

HAY MAKING

SOLUTION OF GREEN FODDER SHORTAGE




WHAT IS HAY?

Reduce the moisture content of green fodder to 10% or lower.

Hay or dried fodder means drying the green fodder so much that the moisture percentage decreases to 10% or to a lower level.



SUITABLE CROPS

- Hay is prepared from different of kinds grasses and crops.
 - Alfalfa, Barley, Oats, Rhode Grass, Rye Grass, Sadabahar and Berseem.
 - Alfalfa hay is considered the best hay.
- 

SUITABLE CROPS FOR HAY MAKING

Berseem



Alfalfa



Oat



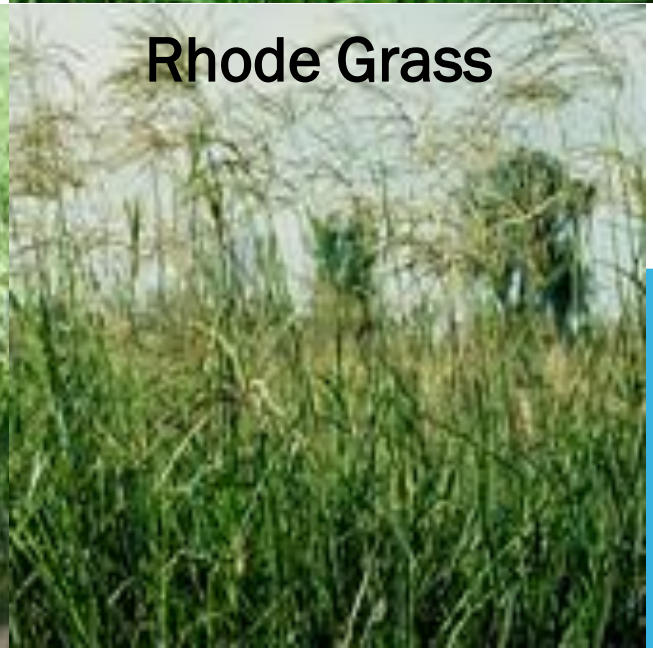
Napier Grass



Sadabahar



Rhode Grass



IMPORTANT FACTS IN HAY MAKING

1. The weather must be dry; there should be no chance of rain and dew.
2. Crop should be harvested at flowering stage because when crop matures, its lignin content increases and nutritive value decreases.
3. Grasses should be cut at pre flowering stage
4. The crops with stem and more leaves should be selected because leaves are more nutritious



5. Harvest the fodder and arrange it in rows.
6. As far as time is concerned, crop should be harvested early in the morning because at this time the dew has dried off.
7. There should be minimum loss of green coloring matter during the process of drying.

Berseem Hay



Alfalfa Hay



Oats Hay



8. If there is high moisture in the harvested field then spread the fodder on a clean and dry field.
9. For proper curing crop should be tilted occasionally.
10. The fodder dries in 2-3 days during the summer season and in 5-6 days in the winter season.
11. The moisture in the hay should be 10-12 percent.



METHODS OF HAY MAKING

1. Conventional Method

(Field Curing Method, Farm Fences Method ,Tripod Method Drying)



2. New Mechanized Technique

(Mowing, Tedding, Raking, Baling)



MECHANIZED TECHNIQUE

MOWING

- Mower is used to harvest the fodder crop



TEDDING

- For spreading of hay tedding is done



RAKING

- Hay rake is used to collect the hay.




BALING


- A baler that coiled the cut hay into the round shape



ADVANTAGES OF HAY

- Unlike fallen crops, hay is a fungus-free fodder.
 - The hay-making process reduces the harmful effects of pesticides.
 - Fodder full of nutrition is available the whole year round.
 - The availability of fodder/hay for the whole year makes the farmer tension-free and mentally comfortable.
- 

CHARACTERISTICS OF GOOD HAY

- **It should have a typical aroma of the of fodder from which it has been prepared**
 - **Moisture contents should be less than 15%.**
 - **More leafy and green**
 - **It should free from dust and mold**
 - **It should be easily palatable and less expensive**
- 

Good Quality Hay



Poor Quality Hay



PROBLEMS IN HAY MAKING

- Hay making is done in presence of sunlight, if sunlight is not available hay making process will be very difficult.

FEEDING HAY

- The prepared hay can be fed immediately.
- It can also be mixed with green fodder.
- For an adult animal (3% DM of body Weight), according to weight, 10-15 kilograms of hay can be fed daily.



STORAGE OF HAY

- Hay stack on ground
- The chopped hay
- The baled hay



STORAGE OF HAY

- **The wafers**
- **The pallets**

