

**Animal Production and Health Division**

## **Announcement**

### **A Joint FAO-IAG Proficiency Test for Feed Analysis Laboratories in Developing Countries (February to July 2015)**

FAO invites applications from feed analysis laboratories from both public and private institutions for participation in a Ring Test (Proficiency test) organized jointly with the International Analytic Group (IAG), conducted by the Institute for Animal Nutrition and Feed, Austria Agency for Food and Safety, Austria. The IAG has extensive experience of organizing the Ring Test for feed analysis laboratories. A ring test is an inter-laboratory test that allows to evaluate the performance of testing laboratories, and is based on analysis of similar homogeneous samples. ***The aim is to enable laboratories to assess and improve their feed analysis performance.***

**Deadline for submission of the application:** 28 February 2015

**Charges for the participation:** Euro 80 per laboratory.

**Procedure for the participation:** Please provide the below-mentioned information in a word file and send to [Harinder.Makkar@fao.org](mailto:Harinder.Makkar@fao.org)

Name of laboratory:

Postal address:

Billing address (if different):

Head of laboratory / Contact person: Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:

While providing the above information by email, please write REGISTRATION FOR RING TEST in the Subject line.

### **The conduct of the Ring Test**

1. During the first week of March 2015 an invoice will be sent giving the account details to which the participation fee (Euro 80) is to be transferred. The participation fee includes the cost of the two samples that will be sent to each participating laboratory, analysis of data received from the laboratory and provision of a confidential Analysis Report. Please transfer the participation fee at the latest by April 15, 2015.
2. After receipt of the payment two samples (forage and a mixed concentrate feed) will be distributed to the participating laboratories by end-May 2015.
3. The deadline for submission of results (as Excel-data\_file; a template will be provided to the participating laboratories): July 28, 2015.
4. A confidential report will be delivered during September 2015.

*Note:* FAO has limited funds to provide the participation fee for some laboratories from developing countries (maximum 10 each from Africa, Asia and Latin America). Should your laboratory wish to apply for this support, please provide justification (this submission should not be of more than 150 words) by email to [Harinder.Makkar@fao.org](mailto:Harinder.Makkar@fao.org)

## **Feed analysis parameters**

The participating laboratories can analyse any or all of the following parameters:

### **Ingredients parameters**

Moisture, Crude protein (Kjeldahl), Crude protein (Dumas), Crude fibre, Neutral detergent fibre OM (on organic matter basis), Acid detergent fibre OM (on organic matter basis), Acid detergent lignin, Hohenheim gas production test (HFT), Crude ash, Acid insoluble ash, Total fat with hydrolysis, Carotene, Xanthophyll, Nitrate, Starch, Sugar, Energy (calculated)

### **Mineral nutrients**

Sodium, Phosphorus, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium, Sulphur, Chloride (as water soluble, as Cl)

### **Trace elements**

Copper, Manganese, Iron, Zinc, Cobalt, Molybdenum, Lead, Chromium, Boron, Fluorine

### **Feed additives and amino acids**

Vitamin A, Vitamin E, Vitamin D3, all amino acids including tryptophan

If added in the feed:

- Coccidiostats (Monensin sodium)
- Enzymes (phytase)
- Antioxidants (BHT- Butylated hydroxytoluene)
- Organic acids (formic, lactic, acetic, propionic, fumaric, citric, benzoic acid).

*Some analyses are only for the mixed concentrate feed and further information will be provided with the samples.*

Methods are not prescribed. With the results the participating laboratories should provide information on the methods used. Results will be requested as a single value per analyte on a dry matter basis (average of multiple determinations as usually done in the laboratories).