

“We have been growing maize for almost 15 years. It has become a large part of our cow’s winter and early spring diet. As the costs of growing and harvesting maize has increased considerably over that time low wastage has become a high priority. Up to this past winter our stack has been covered with an oxygen barrier layer and a heavy shade cloth with tyres laid over the entire surface. After the first year of Weka damage a large bird net was also slung over the top of the tyres. Damage from the birds continued to increase with more and more wastage each year. Winter/Spring 2023 we had our highest wastage. Weka had punched a large number of holes through the netting and down into our shade cover. Valuable time was spent ensuring spoiled maize was not included into the cow feed. Overall we probably wasted a considerable amount of maize.

A new solution was required. Googling – “maize stack covers” brought us to the Cosio website and their GeoSmart Cover. The cover was easily installed and due to its own weight no tyres were used making the stack covering process much less labour intensive. The Wekas made no attempt to punch their way into the stack and therefore 0% wastage due to birds. The Cosio Geosmart Cover has been a great investment saving a huge amount of time and money.”

Rob and Michelle Little, West Coast

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“These covers have made a big difference in covering our maize stack. In the past Pūkekos would make holes in the cover through autumn, we would put an extra cover over the stack but this made a great place for rats to spend the winter. By spring there would be wastage from rats and holes. The Geosmart cover has eliminated this problem altogether.

Covering the stack with GeoSmart is quick and easy. We use 10 meter lengths rolled on a PVC tube, hang them from the tractor loader and back down the stack. One person can move the cover into place and with only a small amount of sand bags or tyres to hold it in place it takes half the time to cover a stack compared to a traditional cover.

Add to this there are no piles of plastic waste at the end of the season saving on disposal costs it has made it a very good investment.”

Ross Patching, Golden Bay

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“By investing in Geosmart silage covers we have insured that every bit of maize silage is utilized and of good quality.

We have less wastage, down to less than 1% at the stack. These covers are easy to use and good for the environment as they are reusable for many years.”

Dave Muggerridge, Tātuanui

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“These covers are made out of the same material as my lined effluent pond (11 years and hasn’t aged a bit) I was getting sick of having to tape holes and boot marks every time we put a new cover on and finding wasted rotten areas when I feed out the maize. I reckon I could drive my two wheeler over it and have no issues. This is a game changer for feed covering in NZ “

Erwin Heblers - Hāwera