



SPECIFIC PROTOCOL

for EU Proficiency Test for Pesticide Residues in Food by Single Residue Methods: EUPT – SRM5 (2010) (last updated: 04.10.2010)

Introduction

This Specific Protocol concerning the 5th European Proficiency Test on pesticide residues in food using single residue methods (EUPT–SRM5) is complementary to the "[General Protocol for EU Proficiency Tests for Pesticide Residues in Food and Feed](#)", which covers all EUPTs. The EUPT-SRM5 is jointly organised by the EU Reference Laboratory for pesticide residue analysis by Single Residue Methods (EURL–SRM) and the EURL for pesticides in Fruit and Vegetables (EURL–FV). It is to be performed by all National Reference Laboratories for Single Residue Methods (NRL-SRMs) as well as by all official EU laboratories (OfLs) responsible for official pesticide residue controls on fruits and vegetables, as far as their scope overlaps with that of the EUPT-SRM5.

Objectives

The aim of this proficiency test is to obtain information about the quality, accuracy and comparability of pesticide residue data generated by official laboratories within the frame of official controls conducted by EU member states. Participating laboratories will be provided with an assessment of both their own analytical performance and the reliability of their data – compared to the other participating laboratories.

Confidentiality

A unique laboratory code will be given to each participating laboratory at registration. The laboratory codes will be kept confidential and will not be revealed to other participants. Nevertheless, the organizers reserve the right to forward, upon request, PT results of certain countries to their corresponding NRLs which assure the maintenance of confidentiality and will use the results solely within the frame of their responsibilities as NRLs. Participants that object to this accord should inform the PT-organizers in due time.

NRLs aiming to evaluate the performance of official labs in their own countries, are also free to ask the official labs for their reported results, but not before **25 October, 2010**.

Communication between participating laboratories during the test on matters concerning this PT exercise is not permitted.

Test Material

The test material of this proficiency test is **apple sauce (purée)**.

Participants will receive two containers:

1. approximately 400 g of test material containing spiked pesticides and
2. approximately 400 g of non-spiked material, as blank.

Registration and Participation Fees

Signing up for EUPT-SRM5 is to be applied via the “**EUPT-Registration Website**” (<http://thor.dfvf.dk/eupt-signup>). The website is accessible from **15 May until 30 June 2010**.

Upon signing up laboratories will receive a confirmation e-mail with their login data (username and password) as well a specific lab code for the EUPT– SRM5. The login data are valid for all other EUPTs in the future. Laboratories that have already participated in C3/SRM4, C4 or AO-05 should firstly login before signing up for the EUPT-SRM5.

Together with the NRLs and the COM the organizers will firstly check which of the laboratories signing up are eligible to participate. Rejected laboratories will be informed and deleted from the EUPT– SRM5 database.

A general **fee of 150 € (for single shipment)** will be charged to each participating laboratory, including NRLs, to cover the costs, handling and shipment of test material.

Double amount of material can be requested via e-mail (Address: EUPT-SRM@cvuas.bwl.de). The additional material will be sent in a separate package containing 2 containers with 400 g spiked test material in one container and 400 g blank material in the other container or both two containers with á 400 g spiked material as specified in request e-mail.

The fee for the laboratories requiring double amount of material will be 300 €.

All laboratories that have been accepted to participate will be sent an invoice to the "invoice address" stated in the registration form.

Payment is expected to be made prior to the scheduled shipment date. No test material will be sent to labs from which no payment has been received by the shipment date. Details of payment will be given in the invoices.

Shipment of Test Material

Test material will be shipped frozen and packed in thermo-boxes together with a freezer block. **The test materials are planned to be shipped on 13 September, 2010**. The organisers will aim to ensure that all participating laboratories will receive their shipments on the same day. Prior to shipment a reminder will be sent to the participating laboratories by e-mail.

