

MAPLESEED®



The Ontario Sheep Farmers are pleased to partner with Mapleseed and the Ontario Forage Council in sponsoring the “MAPLESEED Pasture Award 2021.” This is an excellent opportunity to recognize individual producers who are doing an outstanding job of pasture management. The Mapleseed Pasture Award is also a way of encouraging producers to implement pasture management strategies that maximize production per acre.

Mapleseed contributes a cash award of \$250 to the winner, plus a 25kg bag of their choice of a Mapleseed Forage Mix. The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Sheep Farmers, which will take place in October 2021.

To submit a nomination for this award, complete the application form below. Feel free to include pictures and or diagrams.

Application Deadline: October 1, 2021.

Send completed applications c/o Ontario Forage Council, Box 463, Markdale, ON, N0C 1H0

Nominating Group or individual (if applicable).

Farm Name: _____

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ Township: _____ Lot: _____ Concession: _____

Soil Type(s): _____

Livestock Type: _____ Number of Head: _____

Lambing date(s) if applicable: _____

Pasture Acres Owned: _____ Rented: _____

Pasture Classification:

| TYPE | # ACRES |
|----------------------|---------|
| Improved tillable | _____ |
| Unimproved tillable | _____ |
| Improved Roughland | _____ |
| Unimproved Roughland | _____ |

Management of Regular Pasture (land used just for pasture):

- Strip Grazed: # _____ acres - How often moved? _____
- Rotationally Grazed: # _____ acres - # of fields/paddocks? _____
- Continuous Grazed: # _____ acres
(access to same pasture all season)
- Unimproved Pasture: # _____ acres

**** Please Use Separate Paper to Answer Questions 1-8 ****

1. How is pasture utilized in your operation?

2. Describe your pasture management program (species, overseeding, re-seeding, fertilizing, grazing management, watering facilities, recording system, etc.) How does this management work towards a philosophy of "best use" of available resources?

3. How do you capitalize on strengths and minimize weaknesses of your pasture?

4. What are the unique features of your pasture system (riparian areas, rough terrain)? How are these features an advantage for you (or how do you turn them to your advantage?)

5. How long is your pasture season? How do you extend your spring and fall seasons?

6. List your five top Pasture Management Practices to best utilize your resources.

7. If you could change one thing about your operation, what would it be?

8. What research would you like to see done in pasture management?

I understand that I may be contacted by the media, asked to host farm tours or to speak about pasture management at my convenience as a result of this competition. Pictures and/or production information submitted with the application may be used for news articles and extension purposes.

Signature of Applicant: _____
Nominating Group or individual (if applicable).

ANIMAL UNITS PER ACRE

Complete the following tables and formula to determine the animal units per acre.

TABLE I - TOTAL ANIMAL UNITS

Record the number of each type of livestock under "Number Pastured." Multiply by Animal Unit Equivalent Number to get number of animal units in terms of 1,000 pound cattle. One (1.00) animal unit is equivalent to 1,000 pounds of live weight. This figure may be adjusted up or down for the various breeds by adding or subtracting .10 animal units for every 100 pounds over or under 1,000 pounds live weight. For example: a 1,400 pound Charolais cow = 1.40 animal units while a 900 pound cow = .90 animal units.

| Type of Livestock Carried | October 1 st , 2020 to October 1 st , 2021 | | |
|---|--|------------------------|--------------|
| | Number Pastured | Animal Unit Equivalent | Animal Units |
| Sheep, breeding aged ewes for meat, includes lambs and rams | | .125 | |
| Feeder Lambs 75-125 lbs | | .05 | |
| Sheep, milking aged ewes for milk production, (includes lambs, replacements and rams) | | .17 | |

TABLE II - TOTAL ACRES PASTURED

Record the acres of each type of pasture used from October 1st, 2020 to October 1st, 2021.

| Types of Pasture Used | Number of Acres | Number of Days | Number of animal units |
|--|-----------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Regular pasture (field used only for pasture in that year) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 1. Continuous grazing (access all year) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Rotational grazing (# paddocks _____) | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Strip grazing | _____ | _____ | _____ |

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Hay and silage aftermath, pasturing after 1 st cut hay crop | | | |
| 1. If all aftermath following June cut is pastured | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. If 2nd cut hay removed and 3rd cutting pastured | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Annual/Supplementary pasture | | | |
| 1. Sudan grass, rape, and kale | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Oats or rye pasture, | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| - seeded for fall pasture | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| - seeded for summer and fall pasture | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Oat companion crop and new seedings pastured in the year of seeding | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Roughland pasture | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Crop Residue, i.e. cornstalks | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| TOTALS | _____ | _____ | _____ |

TABLE III - ANIMAL UNITS PER ACRE

Complete the following formula and enter the animal units per acre.

$$\text{Animal Units} \times \text{Days} \div \text{Acres} = \text{Animal Unit Days per year}$$

$$\text{Total Animal Units (divided by) Total Acres Pastured} = \text{Animal units per acre} \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Were animals from more than one species grazed on the same pasture? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please specify: Type _____ Number of Head _____

COST OF PASTURE PRODUCTION

Pasture Input Costs for Maintenance, Establishment or Renovation

* Use actual amount paid if done by custom operator or use 2018 Custom Rates to calculate cost if done by applicant: i.e. Harrowing: \$7.00 per acre Clipping: \$13.00 per acre

Show costs for 2020

Pasture costs:

| | Acres | Dollars |
|----------------|-------|---------|
| Establishment: | | |
| Tillage | _____ | _____ |
| Planting | _____ | _____ |
| Seed | _____ | _____ |
| Fertilizer | _____ | _____ |
| Spray | _____ | _____ |
| Fencing: | | |
| Perimeter | _____ | _____ |
| Internal | _____ | _____ |
| Repairs | _____ | _____ |
| Fertilizer | _____ | _____ |
| Spraying | _____ | _____ |
| Clipping | _____ | _____ |
| Over Seeding | _____ | _____ |

PASTURE RENTAL RATES:

If you rent pasture, please specify rental rates paid over the past three years. Indicate per head, per lb gain, per acre or per season.

Livestock Production Information

A. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Please indicate number and type of animals grazed and typical production levels, i.e. weaning weights, finisher gains, etc.

B. LIVESTOCK HEALTH COSTS ON PASTURE

Please comment on Fly Control, Vaccinations, Parasite Control, Implants, Disease Treatments i.e. foot rot.

2021 FARM SKETCH

Use this page to sketch an overview of your farm(s).

Include location of: buildings, laneways, field boundaries (pasture field crops and approximate acreage), wetlands, woodlots, ponds, creeks, water access points, mineral/salt feeders on pasture, etc.

