

Crude Fibre

The measurement of crude fibre (CF) involves extraction of a ground feed sample with diethyl ether followed by sequential boiling in dilute acid and dilute base. The residue is then burned in a 500-600 °C muffle furnace. CF % is calculated from the difference in weight of the sample before and after burning.

CF is no longer used in the formulation of dairy cattle diets, having been replaced by acid detergent fibre (ADF) and neutral detergent fibre (NDF). However, the Canadian Feeds Act and Regulations continue to require that CF levels be included in the guaranteed analysis of manufactured feeds.