Diseases of Orchardgrass – Use good management
In recent weeks with all the rain and temperatures, there have been several reports of leaf disease symptoms showing up in orchardgrass fields. The samples that have been brought to the UK Plant Diagnostic lab so far indicate a disease called brown stripe. There are a couple of other disease possibilities, but unfortunately there is no quick fix for this problem. The best management for these foliar diseases is optimum soil fertility, moderate cutting height (3-4"), removing the infected tissue (cutting for hay), and hope for less conducive weather conditions during orchardgrass regrowth.  
Fig. 1 - Brown stripe on orchardgrass (E. Stromberg, VT).

Results from Master Grazer-Grazing for Cash 2014-2015 Stockpile Demonstrations (46 lbs/acre urea)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Forage Yield (lbs dry matter/acre)</th>
<th>Increased* cow-grazing days per acre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>With Nitrogen</td>
<td>Without Nitrogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>3335 lbs</td>
<td>1990 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meade</td>
<td>2324 lbs</td>
<td>426 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oldham</td>
<td>4293 lbs</td>
<td>2800 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulaski</td>
<td>3525 lbs</td>
<td>2914 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>3497 lbs</td>
<td>2701 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average across locations</td>
<td>3395 lbs</td>
<td>2166 lbs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Assumes a 1000 lb grazing animal consuming 3% of her body weight with a forage utilization with strip grazing of 70%.

Thanks to county agents, producers, and Master Grazer coordinator, Cody Smith and to KBN and KY Ag. Development Fund for providing funding. Agents: Traci Missun, Richard Whitis, Brandon Sears, Joanna Coles, and Andy Mills. Producers: M.L. Stetton, Don Minton, John Thomas, Troy Ellis, and John Flaherty.  
For more information: See “Stockpiling for Fall/Winter Pasture” and “Profitability of Stockpiling” at Forage Website under Publications and Grazing.

Advanced Grazing School August 17th in Lexington, KY
The University of Kentucky Master Grazer Program is planning an Advanced Grazing School to be held on August 17th at the UK Spindletop Research Farm (3251 Iron Works Pike) in Lexington. For more information and for registration form, visit UK Forage Website: www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage. Registration deadline is August 11. Cost is $20.
Advanced Grazing School Schedule:
- Calibrating and Using No-till Seeders, Dr. David Ditsch
- Establishing New Pasture and Hay Stands using the best techniques, Dr. Ray Smith
- Setting Up and Calibrating an ATV Spray Rig
- Tour Warm Season Annual Grass Variety: Sorghum, Sorghum-Sudangrass, Sudangrass, Pearl millet, Teff, Mr. Gene Olson
- Testing and Managing to Avoid Nitrate and Prussic Acid Toxicity, Dr. Donna Amaral-Phillips

For more information:
UK Forage Website under Publications and Diseases.
Increasing Cool Season Pasture Production in the Spring Utilizing Plant Growth Hormones

Replicated trials on the University of Illinois Dudley-Smith Farm over the past 5 years we have looked at the application of RyzUp SmartGrass (RUSG) on cool season grasses in the early spring to increase production and to help extend the spring grazing cycle. RyzUp SmartGrass contains gibberellic acid, a naturally occurring plant growth regulator that promotes growth, and improves forage yields while maintaining quality yields when cool temperature’s may limit natural plant growth.

Table 1. Results from Univ. IL Dudley-Smith Farm RyzUp SmartGrass plots: (20 gal/water 1% crop oil surfactant)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Orchardgrass</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0 oz RyzUp</td>
<td>1,244</td>
<td>3,251</td>
<td>1,735</td>
<td>2,785</td>
<td>2,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5 oz RyzUp</td>
<td>955</td>
<td>2,607</td>
<td>1,254</td>
<td>1,293</td>
<td>1,420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td>980</td>
<td>1,628</td>
<td>1,022</td>
<td>1,468</td>
<td>926</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endophyte</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free Fescue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 oz RyzUp</td>
<td>1,266</td>
<td>2,835</td>
<td>1,397</td>
<td>2,771</td>
<td>2,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5 oz RyzUp</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>2,459</td>
<td>1,344</td>
<td>1,713</td>
<td>1,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>1,650</td>
<td>1,118</td>
<td>1,238</td>
<td>903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MaxQ Fescue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0 oz RyzUp</td>
<td>1,081</td>
<td>2,853</td>
<td>1,504</td>
<td>2,152</td>
<td>2,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5 oz RyzUp</td>
<td>774</td>
<td>2,792</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>1,888</td>
<td>1,652</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check</td>
<td>763</td>
<td>2,123</td>
<td>1,043</td>
<td>1,313</td>
<td>967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) surfactant was omitted in 2011 trial but included as recommended on the product label in all subsequent treatments (2012-2015).

