

Invasive Plant Removal



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How grazing can change plant composition

Rotational Grazing is similar to Fire



Results depend on

1. Time of year
2. Fuel load
3. Weather conditions
4. Frequency
5. Species present
6. Many more

How you implement will alter
the result.....

Rotational Grazing is similar to Fire



Results depend on

1. Stocking rate/density
2. Frequency of grazing
3. Length of grazing
4. Species present
5. Many more

How you implement will alter the result.....

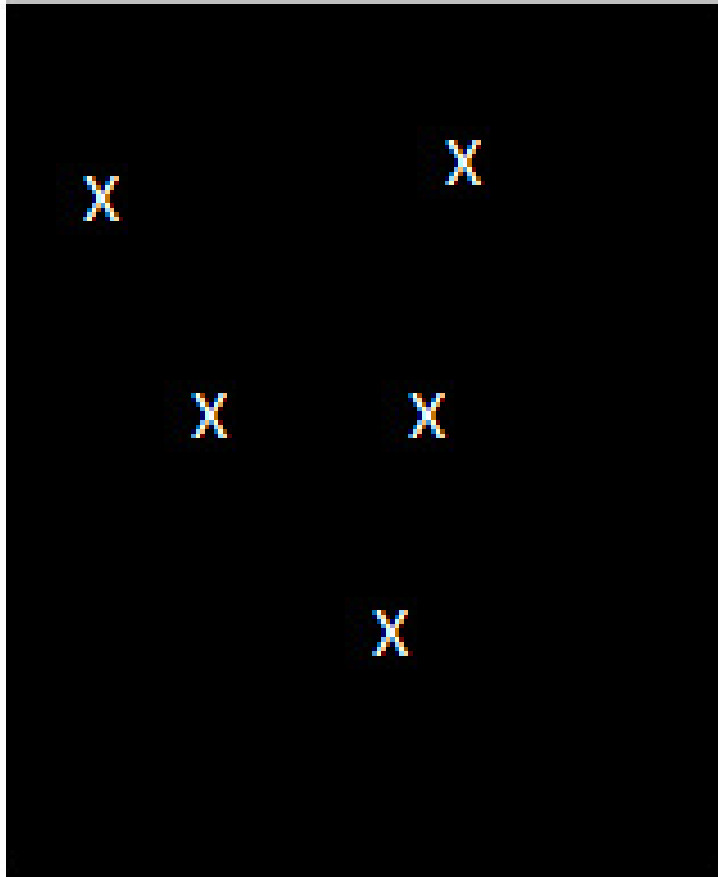
How does grazing control invasive plants?

- Eating plant tissue
- Physical impact
 - Breaking stems, trampling roots
- Promote grass competition

