

# Announcement

## EUPT AO 18 (2023)

**18<sup>th</sup> European Proficiency Test on Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin and  
Commodities with High Fat Content**

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### Pesticides in Honey

January 2023

**European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticides in Food of Animal  
Origin and Commodities with High Fat Content**

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Approved by Björn Hardebusch

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QCG: Quality Control Group

AG: Advisory Group

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## Introduction

The European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin and Commodities with High Fat Content in Freiburg, Germany, announces its 18<sup>th</sup> proficiency test (PT), thus enabling again each participating laboratory to assess its analytical capability by comparing its results with the assigned values.

The matrix will be **honey**. The test item will be spiked with selected analytes of interest. They are included in the list of maximum residue levels in Commission Regulation 396/2005 and most of them also in the list of compounds to be analysed in the 2023-25 Multiannual Coordinated Control Programme (MACP, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/601 and the Working Document SANCO/12745/2013 rev.12).

The pesticide target list in the annex of this document consists of pesticides from former EUPT lists and in addition few pesticides considered to be relevant for the matrix honey. Some pesticides are marked to be analysed on voluntary basis. For sufficient scope it is necessary

- to analyse at least 90 % of the mandatory analytes from the list in the annex and
- to detect at least 90 % of the analytes present in the test item.

The voluntary pesticides will be statistical treated as the mandatory pesticides but their results will not influence the categorising in A and B.

**The test item will be dispatched on Monday, 17 April 2023.** Participating laboratories may use any analytical method of their choice. Results are to be reported to the EURL AO within the stipulated deadline. After receipt of the results, the EURL AO will carry out a statistical evaluation of the submitted data and all quantitative laboratory results will be assessed by means of z-scores. Thereafter, a report will be sent to the participating laboratories together with a certificate of participation.

## Objectives

The objectives of this proficiency test are

- to assess the inter laboratory consistency of results from the analyses of pesticides in samples of animal origin and
- to provide a quality assurance assessment of the NRLs and the official laboratories within the EU.

## Participants

According to Art. 101 of Reg. (EU) 625/2007 and Art. 28 (3) of Reg. (EC) 396/2005, participation is mandatory for all laboratories selected as NRL for Pesticides in Food of Animal Origin and Commodities with High Fat Content and for all official laboratories undertaking the analysis of these commodities for the official control on pesticide residues. If your laboratory is obliged to participate and you do not participate in this PT, the Commission expects an explanation for non-participation. Based on the data stored in the Lab-Network Database about the commodity scope and the status of each lab, each laboratory is classified as obliged or not obliged to take part in this PT. This information can also be found on the EUPT-registration page. Errors should be reported to the corresponding NRL and to [eurl-pesticides@cvuafr.bwl.de](mailto:eurl-pesticides@cvuafr.bwl.de).

Laboratories are requested to enrol for participation within the EUPT-registration website ([www.eupt-registration.eu](http://www.eupt-registration.eu)) which is going to be used for all EUPTs performed by the EURLs for pesticide residues. The registration period will last from **23 January to 10 March 2023**. Participants will be able to re-enter the registration website and change/update the entries (e.g. addresses for shipment and invoice, contact data). Deadline for these changes is **05 April 2023**.

After the end of the registration deadline, the participants will receive their username and password for DTU EUPT-Webtool (EUPT AO 18) as well as the latest EUPT-AO-Webtool guideline via e-mail.

**IMPORTANT:** Before the shipment of the samples, participating laboratories have to select **CAREFULLY** the analytes from the target list being part of their analytical scope via DTU EUPT-Webtool (EUPT AO 18). Deadline for any changes in scope will be one working day before the shipment of samples (**14 April 2023**). After this deadline neither participants nor the EURL is able to change the scope. **The EURL will not accept any changes sent by email.** If scope selection is not performed, all analytes will be automatically selected.

## Test item

The test item consists of one unit of honey with spiked analytes of interest. The EURL AO obtained homogeneous honey from FoodQS GmbH (Langenzenn, Germany). Spiking of analytes and bottling was performed by EURL AO team members at FoodQS premises. Test items will be shipped under ambient conditions. Approx. **50 g** of the test item will be supplied. Please note that for this PT no blank (non-spiked) sample will be provided!

## Analytical parameters and reporting of results

The test item may contain any analyte from the lists given in the annexes. For each of the analytes a specific minimum required reporting level (MRRL) is given. Selected analytes were added to the honey at relevant concentrations. Single results of each analyte detected shall be reported in **mg/kg**, rounded to three significant figures (e.g. 0.0581, 0.251 or 1.35). Analyte concentrations below the individual reporting levels (RL) shall be considered as “not detected” and no figures shall be typed into the database.

