

Grazing Management

Directions:

Divide the class into three groups and assign each group a unique livestock stocking rate (low, medium or high). Instruct each group to answer the questions below. Each student should record the groups answers on their own sheet. Once each group has completed the questions have them discuss their answers with the class.

1. Which stocking rate were you assigned?
2. With one being highest and three being lowest, rank each stocking rate (low, medium and high) in terms of potential profit you feel they will generate.
3. What level of grazing pressure do you feel your stocking rate will place on the landscape during normal rainfall years and during drought years?
4. Would you modify your assigned stocking rate if the landscape in which you are grazing is experiencing a drought? Why or why not?
5. Explain the positive and negative aspects of your stocking rate. Consider profits, grazing pressure, plant health, effects on wildlife and weather conditions.