

Phosphorus Balancing: Optimizing Dietary P Levels



Recent surveys indicate that more than one-half of Wisconsin dairy cows are over fed dietary phosphorus (P)!

How you can optimize dietary P (%) levels:

- **MATCH DIETARY P LEVEL (%) TO MILK PRODUCTION!** Use the National Research Council (NRC) Feed Recommendations.
- **ANALYZE YOUR FEED!** Talk with your nutritionist or use a qualified lab to determine the dietary P level (%) to adjust your inputs if necessary.

NRC FEED RECOMMENDATIONS

| Milk Production | Dietary P level |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 55 lbs/day | 0.32 % |
| 77 lbs/day | 0.35 % |
| 99 lbs/day | 0.36 % |
| 120 lbs/day | 0.38 % |

Adapted from *Nutrient Requirements for Dairy Cattle*, Seventh Revised Edition 2001, National Academy Press Washington D.C., January 2001

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