

ClampFilm hits the targets

Dairy farmers Leo and Giles Rowland have been using ClampFilm, from Kelvin Cave Ltd., for the last 5 years to 'vacuum seal' the 4,000 tonnes of silage they require each year. The 350 cow Holstein herd's ration is formulated on a base of grass and maize silage, so effective, waste-free preservation of these is essential to the herd's 9,000 litre performance.

Leo is happy to show off his maize and grass clamps where there is no top or shoulder waste. "Our cows' health is

critical to us hitting our targets, and black mouldy waste is good for nothing," says Leo, "That slimy 4 inches of waste you often see on the top of silage clamps is actually a 10-20 inch depth of cut grass harvested, carted and lost!"

Using ClampFilm, the 40 micron semi clear sheet is sucked down onto the top of the silage as the air in the top layer is used up by the respiring crop. Leo covers the ClampFilm with a layer of black silage sheet which is weighted with tyres. Most

of his clamps are open to the weather and he has found from experience that covering the clamps with care is always time and effort well spent to achieve good results.

"The 'proof of the pudding' is when you peel back the sheets and the forage, be it maize, grass or wholecrop, looks and smells excellent and the cows love it!" says Leo.



Property	Test Method	Unit	Competitors	ClampFilm
Colour	-	-	Transparent	Green
Thickness	DIN 53370	Micron	40	40
Tensile Strength	EN ISO 527	N/mm ²	16	25
Tensile Elongation	EN ISO 527	%	250	600
Dart Drop	EN ISO 7765-1	Gram	70	120

ClampFilm is the only vacuum sheet approved for use on all anaerobically ensiled feeds by the DLG (Deutsche Landwirtschafts-Gesellschaft, i.e. German Agricultural Society).

