

Western Colorado Alfalfa Variety Performance Test at Fruita 2007

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Summary

The 2007 results to date of Colorado State University's alfalfa variety performance test at Fruita are presented in this report (Table 1). Plots were planted fall 2004 and the data for 2007 will be for the third year of a three-year testing period. Alfalfa stands are excellent and plots are weed-free. The field is furrow-irrigated using gated pipe.

Table 1. Forage yields of 11 alfalfa varieties at the Western Colorado Research Center at Fruita in 2007.¹

Variety	Source/Brand	1 st Cut May 24	2 nd Cut July 3	3 rd Cut	4 th Cut	2007 Total	3-yr Total ²
				tons/acre ³			
Bullseye	Target Seed	3.38	2.46				
CW 13014	Cal/West Seeds	3.22	2.45				
CW 15030	Cal/West Seeds	3.34	2.47				
FSG 351	Allied Seed, L.L.C.	3.23	2.28				
FSG 406	Allied Seed, L.L.C.	3.42	2.36				
FSG 408DP	Allied Seed, L.L.C.	3.30	2.40				
FSG 505	Allied Seed, L.L.C.	3.64	2.51				
Garst 6530	Garst	3.38	2.29				
Mountaineer 2.0	Croplan Genetics	3.78	2.58				
WL 357 HQ	W-L Research	3.32	2.37				
4542	Forage Genetics Intl.	3.70	2.58				
Ave.		3.43	2.43				
CV (%)		8.28	8.92				
LSD (0.05)		NS	NS				

¹Seeded 26 August 2004 at 15 lbs/acre.

²Table to be arranged by decreasing 3-yr total yield.

³Yields were calculated on an air-dry basis.

Last spring frost – April 21, 2006; first fall frost – October 22, 2006. Frost-free days for 2006 - 184 days (28°F base). Fertilizer: 276 lbs P₂O₅/acre and 108 lbs N/acre broadcast as 18-46-0 on August 16, 2004 and plowed down prior to planting. Applied Pursuit DG at 1.44 oz/acre plus Select at 10 oz/acre (added 1 qt. of UAN plus 1 qt. crop oil concentrate in 100 gallons of water) using 22 gals water/acre at 25 psi for weed control on 3 Mar 2006.

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