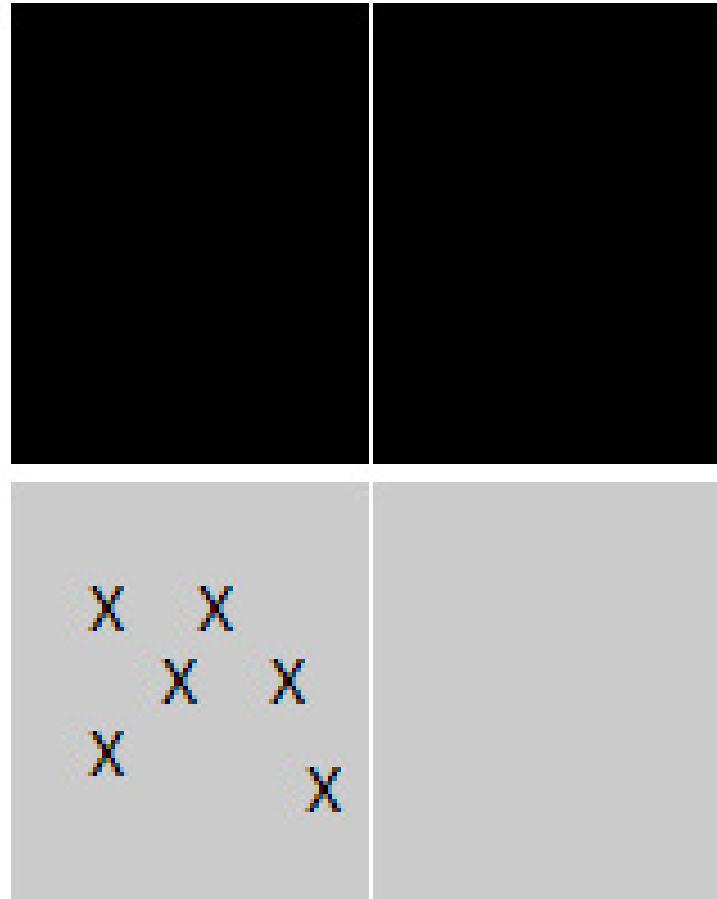


The Grazing Spectrum

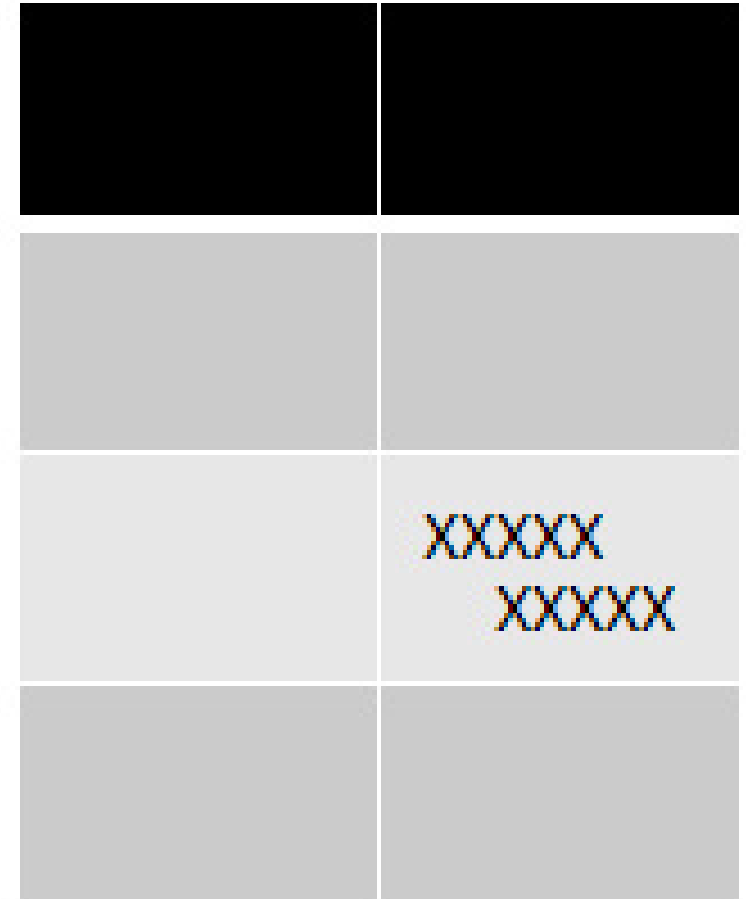
Continuous grazing



Rotational grazing



Mob



Rotational Grazing

