## Dry Matter Intake Calculations

How much pasture do your animals need?

That National Organic Regulations, 205.237, states that cows, sheep, goats, and other ruminant animals that are older than 6 months need to get at least 30% Dry Matter Intake (DMI) of their feed from pasture during the grazing season. The grazing season has to be at least 120 days long.

Note: If you are a certified OPT Grass Fed producer, this DMI requirement increases to 60% for a minimum of 150 days.

To figure out if your animals are getting enough pasture, you need to use the attached Dry Matter Intake Calculation Worksheet. This worksheet helps you calculate how much dry matter (the solid part of their food) your animals are eating, and how much of that comes from pasture. It's important to fill in all the information on the worksheet as accurately as you can.

As your organic certifier, we can't fill out the worksheet for you. You need to be able to do it yourself on your farm. This shows that you understand the rules and can make changes during the grazing season if needed to make sure your animals are getting that 30% minimum from pasture.

Below are tables that will help you fill out the worksheet. One table helps you find the Dry Matter Demand (DMD), which is how much dry matter each animal needs. The other table shows the percent of dry matter (DM) in different types of feed. Make sure to write down the numbers you use from these tables on the worksheet.

Lactat	Lactating Dairy Cows Dry Matter Demand (DMD)									
Average Milk Per Day	<b>Small Breed &lt; 900 – 1200lbs.</b>	Large Breed 1200 – 1400 lbs.								
<b>During the Grazing</b>	DMD	or more DMD								
Season										
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.								

Ruminant Groups: Dry Matter Dem	Ruminant Groups: Dry Matter Demand as a Percentage of Body Weight							
Dry Dairy Cows	1.8%	(body wt. x .018)						
<b>Bred Dairy Heifers (14-24 months of age)</b>	2.5%	(body wt. x .025)						
<b>Unbred Dairy Heifers (6-14 months of age)</b>	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	3.3%	(body wt. x .033)						
stock)								
Goats (Brood or milking animals)	4.0%	(body wt. x .04)						
Goats (weaned, slaughter or replacement	2.25%	(body wt. x .0225)						
stock)								

General Percentage of Dry Matter (DM)				
Grain = 89% dry matter (.89)				
Dry hay = 90% dry matter (.9)				
Grain Silage = 25-35% dry matter (30% if unknown) (.3)				
Haylage/Baleage = 35-60% dry matter (47.5% if unknown) (.475)				

## **How to Figure Out How Much Pasture Your Animals Eat**

Below lists steps explaining how to use the Dry Matter Intake Calculation Worksheet.

- 1. **Group Your Animals:** First, divide your animals into groups based on how you feed and keep them. For example, if you keep milking cows, dry cows, bred heifers, and younstock separate, you'll have four groups. Each group needs its own worksheet. If some groups are kept together, write that down at the top of the worksheet and estimate their dry matter needs as best you can. Write down the number of animals in each group on the worksheet.
- 2. **Figure Out Dry Matter Demand (DMD):** DMD is how much dry matter each animal needs. Use the chart provided to find this number. For milking cows, this is based on how much milk they produce during grazing season. For other animals, it's based on their weight. Write this DMD number on the worksheet. If your DMD numbers are different from the chart (maybe your vet or a nutritionist gave you different numbers), write down where your numbers came from and use those instead.
- 3. **Fill in the Feed Information:** Now, you'll fill in what each group is fed. Every time their feed rations change, start a new section on the worksheet. For each type of feed, write down:
  - a. **Dates and Grazing Days:** Write down the dates the animals ate this specific ration and how many days they grazed on pasture during that time. If they ate the same thing for several months, write the date range (like 12/1-4/30). If it's winter and they didn't graze, put "0" for grazing days.

