



How to Improve Your Hay Quality

Displayed below are results from a hay trial run in Central Queensland using Silo Guard II (SG) on small square lucerne hay bales. These results are consistent with industry experience in the United States and Europe.

Test Identity	Units	Pre-baling	29 days post baling		SG Advantage
			Silo Guard II	Untreated	
Moisture	%	23.8	22.3	19.2	✔
Protein	%	25.6	26.8	24.2	✔
Metabolizable Energy (ME)	MJ/Kg	10.1	10.2	9.8	✔
Acid Detergent Fibre (ADF)	%	27.0	25.9	29.2	✔
Neutral Detergent Fibre (NDF)	%	33.9	32.0	34.2	✔
Digestible Dry Matter	%	69.6	70.4	67.8	✔
Total Digestible Nutrients	%	68.9	69.7	67.4	✔
DM Intake % of Body Weight	%	3.5	3.7	3.5	✔
Relative Feed Value (RFV)		186	200	180	✔

Silo Guard II treated hay undergoes a slower curing, hence, maintains its lush green colour and high nutritive value.

- ✔ SG treated hay is 2.6% units higher in protein content and 0.4MJ/Kg DM higher in ME content than untreated hay.
- ✔ SG treated hay is 2.2% units lower in NDF content than untreated hay. NDF is a measure of plant cell wall material and is negatively correlated with feed intake. The lower NDF, the higher feed intake.
- ✔ Relative Feed Value is a calculated indicator of total feed quality. SG treated hay is 20 points higher in RFV.



According to industry evaluation, a baseline dry cow hay with 12% protein and 9 MJ/Kg DM Metabolizable Energy is valued at \$100/T (varies according to season). Each 1 unit increase in protein and ME independently adds \$10 to the value of the hay. According to this protocol and the results above, SG treated hay is valued \$30 higher than untreated hay. This demonstrates at least a **4 to 1 return on investment**.

There are also returns to be gained from increased animal production. According to government and industry experts associated with the TopFodder program, each 1% unit increase in digestibility correlates with an increase in feed intake of 0.16Kg DM/cow/day. SG treated hay is 2.6% units higher in digestibility than untreated hay and correlates with an increase in feed intake of 0.416Kg DM/cow/day. A 1% unit increase in digestibility translates into an extra 0.37Kg milk per cow per day or 0.13Kg liveweight gain per head per day. Therefore, according to the results above, SG treated hay will produce an extra 0.962Kg milk per cow per day or an extra 0.338Kg in liveweight gain per head per day in comparison to the untreated hay.

Improve your fodder quality and animal performance using Silo Guard II.

FEEDWORKS

"Performance through Science"

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