

Silage Quality 2021

Why do you need better quality silage?

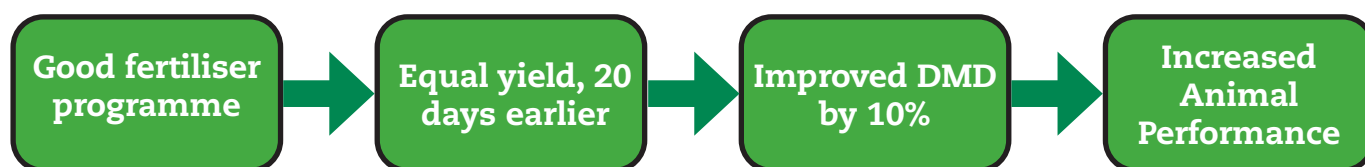
High DMD silage (75% DMD), that is a leafy silage sward prior to mowing, can add value to your stock on a lower feed cost as highlighted in the table below.

Silage quality	Good 72% DMD	Average 68% DMD	Poor 62% DMD	Very Poor 55% DMD
Store cattle on silage only Liveweight gain (kg/140 day winter)	102	83	55	21
Weanlings Concentrates required (kg/hd/day)	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.5
For 100 <u>weanlings</u> 140 day winter	14 Ton	28 Ton	42 Ton	63 Ton
Conc. Costs over winter	€3,500	€7,000	€10,500	€15,750

Delaying your cutting date can cost up to **€500/day** due to higher feed costs and reduced performance!

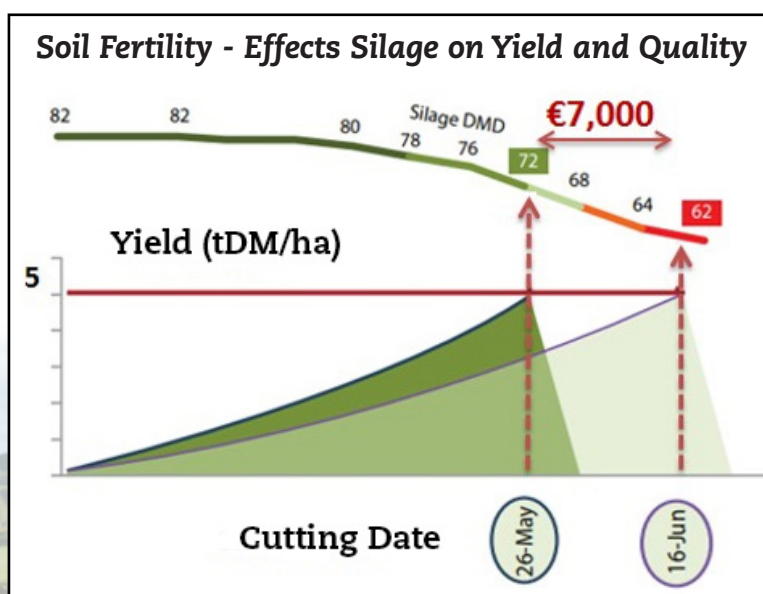
How can you achieve this?

To improve quality you need to harvest the crop at a younger (leafy) stage.



With correct fertiliser you can produce the **same yield 3 weeks earlier!!!** Potentially saving **€7,000** over winter

- Good Soil Fertility
- Poor Soil Fertility



Your Worksheet

A good fertiliser programme will allow you to decide your silage DMD. Based on your soil results you can work out your requirements below.

Please note slurry can be a very variable product and should not be overvalued.

22 m³ / Ha cattle slurry is approx = 185 Kg per Ha 0.7.30

Soil Index	Units/Acre			Bags/Acre		
	N	P	K	0-7-30	Protected Urea (38%)	Urea (46%)
Index 1	100	32	140	4.5	2.6	2.25
Index 2	100	24	124	3.5	2.6	2.25
Index 3	100	16	100	2.25	2.6	2.25

Soil Index	Kg/Ha			Kg/Ha		
	N	P	K	0-7-30	Protected Urea (38%)	Urea (46%)
Index 1	125	40	175	550	330	275
Index 2	125	30	155	430	330	275
Index 3	125	20	125	280	330	275

Is your fertiliser plan adequate?

Step A	Requirements from above (N, P, K)		N	P	K
	E.g. Index 2 (Kg/Ha)		125	30	155
Step B	Fertiliser Type	Quantity Applied	N	P	K
	E.g. 24-2.5-10	370Kg/Ha	125	30	155
		(3 bags per ac)			
Step C	Total Applied (N, P, K)				
Step D	Deficit left to be applied (A-C)				
	E.g. Deficit from example above		53	20.7	118

**Address this deficit to achieve the true potential from your silage:
“Higher weight gain at low costs next winter”**