

Plant Response to Grazing

Plants use to strategies to deal with defoliation (i.e., grazing or mowing)

- 1) Defend yourself to AVOID being grazed
- 2) Be able to survive and TOLERATE grazing

Avoid – Thorns, Spines & Awns

- Slow down intake
- Cause pain

Avoid – Toxins and Anti-Quality

- Kill animal
- Make animal sick
- Cause pain

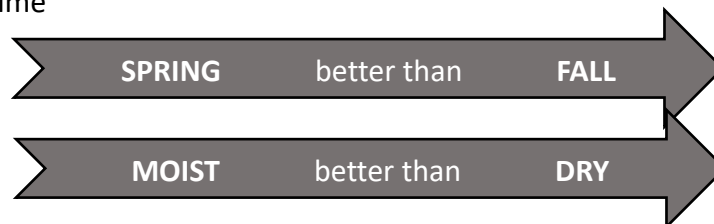
Tolerate Defoliation - Response Depends On:

- Location of Growth Points

Meristems = growth points
for new leaves and stems



- Resources for recovery
 - Moisture
 - Nutrients
 - Time



- Carbohydrates (Energy) for Regrowth
 - Leaves photosynthesize and create energy
 - Some energy stored in roots