

Forage Analysis Advice

The best way to take a good sample is to take material from multiple areas of a clamp, field or from 6 - 10 bales and mix those together thoroughly in a large clean plastic sack/carrier bag. Next, take a couple of good handfuls, about 300g, of this and place in a sample bag. Seal securely and label clearly.

If it is fresh grass that you are sampling, take sub-samples from all across the field/s.

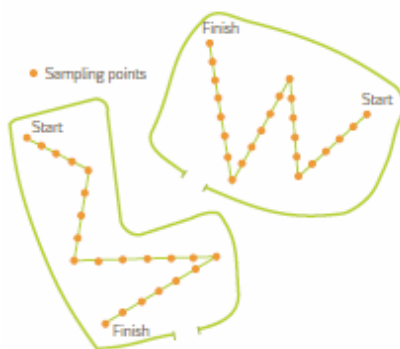
Make sure that you squeeze as much of the air out of the sample bag as you can and send it off as soon as possible to ensure its freshness.

Hay/haylage bales

Make an opening in the bale and take a sample from the centre 20 – 30 cm deep. If the bale is haylage, reseal the opening.

Grass

Using clean scissors, cut a couple of handfuls of grass 2cm above the ground at 6 - 10 points across the field. Try following a letter W pattern across the area sampling as you go.



Silage Clamp

Here is a useful link to the FAA's advice on sampling a silage clamp. This is the sample principle as described for bales and fresh grass <https://vimeo.com/205099904>.

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