60,000 lbs/A



Mob Grazing

400,000 lbs/A



Initially > 75% Kentucky Bluegrass

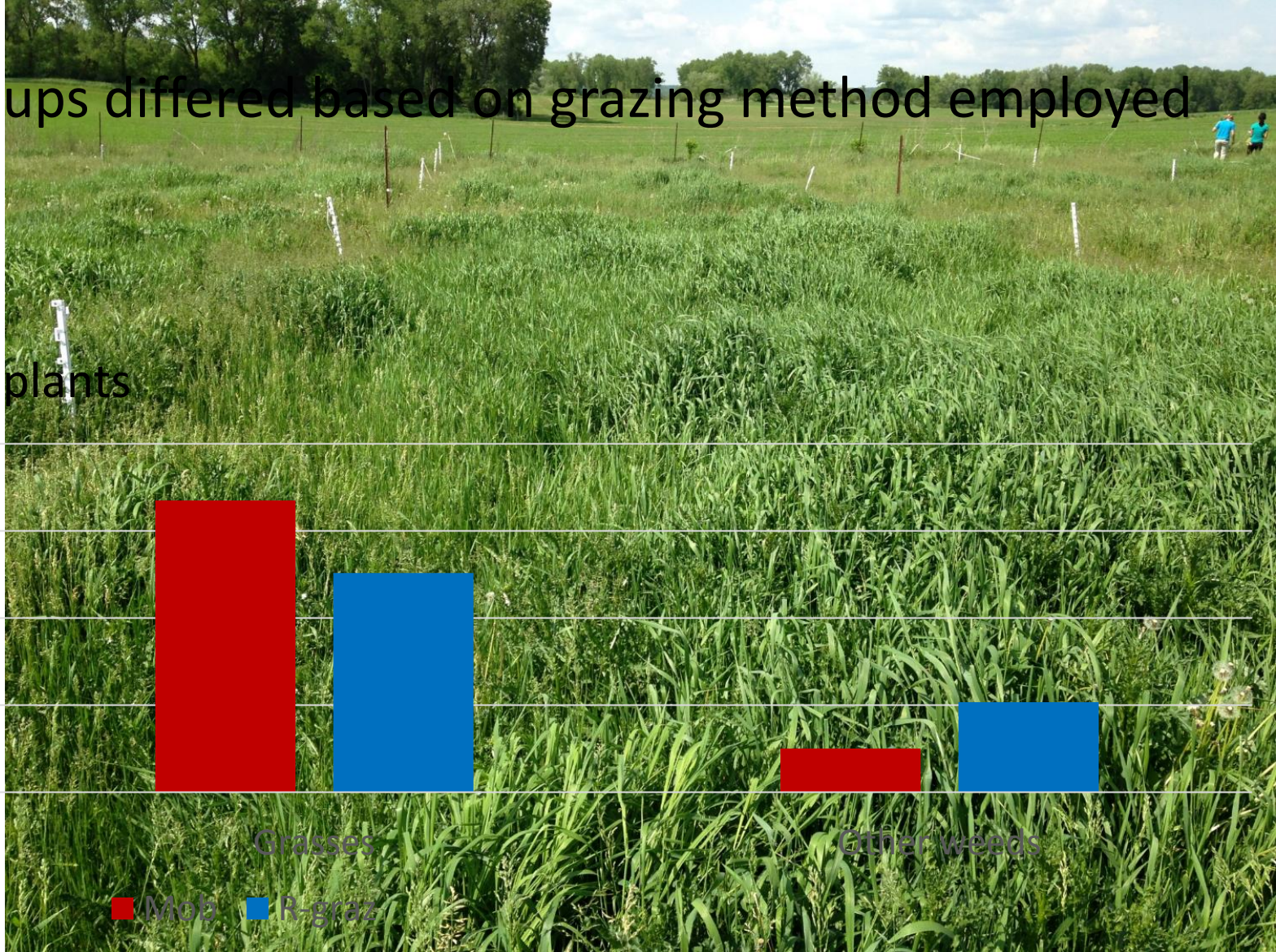
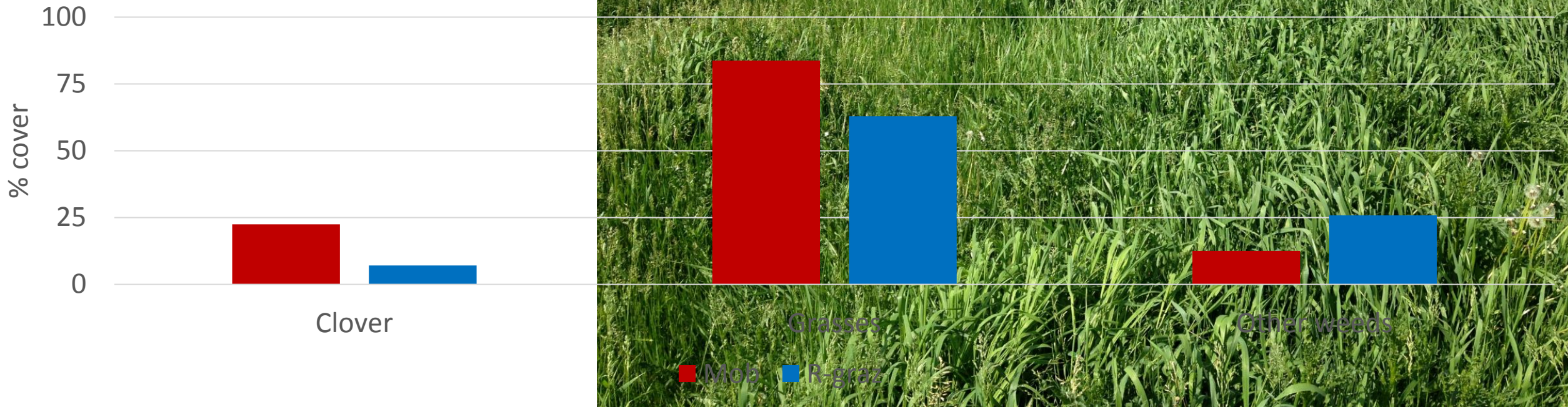


