

## Filling out the Calibrate High Quality Forage Analysis Sample Submission Form

- At the top of the form, fill in your name, your e-mail address, the name of the grower or dairy and their address.
- In the next block, select from one of the 6 sample types and write it in the space next to “Ingredient Type”.
- Directly under that, fill in the specific “Ingredient I.D.” of the sample (variety, HarvXtra® Alfalfa, field location, etc.) that will help you later connect the results to the specific correct sample.
- In the next block, check the box under each sample and to the right of “Calibrate High Quality Forage Analysis”. If you have more than 3 samples, you can either attach additional sample submission forms, or enter the “Ingredient Type” and “Ingredient I.D.” into an Excel spreadsheet and attach it to this the sample submission form (in the box under “Sample Description #1” write “see attached spreadsheet”). In either case, make sure that the unique “Ingredient I.D.” information is repeated on the respective sample bag.
- You do not need to fill out the remainder of the form, unless you have need for any of the tests offered by the participating lab.
- Place the sample submission form(s) in the box with the samples.

## Interpreting Results from the Calibrate High Quality Forage Analysis Report

From the results reported on the Calibrate High Quality Forage Analysis report, many have asked what are normal ranges for NDF, NDFd and RFQ for typical alfalfa products. Clearly, many factors affect alfalfa quality: fall dormancy, altitude, temperature, heat, moisture, ash from soil contamination, maturity at harvest, harvest method, preservation method, etc. The values below were derived from the extensive Calibrate lab database and represents a national sample scope. Specific geographies and growing conditions will influence these averages, accordingly. The listed ranges are the average +/- 1.0 standard deviation (encompassing 67% of the normal population).

Normal Ranges for <u>Typical</u> Alfalfa Products	NDF Avg., % of DM	NDF Lower Bound	NDF Upper Bound	NDFd Avg., % of NDF	NDFd Lower Bound	NDFd Upper Bound	RFQ Avg.	RFQ Lower Bound	RFQ Upper Bound
<b>Alfalfa Hay</b>	<b>37.3</b>	31.4	43.2	<b>40.3</b>	37.1	43.5	<b>155</b>	120	195
<b>Alfalfa Freshcut</b>	<b>33.5</b>	26.0	40.9	<b>46.9</b>	40.2	53.7	<b>195</b>	140	260
<b>Alfalfa Haylage</b>	<b>40.4</b>	33.3	47.5	<b>44.3</b>	39.3	49.3	<b>150</b>	110	190

As conveyed in the technical information for HarvXtra® Alfalfa, if harvested for *tonnage* with a *delayed harvest* schedule, you would *not* expect much of an impact on any of these typical values. However, you may anticipate an *improvement* in NDFd and RFQ if harvesting with a *normal cutting schedule* and experience normal growing and harvesting conditions. In those cases, you can use the above normal averages and ranges for typical alfalfa products (non-HarvXtra) as reference points to compare with your HarvXtra® Alfalfa results. Remember that the above values are recommended for comparing values obtained from the CALIBRATE HIGH QUALITY FORAGE ANALYSIS, and may not be appropriate for values from other labs.