

Forage Fermentation DM Loss* (% of DM) Guidelines

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	Legume	Grass	Corn Silage	Small Grain
Fermentation DM Loss (% of original DM)				
Mean	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.0
Median	2.7	3.4	2.4	2.8
Goal**	<2.0	<2.0	<1.4	<1.4
Max***	6.8	9.2	7.5	6.3

Notes:

*Dry matter losses determined by applying Goeser et al. (2015) equation to four years of wet chemistry fermentation product results for legume, grass, corn and small grain silages.

Fermentation DM loss represents sugar or readily digestible forage losses during fermentation and does not offer insight into harvest or feed-out losses.

**Goals represent the lower 15th percentile of results.

*** Max represents the upper 95th percentile of results

References

Goeser, J.P., C.R. Heuer, P. Crump. 2015. Forage fermentation product measures are related to dry matter loss through meta-analysis. Prof. Anim. Sci. 31:137-145.