

Using Macro Minerals with Maize Silage - a guide

Maize silage lacks essential macro-minerals, so it's important to always include them when using maize. This form provides some guidance on the amount of macro-minerals to add at different stages in the season.

The rates below generally apply to system 1-3 dairy farms who do not use a feed pad and are feeding less than one third of the total diet in maize silage.

For a more accurate assessment, the total ration needs to be considered. We can provide nutritional advice for you using our FeedRight and Agvance Customiser tools.

4 weeks Pre to Calving - Feeding Per Cow Kg of DM of Maize Silage

	1kgDM	2kgDM	3kgDM	4kgDM
Magnesium Oxide#	30g	30g	30g	30g
Lime flour	0g	0g	0g	0g
Salt	0g	0g	15g	15g
DCP	15g	15g	20g	20g

Spring fresh Calved Cows - Feeding Per Cow Kg of DM of Maize Silage

	1kgDM	2kgDM	3kgDM	4kgDM	5kgDM
Magnesium Oxide#	40g	40g	40g	40g	40g
Lime flour	200g	200g	200g	300g	300g
Salt	20g	20g	20g	30g	30g
DCP	20g	30g	30g	40g	50g

Lactating cows - Feeding Per Cow Kg of DM of Maize Silage

	1kgDM	2kgDM	3kgDM	4kgDM	5kgDM
Magnesium Oxide#	30g	30g	30g	30g	30g
Lime flour	100g	150g	150g	200g	200g
Salt	10g	10g	15g	15g	15g
DCP	20g	20g	30g	30g	40g

Requirements are calculated based on 10% wastage. Wastage will increase if cows are fed in the paddock and rates should also be increased to allow for this.

#Magnesium Oxide rates are worked on product that is 90% Magnesium Oxide and 55% Elemental Magnesium (not all Magnesium Oxides are the same).

Key messages

- Always introduce maize silage over a number of days and reduce likewise.
- If drenching Magnesium Oxide you can split the above rate in half i.e. 20g Mag Oxide in drench and 20g in feed.
- Use a maximum of 60g Mag Chloride or Mag Sulphate in an inline dispenser
- This is only a guide, contact us for detailed nutritional advice