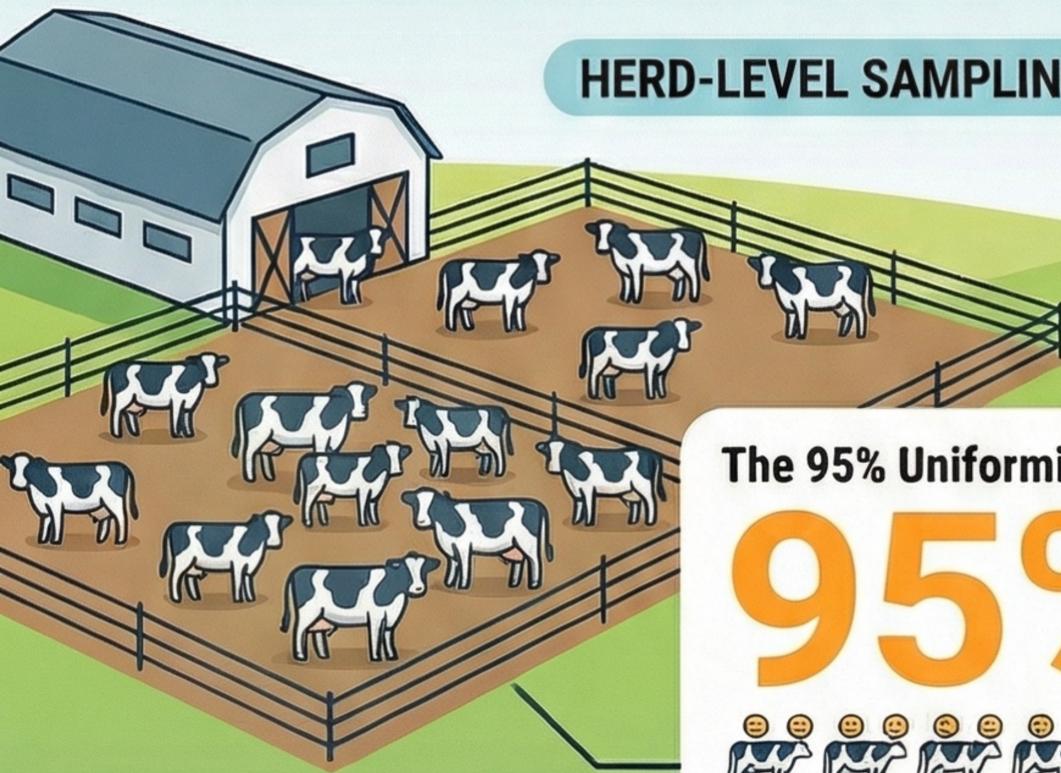


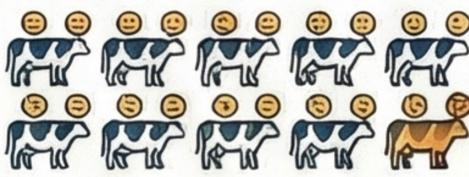
Bovine Manure Sampling: The "Short-Term Report Card" Protocol

HERD-LEVEL SAMPLING STRATEGY



The 95% Uniformity Rule

95%



In a well-mixed ration, 95% of cows in a group should have the same score.



Post-Diet Change Re-evaluation:

Re-evaluate manure consistency 3-4 days after a ration change for the most accurate reading.

Focus on Pen-Level Data:

Collect data at the group level to distinguish systemic ration issues from individual health problems.

RECOMMENDED SAMPLING FREQUENCY (PREVENT LOSSES)

Herd Size (Milking Cows)	Samples per Day	Sampling Interval
100 Cows 	2 Samples	Every 10 Days
200 Cows 	3 Samples	Every 6 Days
>1,000 Cows 	3 Samples	Every 4 Days

THE ON-FARM SIEVE PROTOCOL



Collection and Rinsing

Place a 1-cup sample in a 1.6mm sieve and rinse gently until water runs clear.

Well-digested optimally digested manure than 0.5 inches.



Target Fiber Length: Optimally digested manure should contain very few fiber particles longer than 0.5 inches.

Identifying "Lost Profit" Particles



Look for whole cottonseeds or grain fragments, which signal critical failures in rumen retention.