

Using ethanol industry co-products in dairy rations. R. Kaiser, R. Shaver*, and L. Armentano, *University of Wisconsin- Madison*.

There is a growing supply of ethanol industry co-products in the Midwest as new plants continue to come on line. This paper will focus on the use of dry and wet distillers grains in dairy rations. Variation in the nutrient composition of distillers grains and handling/storage considerations for wet distillers grains are topics of other presenters at this symposium. We will review and summarize the scientific literature regarding the use of distillers grains in dairy rations. The role that distillers grains play in the following areas of dairy cattle nutrition will be discussed: CP, RUP/RDP and amino acid supply, moderation of dietary NFC and starch, NDF, digestible NDF and physically-effective NDF contributions, supplemental fat, and phosphorus supply. The use potential for distillers grains in dairy rations as concentrate and forage substitutes will be explored along with limitations to inclusion amounts placed upon distillers grains by their lysine, fat, and phosphorus contents. Supplementation strategies to augment the use of distillers grains in dairy rations along with potential impacts on ration costs will be discussed.

Key Words: Distiller's grains, Dairy cows, Nutrition

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