# Instructions for use

# Low UV

This blend of Silotite is formulated for use in conditions where UV radiation levels do not exceed 80 kilolangleys, and at 55%-75% maximum pre-stretch (65% on square bales). In extreme temperatures, it is advisable to reduce pre-stretch to 55%.

## Care of reels

- Store reels on their ends in the dry and out of direct sunlight.
- The ideal storage temperature is 15-20°C. Keep reels in boxes and condition at ambient temperatures prior to use.
- Take care not to damage reels during handling, in particular reel edges should be protected.
- Cover reels left on wrapper to keep out moisture. We recommend that reels are used within two years of purchase.

## Application

- Ensure that bales are well shaped, dense, and ideally of 40-50% dry matter (DM). For haylage, up to 60% DM.
- Wrap within 2-3 hours of baling.
- Ideally wrap at stacking point, and in the shade.
- Square bales must be straight sided as any concave surfaces will produce air pockets when wrapped and possible spoilage.
- Ensure that wrapper is set correctly for film width and bale size in use.
- Ensure that pre-stretch unit (PSU) rollers are thoroughly and regularly cleaned to remove 'tack' and other contaminants, in accordance with the wrapper manufacturer's instructions.
- Load bale and place film reel on PSU so that outer film surface on reel will face inwards towards bale when applied.
- Adjust height of PSU where possible so that the centre points of reel and bale are horizontally aligned.
- Thread and attach film as per wrapper instructions.
- To calibrate wrapper on first bale, count number of turntable or sweep arm turns required to cover the bale once. Then add one turn and repeat the total (2+2 method).
- When wrapping using a continuous tubeline system, a minimum 6 layers of film must be applied to the joins between the bales.
- Remember that any increase in bale size or irregularity in shape will mean that more turns will be needed.
- Apply minimum 4 layers of film to all areas of the bale, using the above 2+2 method, and minimum 50% overlap. Where DM levels exceed 50%, or square bales are being wrapped, a minimum of 6 layers of film should be applied (2+2+2 method).
- Independent trials have also indicated economic benefits from the application of 6 layers of film for normal silage.
- We would also recommend the use of a minimum 6 layers of film on coarse crops.
- Final width of film as measured on the flat end of a round bale should, with 500mm film, for example, be 380mm - 410mm, and with 750mm film 580mm-610mm. Should film width vary significantly outside these limits, stop wrapping and ascertain cause. Refer to wrapper manufacturer with reference to PSU gearing.
- Ensure that on completion of wrapping, bales are not damaged when they are off loaded.
- Cut end of film should be tucked in securely as soon as possible.
- Ensure that no holes or splits are present in film on bales prior to stacking. If so, apply extra film. Holes or splits through all film layers indicate either bird or mechanical damage, or insufficient film applied. They are not indicative of film faults.

## Stacking

- Choose a storage site away from trees and very exposed areas. Do not stack bales too close to hedges. Store away from any water courses: specific advice is available from the Water Authority.
- Choose a well drained level site, devoid of sharp objects which could damage film. A sand or fine gravel surface is ideal.
- Stack bales immediately after wrapping, and certainly within 12 hours. Use a purpose built-handler and never a spike.
- Do not stack more than 3 high. Bales of low DM should only be stored in single layers.
- Repair any damage immediately using a suitable UV protected tape. N.B. Even minor damage to film can result in spoilage to fodder.
- To protect against birds, cover stack with close-woven polypropylene net, secured at ground level. For best protection, support net so that it is not in direct contact with the tops of bales.
- Fence off stack from livestock if necessary.
- Install vermin bait stations around stack perimeter, and replenish as required.
- Inspect stack regularly and repair any damage immediately.
- Use bales within 12 months of wrapping.

## Precautions

Do not wrap bales tied or netted with products which are chemically reactive to polythene such as some types of sisal twine.
Do not wrap in the rain, as this may impair seal between layers.
Do not wrap bales which have been treated with a sulphur-based additive.
Remove any visible spoilage within the bale on opening before feeding to livestock. Fodder which contains spoilage must not be fed to breeding stock or horses.
Keep film and wrapped bales away from fertiliser, herbicides, mineral oils etc, which can accelerate film degradation.

## High DM Bales

When considering the wrapping of bales of very high DM (60%+) e.g. haylage for horses, it should be remembered that the fermentation/ preservation process which normally consumes any remaining oxygen within a moist silage bale is usually very slow or even non-existent. This means that irrespective of how many additional film layers have been applied, the continuing presence of oxygen may well allow the development of moulds etc. and consequent spoilage. The use of a suitable additive at baling may help in these circumstances. Forage containing spoilage must not be fed to livestock, in particular horses and all breeding stock.

## Used Silotite

Do not burn or bury used Silotite. It must be disposed of correctly and in accordance with local waste disposal regulations.

## Health and Safety

Health and Safety requirements should be observed at all times. High noise levels can occur during wrapping. We recommend the use of suitable ear defenders. Do not allow unauthorised persons, especially children, to have access to the balewrapper or the bales when stacked.

## In the event of complaint

If you are dissatisfied with any Silotite reel either before or during wrapping, do not use. Replace in the original carton and contact your supplier with full details of your complaint within 14 days.

Reels will only be replaced if they are found by BPI to be faulty. Because there are many possible causes of poor quality forage, which are beyond the control of BPI, the liability of the latter is restricted to film replacement only and claims cannot be accepted for consequential loss.

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