2010 Projects

Quality Control Projects

Quality Control: Industry Measurement Services

The Value Added Agriculture Program has worked with ISU Grain Quality Lab to develop NIR calibrations for nutritional factors in corn, distillers grains, and soybean meal for industry users. As processing plants modify processes with microwave drying, fractionation, super-critical fluid oil extraction, etc., the resulting co-products will need to be characterized and routinely analyzed for nutrients. In 2009-2010, VAAP will offer measurement services to the corn and soybean processing industry. Though this work is done on a “fee for service” basis, much of the developmental work involved in the individual cases is not totally covered by the fees charged; yet, the ability to rapidly measure nutrients in these feed ingredients gives producers and users a better understanding of the character and consistency of the materials, leading to more efficient uses and higher levels of trust in trade. Though much of the work is proprietary, the developmental aspect often contributes to data and publications that can be shared within the grain industry.