Our ELS technical, customer service and sample collection professionals take special pride in their attention to detail, consistent high-quality service and extra effort they put into meeting your specific needs.

We strive to provide the most accurate, timely and cost-effective dairy testing services in the industry.

ELS makes testing easy and convenient.

• Milk samples can be sent with your milk truck driver or shipped directly to ELS
• There is no charge for MUN testing
• Results can be viewed at www.elslab.com.

Contact ELS to see how they can help you manage your herd’s health and improve reproductive performance.
What is MUN?
Milk urea nitrogen (MUN) is a natural waste product of protein metabolism and a means to eliminate excess protein in a cow's diet.

What is the source?
- Metabolized and excess protein is converted to urea
- Urea is released into blood - blood urea nitrogen (BUN)
- Urea diffuses into other body fluids, including milk-milk urea nitrogen (MUN)
- Concentration in milk is approximate to that of blood
- Milk provides easily obtained samples to estimate blood levels

Benefits of Testing
MUN testing can have many benefits for your operation including:
- Saving on feed costs by eliminating underutilized protein in the ration (monitor feeding efficiency)
- Reducing nitrogen loading in soil and ground water
- Improving reproductive efficiency

How to test
MUN testing is easy and convenient. Samples are generally taken from at least 10 cows to determine an average MUN value. A tank sample may be used. However, a better indicator of average MUN levels is the average of several bulk tank samples.

Interpreting test results
How do I know if my test results fall within the normal levels?
- Average of individual cows or bulk tank should be between 10 and 16 mg/dl. (mg/dl. equals one thousands of a gram in one tenth of a liter of milk)
- Average bulk tank MUN will be higher for herds with higher rolling herd average (RHA) and lower RHA at low end (see chart below)
- Samples taken just before feeding will naturally result in lower values

You should consult with your herd nutritionist or veterinarian to obtain an interpretation of your MUN test results. One or more factors may be involved if MUN values are outside the expected range.