

To: FeedAC Corn Grain Commodity Group
 From: Chair, Feedstuff Acquisition Executive Committee
 Date: March 2009

The Board of Directors of FeedAC has requested that we begin collecting corn grain samples to obtain information for the FeedAC database. Under FeedAC's new operational structure, the Feedstuff Acquisition Executive Committee has the responsibility for initiating and monitoring sample acquisition. As chair of that Executive Committee, I request that the FeedAC Corn Grain Commodity Group begin the process of obtaining corn grain samples from the 2008 harvest. The first step in that process involves the identification of the important sources of variation in corn nutritional value and development of a strategy to collect samples that encompass that variation by the experts in your group. Consult the FeedAC policy on Sample Acquisition (that is attached) for background information on the role and responsibility of Feed Commodity Group in the process. Also attached are templates for developing the report and the feed information form.

FeedAC would like to proceed as quickly as possible to collect the initial 70 samples of corn grain. Therefore, we ask that you submit your report to the Feedstuff Acquisition Executive Committee by April 10, 2009 for Board of Director's approval at the April Board meeting. This would allow sample collection to begin by May 1, 2009. The goal is to collect 70 50-lb samples that represent the diversity and variability that existed in 2008. Use Tables 1 and 2 as guides for defining the sources and magnitudes of variation in corn grain that will be sampled.

After the initial 70 samples are analyzed, FeedAC may request additional samples to be collected by your group that are targeted to fill in the gaps in variation not covered by the initial samples.

Table 1. Normal range of constituents in corn grain. (Dairyland Laboratories, Inc., Arcadia, WI)

Corn Grain	Normal Range	Average
Moisture (%)	11.72 - 36.94	24.33
Crude Protein (%)	6.07 - 12.19	9.13
Starch (%)	60.12 - 75.88	68
Sugar (%)	0.77 - 5.27	3.02
ADF (%)	2.37 - 5.49	3.93
NDF (%)	5.48 - 12.22	8.85
Lignin (%)	.01 - 0.33	0.06
Fat (%)	1.4 - 6.34	3.87
Ash (%)	0.95 - 2.23	1.59
Calcium (%)	.01 - 0.28	0.03
Phosphorus (%)	0.2 - 0.46	0.33

Table 2. Distribution of corn-grain production in USA (from “quick stats” of USDA-NASS website).

State	2007 Total Yield (thousand bushels)	% of Total Yield	Samples
Iowa	2,376,900	18.2	18
Illinois	2,283,750	17.5	18
Nebraska	1,472,000	11.3	11
Minnesota	1,146,100	8.8	8
Indiana	980,980	7.5	7
South Dakota	542,080	4.2	4
Ohio	541,500	4.2	4
Kansas	507,840	3.9	4
Missouri	457,800	3.5	3
Wisconsin	442,800	3.4	3