- b. **Type of Feed:** What kind of feed did they eat? (hay, baleage, corn silage, grain, etc.)
- c. **Amount of Feed:** How much did each animal eat, on average, in pounds? If they were fed as a group, divide the total amount of feed by the number of animals to get the amount per animal.
- d. **Percent of Dry Matter (DM):** Each type of feed has a different amount of dry matter. Use the provided table to find the DM percentage. For example, hay is usually 90% DM (which you would write as 0.90).
- e. **DM Fed:** Multiply the amount of feed (step c) by the percent of DM (step d) to find out how much dry matter they actually ate. If you're using the Excel worksheet, it will do this calculation for you.
- f. **DMI from Pasture (First Formula):** This formula figures out how much dry matter the animals got from pasture. It is: (DMD Total DM Fed) / DMD \* 100. Again, the Excel sheet does this for you. If there are 0 days grazed, this number won't count in the final calculation, but you still need to calculate it.
- g. **Ration Value (Second Formula):** This formula figures out the total value of the pasture for this feed period. Multiply the number of grazing days (step a) by the DMI from Pasture (step f).
- 4. Calculate the Average DMI from Pasture for the Whole Grazing Season: After you've filled in all the feed information and done the calculations for each feed period, you'll do one final calculation at the bottom of the worksheet:
  - a. **Total Grazing Days:** Add up all the grazing days from each feed period (step 3a).
  - b. **Total Ration Value:** Add up all the Ration Values from each feed period (step 3g).
  - c. **Final Calculation:** Divide the Total Ration Value (b) by the Total Grazing Days (a) and then multiply by 100. This gives you the average DMI from pasture for the whole grazing season.

## **Worksheet and Example:**

Attached you will find a worksheet and examples. The worksheet will calculate the Dry Matter Intake from Pasture automatically. If you cannot use the excel document that is self-calculating, please write in the information. This information helps determine your compliance with the Regulations and allows BOC to conduct feed audits.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out and BOC will explain the process.

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	tating Dairy (					7.400.11	4				
Average Milk Per Day	Small Bi	reed < 900 -	1200lbs.	Lar	ge Breed 1200						
During the Grazing		DMD			or more D	MD					
Season							_				
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 Ns.		30 lbs.			34 lbs.		┑				
40 lbs		31 lbs.		<del>                                     </del>	36 lbs.		$\dashv$				
45 lbs.		33 lbs.		<del>                                     </del>	37 lbs.		$\dashv$				
50 lbs.		35 lbs.		<del>                                     </del>	39 lbs.		$\dashv$				
55 lbs.		36 lbs.		<del>                                     </del>	40 lbs.		$\dashv$				
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65 lbs.	$\overline{}$	40 lbs.		<del>                                     </del>	43 lbs		$\dashv$				
70 lbs.	$\overline{}$	40 lbs.		_	45 lbs.		$\dashv$				
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75 lbs.	+	43 lbs.		-	46 lbs.		$\dashv$				
80 lbs.	$\rightarrow$	45 lbs.			48 lbs.						
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Class (Group) of Animals/Stage of Produ	ction:actat	ing			ımber of Animals in	Group:	25				
Dry Matter Demand (DMD) (lbs.):	28	Avg. Ibs of Milk:	30 🗆		ΛD irce: ☑BOC ☐ O	ther: th	ne BOC	chart is atta	ched		
				NA 300	irce. 🖂 boc 🗀 o				1		
RATION 1	/	How much your cows					razed durin	g			
Dates this Ration is Fed: from			ingic:		4/15/2024	this ratio		0			
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per	Animal (lbs.)		DM	% of Feed		DM Fed	(lbs.)			
Hay	10		x		0.9	=	9.00				
I .		I			/						
Baleage	20		X		.475	=	9.50				
	these are your	numbers	x		0.475		9.50				
	these are your from feed fed i	numbers	x		5.475	=	0.00				
	these are your	numbers			5.475						
28 - 18.50	these are your from feed fed i animal	numbers n lbs per 9.50	x x	28.00		= = x 100 =	0.00	33.93%			
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RATION 2  Dates this R	✓ 100% Pasture ation is Fed: from	4/15/2024	to		9/15/20	024		# Days grazed during this ration [B]	153
Feed Type (do n	ot list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DMS	% of Fee	d		DM Fed (II	bs.)
			x				=	0.00	
			x				=	0.00	
			х				=	0.00	
			x				=	0.00	
28 - DMD (lbs.)	0.00 Total DM Fed (lbs		_	28.00 DMD (lbs.)	=	1.00	x 100 =	DMI from Pastur	100.00% re % [b]
# of Day	ys in this Ration [B]	153 x DMI from this Rati	on [b]		:	100.00%	=	Ration Value [2]	153.00

