

DAIRY NEWS September, 2012

I am enclosing a copy of the 2012 Silage Test results from the Alamance County test. I want to thank Williard Dairy for allowing us to have the test plot on their farm. We also want to thank the North Carolina Corn Growers Association for providing funds to conduct the test and the seed company representatives for providing seeds. We also have a grain plot planted on another farm. Hopefully you can use this local data to help you make your decision on corn varieties for next year. Even though our overall corn crop is not going to turn out too good, the silage plot did very well. It had a lot on grain in it and produced some good tonnage.



FEEDING CORN

Our corn crop underwent some pretty severe stress this year so we may be dealing with some aflatoxin issues. Last year we had the same problem. You may want to check the corn you plan on feeding to determine the aflatoxin level. You cannot afford to have high levels of aflatoxin show up in your milk. If you are storing your own corn, you will need to monitor your bins to prevent buildup of aflatoxin.

You will need to aerate the bin to keep moisture buildup from occurring. The worse thing you can do is put the corn in the bin and forget to check it. Run the fan on cool nights to cool the grain below 55 degrees. Aerate periodically to prevent moisture buildup.

If you grow or buy bulk corn to feed your animals, you can have it tested free of charge by the NCDA at Constable Lab for aflatoxin. Constable Lab is located at 4000 Reedy Creek Road in Raleigh. They need 5 pound sample of whole corn or ground corn. Samples may be mailed directly to the lab at the following address:

NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Food and Drug Protection Division
1070 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1070

If you would like assistance with rations, contact me and I will contact Dr. Shannon Davidson at NC State. She took Dr. Lon Whitlow's place after he retired. She will be glad to assist you with rations.

Sincerely,



Roger N. Cobb, County Extension Director

Cow Fun Facts...

- Cows produce about 25 gallons of saliva each day.
- An average cow weights about 1,400 lbs.
- Cows' front teeth are only on the bottom—they have no front upper teeth. As to the back, cows have top and bottom molars.
- No two Holstein cows have the same prints.
- Cows can sleep while standing.



Do you eat like a cow?

- A cow eats over 100 lbs. of food and drinks 30 to 40 gallons of water each day.
- Cows spend about 8 hours each day eating.
- Cows move their jaws about 40,000 times a day.
- Cows urinate about 30 lbs. of water and poop about 60 lbs. of feces each day.



2012 ALAMANCE COUNTY CORN HYBRID SILAGE TEST RESULTS

VARIETY	ADJUSTED SI- LAGE YIELD ^A TONS/ACRE 30% DM (DECREASING ORDER)	SILAGE TDN%	RM	DM%
Pioneer P 2088 AM1	24.68	71.86	120	28.42
DeKalb DKC 66-86	24.33	68.31	116	30.92
Ag Venture RL 9694HB	23.27	71.11	119	29.37
Pioneer P 33F90 AM1	23.03	71.90	114	28.02
DeKalb DKC 67-87	22.61	69.24	117	27.62
Southern States SS787GENVT3PRO	22.59	71.47	116	28.73
Southern States SS684R2GENVT3PRO	22.21	68.70	112	29.90
Pioneer P1745 AM1 (Tester)	21.50	69.65	114	27.83
NK N 77P-3000GT	21.46	70.63	117	28.00
Ag Venture RL 9583 HB	21.36	69.45	118	29.18
NK N78S-3111	21.19	67.60	116	26.28
Average (Test)	22.56	69.99		28.57

Cooperator: Williard Dairy, 8152 Lindley Mill Rd., Graham, NC 27253

Extension Director: Roger Cobb, 209 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd., Burlington, NC

Phone: 336-570-6740 **Planted:** April 18, 2012 **Harvested:** July 26, 2012

Fertilization: 130-0-0 **Herbicides:** PRE - Atrazine 1 qt./Ac., Gramoxone – 1 qt./Ac., POST – Halex GT 3.6 pts./Ac., Atrazine - 1 qt./Ac. **Type Planting:** Corn after corn, no-tilled into wheat cover crop **Rainfall:** 9.7 inches

Reference to brand names is for education information only and should not be construed as an endorsement of the product.

^AAdjusted to tester yield. The tester hybrid on each side of the plot measured environmental variations across the plot. This method of comparison provides the most reliable data available. The tester yield is an average of all the tester plots. Appreciation is expressed to the Williard Family, NK Brand Seeds, Pioneer Seeds, DeKalb Seeds, Ag Venture Seeds, Southern States, Syngenta Crop Protection, and the N. C. Corn Growers Association for their contributions.



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