

## MFGA GREEN GOLD SAMPLING INSTRUCTIONS

## Highlights:

- It's important the samples are taken in the early morning (8AM suggested) and couriered to Central Testing Lab (CTL) THAT day.
- Find out what time Purolator (or Canada Post) picks up so that you can meet the pick up time.
- MFGA has a Purolator account however if Purolator is not available in your area, you can use Canada Post and send all bills in to Chris Yuzdepski.\*
- Start sampling your fields when they reach 10-12 inches in height.
- Sample twice/week on Mondays and Wednesday for 3-4 consecutive weeks.
- Sampling period will end when the first cut date is identified.
- Sampling is done at the SAME location in order to have an accurate RFV rating. Pick a spot on your field for your testing section and gather your sample from that spot EACH TIME until time to cut.

## **STEPS FOR SAMPLING:**

- 1. Select pure (high percentage) alfalfa fields (2 to 3 years old) that represents your area.
- 2. Select a meter square area of an alfalfa field that is to be used for the entire testing period and stake out the area.
- 3. Sample your fields in the AM (8-10 AM ideal).
- 4. Take a sq foot sample area within the sq meter.
- 5. Cutting height is determined by the height of your fist.
- 6. Grab a clump of alfalfa, fist on the ground, and cut everything above it (please be careful this is the dangerous part).
- 7. From this sample remove anything that isn't alfalfa including residue from last year's stand, grass etc.
- 8. Continue to cut clumps from the sq foot area till the bag is full or the area is cut.
- 9. Measure the height of the crop in the meter area and estimate the stage.
- 10. Crop height and stage should be based on the most advanced plant in the plot.
- 11. Both of these are for PEAQ stick estimates. Record these measurements for each site.
- 12. Place samples in a large freezer Ziploc bag and label the bag as follows:

Date: sample date Sample ID: your name Client Name: Green Gold Test: GGNIR

- 13. Fill out the CTL Chain of Custody Form and mail via Purolator to CTL with your samples.
- 14. Email or text your alfalfa stage and height to terra@mfga.net or 204-872-2858. Photos another option.

 \* Note: If an MFGA account is not available or you need to use Canada Post, collect all bills and mail to: c/o 145 Edstan Place
Selkirk, Mb R1A 2E8
Attention: Chris Yuzdepski