

# TESTING YOUR FEED QUALITY

## THE BENEFITS OF FEED ANALYSIS

Balanced nutrition improves livestock performance and production. This can be achieved using precise feed management through knowing the nutritive value of the pasture and supplements being fed. This will allow farmers to fine-tune their pasture and feed management to improve financial and production returns.

At Eurofins NZ, we can test your feed to assess its quality. Feed quality analysis provides the information to allow you to:

- Plan stock feeding with confidence
- Ensure stock have the best possible nutrition to meet their dietary requirements
- Derive the best mix of pasture and supplements
- Optimise stock performance and production



When animals are fed poor quality feed, they are not able to utilize it as efficiently as feed of a higher quality. When evaluating the overall quality of a feed, it is important to not only look at the dry matter and metabolisable energy values, but also the protein, fibre and pH (silage). These constituents are also of importance when a large portion of the diet is supplements.

Eurofins NZ is part of the Samplingq® Laboratory network overseen by our reference and calibration laboratory based at Eurofins Wageningen, The Netherlands. As per of the Samplingq® Laboratory network Eurofins NZ can offer our clients with results derived from comprehensive research and the robust NIRS calibrations that our reference laboratory provides.

## FEED TESTING PROFILES

### Feed Quality Analysis - by NIR Techniques

- Basic Feed Quality profile (**FQAN**)
  - Pastures, Hay, Silages, Fresh Maize and Cereals
  - Includes:
    - Dry matter
    - Crude Ash, Crude Protein, Crude Fibre, Crude Fat
    - Sugar
    - Starch (fresh maize and silages only)
    - ADF, NDF, ADL (Acid Detergent Lignin)
    - Soluble Crude Protein
    - Digestibility and Metabolisable Energy

- Advanced Feed Quality profile (**AFQAN**)
  - Silages (Maize, Cereal, Lucerne, Pasture)
  - Includes:
    - Dry matter
    - Crude Ash, Crude Protein, Crude Fibre, Crude Fat
    - Sugar
    - Starch (excludes pasture silages)
  
    - ADF, NDF, ADL (Acid Detergent Lignin)
    - Soluble Crude Protein
    - Acetic Acid, Lactic Acid
    - NH3 Fraction
    - pH
    - NDF Digestibility
    - Digestibility and Metabolisable Energy
  
- Concentrate Feed Quality profile (**CFQAN**)
  - Concentrates, Grains, Raw Materials
  - Includes:
    - Dry matter
    - Crude Ash, Crude Protein, Crude Fibre, Crude Fat
    - Sugar
    - Starch
    - NDF
    - Soluble Crude Protein
    - Digestibility and Metabolisable Energy (by calculation)

Along with the NIRS quality results further technical information can be provided based on the following indices: NRC, Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System (CNCPS), and the Dutch Feed value.

### **Feed Quality Analysis - by Wet Chemistry**

Test Package including: Dry Matter (DM), Crude Protein (CP), Acid Detergent Fibre (ADF), Neutral Detergent Fibre (NDF), Organic Matter (OM), Digestibility (DOMD), and Metabolisable Energy (ME) (by calculation).

In addition to feed quality, a full range of mineral tests are available as well. Eurofins NZ can also test levels of raw material minerals that are included in concentrates and rations.

## **RESULTS AND REPORTS**

Most of the feed analysis has a 2 to 3 day turnaround time for results, excluding wet chemistry (10-15 working days) or specialised tests (e.g Mycotoxins). Results are reported with reference ranges and comments where available, to help you interpret the feed quality of your sample.