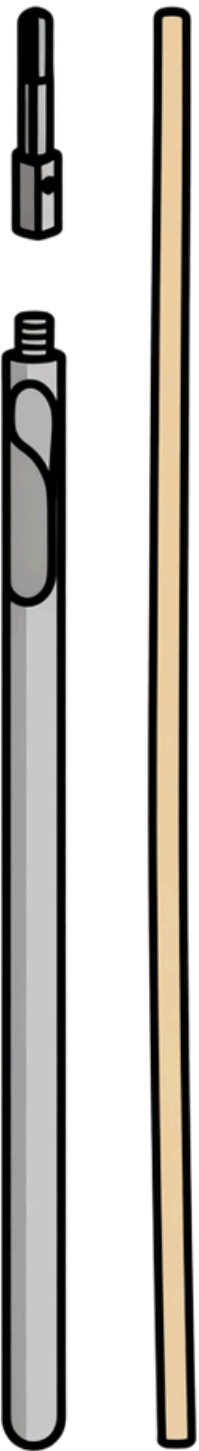


Forage Testing 101

Forage is an essential part of many livestock's diets.

While you can usually identify good-quality hay by smell and feel, these traits alone don't always tell the whole story. A hay analysis or test reveals the specific amounts of nutrients found in the sampled hay. To

test hay, you will need:



