



# JOHN DEERE XTRAFILM: INSTRUCTION MANUAL

## THE FILM

- JOHN DEERE XtraFilm is a high quality 5 layer silage stretch film manufactured exclusively to John Deere specifications.
- JOHN DEERE XtraFilm quality is known for a very high tackifier, good mechanical strength, high puncture resistance and tear resistance. All these properties, combined with high elasticity of the film, result in a very good performance on all bale wrapping machines for both round bales as for square bales.
- JOHN DEERE XtraFilm may be used up to 2 years after production date. The pallet label mentions the production date.
- JOHN DEERE XtraFilm is available in white, black and light green.
- JOHN DEERE XtraFilm has excellent properties such as an optimal protection against UV radiation for a period of 12 months after wrapping and with a maximum of 120 kLy.

## BEFORE WRAPPING

The best moment to cut is the moment between early flowering and full flowering of the grass. In order to obtain a well-formed bale, it is important that the swathes are more or less uniform in density and size. A DM % between 35 % and 50 % should be aimed for. The drying process should be restricted to max. 36 hours after cutting.

Before use, we recommend storing the film for 24 hours in a room with a temperature of about 20°C to 30°C. This will increase the tack properties, which are necessary to obtain a good stick effect around the bale.

It is crucial that the silage in the bale is not contaminated with soil. Special attention should be given to the density of the bale as well as the level of DM % so that the silage will keep its good quality and the bale its shape for a longer period.

## THE WRAPPING

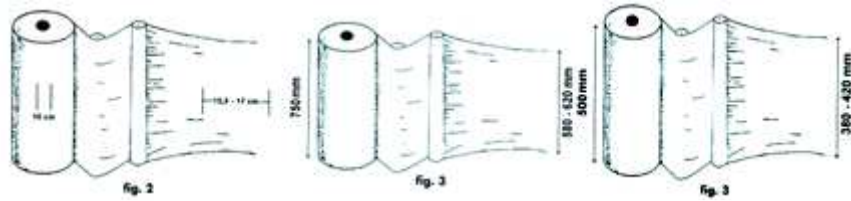
The bales should be wrapped at the latest within 2 hours after pressing. (fig.1)



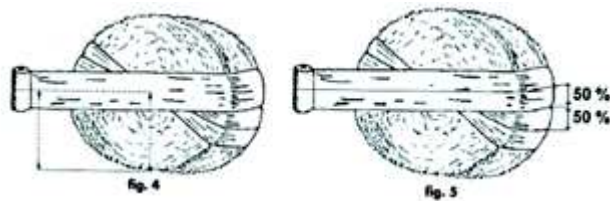
JOHN DEERE XtraFilm should be pre-stretched between 55 % and 70 %. In other words a 10 cm line marked on the roll should result in a length between 15,5 cm and 17 cm after pre-stretch. Or a film width of 750 mm => 580 mm – 620 mm. (fig. 2. & fig. 3)



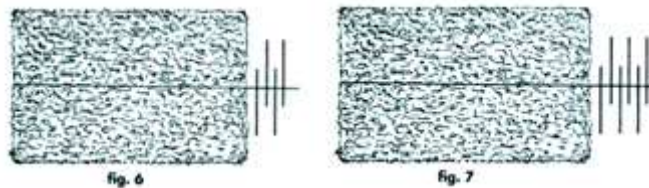
# JOHN DEERE



The film should be centred precisely in the middle of the bale and should overlap the previous layer by at least 50 %. (fig. 4 & fig. 5)



The bale should be covered completely with a minimum of 4 layers. Apply the 2 + 2 system. When for any reason, a complete coverage of the bale cannot be obtained using the 2 + 2 system, 2 extra layers should be added by applying the 2 + 2 + 2 system. Follow strictly the instructions in fig. 6 & fig7.



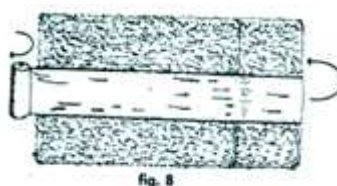
In order to count the required rotations of the bale wrapping machine, follow the instructions beneath:

- Count the rotations needed by the bale-wrapping machine to cover the bale completely with minimum 50% overlap = X.
- Add one rotation extra to this number = X + 1.
- Multiply the result by 2 = ( X + 1 ) x 2, which will result in 4 layer coverage. Or,
- Multiply the result by 3 = ( X + 1 ) x 3, which will result in 6 layer coverage.

Please remember that in some cases even more layers are requested in order to protect the content of the bale effectively. This could eventually be the case with a high content of hard fibres, when the DM % is too low, or with badly formed bales. A special attention should be given to square bales, since they are much more difficult to wrap.

Badly formed bales or bales with a too low DM %, should be wrapped with at least 6 layers. In some extreme cases even 8 layers are recommended. Standard rule is "The more layers around the bale, the better the protection of the content and the less risks."

Make sure that the outside face of the reel will be the inside face on the bale. Follow the instructions accordingly. (fig. 8)





Wrapping during rain or hail showers is strongly advised against, since humidity decreases the stick properties of your film.

## THE STORAGE OF BALES

- Limit handling and transport of the wrapped bales as much as possible. It is also advised to wrap close to the final storage place so that the handling and/or transport, which may damage the film, can be reduced.
- The bales must be transported and stored *immediately* after wrapping.
- Be careful that the film is not damaged during transport or handling.
- Any damage of the film should be repaired immediately, using UV resistant adhesive tape or wrap again.
- Store the bales for maximum one season. Ideal is to choose a storage place, free from rocks and stones, well drained and preferably away from trees and hedges.
- The bales should also be stored at least 10 metres from a watercourse.
- The bales should be protected against animals by a fence around the storage place. Protect the bales also against birds by covering them by a bird net, which can be placed over these bales.
- Check the storage place regularly for film damage, caused by animals and vermin and repair a.s.a.p. by using a UV resistant adhesive tape.
- Several products from chemical origin can severely damage the film. Products like artificial fertilisers, insecticides, weed killers, mineral oil and solvents will increase drastically film degradation. Certain chemical components like sulphur and chlorine damage your film dramatically. The wrapped bales have to be kept safety from those chemical products and components at all time.
- Round bales should be stacked preferably standing upright.
- Both round bales, as square bales may be stacked on top of each other. Well-shaped bales with a high DM % may, if necessary, be stacked 3 high. We advise however to stack the well shaped bales only 2 high. Under no circumstances, must the bales become deformed during the storage period.

## STORAGE OF THE FILM

Preserve the film in the original carton boxes and in a dry place, sheltered from sunlight. The JOHN DEERE XtraFilm reel has to be stored in upright position, on the pallet or off the ground and free from humidity.

## PROBLEMS

The production reference number is marked on the label, which you can find in the core. Keep the labels or the entire cores with you. Any eventual complaint can only be treated when it is referring to those production reference numbers.

In case of eventual problems, stop wrapping immediately and warn your local JOHN DEERE XtraFilm distributor or machine service without any further delay. The directives and recommendations mentioned herein are based on our knowledge and practical experience. Since we cannot control the circumstances and conditions under which the film is being applied, this document does not contain any guarantee or responsibility.