

Introduction to Magruder Program

The Magruder program is a proficiency test program for analyzing fertilizer materials. The program was initially organized by Dr. E.W. Magruder in 1922 and is still identified by his name to this day. One or two fertilizers are sent to a participating laboratory each month for analysis. In 2015, several changes occurred in how data was reported by laboratories, statistically analyzed, and presented in summary reports back to the labs. Laboratories log into a data reporting website (Lab Portal) with a login ID and password to enter data on analytes tested and to review various summary reports on data collected from the samples. A lab can evaluate their proficiency with individualized reports summarizing how well their lab results compared to results from all other laboratories. An analyte proficiency report compares results to all other lab results for a particular analyte. A method proficiency report compares the results to all other lab results for an analyte determined by a specific method. Protocols from ISO 13528:2015 (Statistical methods for use in proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparison) are used to perform robust statistical analysis of laboratory results to develop consensus values and variation of results from all labs.