Hay Sampler



Sandwich Bag



Sharpie



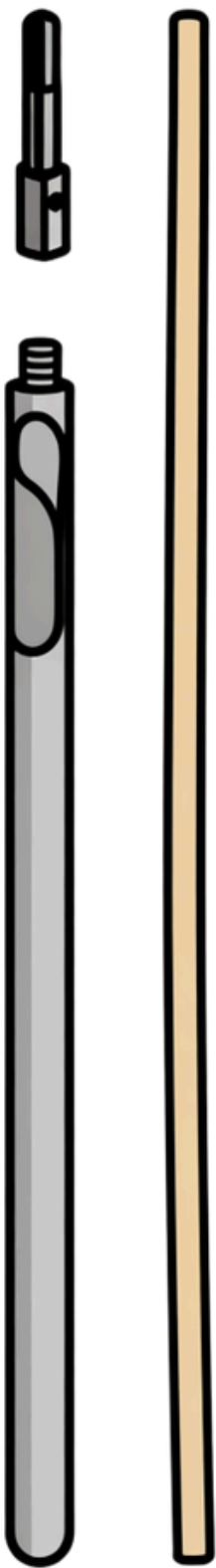
Drill



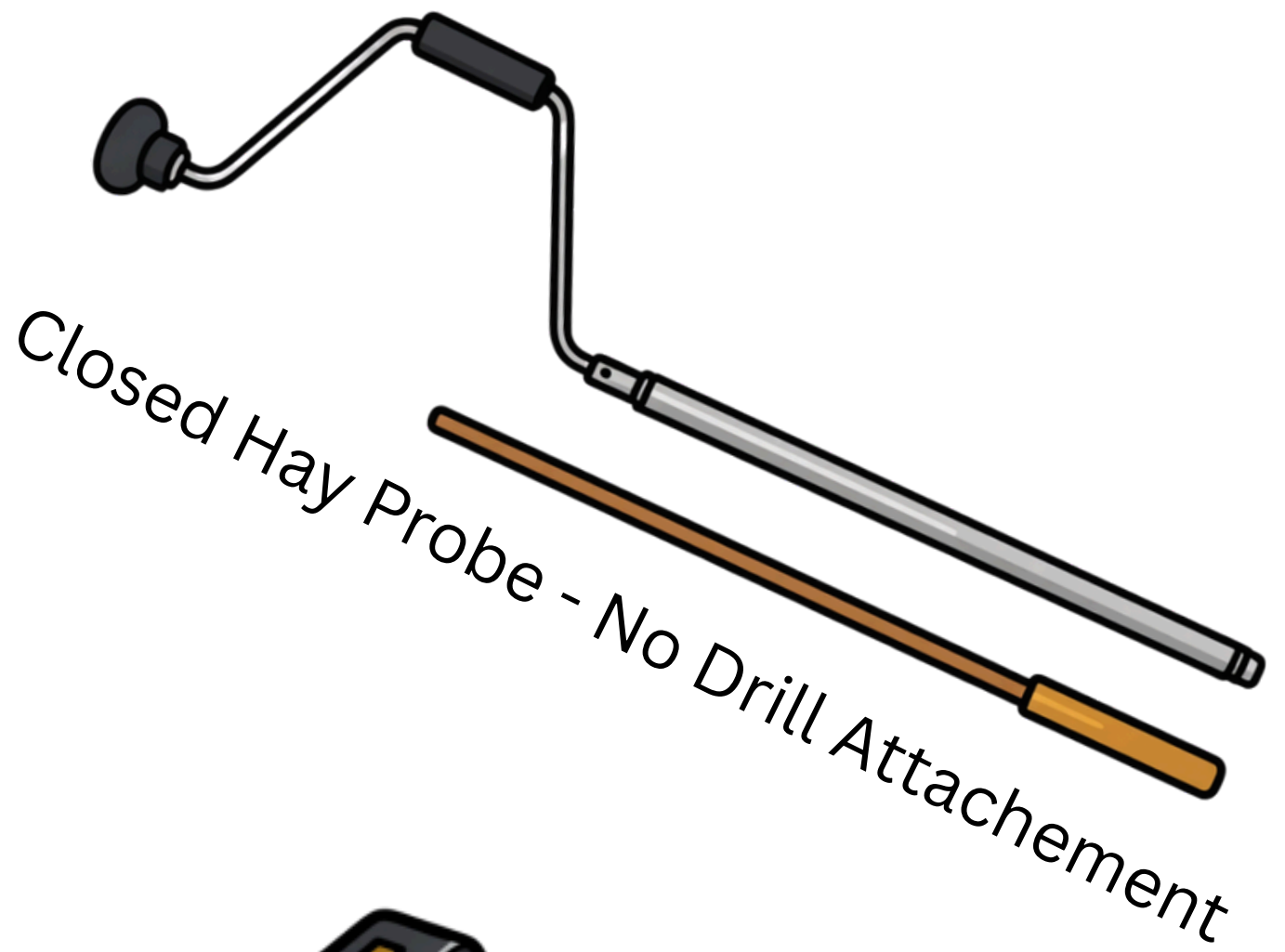
10 Gallon Bucket

Hay Samplers

