## **PUT IT TO THE TEST**

**Bart Bikker of Barrhead, AB,** raised and silaged 20 acres of 913S, and performed a small on-farm feed study. The majority of his silage acres were composed of a dual purpose grain corn variety. The 913S was chopped and stored separately and produced enough feed for two weeks. The lab tests indicated that both corn silages were similar in quality, so Bart presented the cows with a ration that was identical except for the corn silage portion. The 913S silage was fed for the last week of October and the first week of November.

Date	Milk	Fat %	Total KG Butterfat	Corn Silage
			Per Load	Туре
Oct 6	14701	4.22	620.18	DP
Oct 8	14835	4.22	625.84	DP
Oct 10	14750	4.20	619.25	DP
Oct 12	14848	4.27	634.14	DP
Oct 14	14432	4.31	622.34	DP
Oct 16	14554	4.32	629.10	DP
Oct 18	14652	4.30	630.27	DP
Oct 20	14640	4.24	620.72	DP
Oct 22	14774	4.25	627.98	DP
Oct 24	14407	4.25	612.37	DP
Oct 26	14652	4.30	630.34	9135
Oct 28	14652	4.38	642.42	9135
Oct 30	15142	4.32	654.53	9135
Nov 1	15178	4.22	640.40	9135
Nov 3	15043	4.27	642.52	913S
Nov 5	15312	4.22	646.03	913S
Nov 7	15007	4.21	631.69	DP
Nov 9	14823	4.19	631.63	DP
Nov 11	14897	4.25	621.47	DP
Nov 13	14615	4.27	633.12	DP
Nov 15	15142	4.11	624.18	DP
Nov 17	14921	4.16	621.64	DP
Nov 19	14909	4.07	607.48	DP
Nov 21	14664	4.11	602.10	DP
Nov 23	15178	4.13	626.32	DP

**Above:** Milk results based on pick-up every other day. The only feed variable that changed in this time was the corn silage. \*DP = dual purpose.

**Top Left:** Bart uses the SAMCO system to grow his 913s in Barrhead, 120 km NW of Edmonton.

**Top Right:** Shaved ears of the dual purpose hybrid (left) and 913S (right), which were the basis of Bart's rations.

**Bottom Right:** Maryje and Dakota Schutz in Bart's field of 913S. Maryje and Dakota also graze 913S on their own farm in Melville, SK.





"The cows went up 20 kg of butterfat per pick-up (642 kg) and dropped back to their original level (622 kg) after we switched back to regular silage. This additional 20 kg of butterfat every other day worked out to be \$100.00 to \$125.00 per day of extra profit. The cows ate roughly 5 tonnes per day, so that worked out to an incremental \$20.00 to \$25.00 of profit per ton of silage. 913S yielded 20 Mt at 65% moisture, well above the local average." Bart now grows 140 acres of 913S.

