



Cumberland Valley Analytical Services



Forage Lab News and Analytics

We are excited to be offering a number of new and enhanced services for forage and feed evaluation. Additional information will be forthcoming on our website related to each of the following items.

We have appended an example NIR analysis for you to review our new report format and NIR information offerings. The new report format is available from our website client data management system. Starting November 1, 2012, all routine reporting will be in the new format. This new reporting platform will allow us to make available some exciting analytical additions. Please contact the lab and ask for Cliff, Matt, or Ralph if you have questions. Questions related to the online data management system or our new Apple or Android app can be directed to Dave.

Concerned about nitrates?

Our NIR equations for corn silage, sorghum, hay, and hay-crop silage now provide a qualitative evaluation for nitrates alerting you to possible problems. Request the "Plus" option when running these forages to obtain that evaluation.

Concerned about vomitoxin in corn distillers?

Ethanol processing will concentrate levels of vomitoxin in corn distillers approximately 3 times that in source corn, creating potential health problems. CVAS now provides a qualitative evaluation for vomitoxin in corn distillers by NIR. Request the "Plus" option when having distillers tested for this evaluation.

Interested in improved calculation of NDF digestibility rates?

CVAS now provides NIR evaluation for indigestible fiber at 240-hour invitro incubation times for use in improved methods of calculating NDF digestibility rates. Indigestible fiber may be a better measure of rumen fill than total NDF.

Concerned about the impact of ash on NDF measurement?

We now provide NDFom (NDF on an organic matter or ash-free basis) by NIR for forages. Chemistry evaluations on an NDFom basis can be routinely requested. Adjusting for ND ash will result in more accurate NDF and total organic matter evaluations. This adjustment may be more than 5 points in some forages!

Need a fast and cost-effective means to evaluate standard feed ingredients?

We provide the ability to evaluate corn, small grains, corn distillers, brewer's grains, canola, almond hulls, soybean meal, and other commodities by NIR. These equations provide opportunity for quality control to be executed quickly and cost effectively. Track changes over time using our web data management system for all of your clients.

Concerned about functional starch and NDF degradability?

Use our NIR manure equation to provide information on undigested starch and other nutrients. Combine this with an NIR TMR evaluation and we can calculate an apparent total tract starch and NDF digestibility.

Next day mycotoxin diagnostics.

In addition to our standard reference chromatography methods (GC / HPLC) for toxin analysis, we now offer ELISA analysis as a less expensive and rapid (next day) means of evaluating for potential mycotoxin problems. Consider our qualitative vomitoxin evaluation of corn silage for inexpensive analysis and fast turnaround!

Fermentation analysis of corn silage by NIR now includes 1,2 propanediol.

1, 2 propanediol is a significant byproduct of fermentations by *L. buchneri* bacteria. This evaluation will allow you to determine whether significant levels are present. High levels may be an indication of prolonged and inefficient fermentation.

More options for managing forage testing information:

- CVAS now has a forage-testing "app" available in the Apple store and for Android! You now have the ability to log samples in the field with source pictures, additional descriptive information, and GPS coordinates. Pending samples and completed results can be accessed and viewed on the app and reports forwarded to appropriate parties as needed. See www.foragelab.com for more information.
- Check out our new website at www.foragelab.com! You will find more information and an enhanced user data management system that generates more relevant feed, water, and manure testing data.
- Enhanced data reporting capabilities—We have updated our data management systems with new formats and the flexibility to quickly generate new and more informative reports supporting forage and feed diagnostics.
- Dream it, do it! If there is a report or data analysis approach that you would like to see, we may have already put it in place. If not, share your idea with us. With our enhanced data management system we have the flexibility to meet your needs!



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