



# Grazing Management 2016



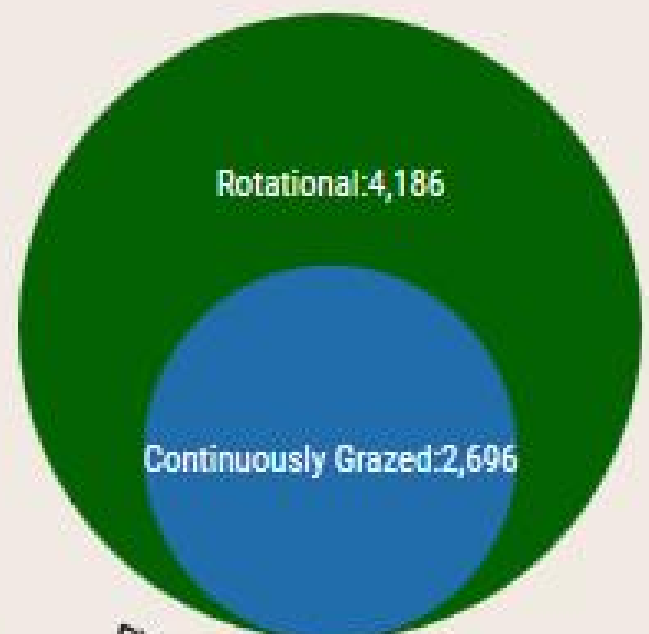
## Soil Nutrients

The pasture improvement demonstration and assessment project was looking at the effects of transitioning from continuous grazing to rotational grazing management in pastures. Soil samples were taken in October 2016. When looking at the nutrient analysis, the only significant difference was sodium (Na). There was a significantly more Na in the continuous grazed areas in the pastures located in Laird. Sodium in the soil can naturally build up over time. Plus, with compaction from livestock, the sodium can be blocked from moving through the soil. Other than sodium, there were no other significant differences in nutrient levels across management systems. When comparing 2015 to 2016 nutrients, there again was no significant change.

## Grass Yield

During this project, RAIN measured the continuously grazed and rotationally grazed grass separately. When adding the yields up over the whole season, it was clear that the rotational grazing produced a better yield. It has been well documented overgrazed grass does not yield well.

## Grass Yield (kg DM/ha) 2016



Author:  
Mikala Parr

For more information:

Christine O'Reilly  
705-942-7927  
ext: 3147  
coreilly@ssmic.com

## Pasture improvement and the effects of Spanish River Carbonatite

Spanish River Carbonatite is a natural mineral fertilizer and soil conditioner used by organic and conventional farmers.

With two locations, both being measured separately, there was no significant difference in grass yield or in soil nutrients from applying SRC at 1000 lbs/ac

This project was funded in part through *Growing Forward 2 (GF2)*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of GF2 in Ontario.

By: Mikala Parr

For more information about this project, please contact:

Christine O'Reilly, Research Technician  
705-942-7927 x3147  
coreilly@ssmic.com

[www.rainalgoma.ca](http://www.rainalgoma.ca)



The pasture improvement demonstration and assessment was put into place to demonstrate the effects that Spanish River Carbonatite has on pasture. Spanish River Carbonatite (SRC) is a natural mineral fertilizer and soil conditioner used by organic and conventional farmers. It contains a wide spread of minerals that are mined from an ancient deposit in Sudbury.

SRC was applied to half of every paddock, at 1000 lbs/ac (1100 kg/ha), which was the recommendation from Boreal Agrominerals, to see if it would have an effect on the growth of the grass. Each half of the paddock was measured separately, but there was no significant difference in grass growth between the two. Across two locations, SRC made no significant difference in grass yield or in soil nutrients

