

Legume Time

ELDON COLE

MT. VERNON, MO.

Tim Schnakenberg, agronomy specialist has been busy since the first of the year offering suggestions on repairing thinned-out pastures. One of his long-term recommendations is to overseed clover or lespedeza. If the field is primarily used for grazing and is in pretty good shape fertility-wise, ladino clover would be a good choice. If used for hay, consider red clover. Lespedeza should be the choice if the field is low in fertility and will be grazed.

Legume seed is pricey this year. Don't let that stop you from overseeding or no-tilling. Re-

member, you've probably sold the highest priced feeder cattle you've ever sold. If you don't use legumes to fill in those dead spots, weeds will overtake your pastures.

Visit with Tim or an extension agronomist near you about questions on trying to repair your pastures or to control the weed pressure that reduces forage quality and quantity. Hemlock is already showing up and it requires an early spraying. Tim's number is 417-357-6812. Δ

ELDON COLE: Extension Livestock Specialist, University of Missouri



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