



## Dry Matter Demand Chart

NOFA-NY Certified Organic, LLC

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The National Organic Program Regulations require that all ruminants over 6 months old be provided with a **minimum of 30%** of their Dry Matter Intake (DMI) from pasture over the entire grazing season.

To determine the amount of DMI from pasture, please record a full description of actual amounts fed on the Dry Matter Intake Worksheet for livestock applicable to your operation. Be sure to fill in all areas as accurately as possible (Dry Matter Demand, Class of Animals, Number of Animals in the Group, Dates the Ration is Fed, Days Grazed During that Ration, Amount Fed per Animal, Type of Feed, and Dry Matter % of the feed). If you need assistance on how to use the form, please contact the office.

► **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- Each class of livestock shall have their own worksheet. If different classes are managed together (dry cows with lactating, bred heifers with dry cows, all groups managed together, etc.) they can be recorded on the same worksheet. As long as all animals in the group are being fed the same ration. If rations are different within groups, a separate worksheet must be used to document the different ration.
- Use additional ration boxes on the worksheet to document changes made to the ration for that group throughout the year in response to seasonal grazing changes.
- Please be sure to indicate the type of feed being fed and the dry matter % (DM%) for each type of feed. Use these numbers if DM% is unknown: Dry Hay 90% (0.9), Grain 89% (0.89), Corn Silage 30-35% (0.32), Haylage/Baleage 40-60% (0.5).
- When calculating Dry Matter Demand (DMD) using the charts below, be sure to calculate the **DMD during the grazing season** using the milk production and body weight during the grazing season.

Below are the DMD reference tables for lactating dairy cows based on size and milk production, and for other ruminant groups as percentages of average body weight.

<b><u>Lactating Dairy Cows Dry Matter Demand (DMD)</u></b>		
Average Milk Per Day	Small Breed < 900 – 1200lbs. DMD	Large Breed 1200 – 1400 lbs. or more DMD
10 lbs.	21 lbs.	27 lbs.
15 lbs.	23 lbs.	28 lbs.
20 lbs.	24 lbs.	30 lbs.
25 lbs.	26 lbs.	31 lbs.
30 lbs.	28 lbs.	33 lbs.
35 lbs.	30 lbs.	34 lbs.
40 lbs.	31 lbs.	36 lbs.
45 lbs.	33 lbs.	37 lbs.
50 lbs.	35 lbs.	39 lbs.
55 lbs.	36 lbs.	40 lbs.
60 lbs.	38 lbs.	42 lbs.
65 lbs.	40 lbs.	43 lbs.
70 lbs.	42 lbs.	45 lbs.
75 lbs.	43 lbs.	46 lbs.
80 lbs.	45 lbs.	48 lbs.

<b><u>Ruminant Groups: Dry Matter Demand as a Percentage of Body Weight</u></b>	
Dry Dairy Cows	1.8% (body wt. x .018)
Bred Dairy Heifers (14-24 months of age)	2.5% (body wt. x .025)
Unbred Dairy Heifers (6-14 months of age)	2.5% (body wt. x .025)
Beef Cattle (more than 1 year of age)	2.25% (body wt. x .0225)
Beef Cattle (weaned, less than 1 year of age)	2.75% (body wt. x .0275)
Sheep (Brood or milking animals)	3.65% (body wt. x .0365)
Sheep (weaned, slaughter or replacement stock)	3.3% (body wt. x .033)
Goats (Brood or milking animals)	4.0% (body wt. x .04)
Goats (weaned, slaughter or replacement stock)	2.25% (body wt. x .0225)