Laboratories planning to be on holiday in the week of shipment, should contact the organizer so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Instructions on Handling of Test Material

Upon arrival, the test material should be stored deep frozen (-18 °C or lower) till analysis to avoid any possible deterioration of the test material. The test material should be mixed thoroughly in its entirety before a portion is taken for analysis.

All participants should use their own routine standard operating procedures for extraction, clean-up and analytical measurement as well as their own reference standards for identification and quantification purposes.

Results Submission Website and Deadline

Sample receipt acknowledgement, analytical results and method information are to be submitted via the "**EUPT-SRM5 Result Submission Website**" (<http://thor.dfvf.dk/eupt-srm5>).

This website will be accessible from 14 September onwards.

To access the data submission forms participants must use their login data (username and password) given in the confirmation e-mails sent to the laboratories upon registration.

This website also contains the link to specific instructions on how to enter the data in the result submission website.

- Sample Receipt and Acceptance

After receiving the test materials the laboratory must inform the organiser about the date of receipt, the condition of the test material, and its acceptance within 48 hours via the "**EUPT-SRM5 Result Submission Website**" (sub-page 0). For all laboratories that do not fill-in sub-page 0, the organiser will assume that the test material was received and accepted.

Participants that have not received the test material by 17 September 2010, must inform the organiser immediately by e-mail (EUPT-SRM@cvuas.bwl.de) so that a new shipment can be managed.

- Target Pesticide List

The test material should be analyzed for the compounds given in the **Target Pesticide List** (see Annex 1). Laboratories should carefully study this list, as it contains important information such as **Residue Definitions** and the **Minimum Required Reporting Levels (MRRLs)**. The MRRL value of a pesticide is the level that laboratories are expected to achieve. MRRLs are taken into consideration in the judgement of false positive and false negative results.

- Reporting Determined Pesticides and Concentrations

All results must be reported by 8 October 2010 at the latest. The website will not be accessible after this deadline. All results submitted after this deadline will be included neither in the statistical treatment nor in the final report.

The names of the pesticides detected in the test materials and the determined residue levels should be submitted in the "**EUPT-SRM5 Result Submission Website**" (**Sub-pages 1 and 2**).

The residue levels must be expressed in mg/kg test material and rounded up to three significant figures, e.g. 0.0326, 0.156, 1.64, 10.3 mg/kg. Analyte concentrations below the individual reporting levels (RL) of the laboratories will be considered as “not detected” and no figures should be typed into the database.

Before entering the results, please carefully study the Target Pesticide List in Annex 1. **The residue definitions are not given on the Result Submission Website.**

For reporting the quantitative results the following fields will be available:

Concentration: here the results should be filled-in, that you would report in your routine work. That means, the recovery-corrected result should be reported, if it reflects the normal procedure in your lab otherwise the non-recovery-corrected result should be reported.

Is your result recovery-corrected?: Please specify whether the result was recovery-corrected and the kind of recovery-correction via the dropdown-box.

Recovery figure (in %): Where a recovery factor was used to correct for recovery, the recovery figure (in %) used for the calculation should be reported here.

Additional information on how each recovery figure was derived will be asked in separate fields.

- Reporting Information on Analytical Methodology

All laboratories are requested to provide information on the analytical method(s) employed to analyze the determined pesticides using the “[EUPT-SRM5 Result Submission Website](#)” (sub-page 3). If no information on the analytical methods is provided by a participating lab, the organiser reserves the right not to accept its analytical results in the PT evaluation.

In case of false negative results the affected laboratories will be asked to give details of the methodology used after the deadline for result submission.

Follow-up actions

According to instructions by the Commission, the “[Protocol for management of underperformance in comparative testing and/or lack of collaboration of National Reference Laboratories \(NRLs\) with Community reference laboratories \(CRLs\) activities](#)” will be followed for NRLs.

Documents

All documents relating to EUPT–SRM5 can be found in the [EURL-Documents Repository \(CIRCA/FIS-VL\)](#). Links to the documents can be found in the [EUPT-SRM5 Website](#).

