Pet Food Analysis
Some pet owners wish to formulate diets for their animals from scratch. Evaluating the nutrient composition of such diets can be challenging and frequently nutritional adequacy becomes a question when growth disturbances or disease problems arise. Nutritional analysis of homemade diets can be invaluable in solving problems and educating pet owners.

Recommended Tests
The basic pet food analysis should consist of moisture, protein, fat, calcium, and phosphorus. If the food contains plant material, fiber (usually as neutral detergent fiber) should be added to this analysis. From these components an estimate of the energy (caloric) content may be calculated. Further mineral analysis may be helpful in some cases. Vitamin analysis is possible, but is expensive.

Collecting and Submitting Samples
Extreme care is necessary to be sure that the feed sample submitted for analysis is truly representative of the diet. Having the owner prepare duplicate meals for their pet, feeding one and saving the other, is a good way to get a representative sample. Samples should be collected in this manner for three days and the composite sample submitted for analysis.

For more information, please contact the Nutrition lab at 517.353.1683, or visit our website at animalhealth.msu.edu.
DCPAH is a full-service veterinary diagnostic laboratory, fully accredited by the AAVLD for all species through 2017.

Sample Submission Forms
Visit our website at animalhealth.msu.edu to access our most current submittal forms. Customized forms preprinted with your clinic information are also available at no cost via the Product Order Form.

Unbeatable Shipping
DCPAH offers a variety of shipping options. Our mailers comply with U.S. Postal Service, FedEx, UPS, and DHL regulations. All FedEx mailers include prepaid overnight weekday delivery. All USPS mailers include prepaid delivery; delivery time will vary depending on your location.

Order Mailing Supplies
Individual, insulated, and biopsy mailers are available. Contact us at 517.353.1683 or complete the Product Order Form available online at animalhealth.msu.edu.

Packaging and Mailing Samples
For shipping recommendations for individual tests, please refer to the information provided at animalhealth.msu.edu under “Available Tests.”

Speak Directly to Experts
Our veterinary professionals are available for consultation and can help you interpret your test results to better manage the health of animals entrusted to you.

Get Results by Email and Online
Had it with the fax machine? Contact the DCPAH Business Office at 517.353.3045 to have results delivered by email.

All DCPAH clients also have free, quick access to view results online through WebView. Reports are posted to the web hourly. Visit animalhealth.msu.edu and click “Log In” to request access to your diagnostic results.

Expect Quality in Testing and Service
DCPAH is a leader in establishing technical guidelines for public veterinary diagnostic laboratories in the United States and maintains a quality assurance team dedicated to promoting accuracy and reliability.

Customer Service Hours
Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST

The DCPAH Advantage

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