

**Nitrogen Interim Measure For Bahiagrass and Bermuda grass
For Use Within The Suwannee River Water Management District Boundaries
10-31-00**

Established Stands of Bahiagrass and Bermudagrass:

Maximum nitrogen (N) rates in pounds per acre per calendar year are provided in the following table.

Season	Bahiagrass and Bermudagrass		Seed Production for Bahiagrass only	
	Grazed	Multiple cuts of hay	Grazed	Not Grazed
Spring	100	100	100	0
Summer	100	100*	100	100**

- Apply no more than 100 lbs N per acre after each cutting except the last cutting in the fall. Apply no more than 400 lb N per acre per year.
- For Bahiagrass not grazed during the Spring, apply only one application in the late/Spring or early/summer

New Plantings of Bahiagrass and Bermudagrass:

Apply up to 100 lbs N per acre in split applications. Apply 30 lbs N per acre as soon as plants have emerged and apply up to 70 lbs N per acre 30 to 50 days later. If manure or biosolids are used as the main source of nutrients, apply the entire annual application once the plants are large enough to withstand physical damage from the application.

Considerations:

It is assumed that under typical application practices, 20% of the N applied as anhydrous ammonia is lost to the atmosphere. When utilizing anhydrous ammonia as the source, use a maximum of 125 pounds instead of a 100 pounds of N per acre per application.

When over seeding established bahiagrass or bermudagrass with cool season annual grasses such as rye, ryegrass, or oats, 50 pounds of N per acre may be applied after the annual grass has emerged. An additional 50 pounds of N per acre may be applied after the first grazing.

For purposes of this interim measure, it is assumed that 50% of the total N content of natural sources such as manure and biosolids is plant available. Thus the total N application rate for natural organic fertilizer sources may be two times the recommended rate stated in the table above. The total nitrogen content of a natural organic source should be determined from either the guaranteed analysis provided by the manufacturer/distributor or from a laboratory analysis.

UF/IFAS publications such as Circular 1016 and fact sheet PS-1 may also be consulted for nutrient estimates. UF/IFAS fertilizer recommendations for forage crops grown statewide can be obtained from the fact sheet SL 129. These and other UF/IFAS publications are available from county extension offices or on the Web at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.

**RECORDKEEPING FOR NITROGEN INTERIM MEASURE FOR BAHIA GRASS AND
BERMUDA GRASS**

10-31-2000

- A. Sources of Nitrogen:
- Available nitrogen from all sources including dry granular, controlled release, suspension, solution, manure, compost, sludge and municipal effluent, applied to the forage crop must be included in calculating pounds of N per year.
- B. The following information must be easily determined from the landowner's or leaseholder's fertilizer records:
- I. The date of application of all fertilizer applications containing nitrogen from sources listed above.
- II. The total N per acre from all sources for each application to forage crop.

