

Northwest Iowa Snaplage Survey



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Northwest Iowa Snaplage Survey



- 2011 corn dried down very quickly
- Hot Temps & Windy
- Snaplage harvested dry
- Wanted to know:
 - Density
 - Digestibility
 - Aerobic Stability



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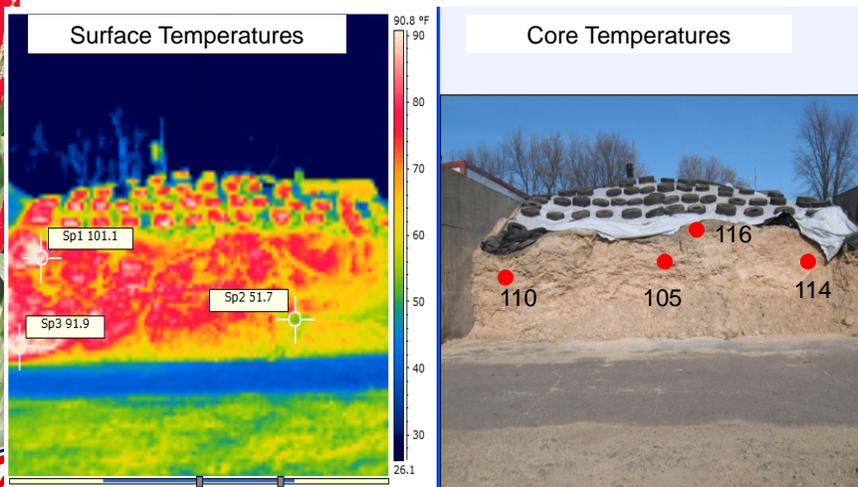
What I did

- Cored piles to determine density
- Composite samples for DM & 7hr Starch
- Core temps ~12" in from face
- Infra Red Images
- Manure Samples



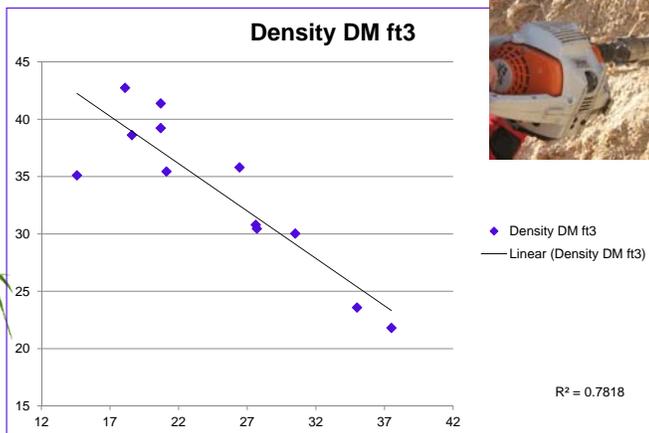
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Infra Red & Digital Images



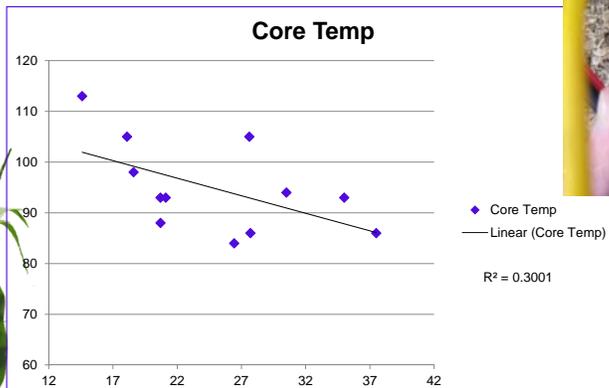
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Moisture vs. DM/ft3

