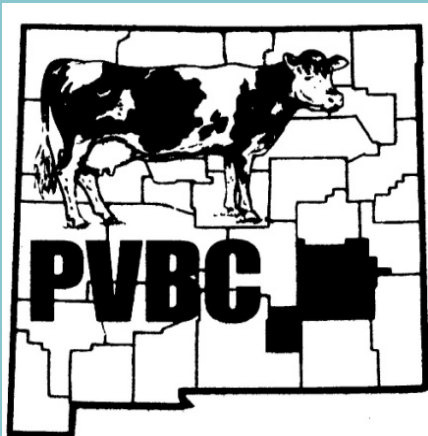


Pecos Valley Biomass Cooperative's Feasibility Study for Dry Lot Dairy Manure to Energy

David Belcher & Gerry Greathouse

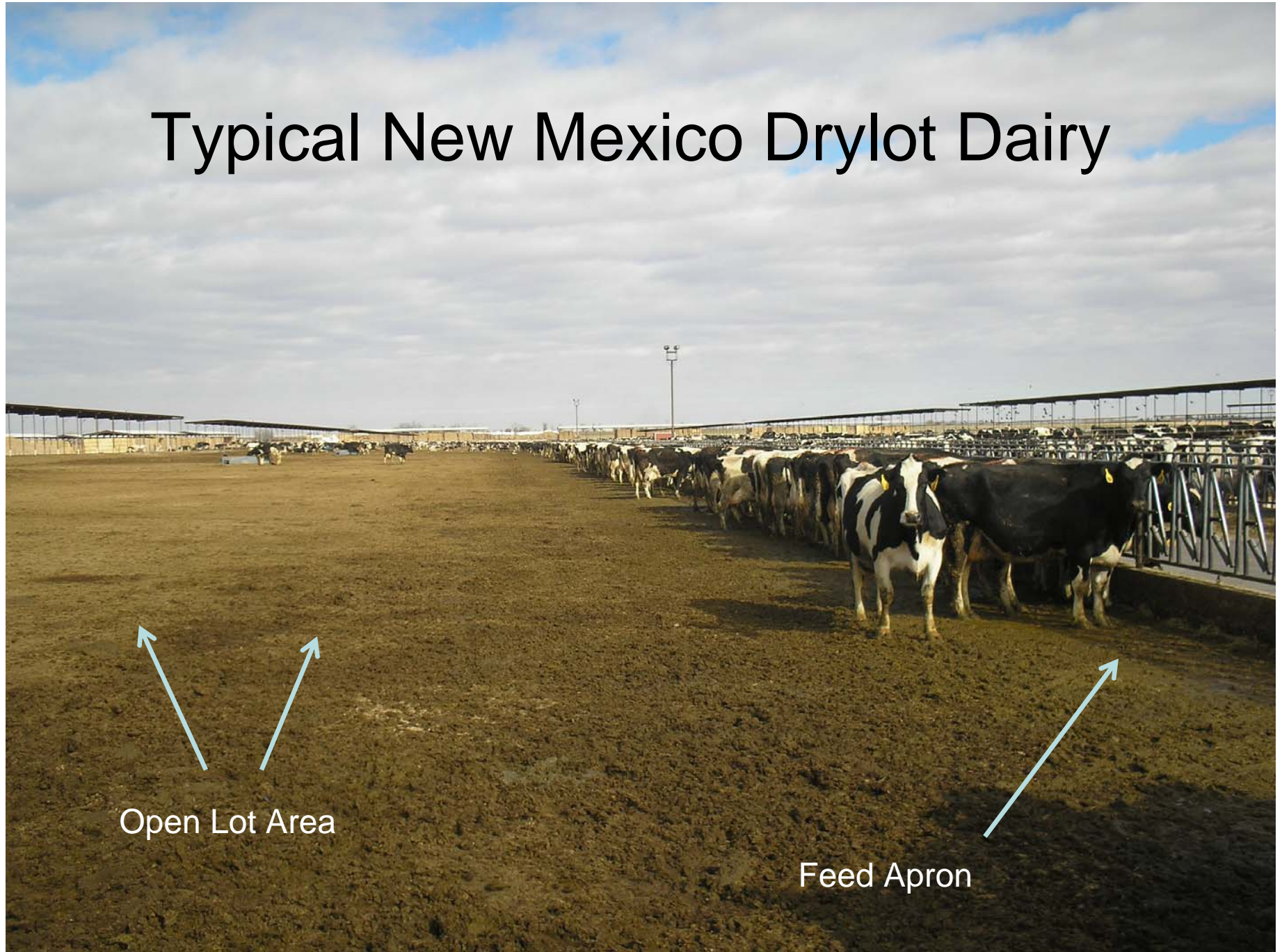


Renewable Energy
Education Field Day
October 26, 2011

Background

- NM = Dry lot dairies in hot arid conditions
- Traditional digestion has not been successful for this type of dairy production
- Pecos Valley Biomass Coop represents 23 dairies & 60,000 milking cows and was formed to identify suitable technologies
- DOE funding was provided to support completion of a comprehensive technical & economic feasibility study

Typical New Mexico Drylot Dairy



Open Lot Area

Feed Apron

Feasibility Study Sampling

- Three different sample events to collect manure solids from 3 different sources:
 - Daily (feed apron) scrape
 - Weekly (whole corral area) scrape
 - Greenwater (milking parlor flush)
- Aug '09 – Mar '10: 29 WS samples from 6 dairies (avg sample size = 46 tons)
- Aug '10 – Sep '10: 18 WS and DS samples, 3 dairies (avg size = 40 tons)
- Dec '10 – Mar '11: 20 DS samples, 1 dairy, (avg sample size = 5.7 tons)

