



COMPLETE PASTURE PROFILE

The Complete Pasture Profile from One Sample

(more information for less \$!)

Key Points:

- One sample only
- Less cost
- Animal health/pasture nutrition combined
- Clover sampling – representative vs. selective

When collecting pasture samples, you may have asked yourself “*should I focus primarily on animal health (and take a mixed herbage sample) or should I collect a sample that most accurately shows the plant nutrient requirements (and collect a clover only sample)?*”

As a benefit of new technologies and gained efficiencies, we are pleased to be able to offer you a **combination of mixed pasture and clover testing** to give a more reliable assessment of pasture nutrition while simultaneously encompassing the animal health perspective. Now, from one pasture sample, you can obtain a clover tissue analysis, including the important trace element molybdenum, plus a mixed herbage analysis for animal health requirements including molybdenum, cobalt and selenium. As well, metabolisable energy and crude protein are reported for pasture.

A sample of mixed pasture is submitted to the laboratory and on receipt of the sample, we will divide it. One half is analysed as mixed pasture and the other half has the clover dissected out. The clover is analysed separately. Alternatively, if you wish to selectively sample the clover, a separate clover-only sample may be submitted to the laboratory along with the mixed pasture sample. **This is recommended where clover content in the pasture is low.**

The combination of these tests offers a substantial cost saving as well as having the advantage of giving you a more complete picture on the nutrient status of your pasture.

How to Order this Profile

As this is a relatively new service, this profile may not appear as an option on existing Analysis Request forms. Therefore please request this profile by writing “Complete Pasture Profile” (or CPP for short) in the “instructions” space on the request form accompanying the sample.

Sampling Options for Clover

Clover leaf analysis is extremely powerful when diagnosing mineral deficiencies which may limit pasture growth. But just how should such a sample be collected?

You have **two options**. The first is to collect a **representative sample over the whole area**. This is normally achieved by cutting 15 to 20 sub-samples of the mixed herbage, combining them together – the clover component is then dissected out. The advantages of this approach are: it is a relatively straightforward procedure; it can be combined with the collection of a mixed herbage sample; and it yields a representative sample.

The alternative procedure, which is more of a diagnostic approach, involves **selectively sampling affected clover plants**. This approach is better if you believe that there is a nutrient deficiency limiting clover production. In this situation, you are collecting clover that is clearly affected by the deficiency. Avoid vigorously growing clover (near dung or urine spots), and selectively sample the stunted, pale coloured, or otherwise affected plants. You do not have to sample from the whole area, and 40 shoots (stem plus leaf blades) are sufficient for the analysis.

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This second approach means the sample is no longer representative, but it should more clearly identify the primary deficiency affecting clover production.

What you get after splitting the samples:

- Mixed Pasture analysed for **N, P, K, S, Ca, Mg, Na, Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, B, Mo, Co, Se, Crude Protein, Metabolisable Energy.**
- Clover-only analysed for **N, P, K, S, Ca, Mg, Na, Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, B, Mo**

Contact Details

For further information about any of the above tests please contact our client service managers.

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