

# 2019 FALL HARVEST SUMMARY

The Northeast experienced an extended, wet, and variable corn harvest season. Instead of comparing this year's fresh corn crop to last year's, a more valuable comparison is to include the past several years. You'll note that no value for NDFDom 30 hr is reported for 2014 as this assay only became available at Dairy One in 2015.

Have you been feeding 2019 corn silage? How has the performance been? We'd love to hear from you! Email Sarah at [sarah.fessenden@dairyone.com](mailto:sarah.fessenden@dairyone.com).

## Fall 2019 Dry Down Days Report

Sarah spent some time out in the field this fall analyzing whole plant dry matter with our portable NIR unit, the NIR4Farm. We also partnered with John Winchell of Alltech, to analyze samples across a few more areas.

John took the unit and scanned well over 200 samples. We continue to obtain reliable dry matter numbers from the portable unit as well as very reasonable values for the starch, a component offered in our new full constituents option for corn silage.

The immense variability as depicted in the graph below across regions and fields magnifies the importance of testing whole plant dry matter prior to harvest. What we observed through the fall was a deceptively hard kernel with high moisture content and high whole plant moisture. Harvest moisture level has a significant effect on fermentation and mycotoxin risk. Conditions are favorable in the 2019 crop for mycotoxins so be on special alert and monitor accordingly. In initial reports from Alltech, early testing of the 2019 crop is showing levels significantly higher than average values.

A special thank you to John Winchell for all the hard work he provided in testing these samples and assembling this data!

