

October 2009 Service Bulletin

Nutrient Management:

With fluctuating crop input and commodity prices, investing in fall soil sampling allows for better management of economical nutrient application. Submitting a soil sample for basic analysis of pH, P, K, and Mg costs \$13.50. On a 3 year sampling rotation, with each sample representing 25 acres, this cost can be broken down to 18 cents per acre per year; easily justifiable with fertilizer reduction and/or yield response.

Should you require custom sampling services, Agri-Food Laboratories employs professional field technicians to perform these tasks.

Greenhouse/Nursery:



The 2009 Canadian Greenhouse Conference is scheduled for October 7th and 8th in Hall 5 at the International Centre in Toronto. Agri-Food Laboratories invites you to visit us at our exhibitor booth, # 308, to restock sample supplies or discuss our analytical services.

Toxin Summary: (August 15th to September 30th)

Feed Type	Test	Sample Count	Range	Percent of Total
Barley	Vomitoxin (DON)	71	> 6.00 ppm	38.0%
			4.00 - 6.00 ppm	26.8%
			2.00 - 4.00 ppm	12.7%
			1.00 - 2.00 ppm	12.7%
			0.20 - 1.00 ppm	8.5%
			< 0.20 ppm	1.4%
	Zearalenone	7	> 0.40 ppm	0.0%
			0.20 - 0.40 ppm	14.3%
			0.10 - 0.20 ppm	28.6%
			0.05 - 0.10 ppm	28.6%
Wheat	Vomitoxin (DON)	137	> 6.00 ppm	10.9%
			4.00 - 6.00 ppm	16.1%
			2.00 - 4.00 ppm	22.6%
			1.00 - 2.00 ppm	19.7%
			0.20 - 1.00 ppm	27.7%
			< 0.20 ppm	2.9%
	Zearalenone	6	> 0.40 ppm	0.0%
			0.20 - 0.40 ppm	16.7%
			0.10 - 0.20 ppm	0.0%
			0.05 - 0.10 ppm	16.7%
< 0.05 ppm	66.7%			

Agri-Food Laboratories is chosen more often by industry leaders for analytical quality, knowledge, integrity, innovation and service.

Corn Silage Report:

Weather delays will play havoc with corn silage harvest this season. With three weeks of favourable weather, the silage crop was maturing and drying down to the point where harvest was very close. The sudden change to wet and cold conditions have halted progress and perhaps rehydrated the corn plants to some extent. Frost damage may be apparent in some fields and is a definite threat with night time temperatures dropping to near zero in many areas. Fields that were still in the early dent stage may have difficulty finishing. As drying conditions return, caution must be exercised to try to determine whole plant moisture in order to begin harvest. Immature, frost damaged fields will be more difficult to assess visually. Conditions are creating a most undesirable situation, in which immature crops harvested too wet will run, and a large concentration of the carbohydrates yet to be converted to starch are solubilized and lost. These crops harvested too dry suffer fermentation problems resulting from poor packing. This may be the lesser of the two evils.

Also damaged fields may be more susceptible to high nitrate concentrations as the crop continues to take up nutrients but has difficulty metabolizing nitrogen to protein