Sampling



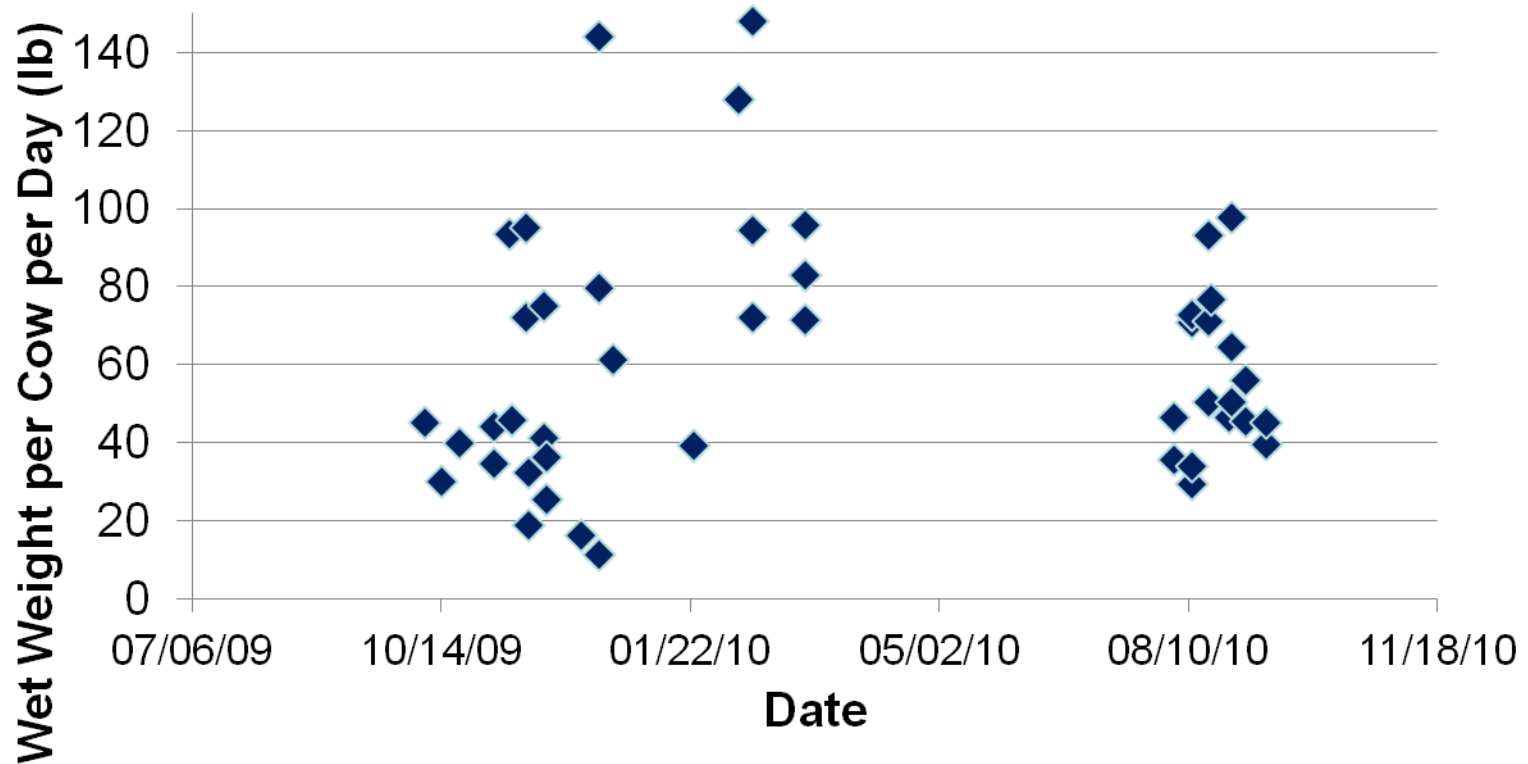
Sampling



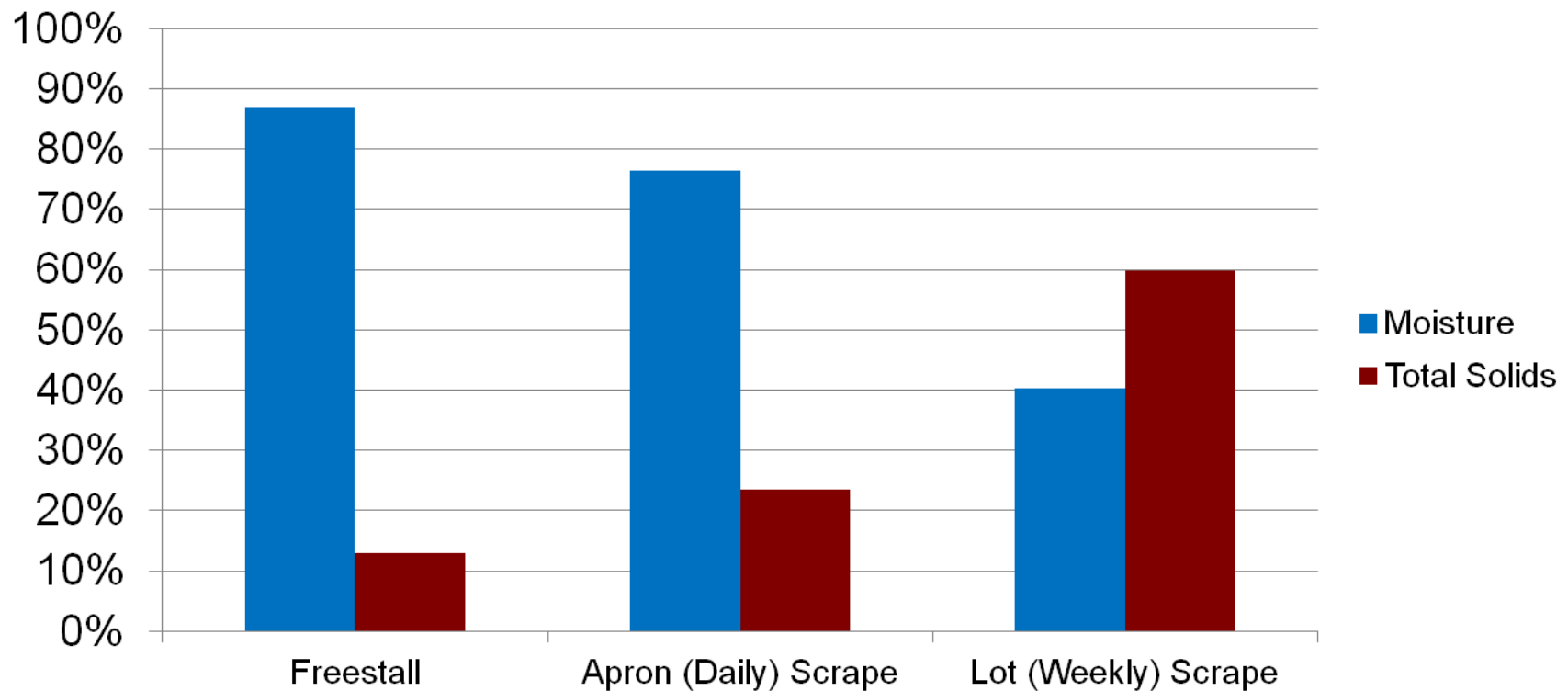
Sample Analysis

