

Forage Advisor

TerraLink Horticulture Inc.

December 2016

Dow Seeds

BMR Corn Hybrids Deliver Superior Results

What sets Dow Seed – Mycogen BMR (Brown Mid-Rib) apart from other BMR's and conventional corn hybrids is a significant increase in fibre digestibility. Due to a naturally occurring BM3 gene in Mycogen's BMR, stalk lignin content is reduced and fibre digestibility is improved greatly. Higher digestibility means increased dry matter intake (DMI), higher milk production and in many rations, the ability to feed less grain.

Here is the story of Bob Matzek's experience with growing and feeding BMR Corn.

Bob is the owner of Westar Dairy along with his son Josh. The dairy is located in Chilliwack BC and they are in their 3rd season with a new barn and robotic milker. They house about 100 head and milk purebred Holsteins. The herd is fed as one group TMR, consisting of grain and their home grown round bale hay and corn silage forages.

The first year they planted BMR was in the 2015 season and started feeding that crop in July 2016. Bob had heard about some misconceptions regarding BMR corn, but after some research, he soon discovered that not all BMR corn is equal. The Mycogen BMR has the BM3 gene which is significantly different than other BMR varieties. With the Mycogen hybrid there is no significant



Duncan Reid, Senior Sales Manager of the Dairy Crop Division at TerraLink, inspects the BMR corn silage with Bob Matzek of Westar Dairy.

difference in yield or standability as compared to conventional or non-BMR varieties. With confidence, Bob planted his first 20 acres of BMR corn seed that he purchased from TerraLink.

When it came time in July 2016, to start feeding this crop, he wasn't sure if he would see any response. His milk production was already at 46kg /cow / day and his DMI's were almost maxed out. To Bob's surprise, after 6 days of feeding the new corn, the intakes increased by 1.4kg of DM / cow /

day and the milk volume jumped 4kg / cow / day. The herd average was now at 50kg per cow per day. There were no other changes to the ration other than switching to BMR corn.

Bob also noticed that the butterfat (BF) and protein levels did not change. He is now feeding BMR corn grown in 2016 and states that the yield was just over 32 tons per acre with the dry matter at 33% and the starch at 31%. With the higher digestibility, the herd's DMI's for December were










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2017 Corn Varieties

Variety		CHU	RM
4078		2200	75
4085		2275	77
4093		2300	78
TMF 8106RA		2425	82
F2F343 BMR		2700	93
F2F345RA BMR		2700	93
TMF91Q25		2750	91
SR35 (Final Year)		2750	92
TMF94L37		2800	94
2164	Conventional	2500	83

at 27kg / cow / day. The milk average was 48kg / cow / day with butterfat at 3.95% giving him 1.9kg BF / day.

Prior to feeding BMR corn, the biggest challenge to the feeding program was the DMI's, especially for the fresh cows. This is where the BMR really works for Bob's herd. He also noted that there was a huge response on the high producers as well. Another major improvement has been in the herd's conception rate, thus dropping the days in milk. Bob attributes this directly to adding the BMR to the diet. The milking ration is better balanced and now the high producer's nutritional requirements are fully met.

When asked for any tips about growing and feeding BMR corn, Bob said to make sure your area has enough heat units. He planted May 7th and harvested on September 16th and the crop was ready. There was still time to plant a cover crop as well. Bob's advice on feeding BMR is, make sure to get it tested and have your feed rep check the ration. Luckily in Bob's case it was only a minor adjustment.

In summary, Bob stated that, "In all of my years of feeding and milking cows, I have never seen such a unique crop where just a single feed component can make such a positive response to a feed ration and the cows. The BMR corn gives me a new management tool that makes it a real game changer to my operation. The big plus is that the extra milk is coming from my forage and not the purchased grain, contributing to a healthier feed ration while saving money."

Bob jokingly states that if you do decide to feed BMR corn, you might just have to buy a bigger milk tank. The claims are true. It does make more milk and healthier cows.

Agri Plastics

New Products for 2017

Expanded Bale Wrap Products

TerraLink's forage plastics line-up is expanding to offer you more options. Last year we added the genuine Ag-Bags to our plastics. The Ag-Bag



Monsanto TSA# Required



Dow TSA# Required

plastics allow you to cut your feed costs, not your feed quality. Quality construction allows for more tons per bag, better tear and puncture resistance, UV inhibitors and an airtight environment to prevent spoilage. Designed to store a wide variety of feeds, grains, crop residues and by-products. Feed rations can be blended and balanced. The Ag-Bag puts unlimited, low-cost storage capacity, where you want it and when you need it.

NEW for 2017:



Croptight

Croptight is a 5 layer film designed to replace netwrap in round silage bales. Provides greater air barrier and helps produce a more dense bale by exerting a tighter grip around the haylage as it is baled. Less chance of oxygen being trapped within. Offers additional bale edge protection than netwrap to ensure an overall higher quality silage.

SiloFlex

SiloFlex is a premium 3 layer bale wrap designed to offer superior strength, puncture and tear resistance, and UV protection over mono-layer and other economy brands of bale wrap. SiloFlex is an affordable bale wrap in a premium multiple layer stretch film made of the latest in polymer technology. SiloFlex is particularly suited for use with round bale wrappers and in-line wrappers, with silage bales, high moisture hay, straw and dry hay. Built-in UV stabilizers protect against the sun's harmful rays. SiloFlex is capable of withstanding temperature extremes to keep the bales safe and secure even in hot summers and cold winters.

