Summary

Several intervals of deferred cutting of *Brachiaria* decumbens (CIAT/BRA 16488/004391), associated with different legumes were studied in a Dark Red Latosol (Oxisol), located at the Centro de Pesquisa Agropecuária dos Cerrados (EMBRAPA/CPAC). Deferred cuttings were made in December 1994 and in January and February 1995. Forage production was measured every 28 days, and cuttings were made when forage availability became critical. Accumulated forage production was greater when cuttings were deferred in December (7 t/ha) than when deferred in January or February (4 t/ha). However, no differences were found among dates in the amount of green forage available. When cuttings were made after June, available green forage decreased to less than 2 t/ha. In the dry season, forage quality was low

(5% CP and < 50% IVDMD).</p>