The laboratory provides analytical support for the feed, fertilizer and soil programs. The goals are to provide accurate and timely analyses of official samples for the fertilizer and feed regulatory programs, to support soil analysis and College research programs, and to support agriculture in Kentucky.

The lab analyzed 2846 fertilizer samples and 3289 feed samples. In addition, the lab provided analytical support for 61,169 agriculture-related samples, i.e. soil, manure, green house, water, litter, and research samples. More than 200 special sample analyses for protein and several fat and fiber research sample analyses were performed for the College of Agriculture. The laboratory participated in several scientific meetings: Southern Section AOACI, Midwest Section AOACI, AAPFCO, AAFCO, Fertilizer Methods Forum, and ASFFPCO. Lab personnel participated on numerous committees in these scientific and regulatory organizations, including serving as an AAPFCO committee Vice Chair and a committee Chair, and an AAFCO Ingredient Investigator. Lab personnel contributed three presentations concerning ongoing analytical investigations.

The lab supported the yearly pet food survey and provided support for the investigation of several animal death cases. Microscopical examination continues to be used to monitor the quality and ingredients of feeds. Over 120 regulated fertilizer materials were analyzed for metals of concern to determine if they were adulterated based on AAPFCO guidelines.

Check sample materials were analyzed from regional, national and international programs: AOCS, AAFCO, Magruder®, mycotoxins, UAN, AFPC phosphate rock, mineral and other sample types. The lab began participation in the USDA Quality Systems and Services aflatoxin testing Check Sample program. The lab continued to participate in the AOCS mycotoxin and microscopy check sample programs. The lab participated in a monthly inter-laboratory aflatoxin share sample program consisting of several state regulatory labs. The lab routinely provided program support using approximately 65 different analytical methods. Samples were also submitted to and analyzed by commercial labs and other regulatory programs to provide additional analytical method support and to ensure the quality of the Regulatory Services laboratory results.

*The Kentucky Agriculture Experiment Station 121st Annual Report 2008
www.ca.uky.edu/agc/pubs/ar/ar121/ar121.pdf