

Mixer Efficiency in Feed samples

May 24, 2018

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The main purpose of measuring mixer performance is to assure that an animal receives all of the feed nutrients with the right proportion on a daily basis. Assessing mixer efficiency is critical, as high or concentrated feed ingredients may be toxic. Getting your mixer samples tested for coefficient of variation (CV) is a regulatory requirement from CFIA.

In order to get the most accurate testing results for mixer efficiency, we recommend to follow these guidelines:

- Sampling- Sample should represent the feed is distributed to an animal from the mixer. Use a scoop to collect the desired sample volume. Store the sample in a sealed Ziploc bag or in a container. Collect randomly 10 samples of the finished feed.
- Sample size- Collect 100- 150 grams of each sample of a Ration or Mineral samples. For Total Mixed Rations (TMRs) collect 500 grams of each sample for testing.
- Frequency- make sure you get mixer efficiency done: within a maximum period of 90 days after the installation of a new or replacement mixer, after a major repair or modification that could impact on the functioning of the mixer, or periodically, but at a minimum once every one to three years depending on the risk profile of the facility

Feeds are considered homogenous when CV for the batch is:

- no greater than 5% for dilute drug premixes
- no greater than 10% for micro or macro premixes and supplements
- no greater than 15% for complete feeds and total mixed rations

Based on your feed ingredients in the feed ration, decide if you need to test for Macro minerals; Ca, P, K, Mg, Na, or for Micro minerals Cu, Fe, Mn, Zn. Our packages are designed this way, so you can choose to test one mineral from a group, or two or more minerals from the same or both groups. We are an accredited laboratory in Mineral analysis.

Get in touch with us today!