

Pasture Yield
(pg 97-100)

Why?

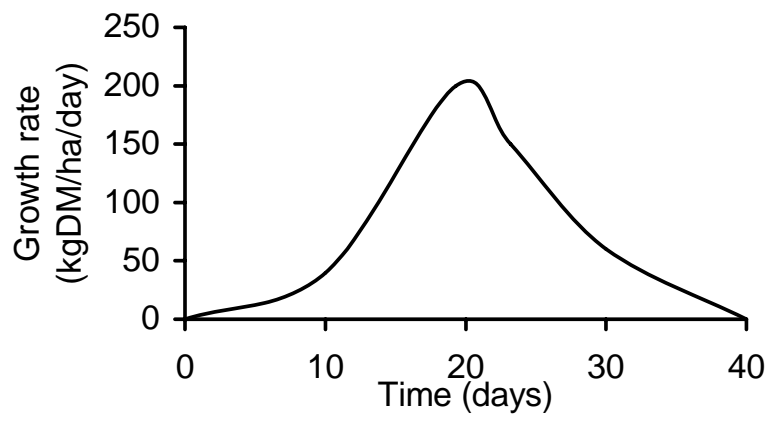
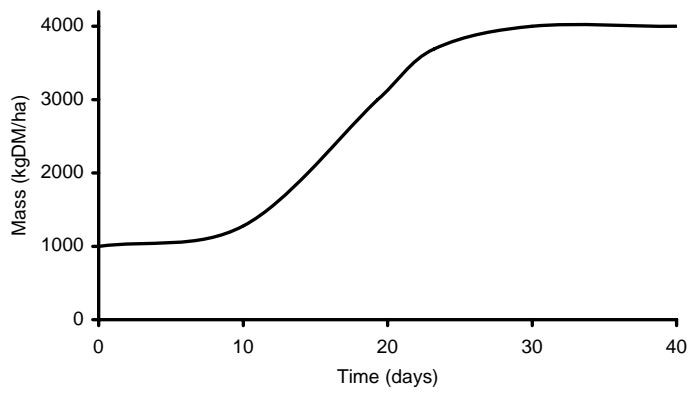
- Pasture yield is, yet is the most difficult to
- visual estimates
- Principle determinant
- Also used to measure

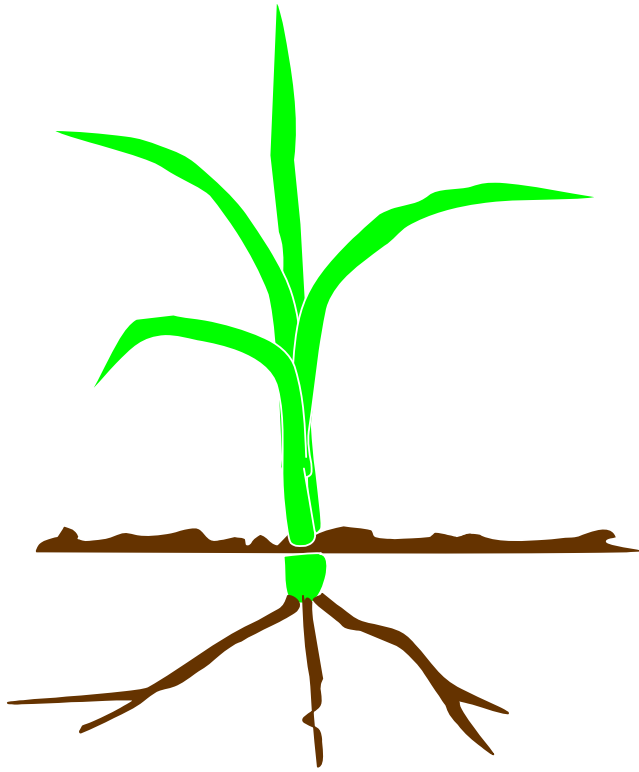
Yield (instantaneous vs dynamic)

Measurement definition	Instantaneous measurement:	Dynamic measurement
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terms

units





Measuring herbage mass

Quadrat cutting – typically with hand or electric shears, or mechanical harvester

Advantages

Disadvantages

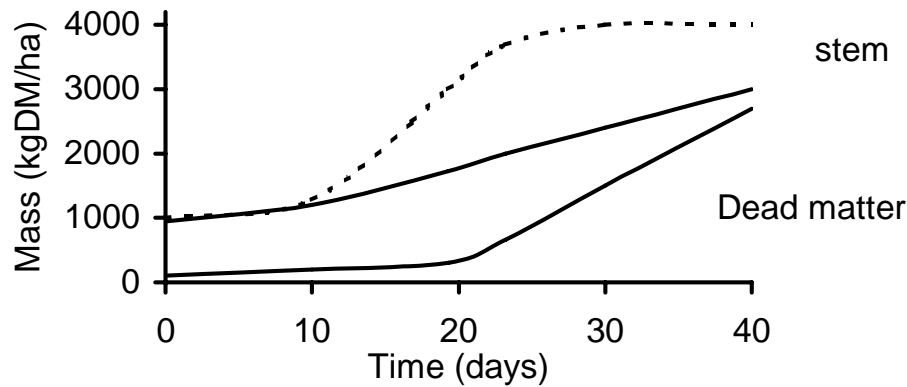
Other measures of mass

- Correlation with height - Rising plate meter, sward stick
 - Eye estimation
 - Spectral reflectance/remote sensing
 - Capacitance meter
- Methods to measure growth rate
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 - Change in

- Dilemma of continuous grazing - where grazing a This can lead to of yield
- (CO₂ depletion)
- Predicted with
- Predicted from

Dilemmas in measuring forage production

- Continuous grazing
- Weeds-should these be included in yield?
- Pasture death



Dead Matter

- Poor quality,
- Poor animal performance if
- Lost opportunity
- Critical for determining
- Yield = NPP – death
- Critical for predicting changes (carbon sequestration)
- Almost impossible to measure – high errors during periods of high decomposition