The 36th Annual
Kentucky Alfalfa and Stored Forages Conference

Presented by:
Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council
University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment

Tuesday, February 21st, 2017
Cave City, KY

Proceedings
Editors: Dr. Ray Smith and Krista Lea
Schedule of Events

8:00 (CST) Registration and Exhibits

8:45 Welcome
Dr. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky

9:00 Hay Making Weather in Kentucky: How to Get Good Information
Dr. Matthew Dixon, University of Kentucky

9:20 Understanding and Improving Fermentation in Alfalfa and Grass Baleage
Dr. Dennis Hancock, University of Georgia

10:00 Break and Exhibits

10:30 Why is Intake Reduced When Cattle are Fed Tall Fescue?
Jimmy Klotz, USDA ARS

10:50 Hay Production: East vs. West
Tom Keene, University of Kentucky

11:10 What’s New in Seed Coatings?
Bill Talley, Summit Seeds

11:30 The Economics of Forage Quality
Dr. Kenny Burdine, University of Kentucky

11:50 Discussion

12:00 Lunch

12:50 Alfalfa Awards and Silent Auction Results

1:20 Selecting Summer Annual Varieties Using Yield and Digestibility
Dr. Chris Teutsch

2:00 Producer Panel

3:00 Discussion

3:30 Adjourn
Forward

Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Garry Lacefield, the Kentucky Alfalfa Conference has been educating alfalfa producers for the past 35 years. The University of Kentucky and the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council are excited to continuing this tradition and expand the conference to include all stored forages. Our priority is to continue to provide a high quality educational event each year; we challenge you to consider the content of the proceedings and the discussions of the day in light of your overall forage program. It is our hope you will go away with at least one idea or practice that you can implement to improve your overall program.

On behalf of the program committee, I want to thank the Kentucky Forage and Grassland Council for their continued support of this program. Special thanks to the speakers for providing their presentations and papers for the proceedings. This meeting would not be possible without the support of the many exhibitors as well; please take a moment to visit with them during the breaks.

Special thanks are extended to Mrs. Krista Lea for her effort in program planning and in preparing and editing the proceedings.

I would encourage you to stay up-to-date with the latest forage research in Kentucky by subscribing to our online newsletter, Forage News, by visiting www.uky.edu/ag/forage. In addition, you will find a wealth of publications and other resources to improve your forage management.

Dr. Ray Smith
Program Chairman
Table of Contents

Forward................................................................................................................................. 4
Hay Making Weather in Kentucky: How to Get Good Information ............................... 8
Understanding and Improving Fermentation in Alfalfa and Grass Baleage........... 14
Why is Intake Reduced When Cattle are Fed Tall Fescue?........................................ 18
Western Hay Production vs. Eastern Hay Production ................................................ 22
What is New in Seed Coatings....................................................................................... 26
The Economics of Hay Quality....................................................................................... 28
Selecting Summer Annual Varieties Using Yield and Digestibility ....................... 32
Save the Date! ................................................................................................................... 53