

Field and Forage Crops, PS 435/535
Course Syllabus, Fall 2023

Plant Sciences (dept code = 457-001) 435
Lecture Tuesday/Thursday 8:10-9:25 Tuesday/Thursday
Brehm Animal Science 263

Course Materials: suggested, but not required
Southern Forages – Fifth edition
Forages, The Science of Grassland Agriculture, vol II – 7th edition

Instructor:

Dr. Gary Bates Professor	358 Plant Biotech Building	974-8897 gbates@utk.edu
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Office hours: by appointment

Introduction: As the land grant university for the state of Tennessee, it is imperative for our department to offer a senior/graduate level course in Forage Crop Production. Background as an Extension Forage Specialist has provided the opportunity to gain experience in helping producers become more profitable and sustainable in their operations. This class is designed to be a practical, applied class that will help you understand the basics of forage production.

This will not be an easy class. You are expected to attend lecture. The textbook is not required but can serve as a valuable resource when preparing for tests. We hope to have some light-hearted moments in class, but I take my job as an educator seriously. I expect you to take this class seriously, also.

Specific Course Objectives

To learn the foundational principles of Forage Production

To become familiar with a wide diversity of forage crops and management practices.

Lecture Schedule (subject to change)

Date	Material
August 24	Introduction
August 29	Developing a forage program
August 31	Cool-season grasses
September 5	Warm-season grasses
September 7	Legumes
September 12	Establishment
September 14	Soil testing/fertility (Dr Bruno Pedreira)
September 19	Fescue Toxicosis
September 21	Plant Physiology
September 26	Grazing Management I
September 28	Grazing Management II
October 3	Exam I
October 5	Forage Quality (Dr. Renata Nave Oakes)
October 10	Fall Break
October 12	Hay Production
October 17	Silage Production
October 19	Weed Control
October 24	Toxicities
October 26	Organic Production
October 31	Animal nutrient requirements (Dr. Katie Mason)
November 2	Wildlife (Dr. Craig Harper)
November 7	Hay Economics (Dr. Chris Boyer)
November 9	Reducing Hay Needs (dr. Bruno Pedreira)
November 14	Three curves of forage production
November 16	Exam II
November 21	Top forage advancements
November 23	Thanksgiving
November 28	Forage technologies and research
November 30	Review
December 5	No class
December 14(?)	Final Exam

Criteria for Grade Determinations

I will communicate with you about the class via email. Since the class starts at 8:10 AM on Tuesday and Thursday, please check your email the night before.

Powerpoints and needed information will be placed on CANVAS

Grading will be consistent with University Policies.

Only excused absences will not result in penalties to points earned. I have no problem with excused absences for field trips, research needs, and so forth.

Item to be graded	points
Exam 1	100
Exam 2	100
Forage species paper	50
Final Exam - Comprehensive	200
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS	450

Grading Scale:

90 – 100%	A
88 – 89.9	B+
80 – 87.9	B
78 – 79.9	C+
70 – 77.9	C
60 – 69.9	D
< 60	F

University Policies

Academic Integrity: An essential feature of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville is a commitment to maintaining an atmosphere of intellectual integrity and academic honesty. As a student of the university, I pledge that I will neither knowingly give nor receive any inappropriate assistance in academic work, thus affirming my own personal commitment to honor and integrity.

Academic Dishonesty: Students found cheating or receiving unauthorized assistance will have their exams or papers confiscated at the time of the infraction; they will be subject to an "F" for

the course, and the matter will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. Students should refer to Hilltopics for University policies and procedures.

University Civility: Civility is genuine respect and regard for others: politeness, consideration, tact, good manners, graciousness, cordiality, affability, amiability and courteousness. Civility enhances academic freedom and integrity, and is a prerequisite to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge in the learning community. Our community consists of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and campus visitors. Community members affect each other's well-being and have a shared interest in creating and sustaining an environment where all community members and their points of view are valued and respected. Affirming the value of each member of the university community, the campus asks that all its members adhere to the principles of civility and community adopted by the campus: <http://civility.utk.edu/>.

Disability Services: Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS) at 865-974-6087 in 100 Dunford Hall to document their eligibility for services. ODS will work with students and faculty to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.