

March 2009 Service Bulletin

Latest News:

Agri-Food Laboratories is pleased to support the following events, and welcomes you to visit our exhibitor booth at each venue:

- Mar 10th - 2009 Ontario Corn, Soybean, Wheat and Coloured Bean Conference
London Convention Centre
- Mar 11-13th – Western Fair Farm Show, London

Agri-Food Laboratories Forum:

Check on our website for our new Forum, where you can ask questions and keep up to date with information and resources.



Manure and Soil Testing:

After a long winter, one of the first spring tasks will be spreading manure. This is a great time to gather a representative sample and send it for lab analysis to determine its nutrient content. The manure report summarizes nutrients applied in pounds per acre with differing application rates and incorporation times, allowing the N, P, and K to be accounted for in fertility programs. To truly allocate your Manure to your fertility program, ensure that you have an up-to-date soil test to base your management decisions on. A soil test is recommended every three years, and will assist you in making the most of your manure.

Please visit our website to review proper manure sampling techniques.

Feed:

Milk production has been difficult to maintain but current reports indicate that the situation is improving. Is this a fermentation of feed quality improvement, adaptation of animals or improved ration formulations? It has been noticed that fibre digestibility has not improved with time this year, to the same extent that it did last year in many cases.

Also, the fermentation (VFA) profile of many haylages in particular is not as favourable as would be expected or desired. Both of these situations could result in lower energy feeds which may have an impact on production.

