

A3591

Credit Legume Nitrogen and Reap the Profits

A grower can save \$1408 in nitrogen fertilizer costs (assuming fertilizer cost of \$0.22/pound) by crediting the nitrogen provided by the plowdown of a 40 acre alfalfa field in fair condition. When rotating from alfalfa to corn, most Wisconsin producers do not need to apply nitrogen fertilizer.

The other side of this card shows nitrogen credits for alfalfa and soybean in Wisconsin. For more information on legume credits, *Using Legumes as a Nitrogen Source* (UWEX Pub. number A3517) can be downloaded at the Nutrient and Pest Management (NPM) program's website (ipcm.wisc.edu). To order a paper copy or other NPM publications, contact the NPM program by phone at (608) 265-2660 or by email (npm@hort.wisc.edu).



NITROGEN CREDITS FOR ALFALFA & SOYBEAN IN WISCONSIN

ALFALFA

	MEDIUM & FINE TEXTURED SOILS		SANDY SOILS	
	> 8 inches of regrowth	< 8 inches of regrowth	> 8 inches of regrowth	< 8 inches of regrowth
Stand Density	————— NITROGEN CREDIT, LB/ACRE —————			
Good (70-100 % alfalfa, > 4 plants/ft ²)	190	150	140	100
Fair (30-70 % alfalfa, 1.5- 4 plants/ft ²)	160	120	110	70
Poor (0-30 % alfalfa, < 1.5 plants/ft ²)	130	90	80	40

Second year credit: In the second cropping year following fair and good stands on medium and fine textured soil, you can take a 50 lb N/acre credit.

SOYBEAN

40 lbs N /acre is available to crops following soybean in a rotation. No credit on sandy soils.