- Wet Chemistry (e.g. TS, VS, COD, BOD5, pH, N, P)
- Biomethane Production (BMP) potential
- Combustion (e.g. proximate/ultimate analysis, ash fusion temperature)

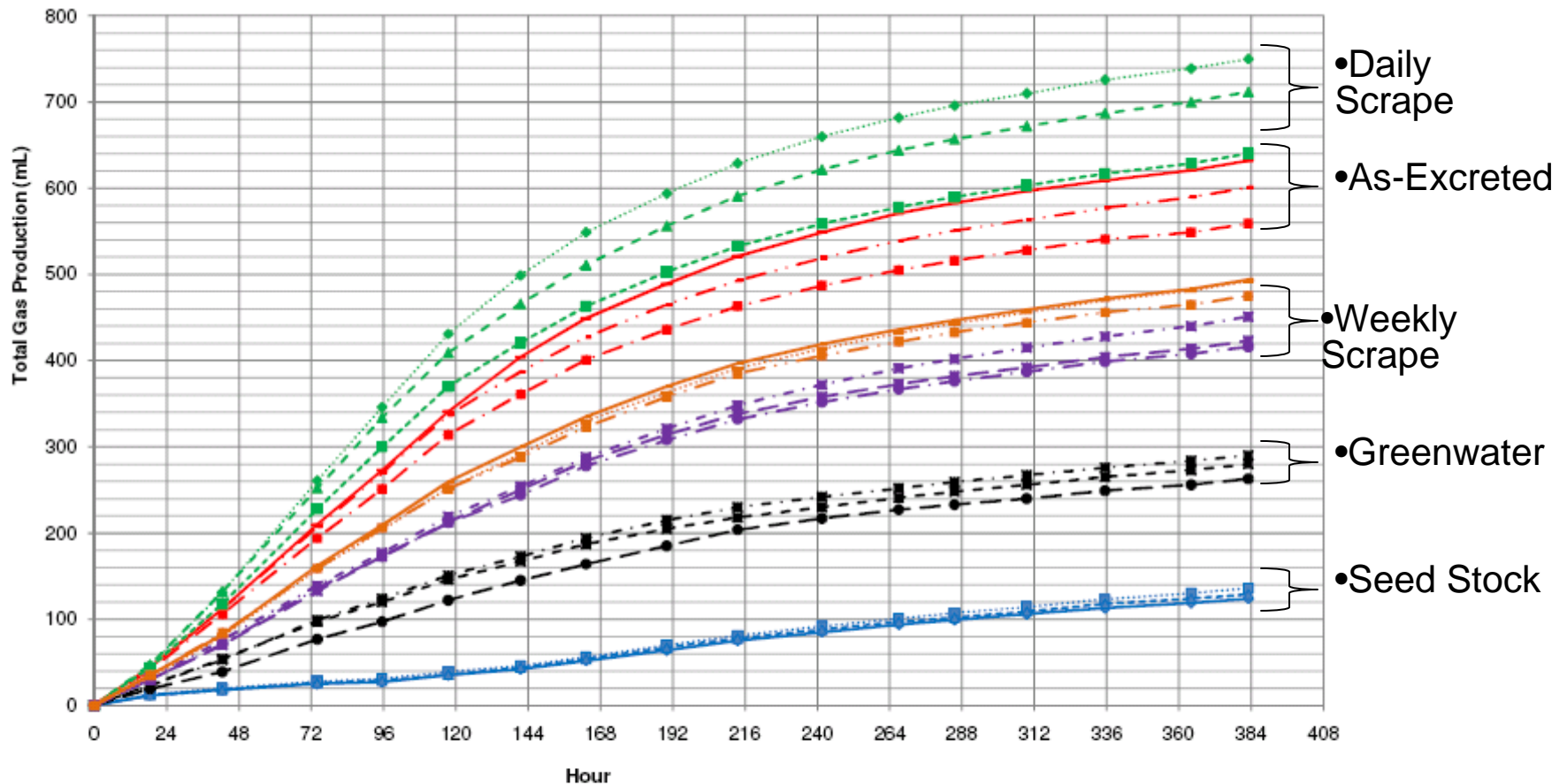
Total (Wet) Solids/Cow/Day (weekly scrape)



