



Grass season 2021

Challenges for first cut grass silage

Successful ensiling:-

- A sufficient amount of lactic acid must be produced in the first stage of the ensiling process
- Sugars from the grass are utilised by Lactic Acid Bacteria to produce Lactic Acid
- Lactic Acid is required for the rapid acidification and drop in pH in the first stages
- The key to successful ensiling depends on the level of Natural Acid Bacteria in the grass harvest
- product that will get to the root of the problem.

Risk factors at first cut:-

- Low night temperatures massively depresses the growth of natural Lactic Acid Bacteria
- Disease damage and fluctuations in temperature can reduce the photo synthetic area of grass (browning)
- A combination of low rain fall and cold temperatures can lead to low sugars, depressed grass growth, unpredictable Nitrogen uptake and slurry left sitting on the fields
- Potential for increased levels of yeast and moulds to impact on fermentation and cause aerobic instability





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Pioneer silage inoculant recommendations

Farmers are currently facing a dilemma with prolonged periods of no rainfall and cold temperatures affecting the quality and growth rate of grass for first cut silage.

These conditions present farmers with two options:-

- 1- first cut with low yield and start again
- 2- delay harvest to allow crops to bulk up

Option 1- will give high D value grass with a big fermentation challenge


- 1188- for wet grass with low DM to improve fermentation
- 11G22 Rapid React- for drier grass with DM of 30%
- 11A44- where heating issues are expected

Option 2- the D value will drop as the grass matures leading to increased lignification and decreased fibre digestibility


- 11GFT- to improve fermentation, aerobic stability and enhance fibre digestion and maintain feed value

Due to typically low counts of natural Lactic Acid Bacteria at first cut, Pioneer recommends usage of silage additives containing homofermentative bacteria:-

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- To reduce butyric acid fermentation
- To prevent high protein degradation
- To maintain feed intake & improve performance



Which silage inoculant do you need for your grass?



Grass with a low or zero clover content	Grass with a high clover content
<p>Below 25% dry matter content</p> <p>1188 • Improves fermentation and animal performance</p> <p>25-35% dry matter content</p> <p>11G22 Rapid React • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves aerobic stability as fast as one week after ensiling</p> <p>11GFT • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves fibre digestibility in lower digestibility grass • Improves aerobic stability</p> <p>Above 35% dry matter content</p> <p>11A44 • Improves aerobic stability significantly</p> <p>11G22 Rapid React • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves aerobic stability as fast as one week after ensiling</p> <p>11GFT • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves fibre digestibility in lower digestibility grass • Improves aerobic stability</p>	<p>Below 30% dry matter content</p> <p>1188 • Improves fermentation and animal performance</p> <p>25-35% dry matter content</p> <p>11G22 Rapid React • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves aerobic stability as fast as one week after ensiling</p> <p>11GFT • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves fibre digestibility in lower digestibility grass • Improves aerobic stability</p> <p>Above 35% dry matter content</p> <p>11G22 Rapid React • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves aerobic stability as fast as one week after ensiling</p> <p>11GFT • Improves fermentation and animal performance • Improves fibre digestibility in lower digestibility grass • Improves aerobic stability</p>

For more detailed or specific advice please contact Corteva Agriscience directly or your Pioneer silage inoculant dealer.