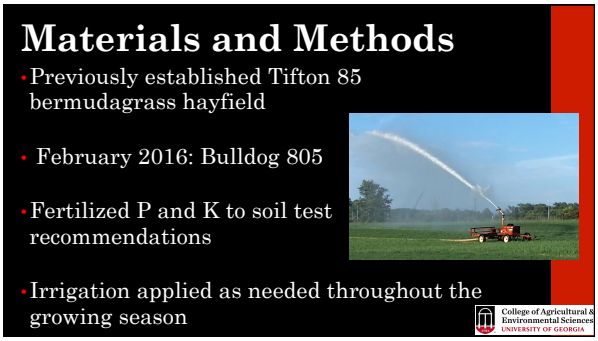
Forage Conference at GCA Convention
Adding Alfalfa to Bermudagrass to Increase Forage Quality











Taylor Hendricks
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Forage Conference at GCA Convention

Adding Alfalfa to Bermudagrass to Increase Forage Quality

Materials and Methods

- Plots harvested at early (10%) bloom every 28-35 days
- Material baled at 41-54% moisture
- Evaluated for species composition, forage maturity, stand density, and yield at each harvest.

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Materials and Methods

- Core samples taken from bales before wrapping
- Analyzed for ADF, NDF, CP, and In-Vitro True Digestibility
- NIR analysis to be performed

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Results

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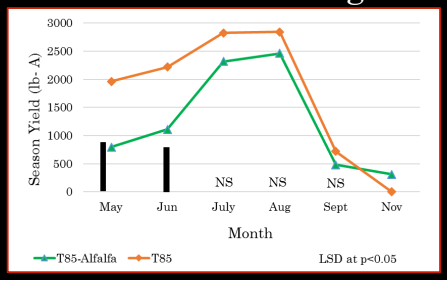
Results – 2016 Forage Yield



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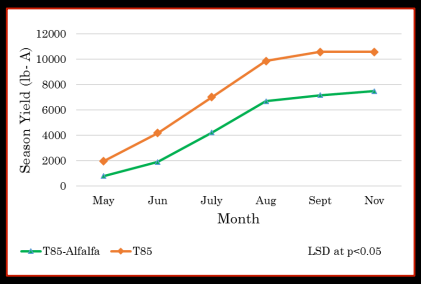
Results – 2016 Seasonal Yield



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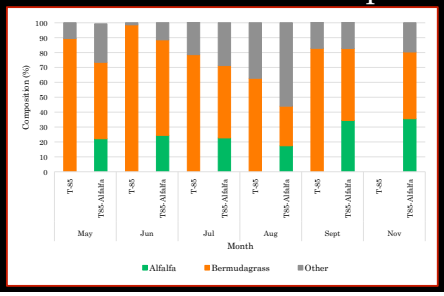
Results – Botanical Composition



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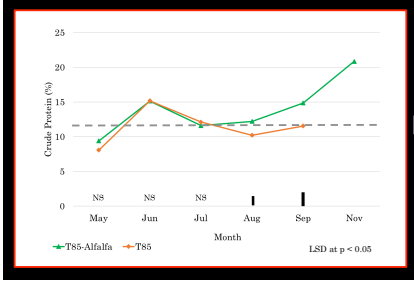
Adding Alfalfa to Bermudagrass to Increase Forage Quality

Results – Forage Quality



Crude Protein

Lactating Beef Cow

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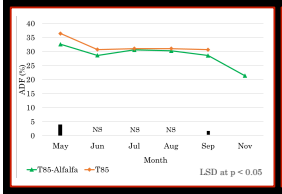
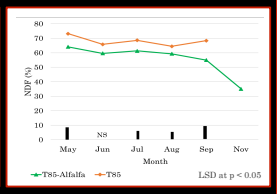
Results – Forage Quality





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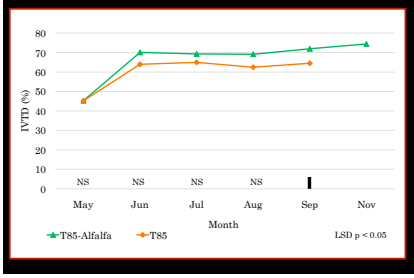
Results – Forage Quality



In Vitro True Digestibility

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Summary

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Summary – First Year Results

- Forage yields were greater in the T85 treatment, however T85-alfalfa mixture provided harvestable forage further into the Fall
- Botanical compositions showed increased weed pressure in the T85-alfalfa mixture
- Crude protein and digestibility were significantly greater in the T85-alfalfa mixtures in later cuttings

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Summary

Early results indicate that alfalfa-bermudagrass baleage production shows potential for improved forage quality and profitability

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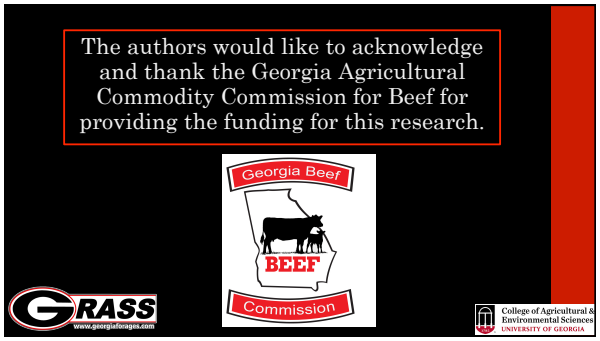

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