Popular Article

Trends in Agriculutre Science ISSN:2583-7850

Vol.2 Issue 7 July 2023, Page: 576-577

Fodder Conservation

Durga Bai Sodha, Phool kanwar, A.K. Chouhan and P.K. Pilania
Department of Veterinary Parasitology, College of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner
Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Science, Bikaner-334001, India
https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8193578

Introduction

Depending on the weather and the available resources, grasses and fodders can be kept either as silage (wet fodder) or hay (dry fodder). Rainfall distribution affects how much pasture and feed are produced. Excess can and ought to be saved for use during a shortage.

Hay Making

The main goal of creating hay is to reduce the moisture content of green forages so that they may be stored without going bad or losing nutrients. At the time of storage, the moisture content of the hay must be around 15% lower. Therefore, crops with plenty of leaves and thin stems are ideal for making hay because they dry faster than those with few leaves and thick, pithy stems.

Leguminous fodder crops must be harvested at the start of the flowering phase or when crown buds start to grow in order to cure, harvest, and bale the hay; however, grasses must be harvested at the start of the flower's pre-flowering stage.

When the air is somewhat dry, harvesting is effective.

Hay making

trendsinagriculturescience.com
trendsinagriculturescience@gmail.com
Published: 28 July 2023

Silage

When compared to hay, silage is produced by fermenting or ensiling fodder crops or pastures and offers superior quality nutrition. The short time between preserving and cutting the feed when making silage is to blame. The nutrients in feed degrade more quickly the longer the interval. More than 20% of forage crops that are showing seed heads must be cut for silage with hay at the vegetative stage. An atmosphere free of air is essential for silage production and storage because it supports the necessary fermentation processes. Additionally, it prevents harmful degradation and processes. Therefore, an airless environment is necessary starting at the point when silage production starts and feeding out is finished.

Filling the pits

Conclusion

For dairy production to be lucrative, nutrient-rich fodder must be readily available. As a result, silage must be used by every dairy farm to store excess fodder. The extra forages from the two surplus seasons—the rainy and winter—could simply be stored for use during the ensuing poor years of fodder supplies. In order to supplement the amount of dry fodder and green fodder available during the lean months of May and mid-July, as well as November through December, silage can be used. By carefully choosing crops, rotating them, and preserving seasonal surpluses either as silage, It is not only feasible but also practical to keep a constant supply of high-quality roughages for milch and drought-tolerant animals throughout the year. An insurance against under-feeding and financial losses at a time of shortage is fodder that has been stored during a time of abundance.

trendsinagriculturescience.com
trendsinagriculturescience@gmail.com
Published: 28 July 2023