Flooded Corn Silage Project
University of Delaware, University of Vermont, Cornell University

Updated Version: March 2, 2012

A study is being conducted to determine the feeding value of corn silage samples that were affected by Hurricane Irene. **Only compromised samples (from flooded and/or lodged fields) are eligible for this study.** The identification of farms will be kept anonymous.

We thank you in advance for these samples and your help!

The ID Form must be completed and submitted to the University of Delaware for approval before a sample is sent to Cumberland Valley Analytical. You will be given a sample number to include with the sample for submission to Cumberland Valley Analytical.

Sample collection and amount:
1. Silages should have ensiled for a minimum of 60 days and not longer than 180. Samples should not be frozen.

2. Avoid collecting your sample from the very first opening of a silo as these silages tend to have been exposed to air the most and are not usually representative of the whole silo. A representative sample from the morning feeding usually works best. The sample should be collected within a 2 hours of removal from the silo.

3. Collect a full quart-bag of wet sample (minimum of 2 lb of material) and place it in a plastic bag(s) (zip locks or cow sleeve, etc.). Remove as much of the air from the bag as possible by manually pressing the air out or using a food saver vacuum apparatus (if available). The sample should be kept cool (not frozen) prior to shipment. The best method to ship the sample is to have it surrounded by ice packs and in an insulated container. However, we realize this is not always feasible.

4. Samples should mailed via a next day delivery service (US Mail Express Service, UPS or Fed EX). Please check the delivery schedules as sometimes “Ground UPS Service” is sufficient to get a delivery to Cumberland Valley Analytical within a day. **Prepaid UPS shipping labels are available from Cumberland Valley (contact them at 301 790 1980), Do not send samples on a Friday or over the weekend.**

All samples will need to be approved for submission through the University of Delaware before being sent to Cumberland Valley.

**Ship samples with approved ID number to:**
Cumberland Valley Analytical
14515 Industry Drive
Hagerstown, MD  21742
Contact: Christy Wolff - Phone 301 790 1980; email: cwolff@foragelab.com
This sheet must be completed and emailed (JONLIM@udel.edu) or faxed (302 831 2822) to Jonathan Lim at the University of Delaware to obtain an ID number BEFORE a sample is sent to Cumberland Valley Analytical. If you cannot email or fax you can fill out the online form at: Flooded Corn Sample ID Form

UD Sample Number: ______

1. Name and contact info (phone/email) of person submitting the sample:

Email where results will be sent: ______________________

2. Farm owner or name and location (city/state, contact info - email/phone)

3. Date of ensiling: ___________ Silo type (e.g. bag, bunker, tower): ___________

Corn hybrid: ______________________

4. Date (or projected date) that this sample as collected: ___________

5. Was this sample damaged from the hurricane? Circle one-

   Yes (if yes continue with survey)

   No (if no, go to question G)

6. Was this silage segregated from undamaged silage? Circle one-

   Yes No

7. Degree of crop damage – Answer all that apply

   A. Degree of flooding

   Circle a number

   1. Over the entire plant
   2. Over the ear
   3. More than a foot
   4. Less than a foot

   B. Degree of lodging

   Circle a number

   1. Completely flattened
   2. 75% lodged
   3. 50% lodged
   4. 25% lodged
   5. No lodging
C. Plant condition at harvest

*Circle a number*

1. significant amount of silt
2. moderate amount of silt
3. general plant health appeared good
4. general plant health was poor (death, decaying, sprouting, moldy ears, etc. – describe below if needed)

D. Silage condition at feedout

*Circle numbers as needed*

1. Abnormal appearance (e.g., dark, off color, slimy, etc.)
2. Abnormal smell (describe if possible)

E. Has this sample been fed to animals?

*Circle a number*

1. Yes If yes, how long: ______________________________ 
2. No

F. If the answer above was “yes”, Please describe any abnormal issues related to feedout of the silage sample. (e.g., reduced intake, lower milk fat test, etc.)

G. What % of the ration **dry matter** is this silage being fed at?

8. Please circle the number (or numbers) that best describe the additive used on your crop:

1. no additive used
2. homolactic acid based microbial inoculant
3. microbial inoculant with *Lactobacillus buchneri*
4. propionic acid based additive _______ lbs/ton
5. other: describe: __________________________

9. Other Comments

Questions about this project? Contact:

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Dr. Larry Chase, Cornell University - lec7@cornell.edu
Dr. Julie Smith, University of Vermont - julie.m.smith@uvm.edu