

UC Cooperative Extension



## **Forage Quality Sampling Protocols**

Tools and Equipment Needed (provided by UCCE):

- Work gloves
- Pruning shears and/or grass shears
- 5-gallon bucket
- 1 gt Ziploc bags
- Hanging scale

## Sampling Protocols:

- Collect approximately 1 pound of the portion of the plant that would be consumed by livestock (leaves and vegetative stems, not woody stems). Collect samples from several representative plants and mix together.
- Clip vegetation at grazing height (to ensure you're collecting material which may actually be consumed).
- Mix samples in bucket to form a composite sample. Cut material into 2-3 inch pieces.
- Take a 1-pound sample and pack tightly into a plastic bag. Place in freezer for 12 hours (to prevent chemical changes due to respiration or fermentation).
- Label bag as follows:
  - o Name
  - Location Collected (if possible, provide GPS or lat/long coordinates with your phone; street address can also work)
  - Date Collected
  - o Name of Plant
  - o Species of Livestock Present
  - Are the livestock grazing this plant (Y/N)
- Contact us to pick up and ship samples to the Dairy One Lab.

If you have questions, please contact us!

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Туре	Poison / Non- Poisonous	Scientific Name	Common
	Genista	French Broom	
	monspessulana		
	Cytisus scoarius	Scotch Broom	
	Spartium junceum	Spanish Broom	
	Heteromeles	Toyon	
	arbutifolia		
	Rubus spp.	Blackberry	
	Toxicodendron	Poison Oak	
	diversilobum		
	Hedera helix	English Ivy	
	Frangula californica	Coffee Berry	
	Ceanothus	Deerbrush	
	integerrimus		
	Ceanothus cuneatus	Wedgeleaf ceanothus	
	Mimulus ringens	Monkey Flower	
	Adenostoma	Chamise	
	fasciculatum		
Tree		Arbutus menziesii	Madrone
		Arctostaphylos spp.	Manzanita
		Notholithocarpus	Tan Oak
		densiflorus	
		Quercus wislizeni	Live Oak
		Laurus nobilis	Bay Laurel
Thistle		Centaurea solstitialis	Yellow Star Thistle
			Thistle (General)
Grass		Taeniatherum caput-	Medusahead
		medusae	

	Aegilops triuncialis	Barbed Goat Grass
	Bromus diandrus	Ripgut Brome
	Hordeum jubatum	Foxtail