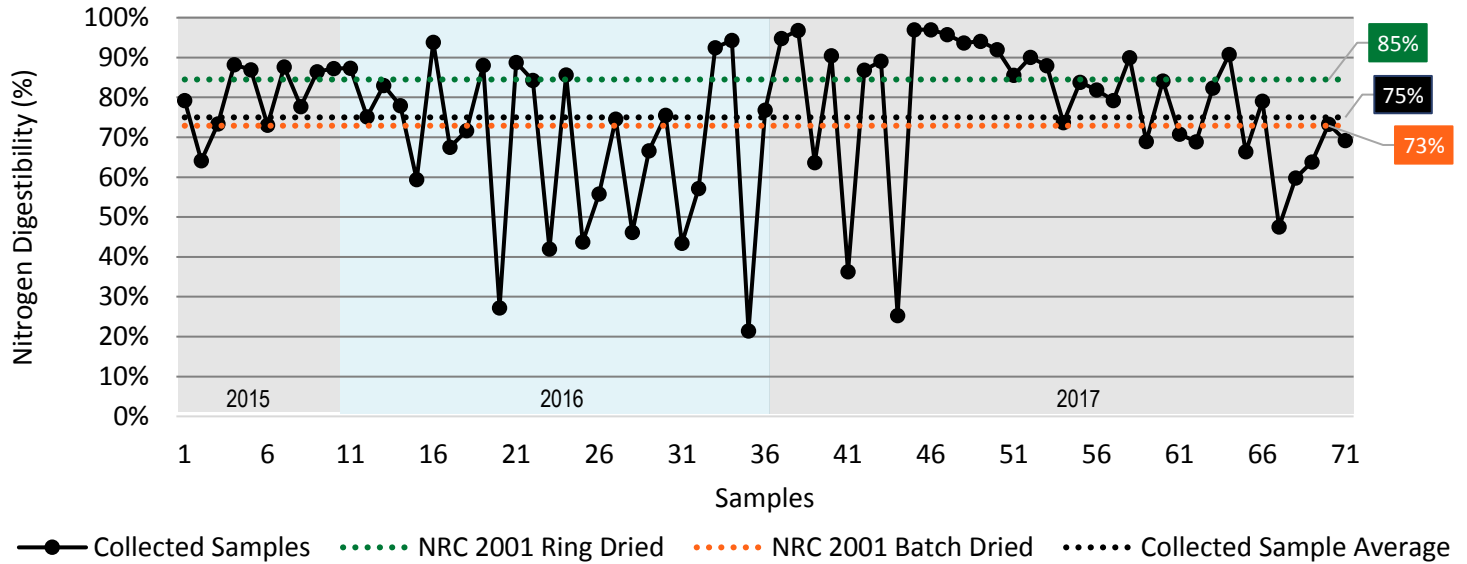




## The Variability of Nitrogen Digestibility in Blood Meal Negatively Impacts Ability to Formulate Diets



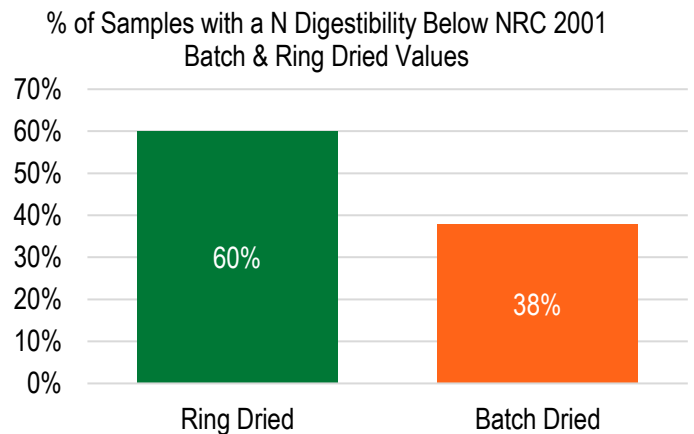
**Figure 1.** Nitrogen digestibility of collected blood meal samples.

Since 2015, Kemin has collected and tested over 70 blood meal samples from customers across the United States. The nitrogen (N) digestibility of those samples range from 21% to 97% (Figure 1). This means up to 79% of the nitrogen in the blood meal may not be digested by the animal and is simply excreted into the environment.

The average N digestibility for the collected samples was 75%. That's 10% lower than the ring dried blood meal (higher quality) value of 85% listed in the NRC 2001<sup>1</sup>. 43 out of the 71 samples (60%) had a N digestibility below this value (Figure 2). In addition, 27 out of 71 (38%) were below the batch dried (lower quality) values.

This variability has a negative impact on production performance as a producer can be purchasing a nutrient their cows cannot use. They instead excrete it into the environment.

To learn about the impact nitrogen digestibility has on profitability, ask your Kemin representative for the piece titled, "What is the opportunity cost of feeding highly variable ingredients?" based on research conducted at Cornell University, or visit [kemin.com/usalysine](http://kemin.com/usalysine).



**Figure 2.** N digestibility of blood meal samples vs. NRC 2001.



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## References

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