

# Silo production



## Environmental impact/ growth phase

- Stress factors such as heat, drought, excess moisture, nutrient deficiency, herbicide damage and frost reduce yield potential
- Problems during the earlier emergence and seedling stages have an irreversible effect on maturity and on starch deposits
- Formation of the roots and light-intense weather conditions are critical to ear growth and starch deposits

to **17%**



## Sowing / growth

- Seedbed preparation
- No compaction
- Moisture in the soil is not too high
- Sowing time
- Fertilization
- Weed control time



## Harvest time

- Consistent starch content is crucial for healthy energy efficiency
- The dry weight content of the entire plant should be 30% to 35% – with the dry weight of the ear at 50% - 60%
- Excessively low dry weight leads to silage effluent, which flushes away nutrients
- Excessively high dry weight leads to problems in the fermentation process and concentration rates
- Hitting the best harvest time reduces reheating and mould growth

to **12%**



## Cutting

- How the kernels are handled during the harvest process is crucial
- The grain is poorly prepared in almost half of all corn silage
- Constant checks on silage quality and grain development

to **27%**



## Compaction

- Strive for maximum compaction
- The more dense the silage, the more stable it will be after opening
- You can avoid later losses as early as the compaction stage
- Apply layers thinly and pack them down
- Carefully check the edges and the upper layer for good compaction

to **17%**



## Fermentation process

- Look out for dense silo walls
- Insert a side sheet, if necessary
- Cover well to avoid air getting in
- Cover with a guard to avoid animals digging (cats, crows, foxes, etc.)
- Respect the minimum silage life of about 3 - 4 weeks
- Optimum silage life is 10 - 12 weeks



## Feeding / removal

- The outside temperature, feed and removal technique affect reheating
- Low and smooth cutting surface to avoid excessive air intake
- Keep stock moving, to avoid reheating



## The right variety

- Not every type of corn is the same
- Dent corn is better suited to feed than hard corn
- The wall of the ear has a thinner, "glazed" look
- Better and faster to digest for cattle
- Better and faster use of the starch content



to **27%**