RATION 3	9/15/2024	to	11/15/2024		# Days grazed during this ration [C] 61
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.)
Hay	5	x	0.9	=	4.50
		x		=	0.00
		x		=	0.00
		x		=	0.00
28 - 4.50  DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs			28.00 = 0.84 DMD (lbs.)	x 100 =	83.93% DMI from Pasture % [c]
# of Days in this Ration [C]	61 x DMI from this Ratio	on [c]	83.93%	=	Ration Value [3] 51.20

RATION 4 100% Pasture Dates this Ration is Fed: from	11/15/2024	to	12/31/2024		# Days grazed during this ration [D]	0
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.)	
Hay	15	x	0.9	=	13.50	
Baleage	10	x	0.475	=	4.75	
		x		=	0.00	
		x		=	0.00	
28 - 18.25	= 9.75			35 x 100 =		34.82%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs.	.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.	)	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture %	[d]
# of Days in this Ration [D]	0 x DMI from this Ratio	on [d]	34.82	2% =	Ration Value [4]	0.00

add up # of days grazed.

add up ration values for each ration

Calculating Average Dry Matter Intake from Pasture Over Entire Grazing Season							
Total Days in Grazing Season ([A]+[B]+[C]+[D]) = 214 [Z] Total Ration Value ([1]+[2]+[3]+[4]) = 204.20 [Y]							
	(Y) ÷ (Z) =	95.42%	Average % DMI from Pasture				
		•	for the grazing season				

plug in formula to come up with 95.42% DMI from pasture for 214 days = compliant with NOP Regulations

Certific Constitution of the constitution of t	<u>Dry Matter</u>	Intake (	Calculation Worksheet			
Farm Name: Sample			Avg. lbs	(Weight):	1000	
Class (Group) of Animals/Stage of Produ	uction: Lactating		Number of Animals	in Group:	25	
Dry Matter Demand (DMD) (lbs.):	28 Avg. lbs of Milk:	30	DMD  NA Source: BOC	Other:		
RATION 1					# Days grazed during	
Dates this Ration is Fed: from	1/1/2024	to	4/15/2024		this ration [A]	0
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.	)
Hay	10	х	0.9	=	9.00	
Baleage	20	х	0.475	=	9.50	
		х		=	0.00	
		x		=	0.00	
28 - 18.50	= 9.50	÷	28.00 = 0.34	x 100 =		33.93%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs		-	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture	
# of Days in this Ration [A]	0 x DMI from this Ra	tion [a]	33.93%	. =	Ration Value [1]	0.00
RATION 2					# Days grazed during	
Dates this Ration is Fed: from	4/15/2024	to	9/15/2024		this ration [B]	153
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.	)
		х		=	0.00	
		х		=	0.00	
		х		=	0.00	
		х		=	0.00	
28 - 0.00	= 28.00	÷	28.00 = 1.00	x 100 =		100.00%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs	s.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.	)	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture	% [b]
# of Days in this Ration [B]	153 x DMI from this Ratio	 on <b>[b]</b>	100.00%	=	Ration Value [2]	153.00

RATION 3 🔲 100% Past	ure				# Days grazed during	
Dates this Ration is Fed:	from 9/15/2024	to	11/15/2024		this ration [C]	6:
Feed Type (do not list pasture	) Amount Fed Per Animal (lb	s.)	DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs	.)
Нау	5	х	0.9	=	4.50	
		х		=	0.00	
		х		=	0.00	
		х		=	0.00	
28	4.50 = 2	23.50 ÷	28.00 = 0	.84 <b>x 100 =</b>		83.939
OMD (lbs.) Total DM Fe	d (lbs.) DMI from Pasture	e (lbs.)	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture	% [c]
# of Days in this Ratio	n <b>[C]</b> 61 x DMI from this	s Ration [c]	83.9	3% =	Ration Value [3]	51.2
ATION 4 100% Past	uro				# Days grazed during	

