



## Welcome to our September Newsletter

In the autumn addition of our newsletter we would like to show you some behind the scenes photos of the team and share with you knowledge on maize harvest and winter housing. Our new benchmarking tool is also available to use to assess your herd.

We would love to hear your feedback on our newsletter, is there anything else you would like included?



## Maize harvest

Not long now until farmers will be bringing in their maize crop and SC Nutrition Ltd want to make sure all our farmers are processing the maize correctly. Ensuring all the kernels are smashed and we have the optimal chop length is key to the cows utilising the whole crop efficiently at feed out.



SC Nutrition Ltd want to help you get your maize processed correctly, that is why when you are hauling in your maize a member of our team can be there to test the crop as it is coming in. By making these live alterations you can be assured you know exactly how your maize is looking before it is sealed.

## SPECIAL OFFER

For a **FREE** maize processing assessment at harvest, for the first 10 farms to call, to book telephone **Tori** on 07500 205974.

**Our Vision is to Empower and Support our Farmers to Maintain a Healthy Herd and Business  
Sharing Scientific Knowledge and Expertise to Provide Targeted Solutions to the Farming**

**Behind the Scenes 2020**



Our Team in action on farm including Nemoo, who can access all areas!

Collecting data and information from farms to make targeted solutions.



Face sample from silage pit, to assess the nutritional content of the forages.



Dry matter testing is important to get an accurate on farm figure for Dry Matter intake.



Rumen Health Analysis – results will allow us to monitor digestion of feeds and health of the cow.



Measuring growth rates to ensure calves are efficiently reaching the correct weight for weaning and reaching first lactation at 2 yrs for a healthier more profitable replacement herd. (Fiona, 2020)

### Don't let your barn get the winter blues

From low temperatures fluctuating above and below freezing and from high humidity to condensation, winter can present a unique set of challenges when it comes to managing a barn.

However, there are a few simple principles dairy producers can follow to keep air fresh and cows healthy during the coldest season of the year.

The goal of every barn should be consistency, from moderating temperature swings to making sure that when a cow lies at either end of a row, she is getting similar air quality. This consistent barn environment is vital to your herd's health.

Producers must keep in mind that when environmental conditions change, the solution is not as simple as just running the summer ventilation on a "half speed strategy." Cold weather requires its own specific approach.

#### Rules of the game

No two barns are the same and what works in one barn may not work for another but there are some basic concepts dairy producers should keep in mind when it comes to providing a consistent barn environment for their cows.

For both barn management and animal health, keep the following guidelines in mind:



- Focus on fresh air, not wind speed. The object should always be to deliver fresh air by focusing on air exchange to remove gases and humid air.
- Aim for a total barn cubic footage air exchange every 15 minutes during freezing conditions.
- Move air evenly throughout the barn. Inconsistent air movement can lead to unintended air speed in some locations and humidity and fog pockets in others.
- This can be measured using a wind meter. Walk through the barn in areas where cows loiter and hold the meter at cow height. Air speed should be the same whether the cow is lying down in the free stall or eating at the bunk.
- Achieving this may require small fans spaced evenly through the barn (as shown).
- When the ideal temperature range for a dairy cow is circa 5 - 10°C, you can see that even in the depths of winter air quality and heat stress can be crucial to good cow performance.

Speak to a member of the team to about a wind meter survey for your barn.

Article abbreviated from text by Jeff Bowman, Progressive Dairyman, Nov 2017

## Want to benchmark your herd?

The team are excited to introduce our updated benchmarking tool. This will help you compare your herd to other like-minded herds in Cornwall. The benchmarking tool can compare:

- Yield per Cow litres
- Margin per litre
- Butterfat %
- Protein %
- Milk from forage
- MOPF/cow
- Cell Count
- Forage intakes
- Dung sieve - Top Sieve



To take part we need up-to-date costings and a recent SCN on farm report. To benchmark your herd please ask one of the team on farm or call Emma on 07712 165609

## Silage in Cornwall



**34.2** Dry Matter %

**12.5** Crude Protein %

**11.1** ME

**43.8** NDF %

**36.8** Sugar %

**Steve Chapman** - Technical Director

07718 086911

steve@scnutritionltd.com

**Emma Tristram** - Ruminant Nutritionist

- Newsletter editor

07712 165609

emma@scnutritionltd.com

**Tori Leggott** - Ruminant Technician

07500 205974

tori@scnutritionltd.com

**Fiona Aird** - Office Manager

01872 278058

fiona@scnutritionltd.com

'Springfield', Barrack Lane, Truro  
Cornwall, UK, TR1 2DW