

Dairy Tips By Dr. Randy Lyle, Ph.D.

Purina Mills Dairy Consultant

PURINA MILLS, INC.

DO SILAGE ADDITIVES MAKE YOUR SILAGE BETTER?

The answer is NO!!! The fact that you use a silage additive on your forage does not make the forage test any better than when it goes in the silo.

The purpose of using a silage additive is to help speed up the fermentation process and to help keep heat from causing to much damage to the forage. There are many types of additives that can be used to complete this job including enzymes and inoculants (bacteria).

Enzymes help break down the carbohydrates in the feed to make it available to the natural bacterial on the plant. The natural bacteria can then use the carbohydrates to complete their job quicker. By using a product which contains inoculant (bacteria) you are simply adding more "bugs" to get the job done quicker.

If you are considering a silage additive to use on your forage compare **Purina**. Purina has 3 products to choose from: Purina Maxi-Sil

- 1. Purina Silage Additive a blend of organic acid and enzymes
- 2. <u>Purina Dry Silage Inoculant</u> a complete bacterial inoculant
- 3. Purina Water Dispersable Silage Inoculant a complete bacterial inoculant to be mixed with water

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS:

- is there enough additive applied to each lb. of forage to have an effect?
- is the product university tested or researched?
- is the additive mixed well with the forage?
- is the product cost effective?
- does the product have a high enough level of enzyme or bacteria?

If you have these questions about your current product or are considering trying something new call your local Purina Dealer today! You can see the results of **Purina Maxi-Sil** when the forage test sample comes back!

Contact Your Purina Dealer Today

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K & K FEED, INC. 23 N. Park Street Richland, PA 17087 717/866-2324

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