

Soil Quality

A foundation for pastureland health and productivity

What are you doing for the soil?

To protect soil function and pasture condition:

Maintain vigorous cover on the soil Increase or maintain plant production Practice rotational grazing to promote root growth and for uniform manure distribution

Minimize grazing traffic when the soil is wet

Maintain pH for desirable plants
Control weeds to protect desirable plants
Assess and monitor soil quality and
vegetation for early indications of
changes in soil function and
pastureland condition

What is the soil doing for you?

Pastureland soil quality affects:

Plant production
Plant reproduction
Plant mortality
Erosion potential
Vegetation composition
Water availability
Water quality
Wildlife habitat
Carbon sequestration

soils.usda.gov/sqi
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.