



### Alfalfa Stand Analysis

#### Stand Analysis by Plant Count

This is the conventional way of checking the condition of a stand – Counts must be based on live, HEALTHY plants – do not count plants that have severely damaged roots or develop shoots of different lengths.

(Plants per square foot)

	<u>Good</u>	<u>Marginal</u>	<u>Tear up</u>
Alfalfa Age (yrs)			
1	12+	8 – 12	< 8 (overseeding still may be an option)
2	8+	5 – 6	< 5 (autotoxicity limits overseeding success)
3	6+	4 – 5	< 4
4+	4+	3 – 5	< 3

More growers are looking at **stem count** as a more accurate way of analyzing a stand. Products like Ameristand 403T have the potential to produce a lot of stems without a high plant count.

#### Stand Analysis by Stem Count

– at 4" – 6" avg. height – count stems over 2"

(Stems per square foot)

	<u>Good</u>	<u>Marginal</u>	<u>Tear up</u>
Alfalfa Age (yrs)			
2 yrs.+	55+	40 – 55	< 40

Credits: University of Wisconsin, ABI Alfalfa