

# Trial Summary: Biotal Plus; Corn Silage; IGER

# B I O T A L

**Site** IGER, Aberystwyth, UK

**Lead Researchers** Dr. Nigel Scollan

**Objective** To determine the effect of Biotal Plus on speed of fermentation and dry matter recovery in corn silage.

**Protocol** Whole plant corn was harvested at approximately 37% dry matter (DM). Alternate loads were either treated with Biotal Plus II at the recommended rate or left untreated. Separate trailers were used for the treated and untreated materials. Loads were weighed and ensiled in 2 ton bunker silos, three per treatment. Each bunker was thoroughly packed and covered in plastic, weighted down with concrete blocks. In-silo DM losses were assessed by burying 2 woven seed bags, each containing 5 kg of treated or untreated material, into each of the corresponding bunkers during filling. These were recovered during silo emptying, weighed and analyzed for DM content.

## Results

Parameter	Control	Treated
pH - day 0	5.85	5.85
pH - day 3	4.15	4.10
pH - day 7	4.63	4.05
pH - day 14	4.01	3.98
pH - day 42	4.01	4.01
Dry Matter Loss (%)	7.98 <sup>a</sup>	3.75 <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a,b</sup>: Values in different columns with different subscripts are significantly different (P<0.05)

## Conclusion

The rate of pH drop was faster in the Biotal Plus treated silage than the untreated control.

Biotal Plus significantly reduced dry matter losses.

