



‘Where there’s muck...’

Rapid testing for nutrient content of manures

Manures and biosolids slurries contain valuable plant nutrients and their careful use can save money on inorganic fertiliser costs.

These nutrients can vary considerably from the typical values presented in the Defra Fertiliser Manual (RB209). Given this variability and the increasing costs of manufactured fertiliser, it is worthwhile analysing the nutrient content of representative samples of manures and biosolids.

Typical values for manure nutrient content are helpful for general planning of fertiliser strategy, but for reliable fertiliser planning at field (crop specific) level and in order to maximise the benefits, it is essential to know the nutrient content of applied manures.

Improved analysis

Eurofins has been part of a research consortium which has shown that Near Infra-red Reflectance Spectrometry (NIRS) can provide low cost, rapid and reliable analysis of manures for the determination of:

- Dry matter
- Total Nitrogen

- Ammonium-Nitrogen
- Phosphate
- Potash
- Magnesium
- Sulphur

Validation has been based on a very substantial sample set, covering a wide range of nutrient content and from a wide geographical range across the UK.

Benefits of NIRS analysis

- Reduced analytical costs – due to rapid preparation and analysis
- Wide analysis range – multiple parameters in a single test
- Cost effective analysis of larger sample numbers – more representative of a manure store or heap
- Results delivered quickly – results available within a week
- Reliable results – consistent results over variable sample types including biosolids and solid manures.

Eurofins offers the NIRS Rapid Test for nutrient content of manures and biosolids

The rapid NIRS method is currently validated for cattle and pig manure. An available nitrogen prediction model is under development. If you are looking for a more extensive analysis or require analysis of poultry manures please contact us to discuss your needs.

Test Description	Parameters included	Min. quantity	Eurofins Package Code
New NIRS service for manures and biosolids	Dry Matter, N, P ₂ O ₅ , K ₂ O, MgO, SO ₃ , Ammonium-N	1kg	UD975

Comprehensive Service

Our laboratories in the UK provide testing for the agricultural sector including soils, feedstuffs, forage and hydroponics. We are supported by an international network of Eurofins Competence Centres providing specialist analysis. Please contact us for further information.

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