Phosphorus

**Phosphorus**

Phosphorus (P) is reported as total P as a percentage of DM. The method is a modification of the standard Kjeldahl procedure. Digestions are conducted at FESL and analyses of digestate are done with the Technicon Autoanalyzer at the Ruminant Nutrition Lab., Animal Science.

**Suggested text statement:** “For phosphorus analysis, samples were digested using a modification of the aluminum block digestion procedure of Gallaher et al. (1975). Sample weight was 0.25 g, catalyst used was 1.5 g of 9:1 K2SO4:CuSO4, and digestion was conducted for at least 4h at 375°C using 6 ml of H2SO4 and 2 ml H2O2. Phosphorus in the digestate was determined by semiautomated colorimetry (Hambleton, 1977).”

**References**

Gallaher, R. N., C. O. Weldon and J. G. Futral. 1975. An aluminum block digester for plant and soil analysis. Soil Sci. Soc. Amer. Proc. 39:803-806.

Hambleton, L. G. 1977. Semiautomated method for simultaneous determination of phosphorus, calcium and crude protein in animal feeds. J.A.O.A.C. 60:845-852.