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Alfalfa – A Great Food to Grow For White-tailed Deer – A Success Story

by Wallace Whatley

Alfalfa is the centerpiece of the property I visited for this story, but this property is such a deer and turkey paradise that it deserves a story of its own.

Until recently, alfalfa as a forage crop or hay crop has not had the best reputation in the South because of our acid soil and climate problems. Agronomists said for a long time that it is simply too hot in the Deep South for this forage crop that grows so thick and lush on the northern plains. New varieties created especially for warmer weather, however, are changing that.

Alfarack, a recent product of the Whitetail Institute of North America, is one of these varieties. Marketed and sold out of Pintlala, Alabama, for use by Southern hunters and land managers, this blend has alfalfa as a major component together with a few different clovers. Now it is not the policy of this magazine as we have stated before to endorse any product, and we are not endorsing this one. This is only the report of a successful property in east central Alabama where the owner is using this seed blend. He also plants **Biologic**, and we are not endorsing that either. These are just the facts. The property is a showplace, highly productive every season, and there is ample evidence here that somebody, Kent Pearce in this case, is doing something right. A friend once said that Kent Pearce could line



A game tracker camera captured this young buck feeding on crab apples in late summer.

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