



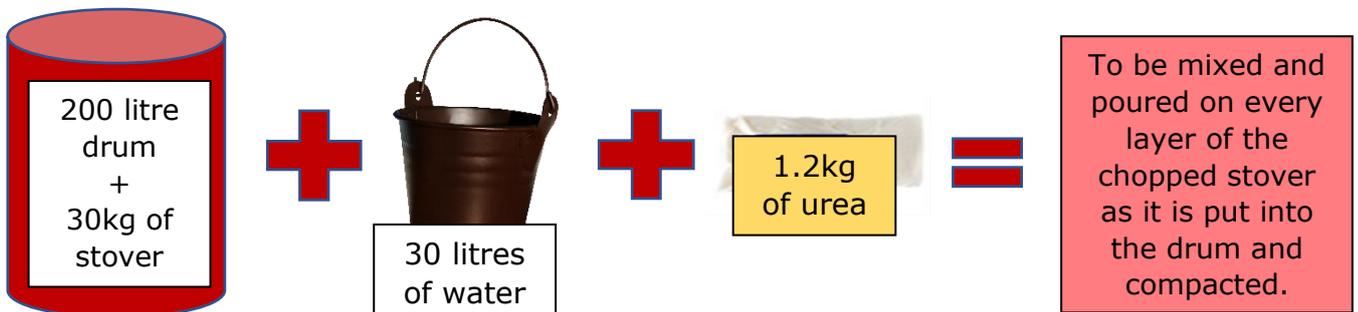
MAKING UREA TREATED MAIZE STOVER SILAGE

AIM: TO SUPPORT FARMERS TO MAKE MAIZE STOVER SILAGE ENRICHED WITH UREA

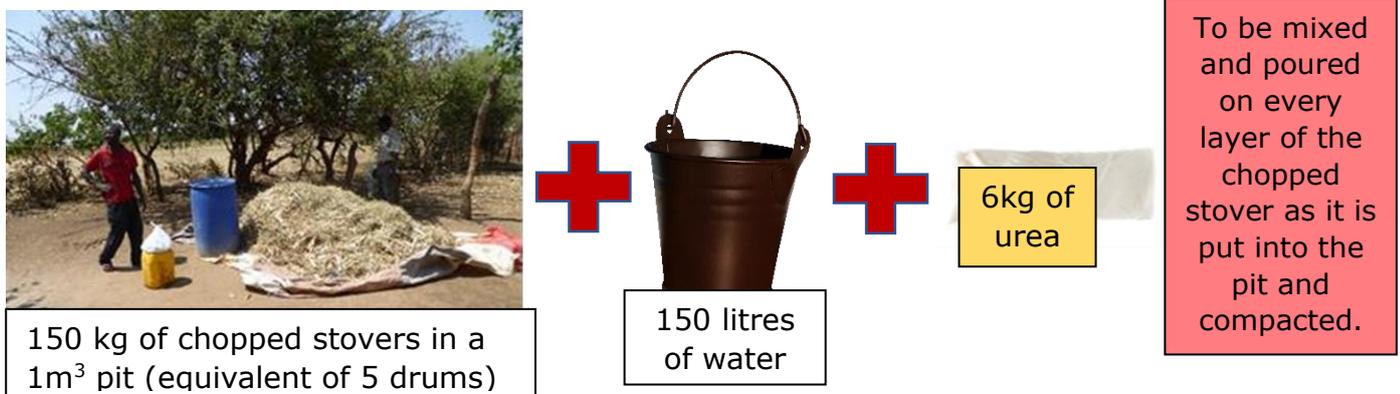
- ✓ Urea treated maize stover can provide nutrients for maintenance – not for milk production;
- ✓ Stovers that are suitable are: maize stover, sorghum straw and natural pasture hay;
- ✓ **DO NOT** feed silage enriched with urea to calves younger than 6 months
- ✓ **Air the silage for about 20 minutes** before feeding

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING UREA TREATED MAIZE STOVER SILAGE

IN A DRUM:



IN A PIT



- Finally, the drum or pit is closed airtight with plastic sheet and soil (preferably wet) is put on top of the plastic.

PRACTICAL FARM ADVICE F01B

MAKING UREA TREATED MAIZE STOVER SILAGE



Tips for making urea enriched silage:

- ✓ 1m³ of chopped dry maize stover is about 150kg.
- ✓ If making close to the rainy season, the top of the pit should have a slope to stop water getting in.
- ✓ The silage can be used after 6 weeks (about 45 days).
- ✓ Only open the pit / drum when you are ready to feed the silage to your animals.
- ✓ When opened the silage should be used every day until finished, otherwise there is a risk of it spoiling.

REMEMBER:

- ✓ Urea treated stover should be **aired for about 20 minutes** before feeding.
- ✓ Urea treated stover **SHOULD NOT** be fed to calves younger than 6 months.
- ✓ Urea treated maize stover can provide nutrients for maintenance – not for milk production.



Mixing 1.2kg of urea with 30 litres of water



Compacting the stovers



Sealing the drums and covering with soil to stop air getting in

The ZDTP is focused on supporting dairy farmers to improve their productivity, milk quality and linkages to urban markets. The views expressed in this publication are those of the implementers of the programme and do not necessarily reflect those of the New Zealand Government. For further information, please contact ZDTP Country Manager Tania Thomson on tania@primeconsultants.net or +260 96 456 4206