Average Moisture & Solids Content of NM Dry Lot and Freestall Dairy Manure

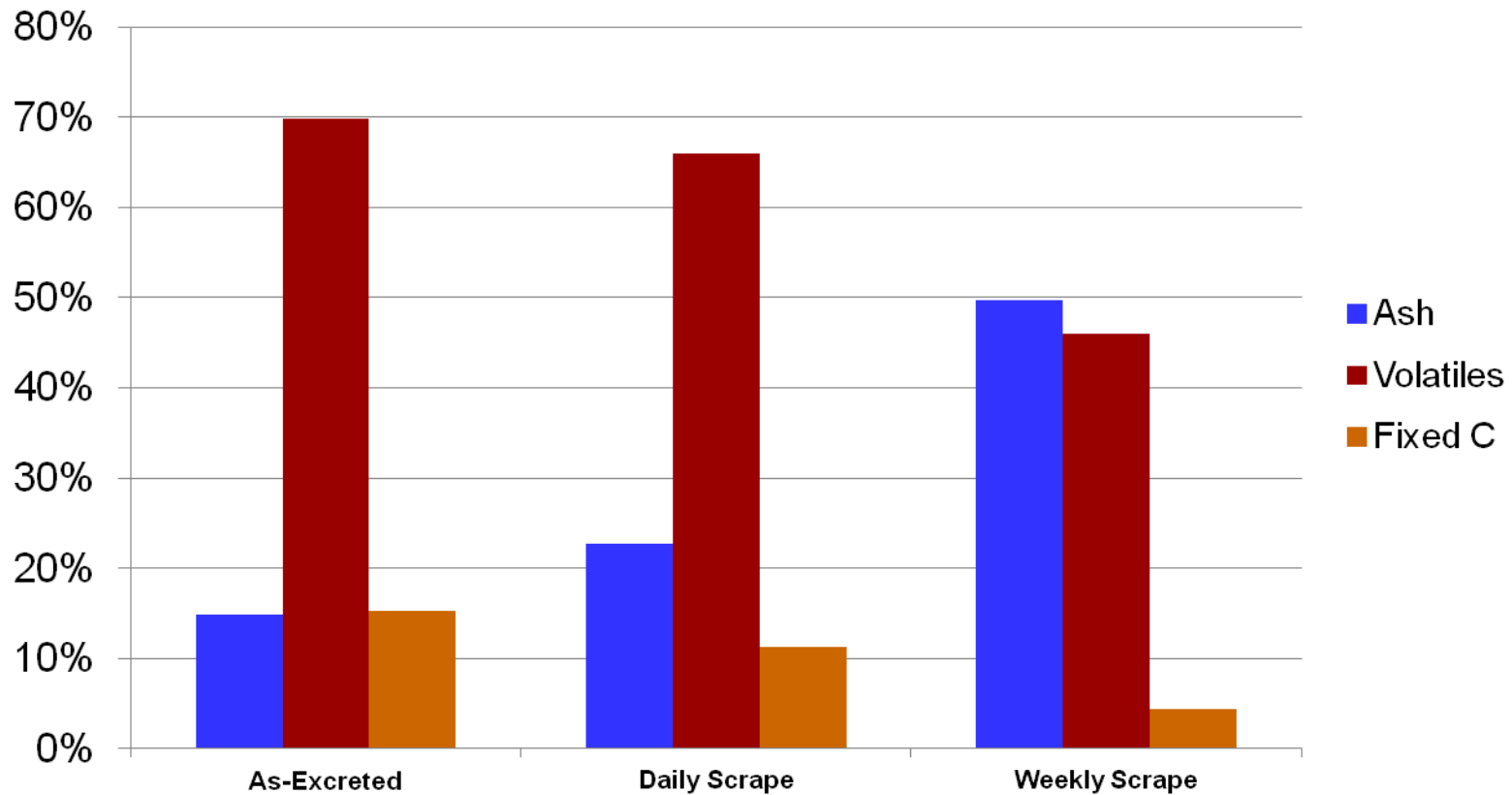


Sample Biomethane Potential (BMP) Testing Results

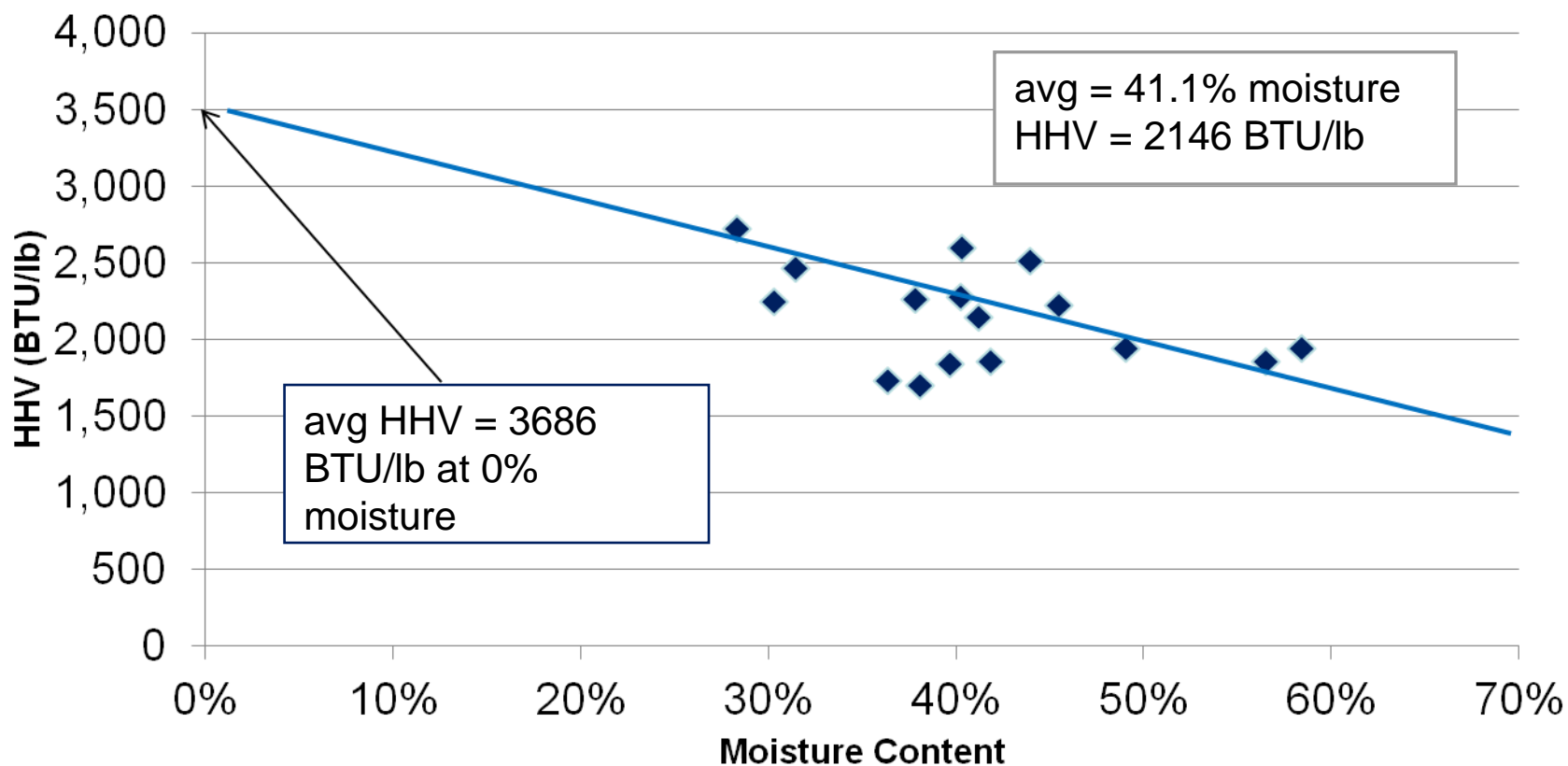


Average BMP for Weekly Scrape = 0.18 mL CH₄/mg VS loaded
 Average BMP for Daily Scrape = 0.28 mL CH₄/mg VS loaded
 Average BMP for As Excreted Manure = 0.32 mL CH₄/mg VS loaded

Ash, Volatile & Fixed Carbon Content of Samples (% dry weight basis)



