MUN  
Information taken from “Small Ruminant  
Dairy Newsletter,” Carol Delaney, Small  
Ruminant Dairy Specialist Vermont.  
Milk Urea Nitrogen or MUN, is an  
indicator of excess protein or nitrogen in  
the diet. You can measure this with a  
bulk tank sample sent to a DHI testing  
lab. If the animals are getting too much  
protein, they must use energy to dispose  
of it. For example, if a doe eats 100 grams  
(0.2 lbs) of excess crude protein in a day,  
she will sacrifice the energy that could  
have made 130 – 140 grams (0.3 lbs.) of  
milk. Your MUN levels should fall within  
the following range:  
• Too low: 12 – 15 mg/dl MUN  
• Too high: above 25 mg/dl MUN  
As a rule of thumb, if the manure is dark  
and runny, then the MUN is high.  
MUN is an indicator of excess  
protein in the diet.  
Ag Source provides testing for the  
Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN) levels in  
your milk. Check with your local  
technician for details on this testing  
service.