The Silotite App featuring a bale calculator is now available for iOS and Android. Download for FREE from the App Store or Google Play! Search: Silotite.

SKU	Description	Size
3773210	BUNK FRESH PROTECTIVE TARPS	20' X 25'
3773220		30' X 35'
3773230		40' X 45'
3773240		50' X 55'
3773250	BUNK FRESH O2 BARRIER FILM	23' X 164'
3773260		33' X 164'
3773270		43' X 164'
3773280		53' X 164'
3773290	BUNK FRESH O2 BARRIER FILM 3 Mil SMART SEAL	60' X 100'
3774100	SILAGE BALE WRAP WHITE 25MU	750M X 1500M
3774200	SILAGE BALE WRAP GREEN 25MU	750M X 1500M
3774220	SILAGE BALE WRAP WHITE SILOFLEX 25MU	750M X 1500M
3774221	SILAGE BALE WRAP WHITE POLY CROP 25MU	750M X 1500M
3774222	SILAGE NET WRAP CROPTITE 16MU	1280M X 2000M
3774223	SILAGE BALE WRAP GREEN POLY CROP-PRO TECHNOLOGY 25MU-PRO	750M X 1950M
3774262	SILAGE PATCH TAPE WHITE	72MM X 33
3774300	SILAGE NET WRAP	48" X 9842'
3774950	BUNKER BAG EMPTY	120CM X 27CM
3774951	BUNKER SILAGE COVER 5M BLACK WHITE: Highly durable silage covers with 12 month UV stabilization and 7 layers construction for increased puncture and tear resistance. Silage protection for pits or bunkers.	24' X 100'
3774960		24' X 150'
3774952		32' X 100'
3774953		32' X 150'
3774954		40' X 100'
3774955		50' X 100'
3774956		50' X 150'
3774957		60' X 100'
3774958		60' X 150'
3774959	80' X 1000'	
3777000	AG BAGS: Convenient silage storage bags to preserve valuable nutrients and enhance cool fermentation. Ag Bags allow you to store your feed where you need it.	8 X 150
3777010		8 X 200
3777020		8 X 250
3777030		8 X 300
3777040		9 X 135
3777050		9 X 150
3777060		9 X 200
3777070		9 X 250
3777080		9 X 300
3777090		10 X 150
3777100		10 X 200
3777110		10 X 250
3777120		10 X 300
3777130		10 X 400
3777140		11 X 250
3777150		12 X 200
3777160		12 X 250
3777170	12 X 300	



PolyCrop and PolyCrop Pro

Visqueen Polycrop is a high quality 5 layer into one layer, silage stretch film. Offers an enhanced oxygen barrier and excellent puncture resistance making it suitable for tough, stubby crops. Polycrop provides a consistently reliable wrapping experience resulting in the production of securely wrapped, well shaped and better protected bales. Ideal for day and night time wrapping and is UV protected for all climates. Guaranteed protection for 12 months after wrapping. 100% recyclable is a key feature.

Polycrop Pro is also a 5 layer stretchfilm. It is additionally stretched under controlled manufacturing conditions which result in a high performance stretchfilm with additional reel length and a lower film thickness which combine to provide enhanced bale throughput. More bales are wrapped per reel and less film to recycle post use. Less reel change overs saves time and less film by weight is needed to wrap each bale. Has all the key benefits and guarantees of the regular Polycrop.

For available sizes, please check our updated plastics list on the previous page.

Animal Health

Say Goodbye to Flies!

Flies are not only a nuisance pest causing undue stress, but they may also transmit diseases to your herd. *Streptococcus mastitis* bacteria can live up to 16 hours in a fly which is more than enough time to transmit the bacteria from cow to cow. Cows that are irritated and agitated by excessive flies will have reduced milk production so any effort to eliminate nuisance pests will impact your bottom line.



Agita™ Fly Bait is a ready-to-use granular bait that provides fast, effective control of adult house flies. The sugary mixture includes the same sex pheromone that female flies release to attract the male flies for mating. This encourages both male and female house flies to remain in the treated area feeding on the bait. Drawn in by the pheromone-based attractant, the flies ingest the active ingredient in Agita™, thiamethoxam. Agita™ kills quickly, and 100% of the flies die within a 2-metre radius of the bait while the bait itself remains clean, attractive and effective longer.



Bait should be scattered in high fly areas or used in hanging bait stations so that it is not accessible to children, pets, domestic animals or wildlife. Spread daily to provide an initial knockdown when fly populations are high and then use needed. It may be used in barns, poultry houses or anywhere house flies congregate such as windowsills or animal pens. Place out of the reach of your animals. Do not spread on walkways used by animals.

The actual monetary loss from fly infestation is difficult to measure, but estimates from various studies (including Purdue, Cornell and the University of Tennessee) range from 10 percent to 20 percent decline in milk production. Agita™ Fly Bait is an effective method to kill nuisance flies and reduce such losses.