Heating Value of Solids vs. Moisture Content

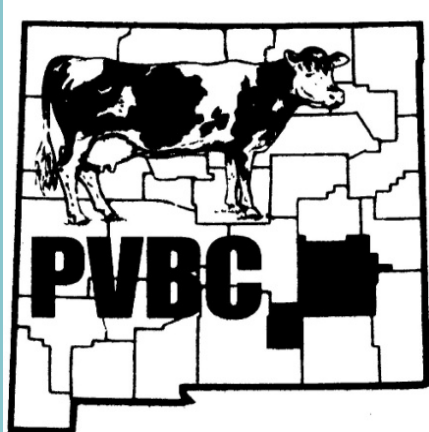


Summary

- There is variation in quantity and quality of manure solids recovered between drylot dairies (attributed to variations in weather and dairy farm practices)
- The digestion potential of manure decreases over time as solids weather and are scraped/moved around the pen area

Summary – cont.

- Do not attempt to mix and digest all corral scrape solids
- Apron scrape manure solids (collected daily) have good digestion potential
- Corral scrape solids are not suitable for digestion unless inorganic fraction can be removed
- Drylot manure solids have combustion potential



Thanks to:

- Senator Jeff Bingaman
- US Department of Energy
- Mike McCloskey and Select Milk Producers, Inc.
- New Mexico Dairy Producers Association
- NMSU Dairy Extension