3 years after rotational grazing

50% less KBG

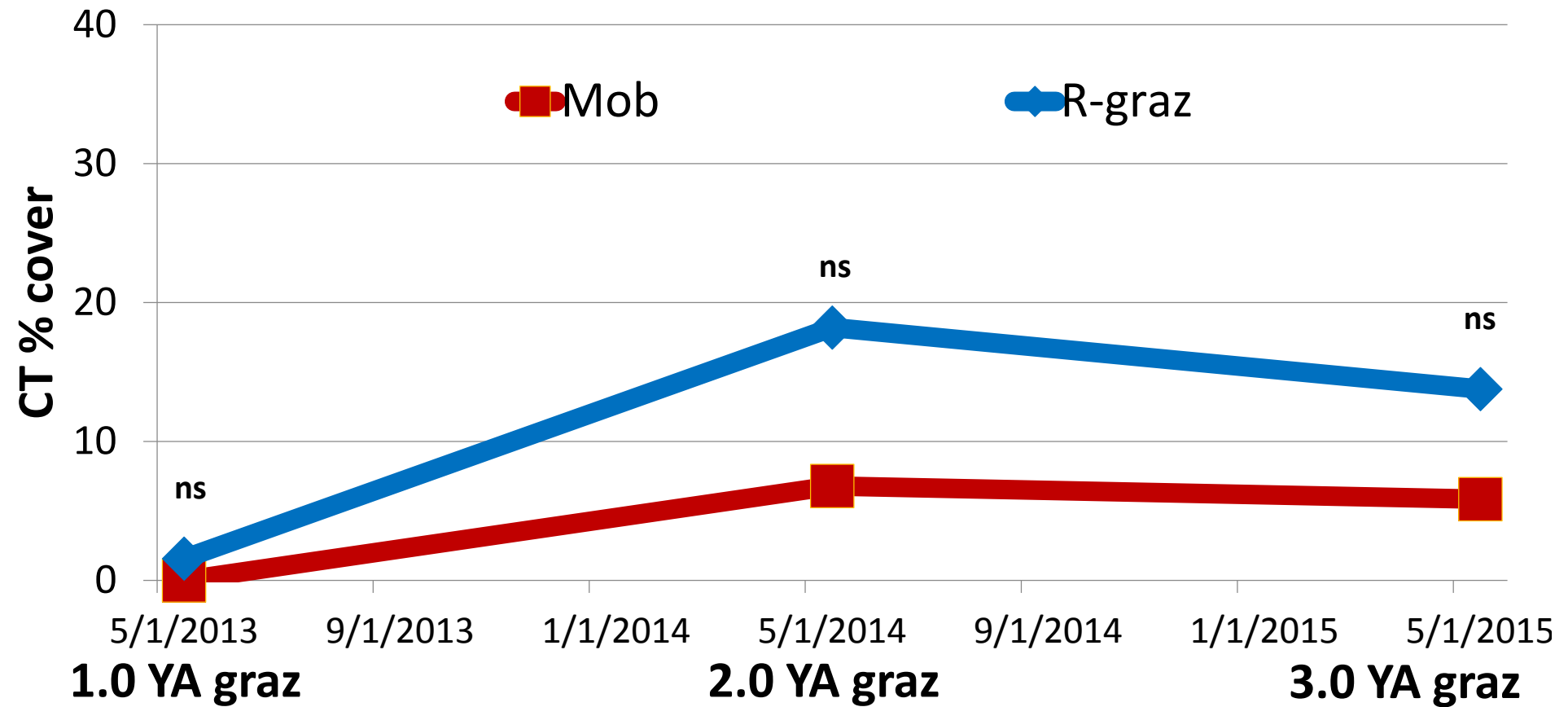
Changes in plant functional groups differed based on grazing method employed

- Mob grazing
 - Tripled cover of legumes
 - Increased grass cover
 - Decreased weeds/invasive plants



