

# **B.C. Forage Council - Creston**

## **2003-2005 Alfalfa Variety Evaluation**

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To identify superior alfalfa varieties which will increase yield or improve survivability of forage for the hay and livestock industries
2. To raise awareness of the importance of forage research within the local agricultural community

### **SUMMARY**

This test was seeded in the spring of 2003, a very dry spring which resulted in below average stand establishment. The data table indicates that 2004 was a better year for alfalfa production compared to 2005. Mean total DM yield for 2004 was 10265 kg/ha compared to 8963 for 2005. Cool and wet summer conditions in 2005 also delayed harvest as evident from the table.

This alfalfa trial was maintained as usual with no fertilizer amendments being applied, and no pesticides applied for control of weed or insect pests. Weeds were a problem (dandelions) due to the poor stand establishment in 2003. This may have influenced the biomass production in this test.

### **SITE INFORMATION**

Creston, B.C. (49 06 116 31)

606m ASL

Design: RCBC, 4 replications  
Plot Size: 1.8m x 6m, 18cm row spacing  
Harvest Area: 1.25m x 6m = 7.5m<sup>2</sup>  
Fertilizer: 200 lbs/ac 11-48-0 before establishment  
Weed Control: Edge applied prior to seeding  
Irrigation: None  
Seeded: May 21, 2003

## **SOURCE**

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**2003 BC Alfalfa Trial - 2005 Data Table**

Cultivar or Strain	Forage Yield (kg DM/ha)									2 Year Mean	% of Beaver
	2004				2005						
	Cut 1 June 16	Cut 2 July 27	Cut 3 Sept 29	Total	Cut 1 June 23	Cut 2 Aug 3	Cut 3 Oct 4	Total			
Syn II 94006	5067	3574	1882	10523	5010	4376	1447	10833	10678	132	
AC Longview	5816	3553	1968	11337	4547	3866	1477	9890	10613	131	
WL319 HQ	5680	3553	2070	11303	4351	3924	1022	9297	10300	127	
PS2065 MF	5601	3198	1968	10766	4351	3773	1431	9555	10161	126	
Prince George	6094	3461	1615	11170	4013	3493	1045	8552	9861	122	
Rocket	5449	3048	1740	10238	4414	3701	1250	9365	9801	121	
Lac La Biche	5640	2828	1599	10068	4696	3795	879	9369	9719	120	
AC Blue J	5266	2885	1788	9939	4335	4003	772	9110	9524	118	
Rhino	5290	2956	1905	10151	3518	4268	833	8619	9385	116	
Hay Grazer	5226	2516	1733	9474	4421	3658	969	9049	9262	115	
PS 3006	5585	3034	1458	10077	4037	3257	932	8225	9151	113	
Creston	5704	2750	1717	10171	3840	3400	788	8028	9100	113	
Chinook 421	5322	2821	1733	9875	3550	3508	977	8034	8955	111	
<b>Beaver</b>	<b>5393</b>	<b>2338</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>8617</b>	<b>3950</b>	<b>3214</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>7550</b>	<b>8084</b>	<b>100</b>	
mean	5510	3037	1719	10265	4217	3731	1015	8963	9614		
CV	9.73	15.3	15.27	8.33	10.92	11.15	28.01	6.98	5.53		
LSD	639	554	313	1019	549	496	339	745	633		