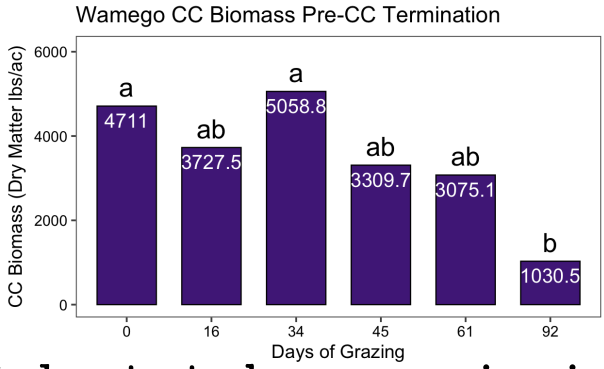
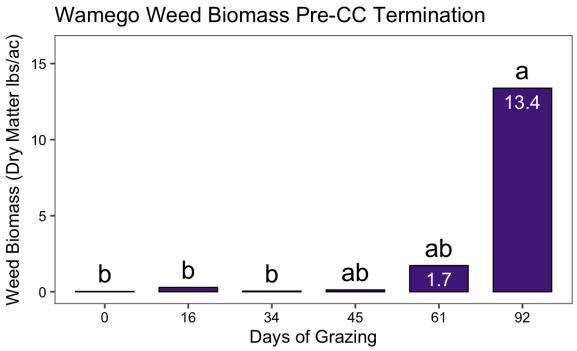
"Grazed Cover Crops: Are We Affecting the Ability to Suppress Weeds?"

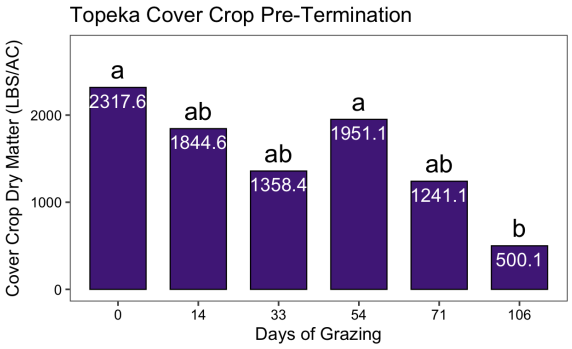
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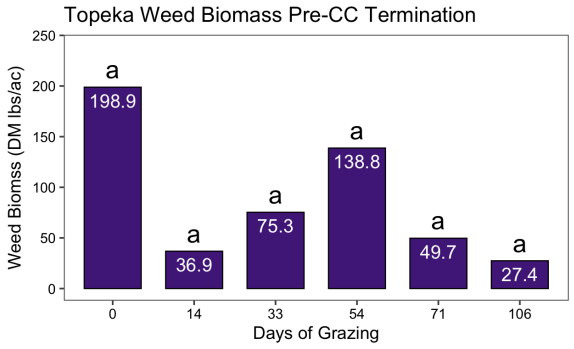


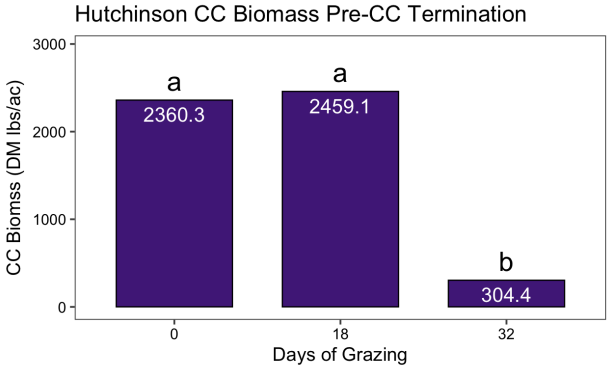


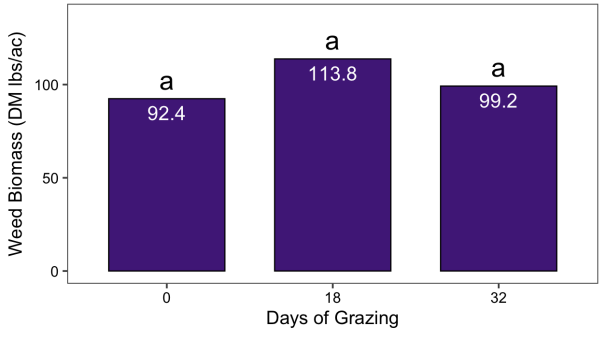
Moderate to heavy grazing influenced weed suppression when aggressive summer annuals were present.

In Wamego, giant foxtail *(Setaria* faberi) and palmer amaranth *(Amaranthus* palmeri) were dominant weed species in a cover crop of 45 lbs/ac Elbon cereal rye, 25lbs/ac spring barley, 11 lbs/ac radish, 5 lbs/ac spring pea. Grazing occurred from 12/5/21 to 4/16/22 in nonconsecutive days. Cover crop biomass variability is believed to stem from different levels of regrowth based on timing and amount of removal.









All levels of grazing had no influence on preplant weed suppression when winter annuals or perennials were present.

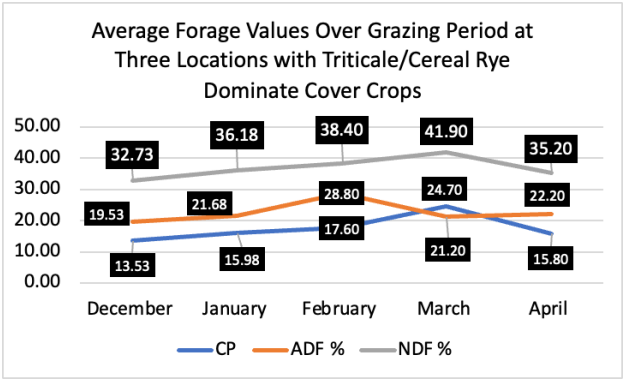
In Hutchinson and Topeka, many ***winter annual*** and ***perennial weed species*** were present. Horseweed ***(Erigeron*** canadensis), common chickweed ***(Stellaria*** media), and henbit ***(lamium*** amplexicaule) were dominant weed species in a cover crop of 70 lbs/ac triticale, 10lbs/ac winter pea, 0.5lbs/ac turnip (hutchinson) and 85 lbs/ac cereal rye, 4.5lbs/ac crimson clover, and 1 lbs/ac radish (Topeka). Grazing occurred from 12/19/21 to 4/4/22 (Topeka) and 1/3/22-2/1/22 (Hutchinson). Biomass variability is believed to stem from different levels of regrowth based on timing and amount of cover crop removal.

What are the Economics Behind Grazing Winter Cover Crops?

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How is alfalfa hay classified?

	ADF	NDF	CP
Supreme	< 27	< 34	> 22
Premium	27-29	34-36	20-22
Good	29-32	36-40	18-20
Fair	32-35	40-44	16-18





So, What Were Cover Crops Worth Last Winter?

	DM Tons/Acre	Acres	Tons/Field	Jan/Dec. Price	Value
Topeka	0.37	95	35.15	$140-150/Ton	4,921 - 5,272
Hutchinson	0.31	192	59.52	$140-150/Ton	$8,333 - $8,928
Wamego	1.11	100	111	$140-150/Ton	15,540 - 16,650