

# CUT YOUR NITROGEN INPUTS WITH LEGUMES

With higher fertilizer costs and instability in global supply chains and markets, many growers are looking for alternatives to limit commercial fertilizer use. Fortunately, growers have options when it comes to cutting back applied nitrogen use and getting the most out of their cropping system.

One consideration is to use less fertilizer intensive crops that don't cost as much to maintain during the growing season. Some of those options include planting legumes, such as alfalfa or clovers, that naturally fix nitrogen in the soil, and eliminate the need for additional fertilizer.

Legumes naturally produce and capture nitrogen in pastures, and reduce the need for fertilizer applications for future crop rotations that follow alfalfa. Learn more about how legumes can offset nitrogen shortages from Hay & Forage (<https://bit.ly/34lucRo>).

Terminating thinning stands is another way to keep nitrogen in the soil for future crops. Learn more about the science of transitioning low-yielding alfalfa stands into nitrogen fertilizer from Progressive Forage (<https://bit.ly/3IS4Yct>).

