



Memorandum

To: RFA Board of Directors
From: Kristy Moore, Director of Technical Services
Re: Co-Products Quality Testing
Date: March 5, 2008

Growth in the industry continues to provide opportunities for improvement among all the products produced by RFA member companies. Co-products, both Distillers Dried Grains (DDG) and Corn Gluten Feed (CGF) are no exceptions. It is estimated that over 22 million tons of DDG will be produced in calendar year 2008. With this increasing volume comes increasing responsibility for quality.

There are many efforts underway to increase the education and awareness at both the producer level and the user level for the high protein feed products co-produced at ethanol production facilities. As the entire ethanol production process affects the quality of feed co-products, I encourage you to share the valuable information resources below throughout your production facility.

- **Distillers Grains Technology Council:** a collection of reference material for both production facilities and feed users. This link provides the analytical information for recommended analytical procedures to assist in meeting customer expectations.
http://www.distillersgrains.org/grains/analytical_methods.html
- **U.S. Grains Council** publishes the *DDGs Handbook, A Wet Milling Guide* that provides process information on Corn Gluten Feed.
<http://www.grains.org/page.wv?section=DDGS+User+Handbook&name=DDGS+User+Handbook>
- **U.S. Grains Council** publishes the *DDGs Handbook, A Dry Milling Guide* that provides process information on Distillers Dried Grains.
<http://www.grains.org/page.wv?section=Buying+U.S.+Grains&name=Technical+Publications>
- **Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO)** publishes and coordinates a sample check program. This program is helpful for production and testing facilities to assist in the verification of analytical equipment and proper operation.

<http://www.aafco.org/NewsandInformation/AAFCCOCheckSampleProgram/tabid/74/Default.aspx>

- **American Feed Industry Association (AFIA)** also has a section on DDGs:
<http://www.afia.org/Afia/EducationMaterials/NoChargeDocs.aspx>

RFA member companies worked very closely with the AFIA and the National Corn Growers Association to develop a comprehensive list of appropriate testing methods for confirmation of content and quality of feed products. The RFA recommends that each member company review the current analytical testing protocol in place and confirm agreement with this recommended practice. The list of testing methods can be found here:

http://www.ethanolrfa.org/industry/resources/coproducts/documents/ddgs_final_report_and_recommendations2-07.pdf

The RFA continues to work together with these expert feed organizations to provide accurate and timely information on Distillers Dried Grains and Corn Gluten Feed. If you should have any questions or would like to comment on this issue, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at 309-830-6154.