

# Calculating the Volume of Sugar in a Silo

Use the calculations for the volume of a cylinder :  $\pi r^2 h$

- Determine the radius (r) in feet (ft) (the diameter of the bin divided by 2).
- Multiply the radius (r) times the radius (r) =  $r \text{ ft}^2$
- Multiply the result of  $r \text{ ft}^2$  times  $\pi$  (3.141) times 1 ft. =  $x \text{ ft}^3$
- Sugar averages 56 pounds per  $\text{ft}^3$ : Multiply 56 lbs times  $x \text{ ft}^3 = x \text{ lbs}$  of sugar
- Divide  $x \text{ lbs}$  of sugar by 12 inches = lbs of sugar per inch

## EXAMPLE:

- Silo diameter is 20 ft. Therefore radius (r) equals 10.
- $r$  times  $r$  ( $r^2$ ) =  $100 \text{ ft}^2$ .
- $100 \text{ ft}^2$  times  $\pi$  (3.141) times 1 ft =  $314.1 \text{ ft}^3$ .
- $314.1 \text{ ft}^3$  multiplied by 56 pounds  $\text{ft}^3 = 17,590 \text{ lbs}$  of sugar.
- Divide 17,590 lbs by 12 inches = 1,465.8 lbs of sugar per inch.

**Therefore, if this silo has 20 ft (240 inches) of sugar in it,**  
240 inches multiplied by 1,465.8 lbs of sugar per inch = 351,792 lbs of sugar

