

FORAGE / FEED SAMPLE SUBMISSION FORM

A UK Division of Regulatory Services Program dedicated to ensuring the integrity, quality, and value of forage crops across Kentucky by providing accurate, science-based testing and analytical services. Through a collaborative partnership between the UK Division of Regulatory Services, Kentucky Department of Agriculture, and the UK Forage Extension Program, we are committed to supporting producers, enhancing animal nutrition, promoting sustainable agriculture, and protecting consumer trust in forage-based systems.

PRODUCER INFORMATION

Producer's Name: _____ County: _____
Required (County the sample was grown, or "Out of State", or "unknown")
 Farm Name: _____ Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Phone Number _____ Email _____
Required

BILLING INFORMATION

REPORTING INFORMATION

Check enclosed: _____ Check # _____
\$ amount
 UK Extension Account #: _____
 Research Account #: _____
 Credit Card auth form used: _____
Yes/No Total due

Email report to: _____
Check all that apply
Report type:
☐ Equine
☐ non-Equine
☐ County Extension Agent
☐ Agent & Producer
☐ KDA for Marketing* (pg2)
☐ Receive copies by mail
☐ _____
other email

SAMPLE INFORMATION

Sample Name You give this	Sample Type:	NIR \$22	Minerals DA/MW* Add \$12 \$17	Lab ID lab assigns
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	
		☐	☐	

Sample Type: Grass Hay
 Legume Hay (*alfalfa or clover*)
 Mixed Hay (*legume & grass*)
 Fermented Corn Silage
 Haylage
 Livestock Grain Mix

All samples run by Near Infrared Spectroscopy (NIR).



KENTUCKY
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

**If this hay is for sale and you would like to have it graded and included on the KY Department of Ag's Hay for Sale listing, complete page 2.*

Ship via FedEx or UPS to:

Regulatory Services
 Attn: Forage Program
 103 Regulatory Services Building
 Lexington KY 40546-0275

Date Shipped: _____

email: ukdrsforage@uky.edu
 phone: 859-218-2449

Date Received: _____
Office use only

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MARKETING INFORMATION

*KDA Marketing Information:

Kentucky producers who have their hay tested by a certified lab, such as the University of Kentucky Division of Agriculture Forage Program, may participate in the Kentucky Department of Agriculture's hay grading program and have the hay included on KDA's Hay For Sale listing. By checking the option to email the report to "KDA for Marketing" on page 1, you will receive this free service. To learn more, go to <https://www.kyagr.com/marketing/forage-program.html>

Forage testing helps determine fair market value and supports setting an equitable price. Listings on the KDA Hay For Sale page are designed to benefit both buyers and producers. Hay test results sent to KDA will be assigned a grade based on USDA hay quality standards and listed on the KDA website under Hay For Sale. The listing will include the producer's name, phone, email, and county, in addition to the key information about the hay quality and quantity.

Additional information needed if offered for sale through KDA:

LOT INFORMATION:

Initial Number of Bales: _____ Binding (String, Net Wrap, other): _____
Cutting Date: _____ Storage Type: ☐ Inside ☐ Outside
Bale Size: _____ Rain Damage: ☐ Yes ☐ No
Bale Weight: _____

Type of Hay: _____ Other, please identify: _____

Type: Alfalfa, Alfalfa/Orchard,
Alfalfa/Timothy, Alfalfa/Grass, Clover,
Clover-Grass, Grass, Mixed, Timothy,
Wheat, Oats, Teff, Fescue, Orchard grass,
Other (fill in)

METHOD of CONTACT to be posted on site:

Check all that apply:

☐ Phone: _____
☐ Text: _____
☐ Email: _____

ANALYTICAL PACKAGES

NIR Services (\$22)

% Moisture - as received
% Dry Matter - as received
% Crude Protein (CP)
% Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF)
% Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF)
% Calcium (Ca)
% Phosphorus (P)
% Magnesium (Mg)
% Potassium (K)
% Ash
Relative Forage Quality (RFQ)
Relative Forage Value (RFV)
Digestible Energy (DE)
Total Digestible Nutrients (TDN)
Net-Energy for Maintenance (NE_m)
Net-Energy for Gain Net (NE_g)
Energy for Lactation (NE_l)
Lignin
in-vitro True DM Digestibility 48h
Fructan
Starch
Sugar (ESC)
Water-Soluble Carbohydrates (WSC)
Non-Structural Carbohydrates (NSC)
Non-Fiber Carbohydrates (NFC)

Wet Chemistry add-on Services

DA Mineral analysis* (\$12) includes:

Calcium (Ca) %	Manganese (Mn) ppm
Copper (Cu) %	Sodium (Na) ppm
Iron (Fe) %	Phosphorus (P) ppm
Potassium (K) %	Zinc (Zn) ppm
Magnesium (Mg) %	

MW Mineral analysis* (\$17) includes:

Calcium (Ca)	Manganese (Mn)
Copper (Cu)	Sodium (Na)
Iron (Fe)	Phosphorus (P)
Potassium (K)	Zinc (Zn)
Magnesium (Mg)	Sulfur (S)
Selenium (Se)	

Silage or Haylage NIR samples:

Samples will receive pH testing at no additional cost

***If additional analytes or tests are needed, or you are interested in the limits of detection, please contact the office prior to sample submission at UKDRSforage@uky.edu**

FORAGE INFORMATION



Forage Sample Submission Guidelines:

1. Sampling Best Practices

- A **representative sample** is critical for accurate analysis.
- Use a **minimum quart-size freezer bag**.
- Refer to How to Pull a Core Sample (visit [Forage Sampling](#)).

2. Sample Identification

- Clearly label each sample (e.g., Haylage 1st Cut, Corn Silage Big Bunk).
- List **service codes** and requested services for each sample.
- Use the comments section to clarify sample origin (e.g., Field 1 / Home Place).

3. Submission & Payment

- Submit samples Monday–Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.
- Do not mail haylage on Fridays due to mold risk.
- Include payment with samples:
 - Check, money order, account number, or credit card form.
 - Payable to: University of Kentucky (*Do not send cash.*)
- Ship via UPS or FedEx to:
 - Attn: Forage Program
 - Regulatory Services
 - 103 Regulatory Services Bldg.
 - Lexington, KY 40546-0275

4. Analysis & Results

- Results are reviewed through an edit system to flag outliers.
- Retesting is free if requested within 7 days of the report date.
- Contact the program at 859-218-2449 for questions or retests.
- Reports are emailed (faster) or mailed upon request.
- By providing your email, you consent to receive results, newsletters, and updates



Forage Quality Indicators:

Visual & Physical Traits

- Color: Pale green to pale gold is ideal. Dull brown may indicate rain damage.
- Leaf Retention: High leaf content = higher nutritive value.
- Stem Texture: Softer stems indicate better quality; coarse stems reduce palatability.
- Mold/Odor: Musty or metallic smells suggest mold. A sweet smell is ideal.
- Foreign Matter: Remove debris like sticks, wire, or dead animals (botulism risk).
- Maturity Stage: Earlier harvest = better quality. Look for seed heads and stem stiffness.
- Stem/Leaf Ratio: More leaves than stems = higher quality.

Environmental Factors

- Rain Damage: Reduces digestibility and energy content.
- Preservatives/Drying Agents: May help during wet seasons to reduce spoilage.



Forage Report Interpretation

 Cooperative
Extension Service

- Work with your Extension Agent to interpret results and balance rations.
- Helpful resources:
 - [Interpreting Forage Quality Reports](#)
 - [Understanding Forage Quality](#)
 - Available at [Forage Testing | Beef Center of Excellence](#)