

Almond Hull Quality Assurance Sample Procedure

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Objective

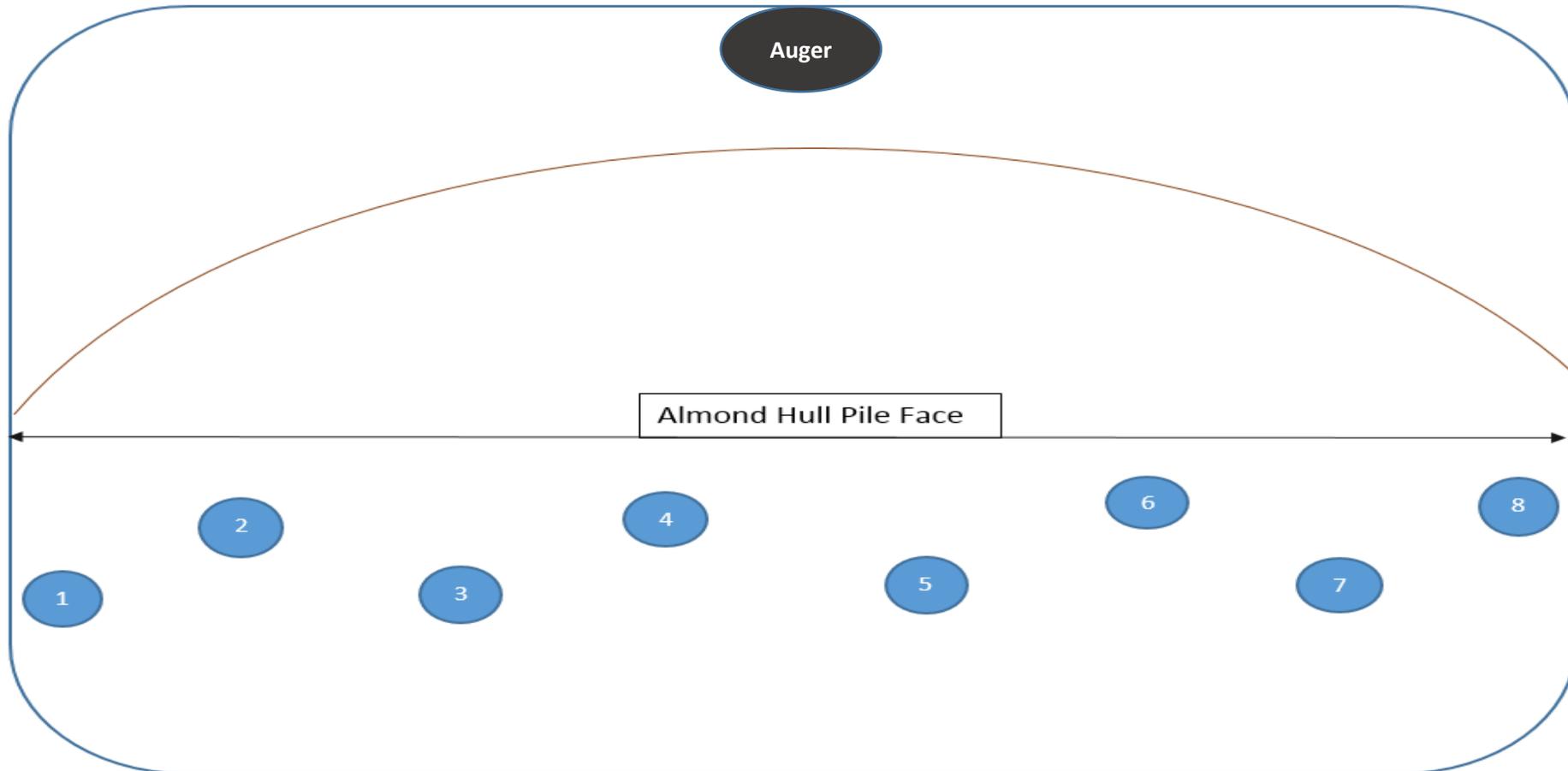
- To ensure that all product labeled as “Almond Hull” or “Almond Hull and Shell” meets the guarantees on the product label.

Procedure: Sampling as building the pile

- Sample across the face of the hull barn (i.e. at every pole) as it is being created to develop a map of the crude fiber content at each pole

