



MSU Agriculture Innovation Day

Focus on Forages and the Future



College of Agriculture
and Natural Resources
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Take Home Messages: Precision is the Division in Silage

Dr. Brian Luck, University of Wisconsin

- Proper machine set-up is critical to quality feed production when harvesting forage for silage.
- Verification of theoretical length of cut and performance of kernel processor has implications in the storability of the feed and digestibility of the feed when fed. Kernel processor adjustment should be checked at least once per day to ensure a consistently high quality feed is being produced.
- Utilizing tools like visual assessment, water separation, and SilageSnap can provide actionable data during harvest and during feeding to adjust and optimize Total Mixed Rations.
- Kernel processor setting is important for high quality feed, but also impacts machine and harvester efficiency. The smaller the roller gap the more energy is required to harvest the crop. Optimizing the roll gap could increase harvest speed and efficiency while maintaining sufficient kernel processing. SilageSnap will help us do that.