Over the past 5-years, RyzUp SmartGrass was applied in the spring when soil temperatures reached 45 degree Fahrenheit (F) at the 4 inch level and when air temperatures ranged between 45 and 60 F. Treatments of RUSG were applied from the dates of March 28 to April 21 in years 2011 thru 2015, with the majority of treatments being made between March 28 and April 6. Scouting, targeting and treating pastures with cool season grasses at this time showed that cool season grasses typically had 2 to 3 leaves of new growth. Yield data (Table 1) was collected approximately 15 days after RUSG application. Table 1 also illustrates the variability and range of the growth rates of cool season grass pastures for each year.

As a result of RUSG treatments, the increase in pasture growth allows us the options to start grazing earlier (10 to 15 days earlier) and/or to increase stocking density. In making the decision to use a product like RyzUp SmartGrass, producers will want to compare the cost of RUSG to the cost of dry matter feed from other feed sources. The Dudley Smith Farm RUSG trials demonstrated that the 1.0 oz. treatment delivered an average yield increase for all grasses of 1,091 pounds while the 0.5 oz. treatment delivered an average increase of 524 pounds in dry matter production in a 15 day growth period compared to the “check” average over the 5 year trial. Comparing the cost of dry matter of legume-cool season grass hay - priced at $150.00 per ton, the cost per pound of dry matter would be approx. 9 cents; whereas the cost of increase production of cool season grasses with RyzUp SmartGrass was 2½ cents per pound of dry matter. The application and use of RyzUp SmartGrass did not show an effect on feed quality over the 5-year trial.

AFGC and UK hold first Warm Season Grass Workshop
After years of success offering a cool season grass workshop, AFGC has partnered with the University of Kentucky to offer the first ever Warm Season Grass Professional Workshop on August 18th in Lexington, KY. This workshop was created with agronomists, seed dealers and advanced producers in mind and is scheduled to be a full day of lectures, activities and field demonstrations. For more information or to register, visit www.afgc.org and click on events.

Agenda: AFGC Warm Season Grass professional Workshop:
- Genetics of the BMR Trait within the Sorghum genus Ray Smith, University of Kentucky
- Seed Quality and Seed Industry priorities for warm season annual grasses Chad Hale, Byron Seeds
- Determining the best variety (quality and yield) of Warm Season Annuals Chris Teutsch, Virginia Tech
- Beef Cattle performance with warm season annuals Jeff Lehmkhuler, Univ. of Kentucky
- Dairy Cattle performance with warm season annuals Chad Hale, Byron Seeds
- Maximizing yield, quality and regrowth of warm season annuals Dennis Hancock, Univ. of Georgia
- Simple on-farm tests for nitrate and cyanide toxicity Ray Smith, Univ. of Kentucky
- Minor use summer annual grasses; Teff, Crabgrass, German millet, and others Panel Discussion, All speakers, led by Dennis Hancock, Univ. of Georgia
- How I’ve integrated Corn grazing into my forage system Kentucky Beef Producer
- Bermudagrass production and emerging issues (ie -stem maggot) Dennis Hancock, Univ. of Georgia
- What is the role of warm season native grasses on beef cattle farms? Tom Keene, Univ. of Kentucky
- Field tour Warm Season annual grass variety tests and Demonstrations Gene Olson, Univ. of Kentucky

Upcoming Events (details at Forage Website)
AUGUST 17 Advanced Grazing School, Lexington, KY
AUGUST 18 Warm Season Grass Workshop, Lexington, KY
SEPT 9-10 Heart of America Grazing Conf.Wilmington OH
SEPT 17 KFGC Field Day in Christian County
SEPT 19 One Day Grazing School –Russell/Clinton County
NOV 20-24 Inter. Grassland Congress. New Delhi, India.
DEC 13-16 National Grazing Lands Coalition Conference (GLCI). Grapevine, TX.

2015
JAN 10-12 AFGC Annual Meeting. Baton Rouge, LA.