

WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE EU REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR PESTICIDES IN CEREALS AND FEEDINGSTUFF

(Version 20 August 2010)

January-December 2011

LEGAL FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

The functions and duties of the Reference Laboratory are described in Article 32 of the EC Regulation No 882/2004.

1. OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER 2011

A. General tasks

B. Development and validation of analytical methods

C. Quality assurance and quality control including the organisation and implementation of proficiency tests.

D. Technical and scientific support to NRLs/ EU Official labs, Commission and third countries

2. WORKING PLAN FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER 2011

A. General Tasks

1. Maintenance of the common web portal <http://www.crl-pesticides.eu> for the pesticide EU-RLs (horizontal task). The communication platform supports the coordination activities of the EU-RLs and serves as contact, reference and service points for the National Reference laboratories and official pesticide residue laboratories in Europe. The website for Cereal will be maintained in coordination with the other EU-RL and will include presentation of the EU-RL for cereal. Additionally, information on proficiency test, training courses, workshop, workprogramme and general information on cereal production and pesticide use will be included.
2. Further development and maintenance of the online result submission website for proficiency tests. Via the website the participating laboratories will be able to submit both their results from the proficiency test and information on the analytical method to the EU-RL. The data enter a SQL database, where the data assessment and compilation results will easily be prepared. The website will in 2011 be used for the proficiency test for cereal and for PT organised by the other pesticide residue EU-RL on request.

3. Maintenance of the EU-RL/NRL/OfL network for laboratories performing analysis of cereals. The network is and will be used for communication of work programmes, proficiency test and other issues of importance primarily via the EU-RL web portal and the workshop.
4. Participation in coordinating meetings and general management activities of EU-RLs for pesticide residues, as requested by the commission. Participation in the horizontal advisory groups organized by the EU-RL for fruit and vegetables will be performed.
5. Administrative duties e.g. budget management, preparation of work programme, budgets will be accomplished.
6. Compilation of annual report and cost estimate.
7. Co-operation with international organisations as agreed with the COM.
8. Technical and scientific support to the Commission and its offices, as requested by the Commission.

B. Development and Validation of Analytical Methods

Analytical scientific work will include the improvement and enhancement of existing approved multi-methods and the development or implementation of new multi-methods and detection techniques. As task for analytical work for 2011 are considered:

9. The development and validation with mainly focus on the following areas

Extension of the pesticide profile for the cereal and feedingstuff multi methods using LC/MS/MS or GC/MS/MS: The scope for the accredited analytical multimethods for cereals and feedingstuff will be extended by inclusion of pesticides used for worldwide cereal and feed production and/or pesticides included in the coordinated control program.

Optimization of extraction efficiencies. Recent studies made by the EU-RL-SRM have shown that incurred pesticides might require additional extraction time than the approximately 1 minute currently used. The EU-RL-CF and SRM will collaboratively optimize the extraction time for residues of so-called multi and single method pesticides from cereal matrices. The EUPT -C test materials from 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and/or 2011 will be used for this study.

Optimization of clean-up procedures of interfering matrix. Recent advances in lipodomic profiling it will be possible to characterize the co-extracted cereal lipid matrices and the differences between the individual commodities. This knowledge may help in improving the clean-up procedures. The work will continue from the

Further development of screening method for cereals by LC-TOF (Waters LCT): The method will be used as a tool to select pesticides to be included in the accredited method. The development was started in 2010.

10. Pesticide residues in feed to laying hens and pesticide residues in eggs.
Feed is one of the main sources for incurring pesticide residues in farmed animals. The detection of residues in feed for laying hens is an indication for possible residues in eggs. On the other hand the detection of residues in eggs is an indication for possible residues in feed for laying hens. Thus, the EU-RLs for CF and AO will start cooperation on detection of possible pesticide residues in feed for laying hens and eggs.
11. Collection and evaluation of information to support the prioritization of method development projects. In order to focus the aim of the multi methods to be used for pesticide residues in cereals and feeds it is important to examine the relevance, risk relation, chemical properties etc. for the pesticides, before the decision can be taken to include them into the multi residue methods.
The task is an on-going activity.

C. Quality Assurance and Quality Control

12. Proficiency test PT-C4 on rice
A proficiency test on incurred pesticides in rice will be organized in 2011. The proficiency test will cover pesticides analysed by both multi and single methods. The pesticides to be analysed for includes approximately 100 pesticides, as agreed on by the Advisory Group. The rice is during the 2010 season grown, sprayed and harvested in Brazil. If necessary, the test sample will be further spiked to reach a pesticide concentration level relevant for the PT.
13. Preparation of samples for proficiency test 2012, EUPT-CF5
To be able to perform proficiency test on cereals or feedingstuff of plant origin with incurred pesticides in the first half of 2012, it is necessary to perform a field spraying of cereals in 2011. A field spraying of cereals performed by a consultant will take place, if possible. The spraying will include several different pesticides. After harvest, the sample will be further spiked with additional pesticides if necessary and the grain/crop will be milled/chopped and homogenised to secure that the sample material are well qualified for the proficiency test. The proficiency test will focus on crops used for feedingstuff, if agreed upon by the Advisory Group.
14. Maintenance of in-house QA/QC activities in consequence of the ISO 17025 accreditation of all analytical work done within the CRL.

D. Technical and Scientific Support to NRLs/EU official labs, the Commission and Third Countries

15. Coordinated EU-RL/NRL Workshop on Pesticide Residue Analysis in Freiburg.
A workshop will be arranged for all the NRL and OFL involved in control and monitoring of pesticide in food. The workshop will be organised in cooperation with the all EU-RLs for pesticide residues. The workshop will be held in Freiburg in September 2011. The workshop will be open for the NRLs on 'fruit and

vegetable', 'Animal Origen', 'Single Residue Methods' and 'Cereal and Feedingstuff'. The agenda for the workshop will include results from proficiency test, discussion on coordinated monitoring programme and analytical challenges and other relevant issues decided by the EU-RLs. One expert from each country per CRL will be reimbursed. The official laboratories will not be reimbursed.

16. Support to the COM for the drafting of the EU coordinated monitoring programme
17. Involvement of the EU-RL in the EFSA residue evaluation to give its opinion about residue definitions and routine validated methods

18. Missions

In order to coordinate workprogramme, proficiency test, method validation, Internet portal, online result submission and participation in Standing Commission meeting up to 4 missions will be carried out.

One NRL-visit will be conducted to one laboratory selected in agreement with the COM, where the EUPTs results have been problematic over the last three years. The EU-RL will send 2 representatives.

One Mission for one person to LAPRW 2011 in Montevideo (8-11 May) for one person.

On request by the Commission one mission for one person for participation in the Codex Committee meeting on Pesticide Residues 2011 in Beijing, China.

Pre approval from the Commission will be obtained for all non-planed missions

19. Analysis of official samples, counter analysis

Analysis of official samples, counter analysis will be performed if requested by the Commission. The EU-RL will ask the Commission for approval of additional eligible budget, if required.