



Unlocking the Potential for
Peak Milk

Optimum Feed Intake

QUALITY

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Front-end Loader Management

The lower picture at the left shows the open texture of the bunk face. Oxygen is allowed freely to penetrate the stored silage.

As fermentation is renewed organisms do not use fiber for energy. No, they “burn up” nutrients that should be feeding cows.

Silage fed from piles like these provides bulk and fiber but not the optimum digestible nutrients.

SAFETY FIRST

Silage avalanches happen & people die! Never stand close to a bunker face taller than your height.

When gathering silage for analysis, use an end loader to scoop up silage and move it away from the silage face.



Running the feed truck

Loading the feed truck at night for the first load out in the morning may work in cold weather.

Warmer weather may limit this practice due to the load heating overnight. And, remember, TMR tends to heat in the manger during the summer as well.

Peak TMR intake may require an extra feeding during July and August. Peak feed intake is linked to feed delivery so an evening delivery may promote extra high group feeding.

Bunk Facer Management

The compact face shown in the picture at the left allows only a minimum of oxygen penetration.

There are no “hard and fast” rules for facer management. However, our goal is to load the TMR mixer with the freshest feed practical - this provides cows with the optimum concentration of energy per mouthful.

Techniques that work well in cold weather may not prevent silage heating (read energy loss) in warm weather.

Twice daily facing during hot summer months may make it possible to deliver the “high octane” corn silage needed by the cows that should be making peak milk.