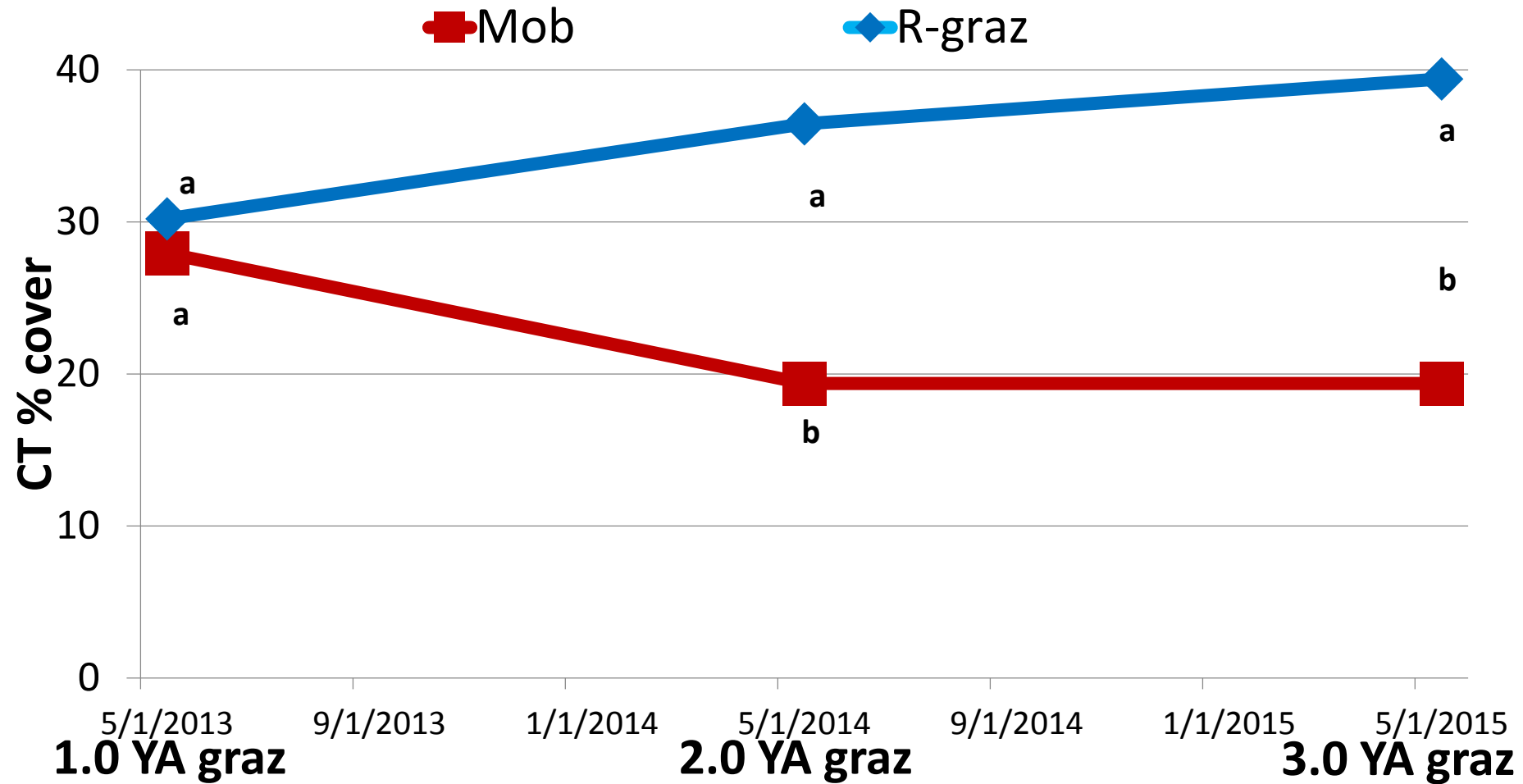
Canada Thistle Cover 1 – 3 YAT

Prairie du Sac WI 2011-2015



Canada Thistle Cover 1 – 3 YAT

Lancaster WI 2011-2015

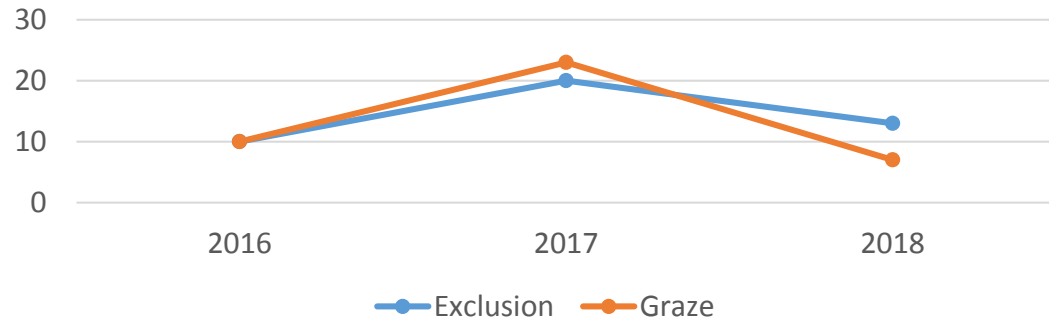


Grazing Management at WI-DNR sites

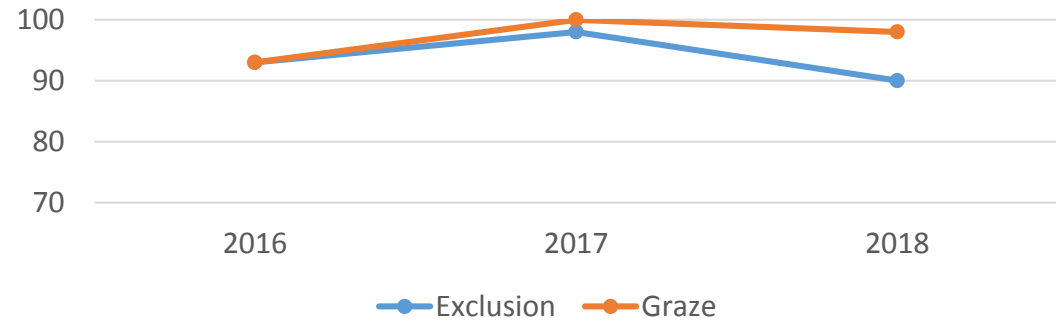
	Hook Lake	Buena Vista	Western Prairie
Animal	Scottish Highland cattle (7 animal units)	Red angus cow-calf pairs (113 animal units)	Holstein heifers (40 animal units)
Stocking density	1,784 lbs/a	12,491 lbs/a	11,538 lbs/a
Grazing length per paddock	1-3 weeks, grazed once in 2016 and 2017	1-3 days, grazed twice in 2016, four times in 2017.	1-2 weeks, grazed twice in 2017