RATION 4	☐ 100% Pasture							# Days grazed during	
Date	es this Ration is Fed: from	11/15/2024	to	1	12/31/2	2024		this ration <b>[D]</b>	0
Feed Typ	e (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM%	6 of Fee	d		DM Fed (lbs.)	
	Нау	15	х	C	).9		=	13.50	
	Baleage	10	х	0.	475		Ш	4.75	
			х				Ш	0.00	
			x				Ш	0.00	
28	- 18.25	= 9.75	÷	28.00	=	0.35	x 100 =	34	1.82%
DMD (lbs.)	Total DM Fed (lbs	.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.	<u>.</u> )	DMD (lbs.)				DMI from Pasture % [d]	
1	of Days in this Ration [D]	0 x DMI from this Rati	ion [d]			34.82%	=	Ration Value <b>[4]</b>	0.00

Calculating Average Dry Matter Intake from Pasture Over Entire Grazing Season								
Total Days in Grazing Season ([A]+[B]+[C]+[D]) = 214 [Z] Total Ration Value ([1]+[2]+[3]+[4]) = 204.20 [Y]								
	(Y) ÷ (Z) = 95.42% Average % DMI from Pasture							
			for the grazing sea	ison				

Dry Matter Intake Calculation Worksheet							
Farm Name: Sample			Avg. lbs	(Weight):	1200		
Class (Group) of Animals/Stage of Produ	uction: Lactating		Number of Animals DMD	in Group:	60		
Dry Matter Demand (DMD) (lbs.):	36 Avg. lbs of Milk:	40		Other:			
RATION 1					# Days grazed during		
Dates this Ration is Fed: from	1/1/2024	to	4/30/2024		this ration [A]	0	
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.	)	
Нау	10	х	0.9	=	9.00		
Corn Silage	10	х	0.3	=	3.00		
Grain	10	х	0.89	=	8.90		
		x		=	0.00		
36 - 20.90	= 15.10	÷	36.00 = 0.42	x 100 =		41.94%	
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs	.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.		DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture 9	% [a]	
# of Days in this Ration [A]	0 x DMI from this Rat	tion [a]	41.94%	. =	Ration Value [1]	0.00	
RATION 2	- V				# Days grazed during		
Dates this Ration is Fed: from	4/30/2024	to	11/15/2024		this ration [B]	199	
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.)	)	
Grain	10	х	0.89	=	8.90		
		х		=	0.00		
		x		=	0.00		
G	2,	х		=	0.00		
36 - 8.90	= 27.10	-	·	x 100 =		75.28%	
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs	.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.	)	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture 9	% [b]	
# of Days in this Ration [B]	199 x DMI from this Ratio	on <b>[b]</b>	75.28%	=	Ration Value <b>[2]</b>	149.80	

RATION 3 100% Pasture					# Days grazed during
Dates this Ration is Fed: from	11/15/2024	to	12/31/2024		this ration <b>[C]</b>
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.)
Нау	5	х	0.9	=	4.50
Baleage	15	х	0.475	=	7.13
Grain	10	х	0.89	=	8.90
		х		=	0.00
36 - 20.53  DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs	·	-	36.00 = 0.43	x 100 =	42.99 DMI from Pasture % [c]
# of Days in this Ration [C]	0 x DMI from this Ratio	on <b>[c]</b>	42.99%	=	Ration Value [3] 0.

