



ANNOUNCEMENT/INVITATION

EUPT – SRM11

(update on: 13.04.2016)

Dear Colleagues,

We herewith cordially invite you to participate in the upcoming European Proficiency Test on pesticide residue analysis using single residue methods (EUPT-SRM11) provided by the EU Reference Laboratory for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (EURL-SRM).

The EUPT-SRM11 is scheduled to run from 4 April till 10 May, 2016 using spinach homogenate as matrix.

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 spinach homogenate and will foreseeably contain both incurred and spiked pesticides. It will be produced in cooperation with EU Reference Laboratory for Pesticide Residues in Fruit and Vegetables (EURL-FV).

Ca. 300 g of treated Test Item and ca. 300 g of Blank Material will be delivered to each participating lab. The Blank Material is intended to be used for recovery experiments and, if necessary, for the preparation of matrix-matched standard solutions for calibration purposes.

As the amount of available material is limited, additional material will 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 (600 g Test Item and 600 g Blank) please contact eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de or via the [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 pesticides contained in the Test Item and their assigned concentrations will be undisclosed to the participants after the test.

SHIPMENT AND RECEIPT OF TEST ITEM AND BLANK MATERIAL:

The shipment of the Test Item is planned to start on **4 April 2016**. 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-SRM11 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-SRM11 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**) undertaking pesticide residue analyses in food of plant origin and feeding stuff 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 information stored in the Lab-Network Database about the commodity scope and the status of each lab, **a tentative list of the labs obliged to participate in the EUPT-SRM11** was prepared and distributed to NRL-SRMs and OfLs.

- **OfLs** should check the information concerning their own lab and report any errors to their NRLs
- **NRLs** are ultimately responsible for the correctness and comprehensiveness of the data concerning labs within their network. Errors should be reported to eurl-srm@cvas.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**; labs from **Third Countries** (countries outside EU) as long as they are involved in controls of products destined for export to the EU.

REGISTRATION

To register for this PT:

- **EU, EFTA and EU-Candidate Country Labs:** Please access the "**EUPT-Registration Website**" using the **drop-down list (accessible from 8 February, 2016)**.
Should your lab be missing from the drop-down list please contact us: eurl-srm@cvas.bwl.de
- **Laboratories from Third Countries:** Please also register via "**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-Registration Website](#)" will be accessible from **8 February – 11 March, 2016**.
- The **shipment** of the Test Items is planned to start on **4 April, 2016**.
- **Submission of results and method information** should be done by **10 May, 16:00 CET** on the "[EUPT-SRM11 Result Submission website](#)" (sub-pages 1-3).

PARTICIPATION FEE and PAYMENT

A general fee of **230 €** 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., **460 € 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. Details of payment will be given in the invoices.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

All documents relating to EUPT-SRM11 will be uploaded onto the [CIRCA-platform](#) and linked to the [EUPT-SRM11-Website](#).

The schedule for all activities and deadlines within this PT can be found in the [Calendar](#) for the EUPT-SRM11.

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-SRM11, the [EUPT-SRM11 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-SRM11 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 FVO.

- In each EUPT, the 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-SRM11 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 **countries where only one laboratory has participated**, the identity of certain labs 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.
- 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 still **please check periodically the EUPT-SRM11 Website for possible updates** in case the email does not get through to you.

SUPPORT

The EUPT- SRM11 Organizing Team is always at your disposal to answer any questions and give you technical support. For any further questions about the EUPT-SRM11, please mail to eurl-srm@cvas.bwl.de.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Best regards,

The EUPT-SRM11 Organising Team

QCG: Quality Control Group; AG: Advisory Group