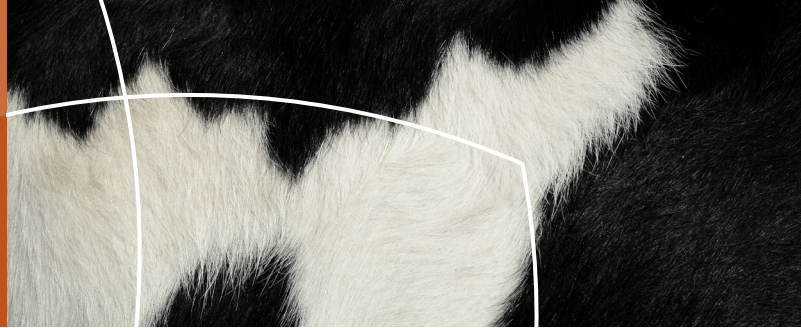


Can you **stop heat** from becoming a stress?



Feed and Forages

HEAT STRESS SIGNS

The plants:

- **Increased lignification/higher fibre**
 - Lower digestibility and, therefore, energy
 - Lower intake
- **Higher % dry matter (DM)**
 - Wilting time
 - Harvesting time
 - Legume forages and grasses: target 32–34% DM
- **More dead/stressed plant material = Poorer aerobic stability**
 - Increased fungal pathogens – greater risk of field-formed mycotoxins
 - Increased yeasts and moulds – greater risk of aerobic deterioration
- **May die early**
 - Be prepared to harvest early

In the clamp:

- **Increased %DM and increased fibre lead to:**
 - Increased trapped oxygen
 - Poor consolidation
 - Poor fermentation – more malodours
 - Greater plant and microbial proteolysis
 - Higher level of protein damage
 - Increased fungal growth – aerobic spoilage and mycotoxin risk
 - Greater risk of caramelisation

HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

- **Ensure provision of ideal soil nutrients – Healthy soil improves drought tolerance**
 - Monitor the crop closely – harvest when signs of dying begin
 - Adjust wilt times accordingly
- **Chop crop during harvest following recommendations for the %DM content (Goal = high intake and digestibility)**
 - Cut grass/cereal early, before any stem is visible
 - High digestibility, low risk of mycotoxins
 - Harvest in early spring
- **Consolidate well and quickly**
- **Additives – Aerobic spoilage is a potential issue but adding more acetic acid-producing bacteria will not help**
 - Consider using homofermentative inoculants or chemical additives
 - No *L. buchneri* or other heterofermentative lactic acid bacterial inoculants
- **Do not roll or sheet up overnight**
- **Hot weather = Hotter clamp at filling**
- **Ensure a rapid feed-out across the clamp face**

FEEDING AND NUTRITION

- **Feed Mycosorb® to mitigate against mycotoxin impact**
- **Use Mold-Zap® to inhibit mould growth**