

FeedAC Policy on Sample Acquisition by Feed Commodity Groups

Approved by majority vote of the Board of Directors: March 5, 2009

Revised by the Board of Directors: _____

Policy:

It is the general policy of the FeedAC that samples used to develop its database of feed nutritional information should represent all of the diversity and variation in composition and nutritive value of the respective feed in North America. To determine statistical variation within feeds, it is the policy of FeedAC that the sampling be weighted by proportional production/use of the commodity by source, location, and any other attribute that defines subsets within the feed type. Amount of sample acquired must be adequate to allow initial screening analysis and have enough material remaining for detailed analysis of selected samples. Sample collection procedures must follow the standard practices used for the feed commodity. Uniform implementation of this policy across all feeds is crucial to obtaining database information that reflects the broadest possible representation of nutritional information for each feed included in the FeedAC database.

Scope:

This policy applies to all feed samples that will be used to collect and compile nutritional information included in the FeedAC database.

Implementation:

1. Feed Commodity Groups will be responsible for collecting the first 70 ± 10 samples for each feed. These initial samples will be analyzed for routine chemical composition and scanned by NIRS. Information from these initial samples will be reported back to the Feed Commodity Group with recommendations for selecting the final 30 ± 10 samples needed to obtain the broadest possible range in composition and nutritive value for the feed. The 100 samples collected will be used to identify 10-15 samples within the feed type that are selected for detailed analysis to be included in the FeedAC database.
2. It is the role of the respective Feed Commodity Groups to identify the sources of variation inherent in the feed ingredient. Sources of variation to be considered include (but are not limited to): manufacturing plant, state or region of origin, year and season or month of the year, special treatments or sources of raw ingredients of the feed (artificial drying, flaking, extrusion, pelleting, etc.), cutting and maturity within cutting, etc. Each commodity group should determine if year is a significant source of variation within their feed and develop a plan for annual addition of appropriate samples.
3. When possible, FeedAC will supply information on production/use and compositional variation to the Feed Commodity Group when it is given its charge. Ultimately it is the responsibility of the Feed Commodity Group to collect and interpret the data needed to meet their charge for implementation item #2.
4. Feed ingredient manufacturers who join at the Platinum (\$10,000), Gold (\$5,000) and Silver (\$2,500) level are allowed to submit up to 10, 5, or 2 samples, respectively, each year. These samples may represent an additional source of variation that should be considered by the appropriate Feed Commodity Group when obtaining initial screening samples for analysis.

5. After the sources of variation are identified, the Feed Commodity Group should determine the proportion of samples that should be obtained from each source based on the proportion of total production/use of the feed.
6. An additional role of the Feed Commodity Group is to develop a feed information worksheet to be completed for each sample taken. This information sheet should be based on the FeedAC template, but the Feed Commodity Group should insure that it contains all of the information needed to identify the samples as completely as possible for the sources of variation they identified. In consultation with manufacturers of proprietary feed ingredients (Implementation item #3), the Feed Commodity Group will define the strategy for sampling these specific feeds (identified by FeedAC participation level) that insures that all sources of variation are included in the sample set.
7. The Feed Commodity Group is responsible for designing a systematic and uniform strategy and for collecting the appropriate samples and information on the samples, and for designating the individuals responsible for collecting the samples.
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9. The Feed Commodity Group should describe a uniform sample collection procedure that will be followed by sample collectors.
10. FeedAC would like at least 20 kg (44 lb) of material to allow at least 200 homogeneous samples of 100 grams to be sent to laboratories for analysis. Any special considerations about sample size should be described in the Feed Commodity Group's report to the Feedstuff Acquisition Executive Committee.
11. To insure consistency in feed information across commodities, the Feed Commodity Group must submit a report to the Feedstuff Acquisition Executive Committee that describes the sources of variation they identified, the sample information they plan to collect, and their strategy for collecting samples.
12. After verification for uniformity among feeds and approval by the Feedstuff Acquisition Executive Committee, the FeedAC Board of Directors will authorize collection of samples for the FeedAC database.
13. The Feed Commodity Group will annually evaluate the adequacy of sample variation included in the FeedAC database and make recommendations to the Feedstuff Sample Acquisition Executive Committee when additional samples should be collected and analyzed.

Supplements:

1. A template (identified by date) of the report to be submitted to the Feedstuff Sample Acquisition Executive Committee will be provided to the Feed Commodity Group. The Group has the responsibility of modifying and completing this form to provide the specific information about sampling their commodity (Implementation item #11).
2. A template (identified by date) of the Feed Sample Identification and Information Form approved by the Feedstuff Sample Acquisition Executive Committee will be provided to the Feed Commodity Group. The Group has the responsibility of modifying this form to meet the specific informational needs of the respective feed (Implementation item #5) in their report.