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.