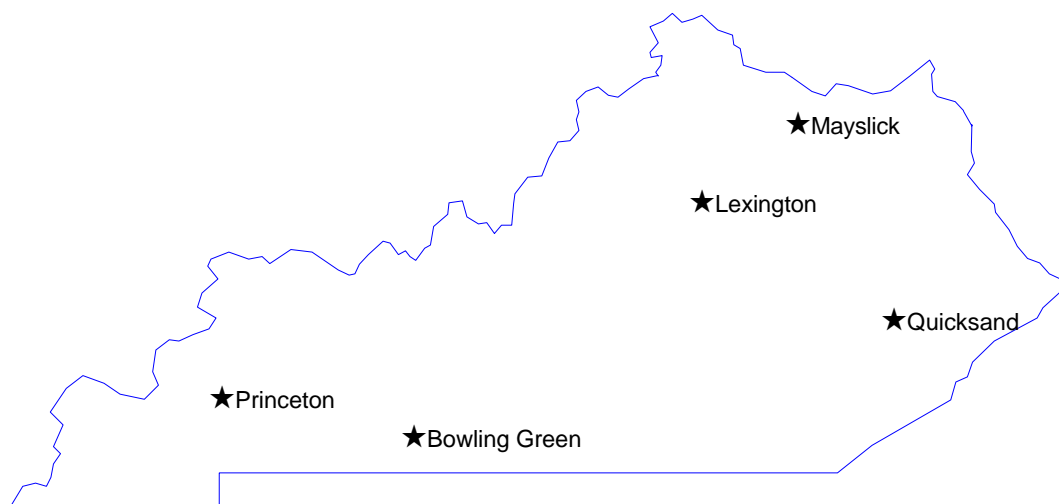


The Forage Variety Testing Program conducts yield trials of cool season forage species at as many as five locations as indicated on the following map and described below from east to west. Separate publications are available for each test year of the species tested.



The easternmost location is at the University of Kentucky's Robinson Substation at Quicksand, Kentucky, with companion tests sown at a surface mine located in the nearby University of Kentucky Robinson Forest. Both sites are within easy access of Kentucky Route 15 in Breathitt County, which is located in the center of eastern Kentucky. The area is characterized as the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains where coal mining and agriculture are prevalent. The eastern Kentucky counties have 191,300 acres of hay and 242,400 cows and calves. The planting medium at the surface mine is composed primarily of gray shale and sandstone. These materials are almost always very low in organic matter and frequently low in Phosphorus and Potassium. This medium can be well drained to the point of being drouthy or poorly drained to the point of remaining flooded, depending on the particle size of the material below and degree of compaction. Currently, tall fescue and orchardgrass are tested at this combination of environments.

The next location is Mayslick. Located on Kentucky highway 324 just east of U.S. 27, this site is in a region that has 56,000 acres of alfalfa, and 332,700 cows and calves. The soil there is naturally infested with *Aphanomyces* Root Rot organisms. This location is limited to an alfalfa test.

Alfalfa, red clover, tall fescue, and orchardgrass are tested at the University of Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station Farm near Interstates 75 and 64 at Lexington, in the Bluegrass region of central Kentucky. The test site is located in the center of the horse industry, where there are also 636,500 acres of hay, including 98,800 acres of alfalfa and 777,100 cows and calves.

The Bowling Green trial is a cooperative venture with the Western Kentucky University and is located at their Research Farm near the intersection of I-65 and the William Natcher Parkway in an area having 104,900 acres of alfalfa hay and 924,000 cows and calves. The soil at this location is naturally infested with both *Phytophthora* and *Aphanomyces* root rots and, as with Mayslick, only alfalfa is tested at Bowling Green.

The westernmost location is the University of Kentucky's Princeton Research and Education Center at Princeton, Kentucky. The site is situated within easy access of Interstate 24 and the West Kentucky Parkway in Caldwell County, which is in a region that has 313,100 acres of hay and 410,000 cows and calves. Tests for alfalfa, red clover, tall fescue, and orchardgrass are conducted at Princeton.

In addition to the species and locations mentioned, data from affiliated trials are occasionally published, including that from tests associated with the forage breeding programs at the University of Kentucky.

If you like more information concerning The Forage Variety Testing Program feel free to contact us. The E-mail address is jhenning@ca.uky.edu.