Buena Vista Results after 2 years of grazing....

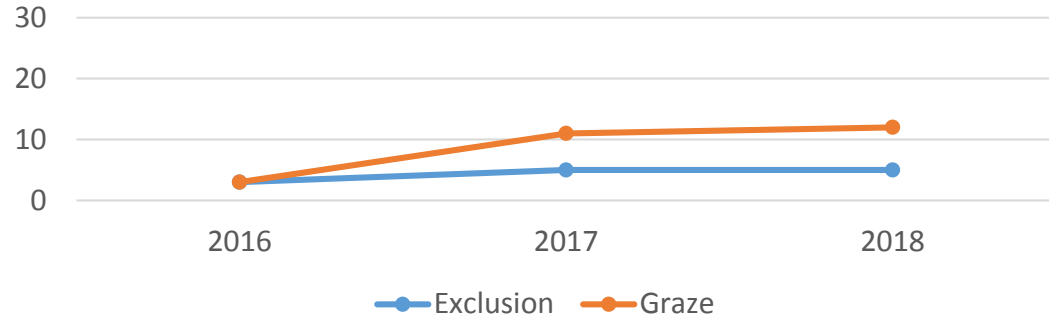
Shrub Cover



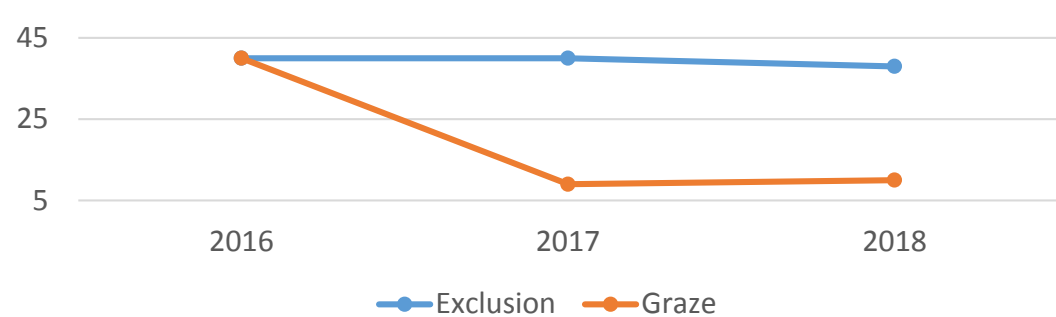
Grass Cover



Legume Cover

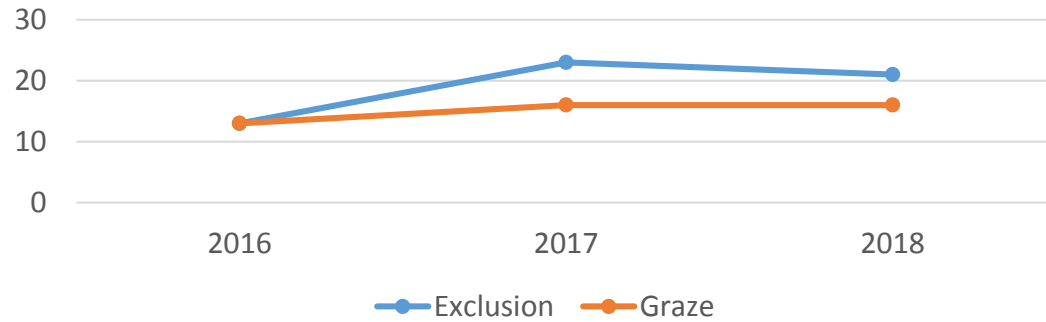


Broadleaf "Weed" Cover

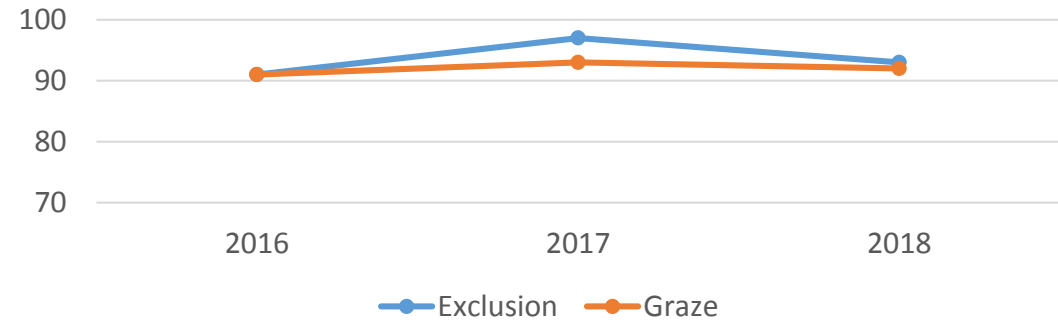


Hook Lake Results after 2 years of grazing....