RATION 4 Dat	100% Pasture tes this Ration is Fed: from		to					# Days grazed during this ration [D]	0
Feed Ty	ype (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM	% of F	eed		DM Fed (lb	os.)
			х				=	0.00	
			х				=	0.00	
			х				=	0.00	
			х				=	0.00	
36	0.00	= 36.00	÷	36.00	=	1.00	x 100 =		100.00%
DMD (lbs.)	Total DM Fed (lbs	.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.	)	DMD (lbs.)				DMI from Pastur	e % [d]
	# of Days in this Ration [D]	0 x DMI from this Rati	on <b>[d]</b>			100.00%	=	Ration Value [4]	0.00

Calculating Average Dry Matter Intake from Pasture Over Entire Grazing Season								
Total Days in Grazing Season ([A]+[B]+[C]+[D]) = 199 [Z] Total Ration Value ([1]+[2]+[3]+[4]) = 149.80 [Y]								
	(Y) ÷ (Z) =	75.28%	% Average % DMI from Pasture					
			for the grazing sea	son				

Dry Matte	er Intake C	Calculation Worksheet			
Farm Name: Sample		Avg. lbs	(Weight):	800	
Class (Group) of Animals/Stage of Production:  Bred Heifers		Number of Animals	in Group:	10	
Dry Matter Demand (DMD) (lbs.): 20 Avg. lbs of Mi	ilk: <u>0</u>	DMD  ☐ NA Source: ☑ BOC ☐	Other:		
RATION 1				# Days grazed during	
Dates this Ration is Fed: from 1/1/2024	to	4/30/2024		this ration [A]	0
Feed Type (do not list pasture) Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs	.)
Hay 15	х	0.9	=	13.50	
	х		=	0.00	
	x		11	0.00	
	x		II	0.00	
20 - 13.50 = 6.	.50 ÷	20.00 = 0.33	x 100 =		32.50%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.)	bs.)	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture	% [a]
# of Days in this Ration [A] 0 x DMI from this	Ration [a]	32.50%	=	Ration Value [1]	0.00
RATION 2				# Days grazed during	
Dates this Ration is Fed: from 4/30/2024	to	11/15/2024		this ration [B]	215
Feed Type (do not list pasture) Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% of Feed		DM Fed (lbs	.)
	х		=	0.00	
	х		=	0.00	
	х		=	0.00	
601	х		=	0.00	
20 - 0.00 = 20.0	.00 ÷	20.00 = 1.00	x 100 =		100.00%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.)	bs.)	DMD (lbs.)		DMI from Pasture	% [b]
# of Days in this Ration [B] 215 x DMI from this Ration	ation <b>[b]</b>	100.00%	=	Ration Value [2]	215.00

RATION 3 100% Pasture  Dates this Ration is Fed: from	11/15/2024	to	12	2/31/2024		# Days grazed during this ration [C]	0
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% o	of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.)	
Baleage	10	х	0.47	75	=	4.75	
		х		_	X=X	0.00	
		х			=	0.00	
		х			=	0.00	
20 - 4.75	= 15.25	÷	20.00	0.76	x 100 =		76.25%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs.	DMI from Pasture (lbs.	)	DMD (lbs.)			DMI from Pasture %	6 [c]
# of Days in this Ration <b>[C]</b> _	0 x DMI from this Ratio	on <b>[c]</b>		76.25%	=	Ration Value [3]	0.00
RATION 4 100% Pasture						# Davis areas d during	
Dates this Ration is Fed: from		to				# Days grazed during this ration [D]	0
Feed Type (do not list pasture)	Amount Fed Per Animal (lbs.)		DM% (	of Feed		DM Fed (lbs.)	
		х			=	0.00	
		х			Ш	0.00	
		х			Ш	0.00	
		х			II	0.00	
20 - 0.00	= 20.00	÷	20.00	= 1.00	x 100 =		100.00%
DMD (lbs.) Total DM Fed (lbs.	.) DMI from Pasture (lbs.	)	DMD (lbs.)			DMI from Pasture %	[d]
# of Days in this Ration [D]	0 x DMI from this Ratio	on <b>[d]</b>		100.00%	=	Ration Value [4]	0.00

Calculating Average Dry Matter Intake from Pasture Over Entire Grazing Season								
Total Days in Grazing Season ([A]+[B]+[C]+[D]) = 215 [Z] Total Ration Value ([1]+[2]+[3]+[4]) = 215.00 [Y]								
	(Y) ÷ (Z) =	100.00% Average % DMI from Pastu						
for the grazing season								