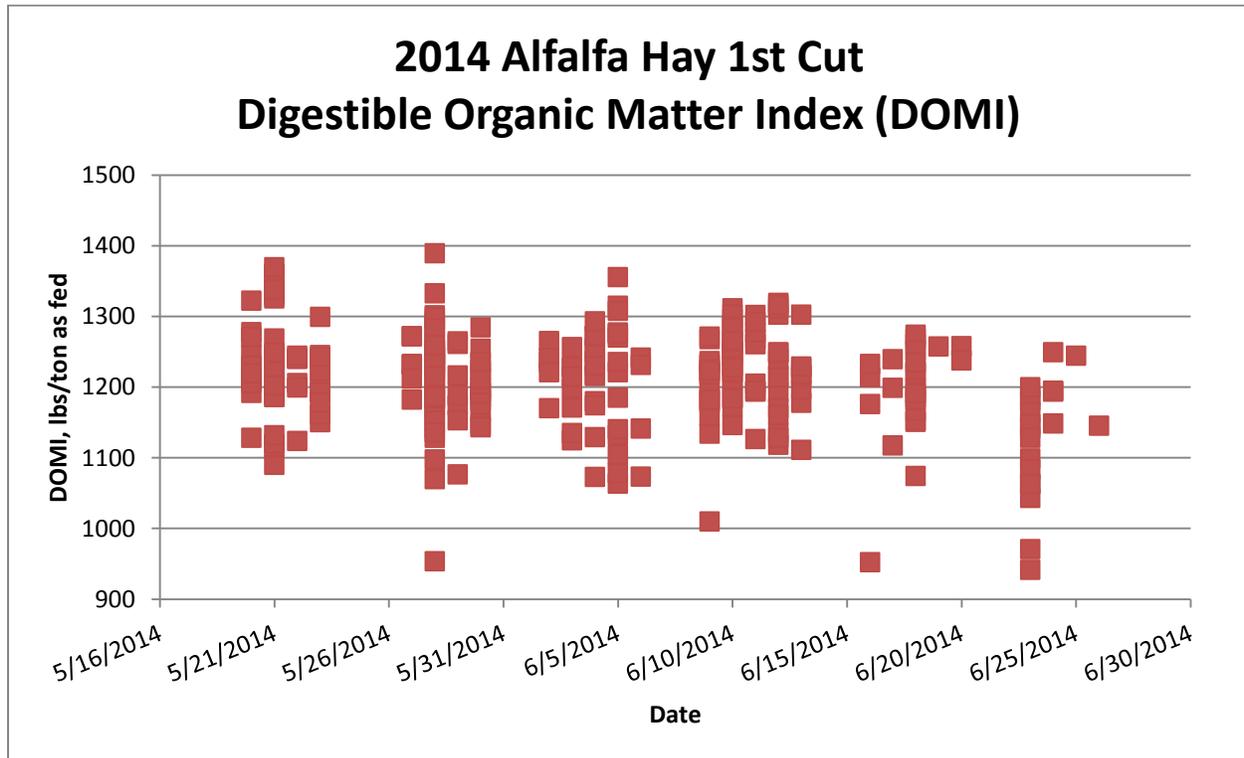


2014 1st Cut Alfalfa Hay Digestible Organic Matter Index (DOMI)



Take home message:

1. DOMI is an index that can be used to rank forages (except for corn silage) based on nutritional quality
2. DOMI estimates the pounds of digestible organic matter in a ton of feed on an as-fed basis
3. DOMI corrects for ash content and estimates the amount of indigestible NDF present in the forage (which the RFV equation **does not** account for)
4. DOMI is an effective tool to help with pricing forages that should be considered by management teams on dairies
5. **Ag Health Labs is currently reporting DOMI values on both NIR and wet chemistry results**

Factors that effect DOMI:

1. High ash = Lower DOMI
2. High NDF concentration (% DM) = Lower DOMI
3. Lower NDF digestibility = Lower DOMI
4. Increased moisture = Lower DOMI