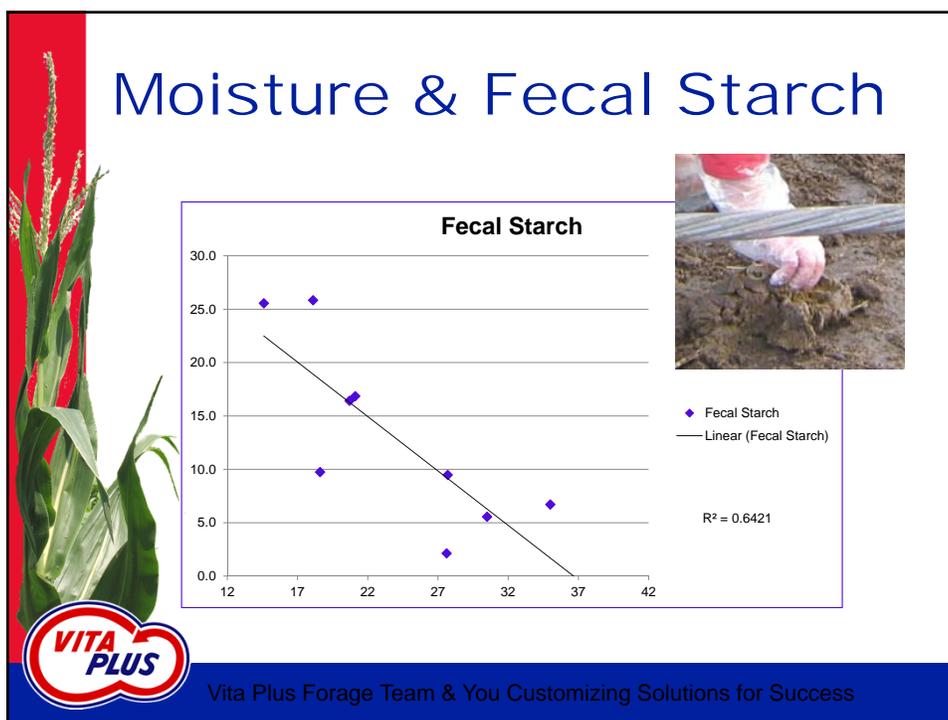
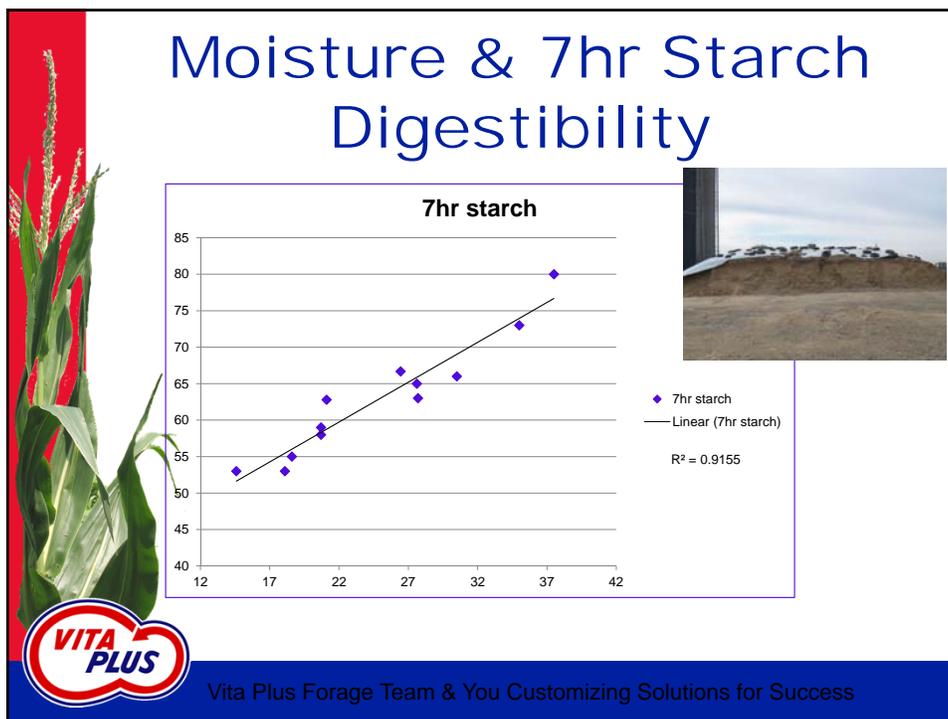