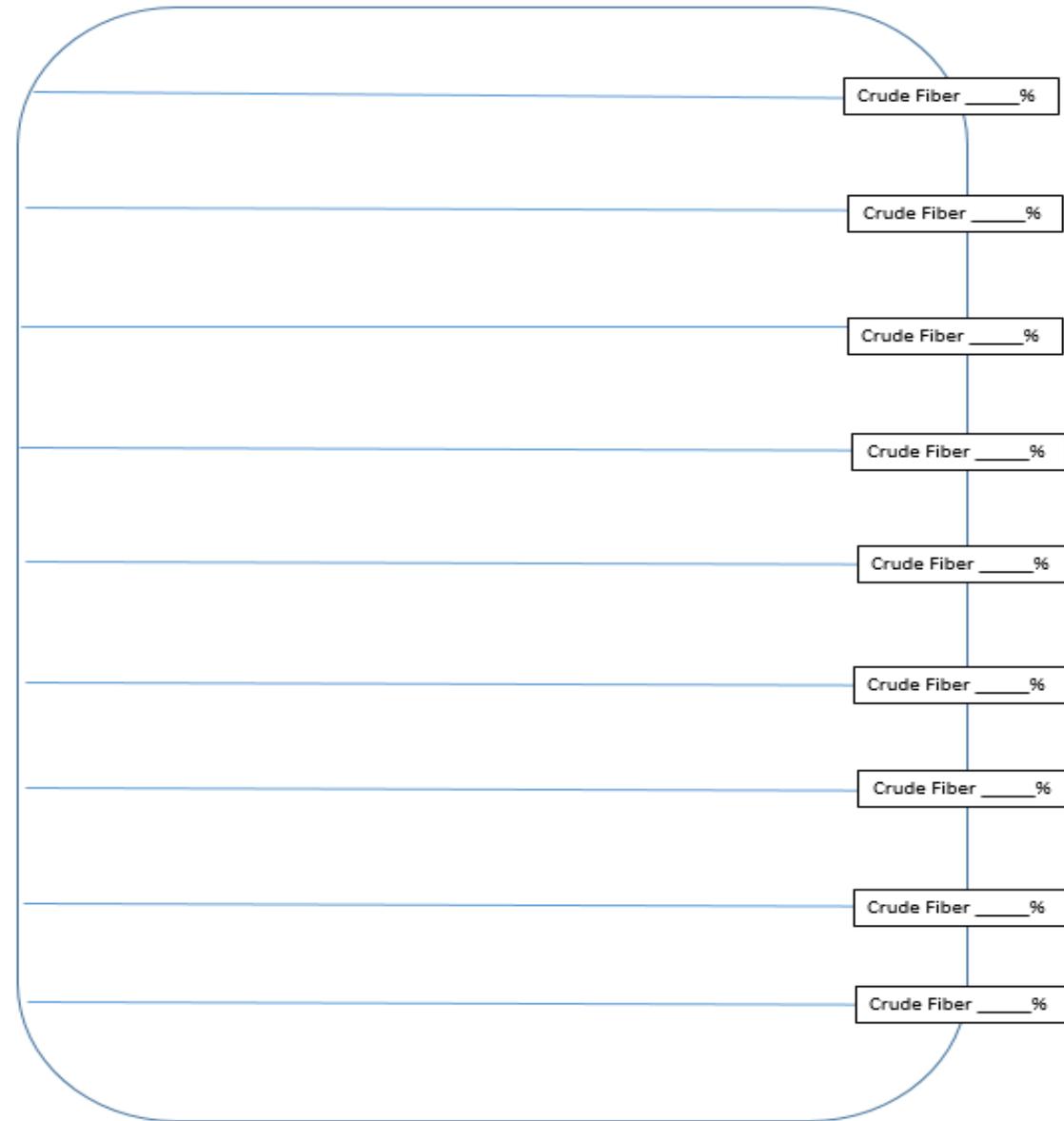
Sampling across the face of the pile

- Take one core from each of the numbered sections. (8 total)
- These cores will be commingled into one sample bag.
- This sample will represent the crude fiber across the face of the pile, but ONLY that small section (at pole #...)



Map of the almond hull pile

By utilizing the “mapping across the face” method the pile will be mapped and fiber content will be known for each pole throughout the pile



Procedure: Mixing/blending or Premix Piles

Mixing

Utilizing the crude fiber levels that were determined by sampling as the pile was created, a mixing ratio will be developed and adjusted as necessary to maintain a maximum of 15% crude fiber.

Premix Piles

Using the mixing ratio create premix piles. Keep in mind that as you work through your piles, the product's fiber % is not the same as you move through the pile.

When creating premix piles ensure that they are mixed thoroughly to ensure that you are shipping a homogenous mixture.

Create multiple premix piles for finished product testing.

Verification: Finished Product Testing

When premix piles have been created finished product testing will take place.

Using an almond hull probe sample around the pile a minimum of 8 times to obtain 1 representative sample of what is included in the “ready to ship premix pile”.

By having multiple premix piles we can ensure that there is always product that is in compliance with the 15% crude fiber maximum and is ready to ship. This allows a buffer for lab turn-around time or for adjustments to be made if a sample comes back that is not in compliance.

Once it is determined that the “ready to ship” premix piles are consistently meeting the guaranteed analysis, finished product testing will only occur for monitoring purposes.

Monitoring: (testing, limits, tolerance)

Monitoring will occur through mapping the piles, finished product testing and adjustments made to out of compliance product.

Frequency:

Monitoring by huller/sheller managers should be occurring at all times; particularly when building the pile and during mixing via finished product testing.

Verification:

Finished product sampling serves as verification of quality assurance plan.

Request a split sample from your feed inspector a minimum of once to verify the accuracy of the lab in use.