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FORMATION OF SEEDED PHYTOCENOSES

An important indicator of the vegetation of grassland is its density. Thick herbage is an essential prerequisite for obtaining high yields per unit area and its density affects on important processes in grass stand. Through selection of herbs to create grass mixtures, to determine the optimal ratio can largely avoid the lowering density of seeded phytocenoses in critical periods of its life.

The results of three years of research on the effect of the composition of grass mixtures on density of seeded grass stands for hay using in conditions of western Forest-Steppe on dark grey podzolic soils are given. To conduct the study were seeded legumes, cereal and legume-cereal mixtures. As part of the legume mixtures sowed alfalfa, alsike and goat's-rue; cereal – reed canary grass, fescue eastern, smooth brome grass and perennial ryegrass. The composition of legume-grass mixtures was consisted of legumes and grasses in different percentages.

It was established that the density of standing stems depended on the amount of legumes and cereal components in the composition of sown grass mixtures, and varied proportionally to the number of sown seeds. By year of use was observed growth of grasses quantity as in the first and so in the third cuts, and the density of legumes components declined.

At the end of the third year of use of investigated mixtures the highest number of shoots was on grass herbage – 2858 pcs./m². Legume-grass mixtures formed grass stand with total density of the shoots 1352–2049 pcs./m², depending on its the composition. The density of standing shoots on legume grass stand was the lowest – 762 pcs./m².