

## HELPFUL WEB SITES FOR THE ALFALFA INDUSTRY

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### ABSTRACT

The World Wide Web can be a helpful tool for the alfalfa industry. It can provide a way to rapidly search for goods and services. It can be used to assist in buying supplies and selling products. It can be used to contact suppliers and service companies for assistance. It can be a tool for education and extension access also. With the continuing growth of the web community, more and more information is becoming available. Most companies have or will have web sites. One of the limiting factors in many rural areas is limited availability of Internet service providers. This situation will improve in the future. This area of technology is rapidly evolving and many new sites are appearing. We will present some samples of what is available at this time. Mention of a particular site does not mean we endorse its use, or mean to slight other sites. Our purpose is to demonstrate the potential and actual uses people are making of web information.

### KEY WORDS: Alfalfa, Internet, websites

<http://www.adobe.com>: Adobe is a software company, which produces the Acrobat software. Many documents are put in this format. These documents can be recognized by the code letters “.pdf”. A special program, Acrobat reader, can only read these documents. This reader program can be downloaded for free at this site.

<http://www.cdms.net>: This site is maintained by Crop Data Management Systems. It is a site where you can get label and MSDS information for most pesticides. This site is updated frequently and is very easy to use. Acrobat is required to open pages. This is the most complete and accurate site that offers labels from many companies.

<http://www.greenbook.net>: This site is also a pesticide label information site. Acrobat is required to open pages. This is an online version of the Crop protection reference from the C&P Press.

<http://www.abe.com>: This is a site, which allows you to search for and purchase out of print books. It connects you to a searchable database of 5,000 used bookstores. Many classic agricultural books can be found using this site. Arrangements to purchase can be made directly with the stores, via E-mail.

<http://www.amazon.com>: This site is a source for current, in print books. The breadth and scope of their offerings is astounding. They have many agricultural titles available and offer direct sales and shipping, anywhere in the country.

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<http://www.noaa.gov/wx.html> : This is the site for weather information, including forecasts, radar and satellite images.

<http://www.ams.usda.gov>: This site contains the hay markets news. It is possible to check market information in many states rapidly.

<http://www.bioquip.com>: This site gives access to Bioquip, a company which sells entomology supplies, such as sweep nets and hand lens. They also have many books available.

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>: This site is the UC Integrated Pest Management site. It contains information on most crops grown in California, and the pests and diseases with attack them. Included are many excellent illustrations and recommendations.

<http://www.wssa.com>: This is the site for the Weed Science Society of America. It contains photos of many common weeds. Some publications can also be found here.

<http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu>: The site for the alfalfa workgroup. Contains excellent links to alfalfa-related sites, access to variety trials and news on current events and meetings.

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov>: California Dept. of Pesticide Regulation. This agency governs pesticide use in California. Information on laws and regulations related to pesticides can be found here.

<http://www.gemplers.com>: This is the site for this company, Gemplers, which supplies a wide range of farm and ranch supplies, including safety equipment and IPM supplies.

<http://www.ent.iastate.edu/list>: Entomology index of Internet resources. This site has an extensive list of links to entomology subjects. Very useful.

<http://www.alfalfa.org>: Site of the Alfalfa Council. Information on publications, meetings and the list of alfalfa varieties can be obtained at this site.

Sites for some chemical companies:

Dow agro sciences: <http://www.dowagro.com>

Dupont: <http://www.dupont.com/ag/us>

Novartis: <http://www.cp.us.novartis.com>

Aventis: [http://www2.aventis.com/cropsc/cro\\_main.htm](http://www2.aventis.com/cropsc/cro_main.htm)

Valent: <http://www.valent.com>

Bayer: <http://www.uscrop.bayer.com>

BASF: <http://www.basf.com/businesses/consumer/agproducts/solutions/products.html>

Sites for seed companies:

America's Alfalfa: <http://www.americasalfalfa.com>

Pioneer: <http://www.pioneer.com>

Dekalb: <http://www.dekalb.com>

Novartis: <http://www.NK.com>

Samples of some extension sites

Forage Information System (Oregon): <http://forages.orst.edu>

Utah fertilizer guide: <http://www.ext.usu.edu/publica/agpubs/ag431.pdf>

Fertilizer management for alfalfa: <http://www.ext.usu.edu/publica/agpubs/ag-fg-01.pdf>

Integrated Pest Management for Texas forage crops:

<http://agpublications.tamu.edu/pubs/eentom/b1401.pdf>

Purdue Forage Information: <http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/forages>

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>: UC extension publications are available from this site.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>: This is the site for the Natural resources conservation service of the Department of Agriculture. It contains information on soil topics and links to more information, such as soil surveys.