

Non-Structural Carbohydrates

Non-Structural Carbohydrates (NSC) are a feed fraction used in the [Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System](#). NSC represents feed carbohydrates, including starch, pectin and sugars, which are more rapidly degradable in the rumen relative to the cell wall (structural) carbohydrates measured as [Neutral Detergent Fibre](#) (NDF). NSC content is not measured directly, but is calculated by difference:

$$\text{NFC} = 100 - \text{Crude Protein} - \text{Crude Fat} - (\text{NDF} - \text{NDIP}) - \text{Ash}$$

A variation on NSC is [Non-Fibre Carbohydrates](#) (NFC), the calculation of which does not deduct [Neutral Detergent Insoluble Protein](#) (NDIP) from NDF.