Grass-Cast knows

**Total** Production Loss

*not* Grazing Loss

**Average Year**
- **1000** pounds per acre
- Leave ½ → leave 500 lbs
- Take ½, but half of that gets trampled, so you really get to take ¼ = **250 lbs**

**Drought Year (30% less)**
- **700** pounds per acre
- If still leave 500 lbs...
- 200 lbs left to take, but half gets trampled, so you really get **100 lbs**
- **100 lbs** vs. **250 lbs** = **60% grazing loss**
- Which is >> than G-C’s 30% total production loss
Grass-Cast knows Total Production Loss not Grazing Loss

**Average Year**
- **1000** pounds per acre
- Leave ½ → leave 500 lbs
- Take ½, but half of that gets trampled, so you really get to take ¼ = **250 lbs**

**Drought Year (50% less)**
- **500** pounds per acre
- If still leave 500 lbs...
- **0 lbs** left to take, so you really get **0 lbs**
- **0 lbs** vs. 250 lbs =
- A **100% grazing loss**
- Which is >> than G-C’s 50% total prod’n loss
Grass-Cast knows

Total Production Loss

not Grazing Loss

Grazing Loss

Average Year
- 1000 pounds per acre
- Leave 400 lbs (less than ½)
- Take 600 lbs, but half of that gets trampled, so you really get to take 300 lbs

Drought Year (15% less)
- 850 pounds per acre
- If still leave 400 lbs...
- 450 lbs left to take, but half gets trampled, so you really get 225 lbs
- 225 lbs vs. 300 lbs =
- A 25% grazing loss
- Which is >> than G-C’s 15% total prodc’n loss

Grazing loss, relative to G-C’s estimate, depends on how much a rancher leaves for conservation. If they “leave nothing,” then grazing loss = G-C estimate. If “leave half,” then grazing loss = twice G-C estimate. If “leave something less than half,” then grazing loss is something less than 2X the G-C estimate.
Grass-Cast

- *Estimates* total production
- Final forecast isn’t ground-truthed in real time
- Likely UNDER-estimates grazing losses, *if* rancher “leaves some”
- Accuracy = 60 – 80%
  - Nearest NWS COOP station?
    - Data interpolated between
- Works better in some places than others