

Percent leaf volume removed	Percent root growth stoppage
10% .....	0%
20% .....	0%
30% .....	0%
40% .....	0%
50% .....	2-4%
60% .....	50%
70% .....	78%
80% .....	100%
90% .....	100%

## How grazing affects root growth

This table illustrates the truth in the old saying, "Take half and leave half." Notice that as you graze off up to half the leaves of your grass that root growth continues unimpaired. But, just look at what happens when you try to sneak in another ten percent "harvest": Half the root growth is stopped. At 80 percent root growth stops completely—and at least 30 percent is needed annually to replace roots naturally pruned. Removing 80 percent of the leaves also stops root growth for 12 days. Taking off 90 percent of the leaves stops root growth completely for 18 days.

