The ISU Grain Quality Laboratory (GQL) analyzes grain samples for a variety of grain quality factors. The lab has steadily expanded its program of offering no-charge analyses for locally operated third party strip-trial evaluations and for ISU-sponsored agronomic research studies. The program has been well received, with widespread publication of the data. The IGQI website is also used to distribute information.

In FY09 this program is being expanded to provide instrument calibration and quality control (for instruments owned by users in public research programs, in collaborative projects with Iowa State, and in ISU germplasm licensing programs) will be provided on a subscription basis. Operating details are being developed, to be complete for fall 2008.

Most new output-trait genetic products require sophisticated instrumentation to measure the trait of interest. The key to continuing acceptance of complex trait measurements is uniform and accurate treatment of similar products in a nationally standardized system. Structure, discipline, and third party accreditation/certification are needed to create standardized measurement calibration databases. The creation of a calibration support program provides direct public access to the research results in this area, being sponsored by grant sources.

**Objectives for FY2009**

- Provide no-cost grain quality analysis services for Iowa-based public third party variety evaluations.
- Provide low-cost grain quality analysis services for ISU research projects.
- Provide calibration and quality control services for NIRS instruments owned by ISU researchers, collaborators and licensees.