

Test carried out by the Agricultural Research Institute of Northern Ireland on 2/June/2004. All conditions were identical; grass harvested from 1 field from alternate 30' swaths and compacted into 2 pits side by side. Comparison of harvesting and transport chain for 9.5 acres each with a 3.6Km (2.25mile) distance round trip field to pit to field.

Self propelled

5 men

1hr 22min

6.93 Ac/hr

96.5 litres diesel (100%)

5.5 total man hours

12.41 tonne/man/hour

1.39 acres/man/hour

10.16 litres of diesel/acre

Chop length:

0 – 20mm = 22.1%

20 – 80mm = 66.6%

> 80mm = 11.3%

Silage wagon

1 man

2hr 45min

3.45 Ac/hr

45 litres diesel (47%)

2.75 total man hours

24.82 tonne/man/hour

3.45 acres/man/hour

4.74 litres of diesel/acre

Chop length:

0 – 20mm = 6.6%

20 – 80mm = 66.2%

> 80mm = 27.3%

Volume in pit + 5.9%

Typical scenario with identical conditions using 2 silage wagons.

2 man

1hr 23min

6.9 Ac/hr

The remainder remain unchanged as tractor and man only work for ½ the time.

45 litres diesel (47%)

2.75 total man hours

24.82 tonne/man/hour

3.45 acres/man/hour

4.74 litres of diesel/acre