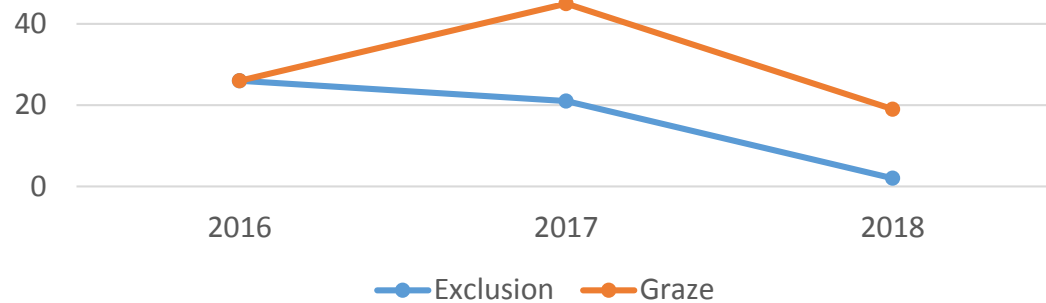
Shrub Cover



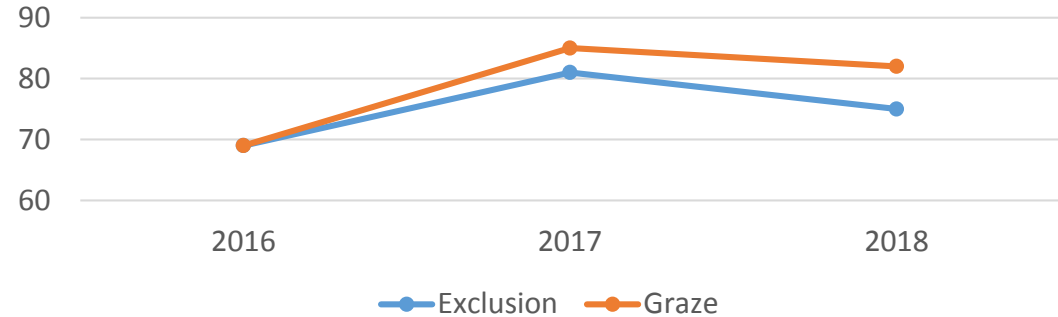
Grass Cover



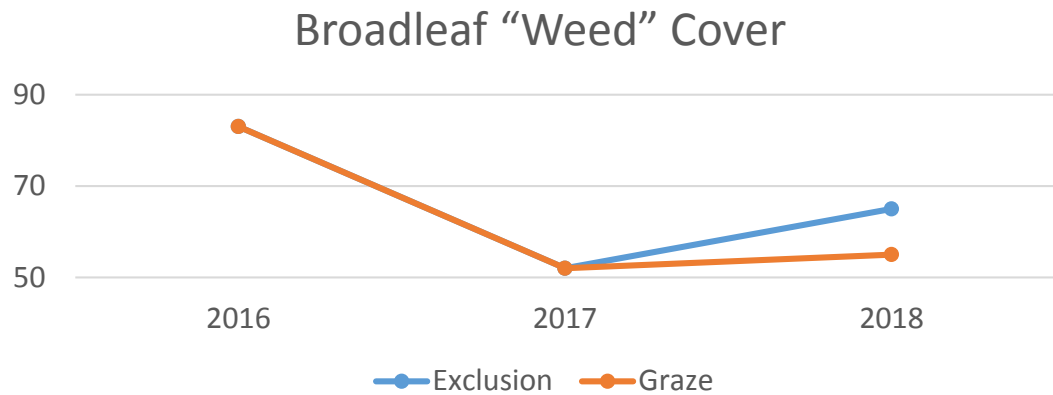
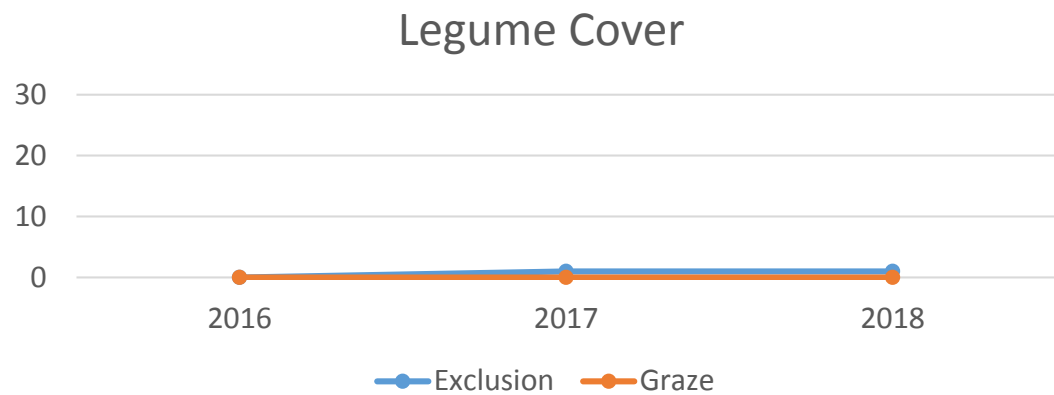
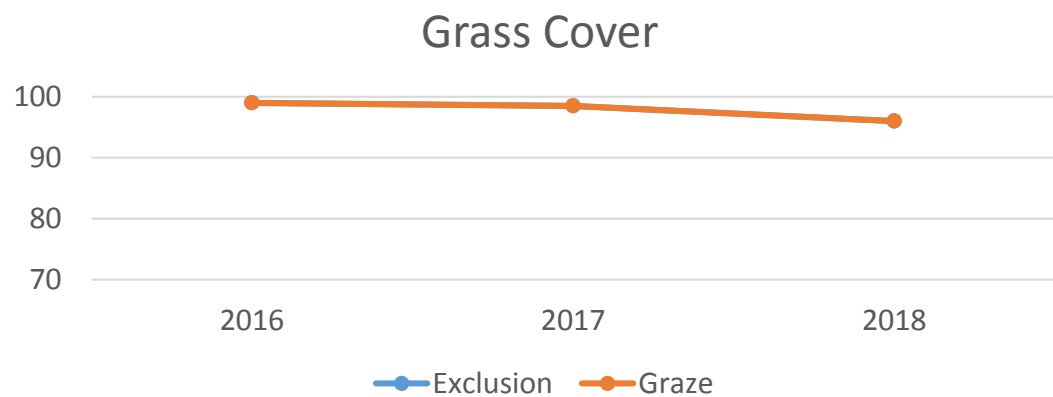
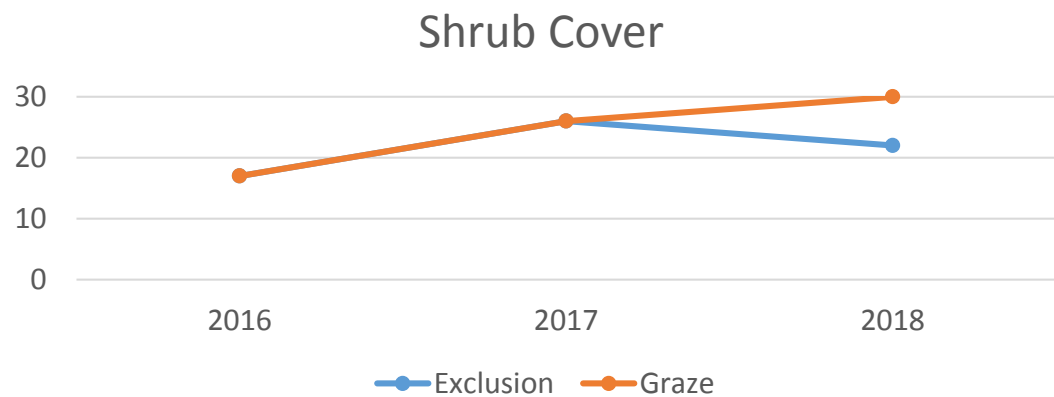
Legume Cover



Broadleaf "Weed" Cover



Western Prairie Results after 1 year of grazing....



Will continue grazing for 2 more years.....

- Will brush cover begin to decline at all sites?
 - Trend but not significant
 - Will susceptible brush be replaced with tolerant shrubs?
- Will grass continue to dominate?
 - All trends say yes
- Will broadleaf “weeds” continue to decline?
 - Only significant at one location
- What will happen with legumes?
 - Variable responses, likely based on species present at each location

Questions?

