Extending the Growing Season: Forage Seed Production and Perennial Grains

Abstract

Forage production (feed) relies on an animal market for its consumption. Meanwhile, forage seed production in Canada, seed for forage establishment, accounts for approximately 65,000 ha year⁻¹ of production over the last ten years, and almost exclusively in western Canada. It is unlikely however that forage seed production area will dramatically increase due to limited markets. Perennial grain production could greatly increase the land area dedicated to perennial seed production and provide alternative markets to forages and forage seed. The agronomic benefits attributed both to perennial seed production and the inclusion of forages in a cropping systems will be reach a greater portion of the agricultural landscape if perennial grain production is realized.



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