

# Baler's Choice preservative



Originally launched in North America in the 1980s, Baler's Choice has revolutionised the hay and straw industry by developing the technology to bring baling into the 21st Century.

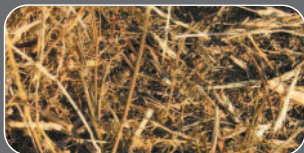
Baler's Choice has become a leading name for precision equipment for the baler market and is suitable for use across all types and make of baler, regardless of age.

Central to the complete Baler's Choice system is the Baler's Choice preservative, which uses a safe form of propionic acid that is buffered down to a near-neutral 6.0pH, making it safe to handle and non-corrosive to machinery. In addition, Baler's Choice also includes Citric acid, which ensures that the baled material stays fresh and palatable.

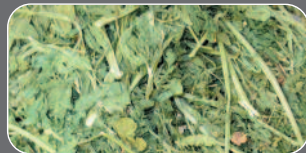
## Benefits of Baler's Choice compared to straight acids or weaker buffered acids

- Applicators suitable for all types and make of baler
- Available in 200 litre drum or 1000 litre container (Tote)
- At an average rate, 200 litres will treat approximately 4000 conventional; 400 round or 300 big square bales, depending on bale size and MC
- 6.0pH so safe to handle and non-corrosive for machinery
- More effective than straight propionic and high pH acid, but with none of the hazards
- Citric acid retains fresh green colour
- Allows crops to be baled safely from between 15% to 30% MC for conventional and round balers or 15% to 27% MC for big square balers.
- Provides a wider working window and increases the amount of baling time in a day by 30%
- Allows crops to be baled earlier, but be stored as normal even when baled at higher moistures
- Avoids the build-up of harmful moulds and dust, and produces a higher feed value crop as nutrients are retained and not lost through drying
- Hay baled at 22%MC produces 14% more hay compared to hay baled at 14%, due to less mechanical shatter and respiratory losses
- Hay baled at 22%MC produces 14% higher feed value due to less leaf and respiratory losses

### Effect of Baler's Choice at 16% to 22%



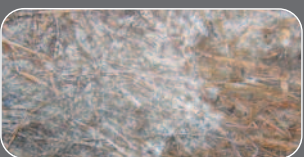
Untreated



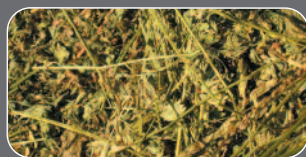
Treated with Baler's Choice

Hay baled at moistures between 16% and 22% MC will heat sufficiently to cause discoloration and lose its fresh smell. A low level of Baler's Choice will avoid this.

### Effect of Baler's Choice at 23% to 26%



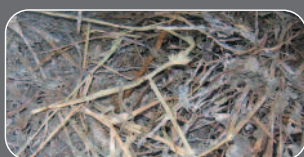
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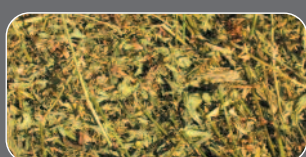
Treated with Baler's Choice

If untreated, hay baled at between 23% and 26% MC will reach temperatures of up to 120°F when stored. Mould will develop and quality drops considerably. When treated with Baler's Choice the bale will remain cool and bale colour is retained.

### Effect of Baler's Choice at above 27%



Untreated



Treated with Baler's Choice

When baled at over 27% MC, bales can reach temperatures of over 140°F, the hay will turn black and may combust. Baler's Choice continues to work at moistures of up to 30% if applied at the correct rate.

## £/tonne - the most cost effective preservative

### Baler's Choice Application Rates

	Moisture%	Application rate
<b>Big square Bales</b>	Up to 19%	1.9 Litres/Tonne
	20%-23%	2.8 Litres/Tonne
	24%-27%	4.7 Litres/Tonne
<b>Conventional and round bales</b>	Up to 22%	1.9 Litres/Tonne
	23%-26%	3.8 Litres/Tonne
	27%-30%	7.4 Litres/Tonne

Only a Baler's Choice Automatic Applicator will accurately apply these rates.

