

Defining silage quality

Introduction

- Dry cow silage 40-50% of total silage fed
 - Target moderate DMD at low K content
- Remaining silage fed to milking cows and youngstock
 - Target high DMD and good intake potential

Annual grass t DM/ha	12	12	15	15
Grazing stocking rate (LU/ha)	2.5	3.2	2.5	3.2
Silage t DM to milking cows	0.58	0.94	0.45	0.62
Silage t DM to dry cows	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Annual silage fed t DM per cow	1.33	1.69	1.2	1.37
% as quality silage*	44	56	38	45
% silage from external ground	52	75	0	43

*Does not include an additional 0.4 t DM per cow as high quality reserve

Measure	Dry cows	Milking cows
DMD (%)	68 to 70	74+
UFL per kg	0.72 to 0.75	0.83 to 0.88
Crude protein (%)	12	14+
PDIE (g/kg)	75+	80+
Intake value	90 to 95	>105
Potassium (K)	<2.2	>2.2% no issue
Dry matter (%)	24-28	
pH	4.0 to 4.2	
Ammonia	Less than 8% of N	
Lactic acid	8-10% of DM	
Ash	<8% of DM	