

November 2002 Issue #16 - 2002

New and Improved Diagnostic Services

UW Soil and Plant Analysis Lab-Madison UW Soil and Forage Analysis Lab-Marshfield

The UW Soil Testing Laboratories at Madison and Marshfield have introduced several new recommendation/interpretation systems and revised existing programs for plant analysis, forage quality, manure analysis and routine farm soils. A new series of biological forage quality tests have been recently introduced at the Marshfield Laboratory. Various electronic options are now available for Madison clients to make using laboratory services more convenient.

New Report Formats

- C Plant analysis data are now interpreted by updated sufficiency range information, revised DRIS indices and the PASS system (Attachment 1). The circle incorporates both plant element concentration and soil test data in a way that helps confirm suspected field problems. DRIS and PASS are complementary evaluation methods for corn, alfalfa and soybean.
- C A new system for evaluating forage quality is featured on the newly revised forage quality reports available from the Marshfield Laboratory. Included in this are updated legume-grass and corn silage evaluations as well as a TMR Quality Control evaluation package. The development of new in-vitro analysis techniques at the lab has led to the availability of these new assays (Attachment 2).
- C Manure nutrient analysis is presented in a new reporting format (Attachment 3) and contains all recently revised information.
- C Newly revised manure nutrient credits and animal species options have been included in the routine farm soil program and are listed on the information sheet (Attachment 4). Recommendations are available for a 4-yr expected crop rotation. If you are not sure about crop rotation, the default for no entry remains corn-oat-alfalfa-alfalfa.

Electronic Options at Madison

C On-line information sheets for routine farm soil and lawn and garden soil are available through the Madison Lab web site (http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu). Enter the requested information identical to the paper information sheet and submit electronically. A bar code will be sent back via the computer for you to print that has encoded all the submitted information (Attachment 5). Include the bar code with the samples at

the laboratory and no other paper is needed. the changes on the printed sheet.	If you need to revise the bar code information, you can note

- C Access your Madison account and laboratory information via your online account at the Madison Lab web site (http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu). All past/current requested tests are itemized and results available only by you by using your unique user name and password (Attachment 6).
- C Access reports for routine farm soil, plant analysis and lawn/garden in PDF (postscript document file) format that makes the on-line reports look identical to those printed at the lab.
- C Make on-line credit card payments at our secured site (Attachment 6). All precautions available have been installed to protect your information.
- C View recent soil test summary information. The state and county soil test summary for 1995-99 is now available on-line. Expect future summary information for soil, plant, manure and forage tests to be available.
- C Sign up at the Madison Laboratory web site (http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu) with your e-mail address and receive our e-newsletter featuring lab news, technology updates and more.