For further information please visit contact the organizers EUPT-SRM@cvuas.bwl.de

Calendar

Activity	Who ?	Dates
Opening of the EUPT-SRM5 Website with further information including links to " Announcement/Invitation-Letter ", " Calendar ", " Target Pesticide List ", " General Protocol ",	EURL-SRM	Feb 2010
Invitation to laboratories to participate	EURL-SRM	11 May 2010
Release of Specific Protocol	EURL-SRM	15 May 2010
Access to " EUPT-Registration Website "	EURL-SRM (in collaboration with EURL-CF)	15 May 2010
Deadline for registration	Invited Labs	30 June 2010
Preparation of Test Material	EURL-FV (on behalf of EURL-SRM)	July 2010 (pre-tests)
		Sept 2010 (final preparation)
Homogeneity tests	EURL-SRM	Sept 2010
Stability tests	EURL-SRM	Sept-Oct 2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Distribution of Test materials ▪ Information to the laboratories regarding shipment 	EURL-FV (on behalf of EURL-SRM)	13 Sept 2010
Activation of " EUPT-SRM5 Result Submission Website "	EURL-SRM	by 14 Sept 2010
Deadline for Receipt and Acceptance of Test Materials: Online Submission of Form 0 (sub-page 0)	Participating Labs	within 48 hr of receipt
Deadline for Result Submission Pesticide scope, Results, Method Information Submission of Form 1 – 3 (sub-pages 1 – 3)	Participating Labs	by 15 Oct 2010
EUPT Evaluation Meeting	EURL-FV, EURL-SRM, Commission, EUPT- Scientific Committee	Oct/Nov 2010
Preliminary Report (only compilation of results)	EURL-SRM	08 Nov 2010
Final Report	EURL-SRM	Dec 2010

Contact information

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Quality Assurance Group

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Annex 1

Preliminary Target Pesticide List

for the EUPT – SRM5 (2010)

Pesticides marked with an asterisk "*" will be considered in the overall performance-ranking of the labs. This concerns both the inclusion of those compounds in the scope of the labs as well as the results (z-scores) achieved by the labs for the compounds present in the sample.

Pesticides	Residue Definitions (valid within this EUPT)	MRRL (mg/kg)	Considered in overall performance- ranking	Included in EU CCP 2010?
ACIDIC PESTICIDES				
*2,4-D	2,4-D (free acid only)	0.01	Yes	Yes
*Fluazifop	Fluazifop (free acid only)	0.01	Yes	Yes
*Haloxifop	Haloxifop (free acid only)	0.01	Yes	Yes
Dichlorprop (2,4-DP)	Dichlorprop (free acid only)	0.01	No	No
HIGHLY POLAR PESTICIDES				
*Chlormequat	Chlormequat (free cation)	0.01	Yes	Yes
*Ethephon	Ethephon	0.02	Yes	Yes
*Mepiquat	Mepiquat (free cation)	0.01	Yes	Yes
Amitrole	Amitrole	0.02	No	Yes
OTHER CCP RELATED PESTICIDES				
*Dithiocarbamates	Dithiocarbamates expressed as CS ₂ (including maneb, mancozeb, metiram, propineb, thiram and ziram)	0.02	Yes	Yes
*Abamectin	Avermectin B1a only	0.01	Yes	Yes
*Fenbutatin oxide	Fenbutatin oxide	0.01	Yes	Yes

Notes:

- For analytical and practical reasons the residue definitions applying in this EUPT do not always correspond to those in the legislation
- This document may be subject to minor changes, please thus check periodically, and especially after the start of the test to make sure you are using the latest version available
- CCP: Coordinated Community Control Programme

For any questions about the EUPT– SRM5 please mail to EUPT-SRM@cvas.bwl.de.

Document revision history:

04.06.2010: Fees for second shipment of PT-material were introduced

04.06.2010: Fosetyl Aluminium was deleted from the Target Pesticide List