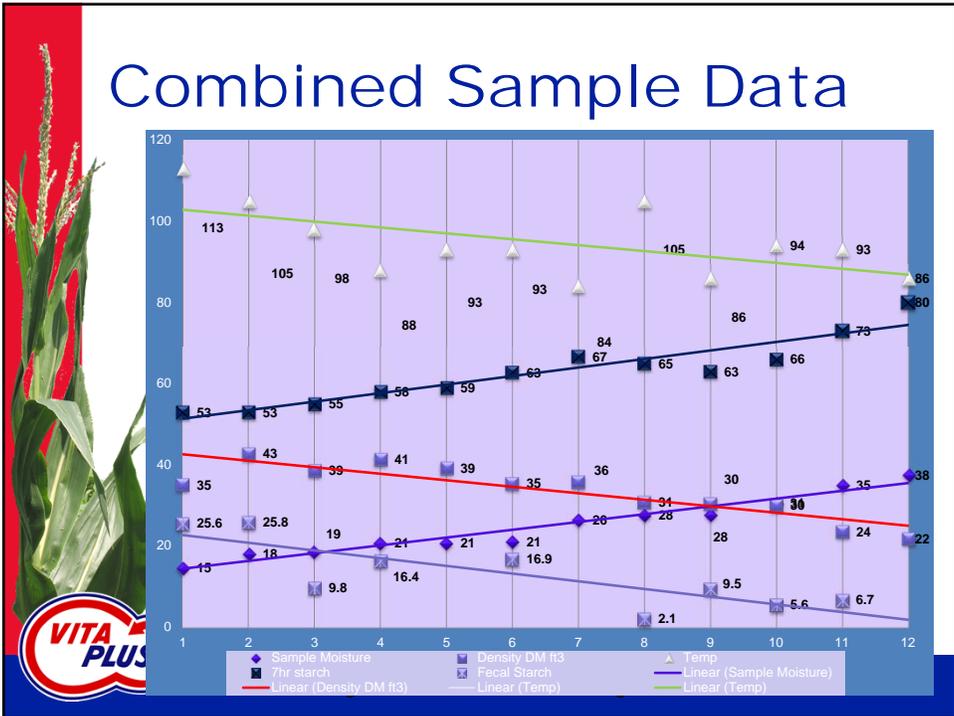
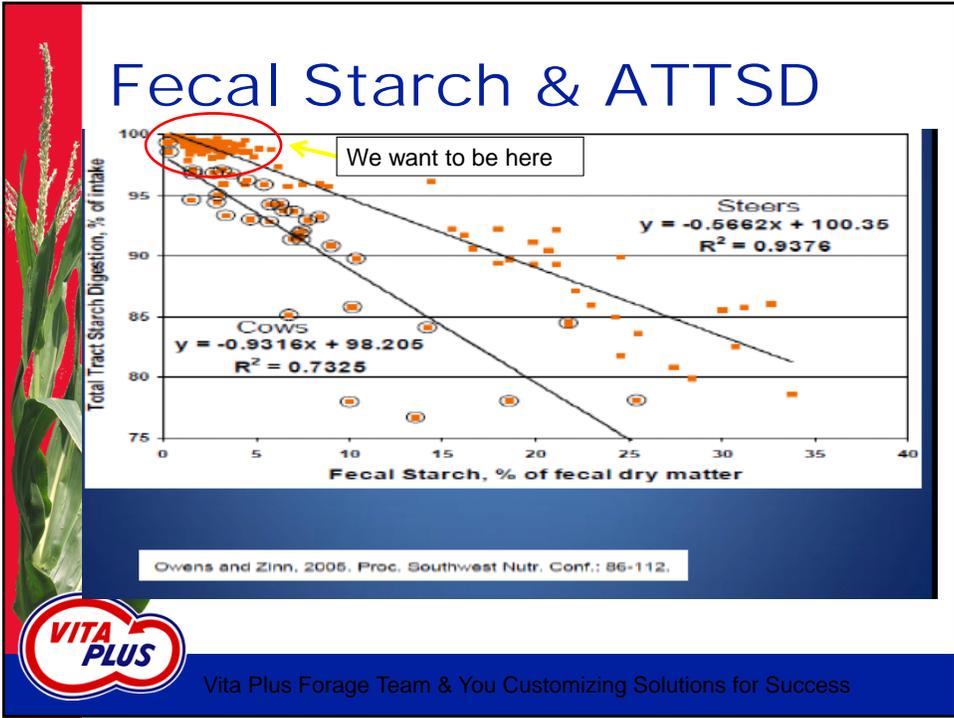
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Moisture & Core Temperature



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Survey Results

- As Dry Matter increased
 - Core temps tended to increase
 - 7hr Starch were lower
 - Fecal Starch tended to increase
 - DM/ft3 was often lower



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Heat Damaged Feed Comparison

1. Caramelized or Tobacco smell
2. Dark color
3. Prolonged aerobic phase after ensiling produces heat and CO₂

Heat Damaged

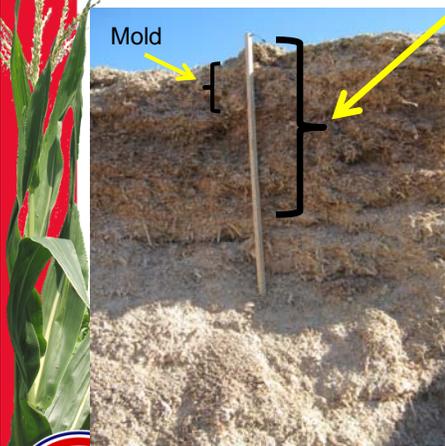
No Heat Damage



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Other Common Findings

24" Heat Damaged Feed



Oxygen Infiltration
Bellowing Plastic



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Economics of DM Loss on Top 2 feet of bunker

- Value/ton AF: **\$164**
- Bunker size: **80'x200'**
- Tons AF top 24": **590 tons**
- Value top 24": **\$96,760**
- 30% DM loss top 24": **-\$29,028**
- 20% DM loss top 24": **-\$19,352**
- ~ \$1,000 feed value for every 1% DM loss
- Truck sidewalls @ \$2/each: **\$3600**

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