

OPTICUT PRE-CUT GRASS TESTING: INSTRUCTIONS

Pre-cut grass testing can be used as a valuable tool to help in the decision making process during the production of grass silage if done accurately. By collecting a representative sample from a field you ensure that the results given will help you make an informed decision on grass silage production.

Ask your regional business manager for your testing toolbox.

THE OPTICUT PRE-CUT GRASS TESTING TOOLBOX

- Scissors or shears
- 2 Buckets
Small for sampling, large for mixing
- Pre-cut grass testing analysis pack



HOW TO SAMPLE A FIELD

- The sample should be randomly taken from the field; ensure the whole area is sampled with at least 5 sampling points per field (walk in a 'W' pattern around the field)
- **AVOID** sampling around the entrance to the field and close to the hedges
- Try to sample in the same pattern on consecutive weeks
- Grass should be cut at a height of 6cm, avoiding soil and manure contamination
- Mix the total sample thoroughly and place roughly 300g in the sample bag and label the bag clearly with the field reference and farm name
- Remove as much air from the bag as possible and place a maximum of 3 sample bags into the white pre-paid postage bag
- Fill in the analysis request form as per the example and send the samples to the laboratory as quickly as possible and avoid sending samples on a Friday

HOW TO FILL IN AN ANALYSIS REQUEST FORM

- Fill in all blank blocks on the analysis request form supplied
- Pay special attention to the sample reference so that the references correlate to the corresponding sample bag Include analysis request form in the white pre-paid postage bag with the samples and send to the laboratory as soon as possible and avoid sending sample on Friday
- Remember to add your Regional Business Manager as contact otherwise you will not receive any results, If you are unsure please call the office on 01684 891055

