

Pasture Measurement Field Guide



Part 1: Pasture Cut Test

Use a 500 mm x 250 mm frame (0.125 m²). Steel rod is recommended for durability and consistent shape.

Throw the frame randomly into the paddock to avoid bias. If it lands on dung or urine patches, move it slightly to a representative area.

Cut all pasture within the frame down to ground level using sharp shears.

Collect all material into a bag, ensuring no soil, roots, or debris are included.

Weigh immediately to obtain fresh (green) weight.

Multiply by 8 to convert to kg/m², then by 10,000 for kg/ha if required.

Part 2: Dry Matter (Microwave Method)

Chop the sample into 1-2 cm lengths to ensure even drying.

Tare the container and weigh exactly 100 g of fresh sample.

Place in microwave with a cup of water to prevent burning.

Heat for 2-5 minutes initially, then in 1-2 minute intervals.

Remove, stir, and weigh between each cycle to avoid hot spots.

Repeat until weight no longer decreases (constant weight).

If charring occurs, use the previous weight.

Dry Matter % = (Dry Weight. - Initial Weight) x 100

Moisture % = 100 - Dry Matter %

Sample	Location	Fresh Weight	Dry Weight	DM%	Notes

