2020 Official Rules & Regulations

All samples/entries:

* Samples must be grown on the farm of the entrant.

* Samples must be from a regular forage production field and harvesting system.

* A farm unit may enter one entry per class.

Harvest Year	Sample Size	Class		Crop/Plant/Sample Specifications	Analysis Specifications (expressed on a dry matter basis)
2019	150-200g	Grass Hay	Any mixture of grasses	**All hay samples:** Must be from a bale, any type or size; more than 18% moisture will be penalized; use of preservative is allowed.	**Hay & Haylage:** Dry matter, crude protein, acid detergent fibre (ADF), neutral detergent fibre (NDF), neutral detergent fibre digestibility (NDFD), relative forage quality (RFQ) and "milk per ton" (Milk 2006).
2019	150-200g	Alfalfa Hay	Any mixture of grass/legume		[RFQ is a ranking of forage quality based on NDFD and should not be confused with or compared to Relative Feed Value (RFV)]
2019	5 kg	Haylage-1st Cut	Any mixture of grass/legume	**All silage and haylage samples:** Must be ensiled in a normal preservation process and show signs of fermentation. Should be at least 30% dry matter. Use of a preservative is allowed. *Additives affecting fibre content or any other adulteration will disqualify the sample.	
2019	5 kg	Haylage-2nd, 3rd & 4th Cuts	Any mixture of grass/legume		
2019	5 kg	Standard Corn Silage (non-BMR)	Must be whole plant, recommended chopping height 6"-8"	*Additives are defined as any physical matter (such as grains) added to the sample to alter fibre content. Preservatives that alter fibre content are permitted.	**Corn Silage:** All of the above except RFQ
2019	5 kg	Brown Midrib (BMR) Corn Silage	Must be whole plant, recommended chopping height 6"-8"		

Judging:

The decision of the judges in ALL matters will be final.

Judging will consist of 2 rounds:

Round 1: Judges will select 6 finalists in each class based on lab analysis results. See table (right).
Hay and Haylage finalists will be chosen on Relative Forage Quality (RFQ).
The Corn Silage finalists will be chosen on "milk/ton" (Milk 2006)

Round 2: Judges will select 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place winners in each class based on the criteria in the table (right).

Sample preparation:

All samples: Once registration form(s) have been received, instructions for sample submission and lab address will be mailed for each sample. Samples must be identified with the ID label mailed with your instructions. Please do not mail samples prior to receiving submission instructions. Failure to provide the required ID will result in disqualification of your sample.

Samples are judged on the following criteria:

Round 1 Judging	Nutritional Analysis	Physical Appearance	VFA	Particle Size By Penn State
2 Hay Silage Classes	40%	30%	15%	15%
2 Corn Silage Classes	20%	50%	15%	15%
Alfalfa/Grass Hay	50%	50%		

Round 2 Judging	Nutritional Analysis	Physical Appearance	VFA	Particle Size By Penn State
2 Hay Silage Classes	50%	20%	15%	15%
2 Corn Silage Classes	50%	20%	15%	15%
Alfalfa/Grass Hay	50%	50%		

This competition is endorsed by: Ontario Forage Council CFGA DAIRY FARMERS OF CANADA LES PRODUCTEURS LAITIERS DU CANADA