



PASTURE FAQ's

F r e q u e n t l y A s k e d Q u e s t i o n s



When is the best time to plant my Pasture Mix?

The best time to plant your pasture mix is spring or fall, when there is the greatest amount of natural moisture in the soil. You can plant in the summer provided you give the planting supplemental moisture for 4 to 6 weeks during establishment. A late fall planting can also be successful, giving the plants a quick start in spring when soil temperatures rise.



How important is soil preparation before I plant?

*Soil preparation is the single biggest key to proper establishment of your pasture mix. Best results will be obtained by planting into a smooth, weed & vegetation free seed bed. Loosen the soil and removing existing vegetation either by hand pulling or through the use of a general herbicide such as Round-Up. The application of a starter fertilizer such as our **CG 15-16-16** is highly recommended to get your pasture off to a running start.*



How soon can I use my new Pasture?

It is desirable to give your new pasture one full growing season to establish itself before being grazed. New seedlings are very tender and can easily be damaged by hooves and/or pulled out of the ground by grazing. If you cannot wait a full year, grazing can be tolerated under the following conditions - After establishment, wait 60 days, and then graze lightly for just a few hours each day. Remember to allow only the top half of the plant to be taken off by the animals; leave the other half for the plant and its root system.



What can I do to extend the life of my pasture?

Fertilize: *Early spring & fall. Your pasture will be more nutritious, palatable and healthy. A healthy pasture will tolerate heavier grazing & be less prone to weeds, drought & disease.*

Manage Grazing: *Never graze more than half the forage at a time and never graze lower than 6". If the grass is 24" tall, graze it down to 12" and then let it rest 2-4 weeks. This rest time allows the plant to re-grow and strengthen. Rotate grazing from pasture to pasture.*

Control Weeds: *Weed seeds are present in the soil, waiting for the right conditions to grow. For the first 5-6 weeks, don't worry about the weeds. Wait until seedlings are about 5" high and mow back to about 3". This mowing will control many of the weeds. If there are still too many weeds, apply an approved herbicide, following all label directions..*

Renovate: *Overseeding a pasture will help to re-establish the original mix, replacing plants that are old and have died away. Aerating will help open the soil to water, light & nutrients. A healthy pasture will stand up to hard use and harsh conditions better than a weak one.*

