

SUPPLEMENTING MY BEEF HERD: IS YOUR COW ABLE TO EAT AS MUCH FORAGE AS SHE WANTS? **



**YES: THERE IS
ENOUGH FORAGE
SUPPLY**



**NO: THERE IS NOT
ENOUGH FORAGE
SUPPLY**

**REDUCE FORAGE NEEDS: CULL
COWS AND/OR START
SUPPLEMENTING FEED**

WHAT COLOR IS THE FORAGE?

WITH ENOUGH FORAGE

NOT ENOUGH FORAGE*

GREEN = NO SUPPLEMENT

**BROWN = PROTEIN IS < 7%
AND IS DECREASING COW
INTAKE & DIGESTATION**

**GREEN = COWS NEED ENERGY
WITH < 20% CRUDE PROTEIN
FED AT 0.6% BODY WEIGHT
PER DAY**

**BROWN = COWS NEED
20 TO 28% CRUDE PROTEIN
AT 0.4% BODY WEIGHT PER
DAY**

ARE COWS AT A BODY CONDITION SCORE OF 4 OR GREATER?

**YES: SUPPLEMENT CRUDE
PROTEIN \geq 32% CRUDE
PROTEIN AT 0.2% BODY
WEIGHT PER DAY**

**NO: SUPPLEMENT 28 TO 23%
CRUDE PROTEIN AT 0.3%
BODY WEIGHT PER DAY**

***NOTE*IF FORAGE IS REALLY LIMITED
SUPPLEMENT < 20% CRUDE PROTEIN AT 0.6%
BODY WEIGHT PER DAY**

FOR MORE RESOURCES VISIT:

[HTTPS://EXTENSION.ARIZONA.EDU/SITES/EXTENSION.ARIZONA.EDU/FILES/PUBS/AZ1959-2021.PDF](https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/pubs/AZ1959-2021.pdf)

[HTTPS://EXTENSION.ARIZONA.EDU/RANGELAND-MONITORING](https://extension.arizona.edu/rangeland-monitoring)

[HTTPS://EXTENSION.ARIZONA.EDU/BEEF-CATTLE](https://extension.arizona.edu/beef-cattle)

****ALL VALUES ABOVE ARE ESTIMATES AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS A
STARTING POINT IN SUPPLEMENTING CATTLE GRAZING RANGELANDS.
MEASURING ACTUAL FORAGE QUALITY AND QUANTITY IS RECOMMENDED
FOR A MORE ACCURATE HERD NUTRITION PLAN.**



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