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ivestock producers often pay more attention to their livestock than to their pastures and hayland. Less attention to pastures and hayland is not necessarily due to a lack of interest, but a result of a lack of information in a usable form concerning the basic concepts of grass growth and development. We felt a relatively simple, comprehensive review relating grass growth and development to grazing management and livestock production was needed.

Readers that do not have a background in plant growth and development may, at first, find the subject complicated. However, the livestock producer must understand that the plants he produces are no more complex than the animals he produces. A basic understanding of both plant and animal biology is critical to the success of today's livestock grazing enterprise.

We have put together available information on grass growth and development as

well as included our own intuition and experience. The material presented may have to be read several times; however, each reading will provide increased knowledge and understanding of the grazing process and the economics of grazing management. We know that livestock producers are willing to spend time on field tours, a few days at AI School or a nutrition short course to increase their knowledge concerning livestock management. We believe these same producers are willing to spend the time it takes to understand grass growth and development. We are particularly convinced that producers will spend the time needed when they become aware that *understanding grass growth is the key to profitable livestock production*. Much progress can be made when plant and animal scientists work together toward the common goal of sustaining economic use of the grazing resource.

The authors welcome comments and the experience of livestock producers throughout the United States.