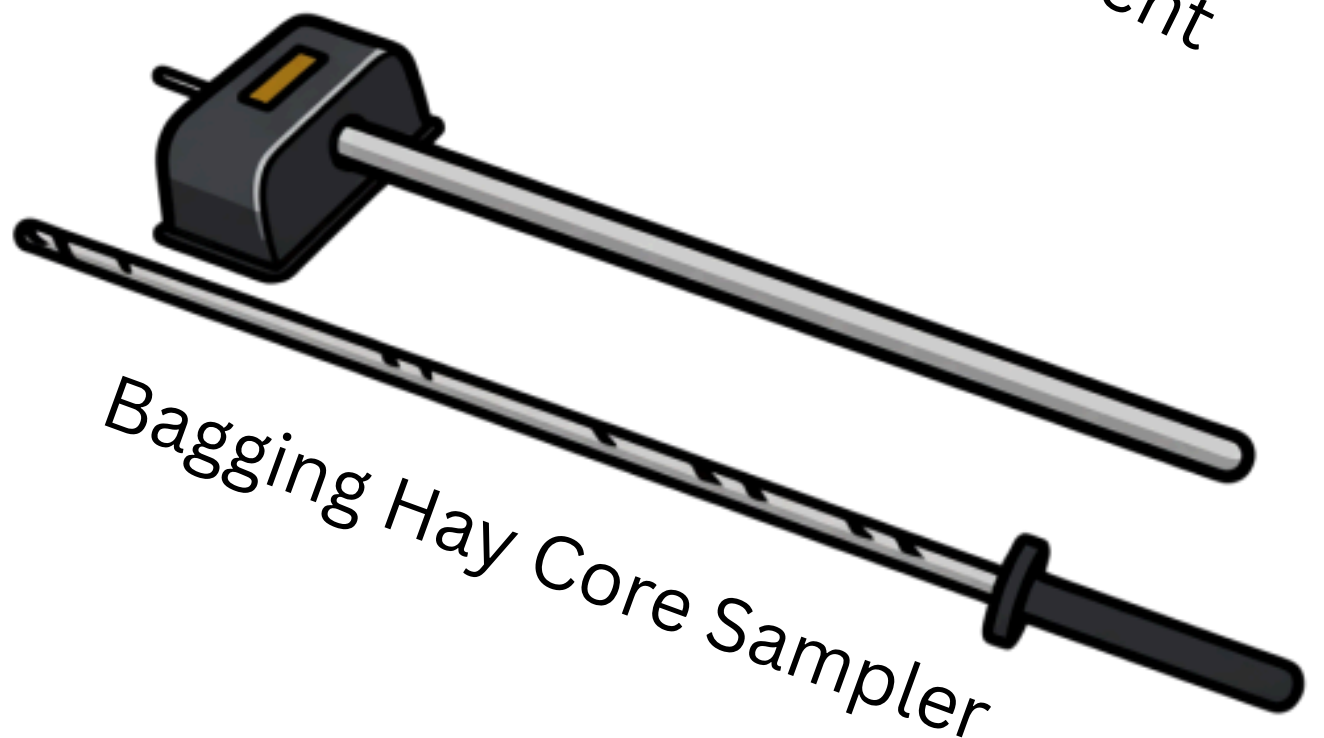
Hay samplers come in a variety of different sizes and shapes. Below are some of the more popular varieties:



