

Maximum Pasture Stocking Rates that Avoid Soil P Accumulation

Pasture is sod-based vegetative cover that provides animals their primary food source. It must be managed at all times of the year to prevent erosion and the accumulation of manure. It does not include forest lands or other marginal lands.

Type of Animal	# of Animals	***Area Required per Animal (Sq Ft)	***Area Required per Animal (Acres)	Animals per Acre	Acres Required
Dairy Cow		141,187	3.24	0.3	
Dairy Heifer--750 lb		62,008	1.42	0.7	
Beef 750-1000 lb		120,199	2.76	0.4	
Pig		30,209	0.69	1.4	
Sheep		8,904	0.20	4.9	
Goats		13,355	0.31	3.3	
**Llama		8,904	0.20	4.9	
**Alpaca		6,678	0.15	6.5	
Horse		79,497	1.83	0.5	
*Elk		39,749	0.91	1.1	
*Deer		9,540	0.22	4.6	
^Pullet chicken		1,002	0.02	43.5	
Broiler chicken		2,003	0.05	21.7	
Layer chicken		2,894	0.07	15.1	
Turkey		10,017	0.23	4.3	
				"Pasture" Acres Required:	

*** Based on UW Extension A2809 Chapter 7 Table 7.4 Unimproved Pasture Optimal P205 Rec.

** Llama and alpaca rates based on 1 and .75 sheep rates

* Elk and deer rates based on .5 and .12 horse rates

^ Based on 24 lbs P205/Ton (Ch. 4 Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook, Table 4-14)