

THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Your patronage over the last few years has contributed to the success of the DHIA Forage Lab. As a result, the large number of samples analyzed over the years has taken a toll on the physical facilities. This is primarily due to the use of corrosive acids in the majority of the wet chemical procedures. Thus, during April and May of this year, we will begin renovating the lab. A new ventilation system, ceiling, floor and cabinets will be installed along with a fresh coat of epoxy paint to complete the job. During this time, we will continue to process samples, but there may be some slight delays as we try to work around the construction schedules. There will be a least two Fridays that the lab will be closed to enable the construction crews to utilize the 3-day weekend to complete major projects, such as the floor. Please be patient, as we will be doing our best to analyze your samples.

NIR analyses will be virtually unaffected by the renovation schedule (with the exception of wet chemistry verification tests). We recommend during this 2 month period, that you take advantage of NIR as much as possible.

Thanks again for your continued support. Our goal is to provide an updated, safer work environment to continue providing you with top quality results.

NEW LAB CHEMIST

Mike Reuter has assumed the responsibilities of Lab Chemist. His predecessor, John Malaney, who has worked at DHIA for 7 years, has accepted the position of DHIA Milk Lab Manager. We thank John for the great job that he has done for us and wish him success in his new position.

Mike was formerly the Senior Technician in the Mineral Department. He was in charge of the daily running and maintenance of the ICP, sulfur, nitrates, pH, chloride ion and water analyses. Prior to becoming minerals Senior Tech, he worked in the protein area where he performed Kjeldahl, modified Kjeldahl, soluble protein, urea, and ammonia analyses. Mike has a good understanding of the majority of our lab procedures and should do an excellent job as Lab Chemist.

His new responsibilities include quality assurance, lab safety, hazardous waste disposal, sample check programs, general chemistry and experimentation, refinement and implementation of new and old procedures.

Congratulations to Mike. We know that you'll all enjoy working with him.