Hay Sampler to attach to a drill



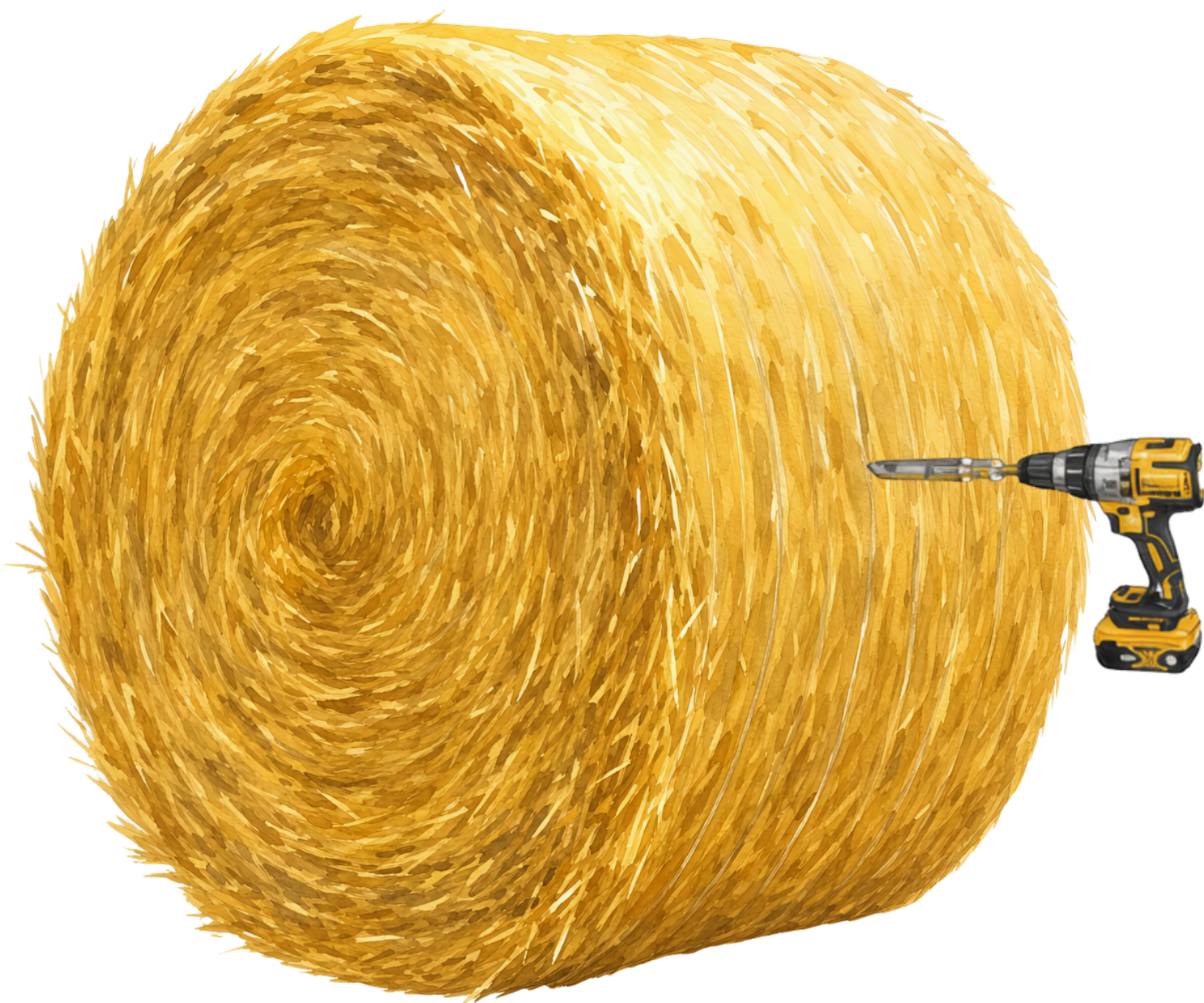
Closed Hay Probe - No Drill Attachment



Bagging Hay Core Sampler

Testing a Round Bale

To test a round bale, approach the round side (curved net-wrapped or twine-wrapped side) of the bale and have your probe pointing towards the center of the bale. Press the probe into the bale and have it go between 12-18 inches, or almost the length of the probe. This way, you will get samples from multiple layers of the bale.



Do not push too hard or fast, as it creates a risk for fire. Do not test from the flat ends or caps - you will not get a good sample as you will only test one layer and tangling is more likely to occur.

