

# A Short 4-Barrel Trial at Faithful Venture Farm, with about 14 Heifers

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And special thanks to Faithful Venture Farmers Glendon & Jody Mehuren, for supporting leaf-silage harvest there, and for counting heifers so many times (those who escape are hard to count) .

# Faithful Venture Farm

I fed a barrel/day, each a different species, for 4 days, to about 14\* mostly Holstein heifers.

Elm and Ash disappeared fastest.


This was Elm. In 23 min, 37 lbs (of 39) was eaten. I gave the 2 lbs of sticks back, & they eagerly sorted through some more.



\*We started with 16 heifers, but small ones could climb over this feed-wall, so a couple got relocated to a younger group during my trial-period. Glendon and Jody Mehuren confused each other about this, and re-counted the group for me multiple times :)

Red Oak:  
A bit more work  
to chew, and more  
twigs attached.  
They ate steadily.



A black plastic crate is shown from a high-angle perspective, tilted slightly to the right. The crate is filled with a mixture of dried, brownish-green leaves and thin, light-brown sticks. The crate sits on a patch of snow, with some dry, yellowish-brown grass or straw visible around it. The background is a mix of white snow and brown grass. The text is overlaid in the lower-left quadrant of the image.

After 50 minutes,  
8¼ lbs were left of 35.

Green Ash: In 30 Minutes, 99% of leaves from 44 lbs of leaf-silage were eaten; 7¼ lbs twigs were left.



Black Locust:  
In 30 Minutes,  
24 lbs (of 33¾)  
were eaten;  
9¾ lbs twigs  
were left.





Heifer 296 liked to eat the thorny Black Locust twigs!

(That was the coldest week in January; very sorry that my camera fogged up.)