### Comparative Application Rates (round & conventional bales)

Baler's Choice	Straight propionic acid	Poor quality buffered acid
<b>16-22%: 2 l/t</b>	15-16%: 1 l/t	16-20%: 6 l/t
	16-18%: 2 l/t	
	18-20%: 4 l/t	
	20-24%: 6 l/t	
<b>23-26%: 4 l/t</b>	25-26%: 8 l/t	21-24%: 8 l/t
	<b>27-30%: 8 l/t</b>	

Due to being stronger, Baler's Choice rates are lower, so baler output is higher and stoppage time reduced.

## The main reasons why costs are higher when using substandard products:

- If the operator bales at a maximum of 100 tonnes per hour with a large square baler (4.7L/T of Baler's Choice), with a weaker product at three times the application rate per tonne, the output will be significantly reduced to 33T/Hr
- Increased down time due to refilling tank more times per day
- Substandard acids and poor buffered acid will corrode the baler and increase cost on wearing parts, such as bearings and pickup cams

## Drawbacks of other buffered acids

- These may be manufactured by a non-agricultural company and so not tested for agricultural use
- Other products may require up to 50% more product to be applied at most moisture ranges. Baler's Choice is 2-3 stronger than other poorly buffered acids
- Other products may not be recommended for large square bales
- If used with the Baler's Choice applicator, non-recommended preservatives may damage components, so voiding warranty

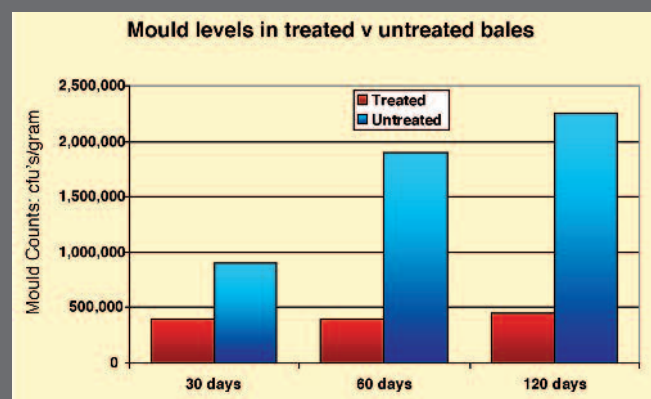
**There is no substitute for the highest quality and low operating cost that Baler's Choice offers every baler operator and end user!**

## Mould in hay and straw

When it comes to baling hay or straw, rain can not only result in delays, but a loss of quality due to reduced nutritional value and the risk of dust or mould developing, which will then build-up during the winter.

The micro-toxins present in a dusty or mouldy bale can be a major challenge to the respiratory system and the cause of illness. In humans the most common association would be 'farmer's lung', but in livestock or poultry the spores will result in respiratory illness, loss of performance and potentially can lead to abortion, whilst in horses it can result in hypersensitivity or chronic coughing.

In trials at the University of Wisconsin hay harvested at 22%MC was tested after 120 days. In untreated bales, mould counts rose considerably to around 2,250,000 cfu's/gram, whilst those in the bales treated with propionic acid remained at the same virtually insignificant levels.



Source: University of Wisconsin trials 2002

## Baler's Choice Automatic Preservative Applicators

For optimum results, Baler's Choice market a range of Automatic Preservative Applicators that are designed specifically for use with Baler's Choice preservative. The Baler's Choice Applicator range includes systems designed for all makes and model of big square, round and conventional sized baler, ensuring you can achieve the best possible quality hay and straw.

The latest Baler's Choice equipment is based around a highly accurate moisture meter, and now offers ISOBUS compatibility with extra high output systems for the highest capacity big square balers. By using a Baler's Choice applicator system, this will ensure that Baler's Choice preservative is applied at exactly the right application rate relative to the moisture content of the crop. This not only ensures cost effectiveness but also optimum quality bales.

Depending on the make of baler, options include a Dye Marker to highlight high moisture bales, whilst Data Tagging enables full traceability of the bales from field to end-market. GPS yield mapping compliments the options for the growers who utilise combine yield mapping and variable rate fertiliser application.



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**Baler's  
Choice**