

flowering onset. GA₃ stops flowering and favours branching from non-basal lateral buds. In branches smaller than 25 cm there was a significant number of inflorescences under growth retardants, TIBA and Ethrel applications. The other treatments varied according to the different environmental conditions.

Lotus tenuis: EFFECTS OF HEIGHT AND FREQUENCY OF DEFOLIATION

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This research is undertaken to evaluate the interaction between 3 cutting heights (2.5-, 7.5-, 12.5-cm) and 2 frequencies of defoliation (21-, 35-days) in 2 regional accessions of Lotus tenuis Waldst. et Kit. (Monte, Brandsen), upon:

- 1) Forage yield: dry matter (DM).
- 2) Forage quality: leaf to stem ratio (L/S), crude protein content (%CP), in vitro digestible dry matter (%IVDDM).
- 3) Morphology and physiology of plants: growth habit, actual and modal height, crown development, number of primary stems per plant, number of axillary buds related to modal height, total nonstructural carbohydrates in roots, crowns and stems.
- 4) Persistence: plant covering, plant population: number of plants per m², number of primary stems per m².

Data from items 1 to 3 are being taken in every cut; item 4 is being counted at the beginning and at the end of each growth period.

Plots were seeded in Autumn of 1986. After the end of the second growth period (Autumn of 1988) a summary with preliminary results of this study will be submitted for publication.