

NIRS Forage and Feed Testing Consortium
“Dedicated to increasing the accuracy and knowledge of NIRS testing.”

NIRS Consortium Membership NEWS

March/April, 2001

Annual Meeting 2001

A great deal was accomplished at the annual meeting this year. Please let the board members, Patty, or Paolo know your thoughts on what you would like to see get done, if we did not discuss it at the meeting.

A summary of major points and decisions of the meeting may be found in the document: **Consortium Annual Meeting Summary/Decisions**. All labs are asked to carry out the items under section V.

Please review the document: **NIRS Consortium Project List, Year 2000–2001**, as well as **NIRS Consortium Project List, Year 2001–2002**. These documents list projects we have taken on in the last year and completed, as well as projects to complete in the coming year-with tentative completion dates.

From your notes at the annual meeting, an updated **Membership Contact List** has been outlined.

Check Cell Replacement

New check cells for Commercial labs have all been distributed. All labs should have also received an invoice for the new cell. Please follow the instructions in the document: **New Check Cell Installation**. Once the new check cell has been installed and approved by Paolo, please send Paolo your old check cell for repacking with a legume/grass forage product. Paolo may ask for lab participation in collecting a bulk sample to fill the check cells with. The goal is for each lab to have a new ISI check cell as well as a Consortium forage check cell.

Grinding Protocol

Please review a protocol developed by Jim Halgerson at the University of Minnesota that outlines his suggested grinding protocol. Please keep in your records for later discussion. Some alfalfa breeding companies are already opting to implement this protocol. Jim's document is labeled: **Grinding Protocol**.

NDFd Calibration Development for Corn Silage

Our first meeting of a Corn Silage Committee on April 12th discussed development of an NDFd calibration for corn silage. A second meeting is scheduled for April 19th. Please contact Patty if you have missed information on how to participate and would like to. This second meeting will address sample collection, a timeline for reference analysis, and calibration development. All Consortium members are invited to participate in development of this equation. Those receiving the equation will be required to submit samples and split reference analysis cost.

For further information on any of these topics, please contact Patty Laskowski.

Patty Laskowski
8396 Yellowstone Drive
Marshfield, WI 54449
Ph: 715-387-2523 ext. 3010
Fax: 715-387-1723
Email: pmlaskowski@facstaff.wisc.edu