

# MAPLESEED®



The Beef Farmers of Ontario are pleased to partner with Mapleseed and the Ontario Forage Council in sponsoring the “MAPLESEED Pasture Award 2020.” This is an excellent opportunity to recognize individual producers who are doing an outstanding job of pasture management. The Mapleseed Pasture Award is also a way of encouraging producers to implement pasture management strategies that maximize production per acre.

Mapleseed contributes a cash award of \$500 to the winner, \$250 to cover their accommodation plus a 25kg bag of their choice of a Mapleseed Forage Mix. The winner will be announced at the BFO AGM in Toronto, which will take place in February 2020.

**Application Deadline: November 29, 2019.**

Send completed applications c/o Ontario Forage Council, Box 463, Markdale, ON, N0C 1H0

**Name of Nominating Group or individual (if applicable).**

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Lot: \_\_\_\_\_ Concession: \_\_\_\_\_

Soil Type(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Livestock Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Head: \_\_\_\_\_

Calving date(s) if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Pasture Acres Owned: \_\_\_\_\_ Rented: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pasture Classification:**

TYPE	# ACRES
Improved tillable	_____
Unimproved tillable	_____
Improved Roughland	_____
Unimproved Roughland	_____

**Management of Regular Pasture (land used just for pasture):**

- Strip Grazed: # \_\_\_\_\_ acres - How often moved? \_\_\_\_\_
- Rotationally Grazed: # \_\_\_\_\_ acres - # of fields/paddocks? \_\_\_\_\_
- Continuous Grazed: # \_\_\_\_\_ acres  
(access to same pasture all season)
- Unimproved Pasture: # \_\_\_\_\_ acres

**\*\* Please Use Separate Paper to Answer Questions 1-8 \*\***

1. How is pasture utilized in your operation?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Describe your pasture management program (species, overseeding, re-seeding, fertilizing, grazing management, watering facilities, recording system, etc.) How does this management work towards a philosophy of "best use" of available resources?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How do you capitalize on strengths and minimize weaknesses of your pasture?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What are the unique features of your pasture system (riparian areas, rough terrain)? How are these features an advantage for you (or how do you turn them to your advantage?)

5. How long is your pasture season? How do you extend your spring and fall seasons?

6. List your five top Pasture Management Practices to best utilize your resources.

7. If you could change one thing about your operation, what would it be?

8. What research would you like to see done in pasture management?

I understand that I may be contacted by the media, asked to host farm tours or to speak about pasture management at my convenience as a result of this competition. Pictures and/or production information submitted with the application may be used for news articles and extension purposes.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANIMAL UNITS PER ACRE

Complete the following tables and formula to determine the animal units per acre.

**TABLE I - TOTAL ANIMAL UNITS**

Record the number of each type of livestock under "Number Pastured." Multiply by Animal Unit Equivalent Number to get number of animal units in terms of 1,000 pound cattle. One (1.00) animal unit is equivalent to 1,000 pounds of live weight. This figure may be adjusted up or down for the various breeds by adding or subtracting .10 animal units for every 100 pounds over or under 1,000 pounds live weight. For example: a 1,400 pound Charolais cow = 1.40 animal units while a 900 pound cow = .90 animal units.

Type of Livestock Carried	October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019 to October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019		
	Number Pastured	Animal Unit Equivalent	Animal Units
Cows and heifers bred and/or with calf at side		1.00	
Other cattle 1 - 2 year		.75	
Other cattle under 1 year		.50	

**TABLE II - TOTAL ACRES PASTURED**

Record the acres of each type of pasture used from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Types of Pasture Used	Number of Acres	Number of Days	Number of animal units
Regular pasture (field used only for pasture in that year)	_____	_____	_____
1. Continuous grazing (access all year)	_____	_____	_____
2. Rotational grazing (# paddocks _____)	_____	_____	_____
3. Strip grazing	_____	_____	_____

Hay and silage aftermath, pasturing after 1 <sup>st</sup> cut hay crop			
1.	If all aftermath following June cut is pastured	_____	_____
2.	If 2nd cut hay removed and 3rd cutting pastured	_____	_____
Annual/Supplementary pasture			
1.	Sudan grass, rape, and kale	_____	_____
2.	Oats or rye pasture,	_____	_____
	- seeded for fall pasture	_____	_____
	- seeded for summer and fall pasture	_____	_____
Oat companion crop and new seedings pastured in the year of seeding			
Roughland pasture		_____	_____
Crop Residue, i.e. cornstalks		_____	_____
TOTALS		_____	_____

**TABLE III - ANIMAL UNITS PER ACRE**

Complete the following formula and enter the animal units per acre.

$$\text{Animal Units} \times \text{Days} \div \text{Acres} = \text{Animal Unit Days per year}$$

$$\text{Total Animal Units (divided by) Total Acres Pastured} = \text{Animal units per acre} \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Were animals from more than one species grazed on the same pasture? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

If yes, please specify: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Head \_\_\_\_\_

**COST OF PASTURE PRODUCTION**

Pasture Input Costs for Maintenance, Establishment or Renovation

\* Use actual amount paid if done by custom operator or use 2016 Custom Rates to calculate cost if done by applicant: i.e. Harrowing: \$7.00 per acre Clipping: \$13.00 per acre

Show costs for 2017

Pasture costs:

	Acres	Dollars
Establishment:		
Tillage	_____	_____
Planting	_____	_____
Seed	_____	_____
Fertilizer	_____	_____
Spray	_____	_____
Fencing:		
Perimeter	_____	_____
Internal	_____	_____
Repairs	_____	_____
Fertilizer	_____	_____
Spraying	_____	_____
Clipping	_____	_____
Over Seeding	_____	_____

**PASTURE RENTAL RATES:**

If you rent pasture, please specify rental rates paid over the past three years. Indicate per head, per lb gain, per acre or per season.

## **Livestock Production Information**

### **A. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION**

Please indicate number and type of animals grazed and typical production levels, i.e. weaning weights, stocker/grower/finisher gains, etc.

### **B. LIVESTOCK HEALTH COSTS ON PASTURE**

Please comment on Fly Control, Vaccinations, Parasite Control, Implants, Disease Treatments i.e. pinkeye, footrot.

**2019 FARM SKETCH**

Use this page to sketch an overview of your farm(s).

*Include location of:* buildings, laneways, field boundaries (pasture field crops and approximate acreage), wetlands, woodlots, ponds, creeks, water access points, mineral/salt feeders on pasture, etc.

A large grid of graph paper for sketching a farm layout. The grid consists of 15 vertical columns and 20 horizontal rows, creating a series of small squares for drawing.