



In order to fully benefit from the advantages of bale silage, certain 'rules of the game' should be observed. Below are some hints and tips from Dow, manufacturer of DOWLEX™ Polyethylene Resins, designed to make sure you get the best results in bale silage production.

Certain 'rules of the game' need to be observed for optimising silage production and to preserve the high nutrient content of the fodder, safeguard hygiene and minimise spoilage and losses.

The table below highlights the key aspects to consider when making silage:

- 1 High proportion of valuable forage grass
- 2 Fertilisation according to demand
- 3 Cutting at the time of ear or panicle emergence of the dominating plant
- 4 Height of cutting approximately 5-10 cm depending on risk of soiling
- 5 Rapid pre-wilting to desired dry matter content (35-55%)
- 6 Chopping of crop to allow for higher compression and better substrate availability
- 7 Optimum compression of crop, aiming for 200-220 kg of dry matter/m³
- 8 Addition of silage inoculants if necessary and according to planned use
- 9 Using high-quality film with 55-70% pre-stretching
- 10 Using a minimum of 6 layers of film for cow and 8 or more layers for horse silage for increased safety against damage and better air seal
- 11 Handling and storing bales very carefully



THE 11 COMMANDMENTS FOR SUCCESSFUL BALE SILAGE PRODUCTION



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DOWLEX™ PE Resins, designed and suitable for silage wrap film, are a linear low density polyethylene. For more information on Dow and its activities in the silage market, visit www.dowsilage.com

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