ANNOUNCEMENT/INVITATION

EUPT – SRM13

(Matrix: Soybeans)

(released on: 23.01.2018)

Dear Colleagues,

We herewith cordially invite you to participate in the upcoming European Proficiency Test on the analysis of residues of pesticides requiring single residue methods (EUPT-SRM13). This exercise is organized by the EU Reference Laboratory for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (EURL-SRM).

The EUPT-SRM13 is scheduled to run from 23 April till 22 May, 2018.

AIMS

Participation in proficiency tests is part of the QA/QC system of laboratories and provides them with an assessment of their analytical performance as well as a comparison with the performance of other laboratories. The general aim is to help laboratories demonstrate adequate analytical performance and, in case of underperformance, to help them identify sources of errors so that the necessary measures for quality improvement can be taken.

TEST ITEM and BLANK MATERIAL

The Test Item will be soybeans and will foreseeably contain both incurred and spiked pesticides.

Ca. 200 g of treated Test Item and ca. 200 g of Blank Material will be delivered to each participating lab. The Blank Material is intended to be used for recovery experiments and, if desired, for the preparation of matrix-matched standard solutions for calibration purposes.

As the amount of available material is limited, additional material can be delivered only if sufficient explanations are given by the requesting laboratory and as long as excess material is available. To request double amount of material (ca. 400 g Test Item and ca. 400 g Blank) please contact **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de** or enter your request in the **EUPT-Registration Website**.

TARGET ANALYTES

The list of analytes potentially contained in the Test Item is shown in the **Target Pesticides List**. For each of the analytes a specific minimum required reporting level (MRRL) is given.

The names of the compounds contained in the Test Item will be disclosed to the participants within 3 days after the EUPT, their preliminary assigned concentrations will be disclosed in the preliminary report which is released approximately 3 – 4 weeks after the test.

SHIPMENT AND RECEIPT OF TEST ITEM AND BLANK MATERIAL:

The shipment of the Test Item is planned to start on **23 April 2018**.
If any laboratory will be on holiday in the week of the shipment, please inform the organizer to rearrange shipment.

Participants must check the integrity and condition of the materials upon receipt and to report **within 48 h** if they accept the materials or not. For this please use the "**EUPT-SRM13 Result Submission website**" (sub-page 0). In case of no reaction the organizers will assume that the materials have been accepted.

OBLIGED AND ELIGIBLE LABS

Participation in the EUPT-SRM13 is mandatory for:

- all NRLs for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (**NRL-SRMs**) according to Art. 33 of Reg. 882/2004/EC,
- all Official Laboratories (**OfLs**) performing pesticide residue analyses of food and feed belonging to the commodity group represented by soybeans (i.e. "High oil content and very low water content" entailing e.g. oily seeds, nuts, compound feed and oils) within the frame of National and EU official controls (see Art. 28 of EC Reg. 396/2005). This includes laboratories analyzing pesticide residues within the frame of import controls according to Reg. 669/2009/EC ("**669-Labs"**)

Based on the data stored in the Lab-Network Database about the commodity scope and the status of each lab, each laboratory can find during the EUPT-Registration, whether it is obliged to the concerned EUPT. Errors should be reported to its NRL and to **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**.

This EUPT is furthermore open to the following laboratories as long as sufficient material is available:

- any other OfLs from EU countries that are not covered by the above obligations to participate;
- laboratories analysing official organic samples within the frame of Reg. 889/2008/EC;
- NRLs and OfLs from **EU-candidate countries** and **EFTA countries**;
- Laboratories from **Third Countries** (countries outside EU) as long as they are **involved in controls of products destined for export to the EU**.

REGISTRATION

The registration for the EUPT-SRM13 will be done using the **EUPT-Registration Website** that is connected with the **EURL-DataPool**. To register for the EUPT-SRM13 you will need to login to the **EUPT-Registration Website** using your EURL-DataPool login data. If you have lost your login data, please use the "forgot password" feature. If you are not yet registered in the EURL-DataPool, you will need to register first.

The registration period will last from 26 February to 16 March, 2018. An instruction on registration for the EUPTs can be found on the **EUPT-Registration Website**.

OBLIGED LABS NOT PARTICIPATING:

DG-SANTE expects from all obliged labs that do not intend to participate in this EUPT to give an explanation. This explanation should be given in the **EUPT-Registration Website** during the registration period.

All obliged labs should thus access the Registration Website, irrespective of whether they intend to participate or not.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **The EUPT-SRM13 registration form within the "EUPT-Registration Website"** will be accessible from **26 February – 16 March, 2018.**
- The **shipment** of the Test Items is planned to start on **23 April, 2018.**
- **Submission of results and method information** should be done by **22 May** 16:00 CET on the "**EUPT-SRM13 Result Submission website**" (sub-pages 1-3).

PARTICIPATION FEE and PAYMENT

A general fee of **200 €** will be charged to each participating laboratory **from EU Member States, EU-candidate countries or EFTA countries**, to cover the costs of handling and shipment. The fee for labs from **third countries** is set at **350 €**.

The fee for the laboratories requiring **double amount** of material will be double, i.e., **400 € for EU-, EFTA- and EU-Candidate County labs and 700 € for Third Country.**

An invoice issued for the "invoice address" stated in the registration form will be sent to the e-mail address(es) responsible for the PT and, if stated during registration, also to the person responsible for the payment. **Details on payment will be given in the invoices**.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

All documents relating to EUPT-SRM13 will be uploaded onto the **CIRCA-BC platform** and linked to the **EUPT-SRM13-Website.**

The schedule for all activities and deadlines within this PT can be found in the **Calendar** for the EUPT-SRM13.

The pesticides potentially present in the Test Item can be found in the **Target Pesticides List.**

In due time before the start of the EUPT-SRM13, the **EUPT-SRM13 Specific Protocol** will be published. This should be read carefully.

Please also refer to the valid version of the **General EUPT Protocol**, which entails the general evaluation rules of EUPTs.

GENERAL INFORMATION, CONFIDENTIALITY, DISCLAIMER

The EUPT-SRM13 is organized by the EURL-SRM on behalf of DG-SANTE. DG-SANTE is the proprietor of all EUPT data and has thus access to all information. This also includes the Directorate on Health and Food Audits and Analysis.

- In each EUPT, the participating laboratories are given a unique code, initially only known to themselves and the organisers. In the final EUPT-Report, the list of participating laboratories will not be linked to their laboratory codes.
- **The participating laboratories are not allowed to communicate with each other on matters concerning the EUPT from the start of the EUPT until the publication of the preliminary report.**
- **The organizers are allowed to provide NRLs with the EUPT-SRM13 codes of all OfLs in their respective networks.**
- The organizer further reserves the right to share EUPT results and codes with other EURLs.
- The organisers may further present the EUPT-results on a country-by-country basis. For those EU **countries where only one laboratory has participated**, the identification of certain laboratories could thus be indirectly revealed.
- All laboratories are requested to **provide information on analytical methods used**. If no sufficient information on the methodology used is provided, the organisers reserve the right not to accept the analytical results reported by the participants concerned or to exclude the lab from the final report.
- Please note that **all documents mentioned above may be subject to minor changes**. In the case of important changes, participants will be informed by e-mail. **But please still** check **periodically the EUPT-SRM13 Website for possible updates** in case the email does not get through to you.

SUPPORT AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The EUPT-SRM13 organizing Team is always at your disposal to answer any questions and give you technical support. For any further questions about the EUPT-SRM13, please mail to **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**.

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Best regards,

The EUPT-SRM13 Organising Team