Improving Cool-Season Pastures with Interseeding Annuals and Grazing, Spring-Fall 2016

**Objective:** How does interseeding annual species improve quality and quantity of perennial pasture?

**Farmer-cooperator will:**

- Interseed warm and cool season seed mixtures into pastures; keep track of mixes, planting dates, acreage seeded and costs.
- Take biomass, diversity counts, and samples for forage analysis the day cows are turned into that pasture, just ahead of major grazing events. (Should be two times per grazing season in each selected paddock).
- Record all pasture move dates and paddock sizes to estimate forage yield.
- Collect soil penetrometer resistance yearly, in April.
- Look through past year’s grazing data in order to calculate how many grazing days perennial pastures have offered.
- Collect soil samples in April 2017.
- Submit all data on the data sheets provided.

**Practical Farmers of Iowa will:**

- Monitor progress of project and provide support when needed.
- Analyze the data, compile with past data and write an updated report.
- Publish results in a PFI research report, on PFI website and potentially other outlets.
- Pay the Farmer Cooperator a fee of $550 at the conclusion of the project in 2016.

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