

# Instructions for Submitting Forage Samples

*For best results follow the sampling suggestions below.*

## Sample Size

- At least 1/2 gallon of sample should be sent for an adequate forage test. Plastic bags with zipper closures work great for this use.

## Sampling Technique

- **Hay** - Obtain samples from approximately 10 bales. Best samples are obtained using a core sampling probe. Check with your local UT Extension office about the availability of these samplers. For square bales, take one core from one end of each bale. For round bales, take a sample from each side of the bales. If grab samples are taken, be sure to obtain a representative sample as this method may not provide reliable results.
- **Silage or Haylage** - If haylage is in round bales, follow the same procedures as for round baled hay. If ensiled forage is chopped, then obtain 2-3 gallons of material from 5 to 15 places in the silo. For upright silos, run unloader and collect one sample per minute for several minutes. In both situations, mix all the collected material together, then fill 1/2 gallon sample bag with this mixture. Be sure to seal bag to ensure correct “*as received*” moisture determination.

## Sample Identification

- Use a permanent marker to write *Sample Name* on the bag. If more than one sample is being sent in, each will need a **unique** *Sample Name* on the *Forage Submission Form*.
- Verify that *Sample Name* is the same on sample bag and *Forage Submission Form*.
- To avoid delay in receiving your forage analysis results please print all information legibly, or use the fillable form provided.

## Payment Information

Exact cash, checks payable to Williamson County Extension or credit card via online at  
[https://secure.touchnet.com/C21610\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=2010](https://secure.touchnet.com/C21610_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=2010)

## Results

- Forage analysis results will be delivered using the email address given on the *Forage Submission Form*.