

New NIRSC Member Laboratory Set Up Checklist

- ☐ Your site inquires about NIRSC.
- ☐ NIRSC answers questions; your site is referred to NIRSC website and new member documents. nirsconsortium.org/become-a-member
- ☐ Your site reviews new member documents and confirms knowledge of NIRSC fees, participation, and policies.
- ☐ Your site completes New Member Signup Application (online).
- ☐ Your site reviews and signs the NIRS Forage and Feed Testing Consortium License Agreement.
- ☐ Your site is invoiced for:
 - 1. Membership (prorated for NIRSC fiscal year)
 - 2. One-time new member setup fee
- ☐ NIRSC schedules Standardization or Validation if applicable.
- ☐ NIRSC sends Standardization or Validation set to your site & standardization or validation is completed with analysis report.
- ☐ Commercial Sites are required to enroll in certification program with NFTA. Research or university sites are strongly recommended to enroll in NFTA. Your site informs NIRSC of enrollment.
- ☐ Your site pays membership invoice.
- ☐ Your site receives calibrations.
- ☐ NIRSC works with your site on projects, use of equations, and on-going equation and sample participation.

Expectations and Participation of New NIRSC Labs

Review your facility and be able to meet these requirements:

1. Consortium members must have NIRS instruments that scan from at least 1100 to at least 2200 nm. Many instruments now have extended scanning ranges e.g from 400 to 2500nm that include the visible light range (400-700nm) and this could be beneficial in future forage quality assessment.
2. Laboratories must participate in instrument standardization or validation protocols where applicable.
3. Laboratories must have software capable of handling complex equations.
4. Each lab is expected to do routine instrument diagnostics and sample quality control.
5. Labs are expected to provide samples of products as requested. This will ensure the spectra of samples being analyzed by all member laboratories is represented within the Consortium calibration libraries.
6. Labs conducting commercial testing of forage and feed products are expected, and university/nonprofits labs are strongly recommended to have membership for certification of their labs for NIRS through the National Forage Testing Association (NFTA), and upon request supply laboratory ID's and results data (confidentially) to the Consortium.
7. Labs must follow equation usage protocols (see Guidelines for Accuracy and Consistency in NIRSC Laboratories) and follow expiration date limits of calibrations.
8. Labs are expected to follow sample preparation protocols for NIRS scanning as recommended by NIRSC (see Guidelines for Accuracy and Consistency in NIRSC Laboratories).