

# **ANNUAL NUTRIENT REMOVAL FROM HARVESTING VAUGHN'S HYBRID BERMUDAGRASS**

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## **SUMMARY**

Research was conducted on a Staser silt loam (Cumulic Hapludoll) on the Highland Rim approximately 30 miles north of Nashville (N 36° 28' and W 86° 50', elevation 217 m). Maintaining yield of hybrid bermudagrass (*Cynodon dactylon*) hay involves annual fertilization with a potassium containing fertilizer. Even though fertilization with potassium occurs at high rates, soil test levels declined because of luxury consumption and subsequent removal of forage from the field. Three years of data indicate that a different management strategy is needed for efficient use of potassium fertilizer. Forage potassium levels and thus removal increased with rates of fertilization but decreased at each level of fertilization as the season progressed. No increases in soil test levels of potassium were measured at any rate of fertilization in this experiment.