

CLAMP MANAGEMENT

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FLOOR AREA SQ. METRES	HEIGHT OF CLAMP IN METRES					
	1.52	1.83	2.13	2.44	2.74	3.05
1524	500	600	700	800	900	1000
1220	400	480	700	800	900	1000
915	300	360	420	480	540	600
610	200	240	286	320	360	400
305	100	120	143	160	180	200
274	90	108	126	144	162	180
244	80	96	112	128	144	160
213	70	84	98	112	126	140
183	60	72	84	96	108	120
152	50	60	70	80	90	100
122	40	48	56	64	72	80
91	30	36	42	48	54	60
61	20	24	28	32	36	40
30	10	12	14	16	18	20

Example: A clamp 2.13m high with a floor area of 610m sq will contain 286 tonnes of silage.

NB: The above table shows silages of 22% dry matter.
For silages of:

- 18% DM add 5%
- 25% DM deduct 5%
- 27% DM deduct 6%
- 30% DM deduct 8%

<i>PROBLEM</i>	<i>PROBABLE CAUSE</i>	<i>SOLUTIONS</i>
Top of the clamp heating, with a fairly warm layer beneath.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Inadequate sealing. -Insufficient final roll. -Last field too dry. -Working under eaves. -Poor top weight after sealing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve compaction. -Ensure plastic sheets are properly weighted – Immediate after sealing. -Consider using ‘cling film’ type sheet to replace the inner layer of top sheeting. -At the very least, treat the top with a Double Action-type product.
Side and top of the clamp heating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Porous clamp walls. -Poor seal between plastic and wall. -Inadequate compaction along edges. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Line walls fully with a plastic sheet with good overlap under top sheet. -Fill clamp with concave top to help consolidate edges. -Check rolling tractor can apply weight close to walls (buckrake width). -Add another tractor for rolling.
Shoulder of the clamp heating.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack of consolidation or ineffective sealing at shoulders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve compaction & sealing. -Line walls fully with a plastic sheet with a good overlap under the top sheet. -Keep plenty of weight on edges.

PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTIONS
Top of the clamp heating as well as pockets through the clamp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Inadequate consolidation of over-wilted or mature material resulting in trapped air. -Possible contamination with bad bacteria from tyre luggs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve consolidation, seal immediately and weight well. -Use 'Cling Film' for the inner layer of top sheeting. -Avoid over wilting and top clamp with a moist or shorter chopped material. -Improve compaction by spreading loads of evenly over the whole area – no deeper than 6 inches. -Use a Double Action-Type product on the whole clamp.
Whole of clamp face heating. Mould.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Crop too mature/dry. -Poor Consolidation. -Crop dying in field. -Eating too slow. -Covering clamp face with sheet. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -As above, plus shorting wilt, fill clamp slower or use more tractors to consolidate better. -Spread loads evenly over the whole area, no deeper than 6 inches and roll continuously. -Improve spray program. -Examine feedout technique. -Keep sheet of face – use pea net.
Top of the clamp heating, with heat bands throughout the clamp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More than one cut. -Different crops/maturities/DM. -Different styles of clamp fill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Always try to put driest/most mature product on the bottom. -Improve compaction of drier material. -Use best people of system throughout clamp filling.