

**UNLOCK
YOUR FARM
POTENTIAL**

WITH SPECIALIST
NUTRITION



MOIST FEEDS
STORAGE AND
HANDLING GUIDE



Moist Feeds are a nutritious co-product from the brewing and distilling industry. They are a good source of energy and protein, and are highly palatable which enhances dry matter intake. Product availability is limited over the busy winter period. As a result we advise all customers to pit a reserve of Moist Feeds in the summer months in order to ensure sufficient stock over the winter period.

When using Moist Feeds, the best method of handling, storing and feeding out of these products must be considered. Whether feeding fresh or ensiling during the summer months, it's important to follow simple steps to minimise any wastage and maintain the products nutritional value. Correct storage can be achieved by following the guidelines below.

STORING MOIST FEEDS

1. SELECT THE RIGHT STORAGE SITE

Moist Feeds are delivered in bulk and tipped in loads of approximately 30 tonnes. The selected storage site should be clean with a firm level surface, preferably concrete as it makes handling and feeding out easier.

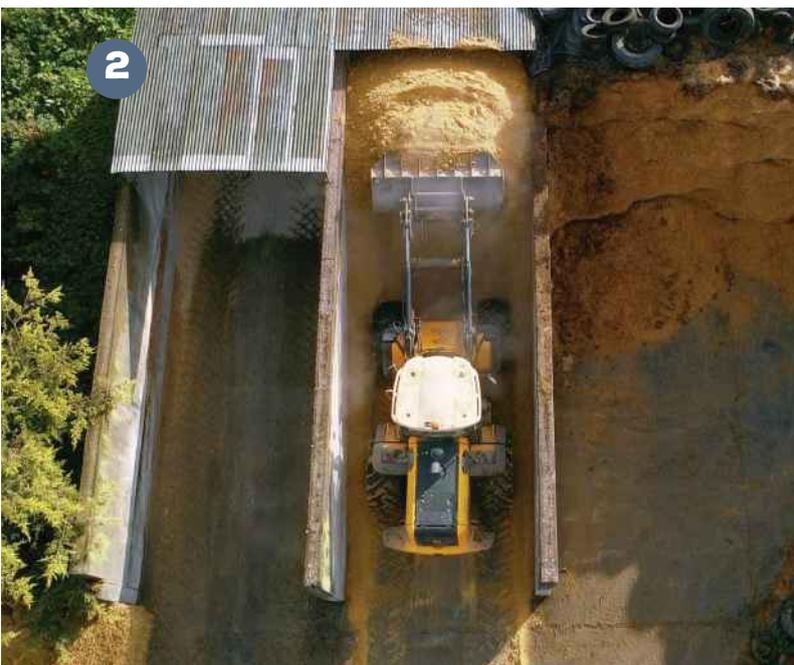
Moist Feeds should ideally be stored in a three-walled pit **1** as this structure is easier to manage. A long narrow clamp is best, as it allows the farmer to work across the feeding face quicker and therefore reduce the time the product is exposed to air.

Depending on the product, there may be a small amount of run off. Therefore, the selected storage site should not be located near drains or open water courses. **2**

Ag-bags are also a good alternative to clamps and are ideal to store quantities of 100+ tonnes of Moist Feeds. **3**

2. ALLOW THE FEED TO COOL DOWN

Moist Feeds are delivered straight from the point of production and can be hot on arrival. It is best to let the load cool down for 6-12 hours prior to ensiling. **4**





3. ENSURE AN AIRTIGHT SEAL

To preserve the feed, correct compaction, covering and sealing is important.

Firstly, exclude all air through compaction in order to ensure close contact between the top layer of the feed and the pit cover. To reduce trapped air, the pit surface should be smoothed out using the underside of the loading bucket. **5**

Once compaction is complete, seal the pit with clean, high quality polytene sheets. This should then be covered with mats, truck tires or sandbags to provide an even airtight seal throughout the entire pit. Lighter car tyres or pallets should be avoided as they may not provide a sufficient seal. **6**



MIXING MOIST FEEDS

To give the pit added structure and allow the pit to be stacked higher, along with complimenting the feeds nutritional content, Moist Feeds can be pitted with other products such as beet pulp, soya hulls and straw.

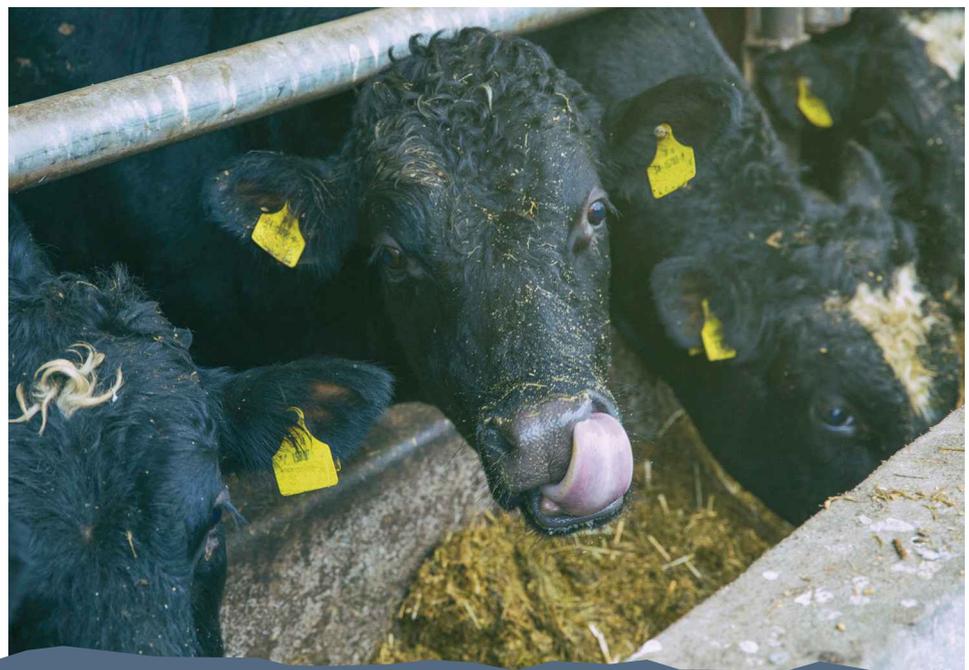
If mixing Moist Feeds with other products for storage, it's important to ensure the pitting mix does not exceed 65% dry matter content.



FEEDING OUT MOIST FEEDS

Once properly pitted Moist Feeds can be fed immediately and included within the beef or dairy animal's diet.

When feeding from the pit it is important to try and keep the face as compact as possible. Ideally the exposed clamp face should allow for the farmer to work back a half a meter per day in the clamp. If using a loading bucket, it's important not to push in at the bottom and lift up; as this disturbs the face greatly. Instead, the bucket should be used to cut down from the top, with the material then scooped away. Any loose material should then be pushed together to ensure that it is used next. Moist Feeds should be introduced to animals gradually over several days, building up the quantity to the desired feeding rate.





CONTACTING SPECIALIST NUTRITION

Specialist Nutrition has an experienced nutritional team who are available to advise you on your diet specification and the storage of Moist Feeds. If you would like to talk to a member of our team please contact us using the information below.

In all activities Specialist Nutrition adheres to the highest standard of health and safety procedures and environmental compliance. We recommend to all customers that you review your farm practices to ensure you operate in a safe and compliant manner.

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