

DETERMINATION OF PROTEIN CONTENT IN CEREALS AND  
LEGUMES BY FAST NEUTRON ACTIVATION ANALYSIS

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Fast and reliable determination of protein content in food and feed is of great importance due to its basic role in human and animal nutrition. There are many different methods of protein determination based on the fact that nitrogen concentration is closely related to protein content of biological material. Fast neutron activation analysis using the  $^{14}\text{N} (n,2n) ^{13}\text{N}$  reaction seems to be the most suitable nuclear method for this purpose.

This method was used in our laboratory for the determination of protein content in cereals and legumes. A comparison is made between this method and others (especially Kjeldahl method) with regard to accuracy, reproducibility and other important features.