

At What Moisture Should We Harvest Corn Silage?

In recent years, research and field experience has shown that corn silage that becomes too dry reduces animal performance.

The best lactation performance by dairy cows has been shown to occur when corn silage is harvested at 65-70% whole-plant moisture. This range of whole-plant moistures, also works well for achieving good silage preservation in horizontal silos.

Whole-plant corn harvested for storage in up-right silos may need to be chopped a bit drier than 65% moisture to minimize seepage. Research has consistently shown reduced fiber and starch digestion along with reduced lactation performance for corn silage harvested at 60% moisture or less.

Plan to bring corn silage samples, Wednesday, August 22nd, to Kettle Lakes Coop in Random Lake and/or Wednesday August 29th, to Adell Coop in Adell.

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SHEBOYGAN FALLS, WI

Corn Silage Dry Down Days 2007

(Let Moisture Be The Guide)



Wednesday, August 22.
10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.
Kettle Lakes Coop, Random Lake

Wednesday, August 29
10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.
Adell Coop, Adell

Sponsored by:

Adell Coop
Kettle Lakes Coop
**Sheboygan County Forage
Council**

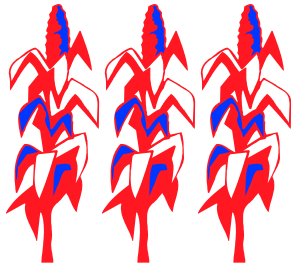
Corn Silage Dry Down Days 2007

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■ **Two Dates & Locations** ■
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10:00 A.M.— 2:00 P.M.
Kettle Lakes Coop

Wednesday, August 29
10:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.
Adell Coop

Sheboygan, Ozaukee, and Washington Counties Corn Silage Growers are welcome and encouraged to bring whole corn plant samples to Adell and/or Kettle Lakes Coop for moisture determination.



Let whole plant moisture be your guide to harvest time.

Sampling Guidelines:

- Bring 4-5 stalks per field (cut at chopper height) along with the following information.
- We will need your: name, address, phone number, hybrid planted, relative maturity and planting date. It is very helpful if you have samples already identified.
- Stalks will be chopped and analyzed on site for moisture using NIR.
- There is no charge for this program, but we ask that you bring a maximum of 3 samples per farm.
- Once samples are cut do not delay bringing them to the site so that moisture is not lost.

- To monitor corn silage moisture from Sheboygan, Ozaukee & Washington Counties or from around the state go to:

<http://www.sheboygan.uwex.edu> and click on **Agriculture and then Agronomy/Forage**

or

<http://cft.uwex.edu/ces/ag/silagedrydown/>

For more information about the project contact Adell Coop, Kettle Lakes Coop, or UW-Extension.



University of Wisconsin, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Wisconsin counties cooperating. UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming including Title IX and ADA.