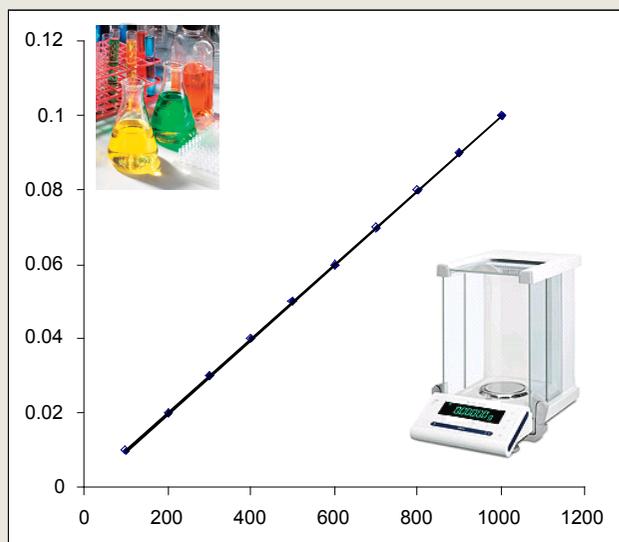


Ethics

We are committed to maintaining the highest professional standards in our laboratory operations. AESL operates under the ethics policy established by the State of Georgia, Code of Ethics for Public Service. As part of this policy, we must seek and employ the best analytical practices. AESL supports the Good Laboratory Practices guidelines of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Drug Administration for the conduct of laboratory studies.



Quality Control in the Laboratory

Standard quality control procedures create the foundation of the quality assurance program and include routine checks to determine if laboratory operations are within acceptable guidelines during data generation. AESL's quality control checks include calibrations, blanks, duplicates, spiked samples, and certified standards.



Agricultural & Environmental Services Laboratories

Feed and Environmental Water Laboratory
Pesticide and Hazardous Waste Laboratory
Soil, Plant, and Water Laboratory
Trace Analysis Laboratory



2400 College Station Road
Athens, Georgia • 30602
706.542.5350

Prepared by: Angie McGarvey
Reviewed by: Uttam Saha, Leticia Sonon, and
David Kissel

Agricultural & Environmental Services Laboratories

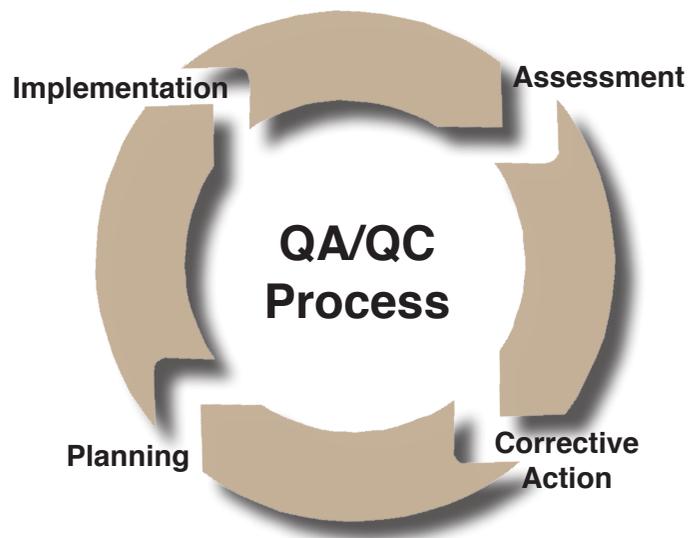
Quality Assurance/ Quality Control (QA/QC)

We are committed to ensure the highest quality of our test results through:

- Conscientious following of applicable quality assurance plans and standard operating procedures.
- Investing time and efforts in QA/QC for the entire analytical process.
- Constant monitoring and calibration of all laboratory instrumentation.
- Rigorous review of our analytical procedures to maintain reliability, efficiency, and accuracy.

Our Quality Assurance Program at a Glance

AESL's Quality Assurance Program consists of integrated management systems involving:



These components provide the framework of the quality assurance program with the overall objectives to:

- Produce accurate and precise data
- Minimize analyst and procedural errors
- Assess the quality of the analytical data
- Document decisions and quality measures

Highly Skilled Professionals

We pride ourselves because:

- Each of the four laboratories within AESL is led by a highly experienced scientist/chemist who specializes in the type of analytical chemistry offered by their respective laboratory.
- Our Laboratory Analysts have years of analytical experience.
- Our water testing laboratory employs several state-certified drinking water and wastewater analysts.
- We also employ UGA's smartest undergraduate and graduate students to blend future generation scientists with highly experienced analysts.



External Audits of Our Work

Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO)

- Feed Check Sample Program

Environmental Resource Associates (ERA)

- Annual Proficiency Testing
- Proficiency testing for total and fecal coliforms and Escherichia coli in water

Minnesota Department of Agriculture Manure Analysis Proficiency (MAP) Program

- Manure proficiency testing for various analytes

National Forage Testing Association (NFTA)

- Laboratory certification for testing forage and hays by wet chemistry and Near-Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS)

Agricultural Laboratory Proficiency Program (ALP)

- Evaluate proficiency of soil, plant, and water testing laboratories in their performance through interlaboratory sample exchanges

NSI Solutions, Inc.

- Proficiency check samples for physical, chemical, and microbiological water analyses

State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD)

- Laboratory certification to examine drinking water samples for total and fecal coliforms and Escherichia coli

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

- Semi-annual interlaboratory comparison of standard reference water samples

<http://aesi.ces.uga.edu/>