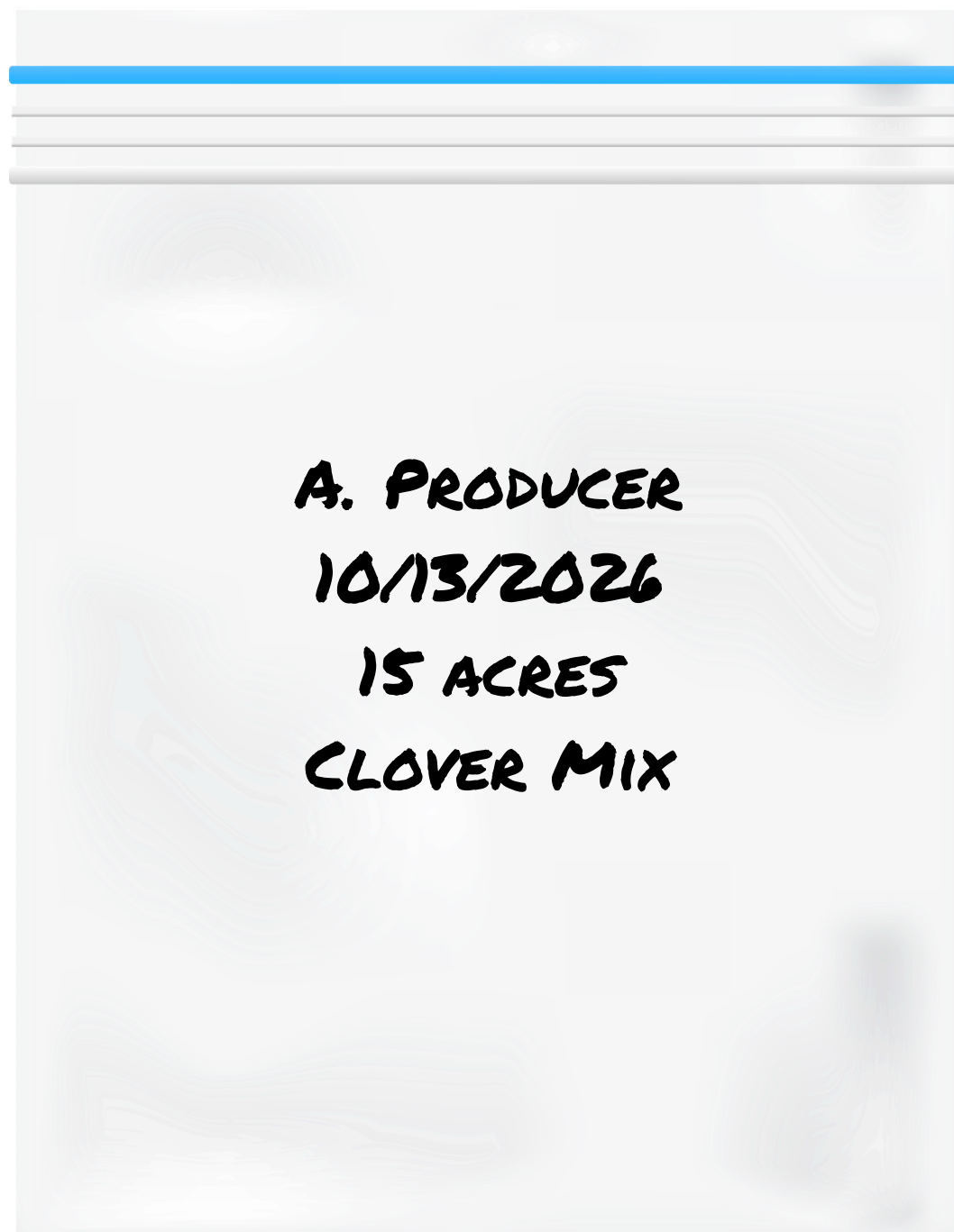
Testing a Square Bale

To test a square or rectangle bale, approach the cut/butt end of the bale between the twines have your probe pointing towards the center of the bale. Press the probe into the bale and have it go between 12-18 inches, or almost the length of the probe.



For square bales, hand pulling the hay from the ends of the bale is also accepted.

Once you have collected samples from 5-10 bales, label a quart to gallon sized bag with the producer's name, the date, acreage for sample collected, and the mix that makes up the forage being sampled.



Once collected, you will use Feed Sample FD4 as your test through Spectrum Analytics.

Submission Info	
Sample Type	Feed
Sample Date	10-20-2026 Choose Date
Samples being Submitted	1 Set - +

Grower/Client Info	
Account	
Name	PRODUCER NAME
Address	1234 ANYWHERE RD
City	ANYTOWN
State	OH
ZIP	
Farm	
Data Service (if applicable)	
Service Name	None

Sample Information		
	Sample ID	Tests
	Fill Seq	Fill
		Pkg
☐		FD4

Put in this box the name associated with the field or the number for FSA



<https://spectrumanalytic.com>

Oakfield Hay Sampler



AgraTronix Sampler

Oakfield Apparatus Open Probe



If you have any questions, just let us know! A copy of this presentation will also be available to download off our website.

Ashley Hansen
agtechnician.jacksonswcd@gmail.com
(740) 577-7082

Danny Barger
jackson.swcd.oh@gmail.com
740-286-5208 ex 3

