

Step 21

Calculate pounds of TDN in each unit of sale.

Livestock do not require a certain amount of dry feed but rather require a certain amount of digestible feed. Similar to trucking water, purchasing and transporting indigestible feed can be costly. To calculate the pounds of TDN in each unit of sale, multiply the pounds of dry matter in each unit (column G) by the percent TDN in the feedstuff (column C). Calculations of pounds of TDN in each unit of sale are shown in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Calculations for pounds of TDN in each unit of sale.

Feed	(Column G)	×	(Column C)	=	(Column H)
	DM in Each Unit of Sale, lbs		Percent TDN		Result, lbs TDN**
Prairie hay	1,800	×	46	=	828
Alfalfa hay	1,800	×	57	=	1,026
Corn silage	700	×	70	=	490
Barley	42.2	×	84	=	35.4

** Note: To make the appropriate calculation, use the percentage as a decimal of 100 (for example, 90 % DM = 0.90) or divide the end result by 100.

In this example, alfalfa hay was added to the calculation table to illustrate the difference in pounds of TDN per ton, compared with prairie hay. The TDN values of the two respective feedstuffs result in a difference of nearly 200 pounds of TDN in each ton.

Moving to barley, 35.5 pounds of TDN are present in each 48 pound bushel. Similarly, 1 ton of barley would have resulted in 1,478 pounds of TDN, which is almost 1,000 pounds more than corn silage on an as-fed basis.

▼ Use Table 5 to calculate the pounds of TDN in your feedstuffs.

Table 5. Calculations for pounds of TDN in your feeds.

Feed	(Column G)	×	(Column C)	=	(Column H)
	DM in Each Unit of Sale, lbs		Percent TDN		Result, lbs TDN**
_____	_____	×	_____	=	_____
_____	_____	×	_____	=	_____
_____	_____	×	_____	=	_____
_____	_____	×	_____	=	_____
_____	_____	×	_____	=	_____

** Note: To make the appropriate calculation, use the percentage as a decimal of 100 (for example, 90 % DM = 0.90) or divide the end result by 100.