

## SUPPLEMENTAL TABLES

Table S1. Significance (P>F) of main effects and their interactions for sward physical characteristics, herbage intake and herbage allowance of four temperate grasses grazed by dairy heifers during the spring, summer, and fall seasons of 2 yr.

Effect	Pregraze sward height	Postgraze sward height*	Pregraze herbage mass	Postgraze herbage mass*	Leaf- Sward bulk density	Stem- Sward bulk density	Herbage Intake	Leaf- Mass, grazed layers	Stem- Mass, grazed layers	Herbage allowance*
Grass (G)	0.05	0.01	0.019	0.003	0.593	0.004	0.116	0.084	0.086	<0.001
Season (S)	0.006	0.01	0.091	0.002	0.110	0.116	0.085	0.220	0.322	0.03
G x S	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.0001	<0.001	<0.001	0.005	0.052	0.009	<0.001
Year (Y)	0.028	0.02	0.093	0.014	0.093	0.245	0.063	0.196	0.882	0.001
G x Y	<0.001	0.13	0.004	0.168	0.004	0.102	0.022	0.137	0.913	0.04
S x Y	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.058	<0.001	<0.001	0.462	<0.001
G x S x Y	0.002	0.22	0.018	0.13	0.018	0.004	0.144	0.126	0.149	0.25

\* = additional sward characteristics (postgraze sward height and postgraze herbage mass) and herbage allowance measured in a complement study but not included in the original publication [21].

Table S2. Sward physical characteristics, herbage intake, and herbage allowance of four temperate grasses grazed by dairy heifers during the spring, summer, and fall seasons of 2 yr. Modified from Brink and Soder [21].

	Season	Grass	Pregraze sward height (cm)	Postgraze sward height (cm)**	Pregraze herbage mass(kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Postgraze herbage mass (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )**	Leafbulk density (mg DM cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Stem bulk density (mg DM cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Herbage intake (kg DM ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Leaf mass (kg DM ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Stem mass (kg DM ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Herbage allowance (kg DM/ animal) **
2007	Spring	MDF	34	22	2060	1460	0.341	0.041	600	580	40	52
		OGR	30	18	1600	1060	0.230	0.009	540	350	10	40
		QGR	36	29	2200	1570	0.582	0.179	630	470	10	55
		RCG	39	28	2440	1760	0.387	0.091	680	500	20	61
		LSD*	NS	NS	750	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	19
		SE	2.2	3.6	73	190	0.081	0.040	120	97	10	4.5
2007	Summer	MDF	31	19	1680	1140	0.348	0.044	540	290	10	42
		OGR	41	23	1970	1260	0.448	0.041	710	550	30	49
		QGR	36	20	1850	1230	0.402	0.115	620	400	70	46
		RCG	51	34	2620	2100	0.490	0.316	510	240	70	65
		LSD	8	6	550	320	NS	0.110	NS	NS	NS	14
		SE	1.7	1.4	118	93	0.054	0.024	67	112	24	2.4
2007	Fall	MDF	53	28	2630	1520	0.878	0.040	1110	890	0	66
		OGR	64	30	2680	1690	0.973	0.057	1000	1180	0	67
		QGR	48	22	2050	1080	0.706	0.000	970	920	0	51
		RCG	54	33	2640	1990	0.704	0.222	640	420	60	66
		LSD	8	5	580	310	NS	0.010	250	460	50	13
		SE	1.8	1.1	129	84	0.077	0.002	56	124	13	2.2
2008	Spring	MDF	26	18	1580	1230	0.325	0.053	360	460	40	40
		OGR	28	16	1470	960	0.384	0.055	510	490	40	37
		QGR	22	19	1330	1020	0.357	0.059	310	310	20	33
		RCG	30	22	1860	1380	0.450	0.096	480	430	20	46
		LSD	5	NS	280	320	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	7
		SE	1.2	1.7	75	89	0.042	0.017	57	73	13	1.7
2008	Summer	MDF	32	19	1750	1170	0.484	0.052	590	460	0	44
		OGR	48	29	2300	1560	0.744	0.029	740	670	0	57

		QGR	27	17	1400	990	0.357	0.078	410	390	30	35
		RCG	48	33	2470	2030	0.557	0.330	440	400	100	62
		LSD	5	8	400	350	0.172	0.093	120	170	60	11
		SE	1.2	1.0	88	86	0.038	0.020	27	38	24	2.2
2008	Fall	MDF	28	17	1390	900	0.345	0.025	490	500	30	35
		OGR	34	17	1410	950	0.372	0.001	460	450	0	35
		QGR	21	12	910	610	0.187	0.005	300	280	10	23
		RCG	28	17	1390	1020	0.312	0.043	370	350	20	35
		LSD	5	4	290	330	NS	0.015	NS	NS	NS	11
		SE	1.2	0.6	64	60	0.062	0.003	13	105	8	2.4

\* LSD = Least Square Difference, alpha level = 0.10,

\*\* = additional sward characteristics (postgraze sward height and postgraze herbage mass) and herbage allowance measured in a complement study but not included in the original publication.