## Further instructions for analysis and reporting

Laboratories should

- store the test item cooled (at 4 - 7°C) until analysis,
- stir/shake carefully the content to make sure that the test item is homogeneous,
- suggestion of EURL: portion the content of the test item into subsamples and store unused portions cooled (at 4 - 7°C) for later analysis,
- use their own standard operating procedures for extraction, clean-up and analytical measurement,
- use their own reference standards for identification and quantification,
- provide a detailed method description and any additional information.

Sample receipt forms will be made available in the DTU EUPT-Webtool (EUPT AO 18) when the test item is dispatched. Reporting forms will be accessible after the receipt of the test item has been confirmed. There will be **no extension of the deadline**. Results should be submitted by using the DTU EUPT-Webtool (EUPT AO 18) before the deadline. As laid down in Regulation 2017/625, NRLs are responsible for evaluating and improving their OfL network. For this reason, the EURL AO will confide the laboratory codes of OfLs to their NRLs together with the final report. On request of NRLs the organisers will confide the laboratory codes one month after dispatch of the preliminary report.

## Statistical evaluation of results

EUPT AO 18 is one of four proficiency tests organised by the EURLs for pesticide residues as part of their work programmes for 2023. Thus, the performance and the evaluation of EUPT AO 18 will be similar to those that will be used in the other EUPTs.

The performance of each laboratory will be evaluated and presented in an anonymous format in a report written after the final evaluation. The organisers will calculate the mean, robust mean, median and standard deviation for each spiked analyte. The procedure will follow the General Protocol for EU proficiency Tests for Pesticide Residues in Food and Feed and the IUPAC/ISO/AOAC International Harmonised Protocol for the Proficiency Testing of Chemical Analytical Laboratories (see also ISO 13528). The evaluation will be performed in close cooperation with the Scientific Committee for EUPTs. First, pre-assigned values will be calculated taking into account the results of all participants. At the meeting of the Scientific Committee for EUPTs (June 2023) the pre-assigned values will be discussed. The pre-assigned values will be confirmed or recalculated after omitting results of laboratories according to the suggestions of the Scientific Committee for EUPTs.

## Time schedule

Actor	Activity	Date
EURL	Preliminary announcement matrix honey at EURL-NRL workshop	27 October 2022
EURL	First information supplied to laboratories and call for participation	Mid of January 2023
Participant	<b>Registration</b> via EUPT website	<b>23 January – 10 March 2023</b>
Participant	<b>Scope selection</b> via EUPT webtool	<b>27 March – 14 April 2023</b>
Participant	Proof of shipment address in EURL-Datapool	Ending 06 April 2023
EURL	<b>Dispatch of test material</b>	<b>17 April 2023</b>
Participant	Confirmation of test material receipt	18 – 24 April 2023
Participant	<b>Deadline for reporting of test results</b>	<b>22 May 2023*</b>
Participant	Deadline for reporting of additional method information (no changes of reported results possible)	31 May 2023
EURL	Deadline for preliminary report	22 July 2023
EURL	Dispatch of the final report as pdf-file	Approx. end of 2023

\* Please make sure to report your results on time as there will be **no extension of the deadline**.

## Participation fee

There is a **fee of EUR 200.00** for shipping and handling to participants within the European Union and EFTA countries (**including NRLs**). Fees for participants from **other countries** are **EUR 400.00**. An invoice will be sent together with the samples.

## Contact information EURL AO

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## Annex 1

### EUPT AO 18 Pesticide target list of **mandatory** analytes

**Table A1:** List of **mandatory** analytes and minimum required reporting levels (MRRL) in EUPT AO 18 (test item honey). Results shall be rounded to three significant figures (e.g. 0.0581, 0.251 or 1.35)

Analyte	MRRL (mg/kg)	Analyte	MRRL (mg/kg)
2,4-Dimethylphenylformamid (amitraz metabolite)	0.010	Hexachlorcyclohexane (HCH), alpha-isomer	0.010
4,4'-Methoxychlor	0.010	Hexachlorcyclohexane (HCH), beta-isomer	0.010
Acetamiprid	0.010	Hexachlorcyclohexane (HCH), gamma-isomer (Lindane)	0.010
Aldrin	0.010	Hexachlorobenzene (HCB)	0.010
Azinphos-methyl	0.010	Hexythiazox	0.010
Azoxystrobin	0.010	Imazalil	0.010
Bifenthrin	0.010	Imidacloprid	0.010
Bixafen (parent only)	0.010	Indoxacarb (sum of isomers)	0.010
Boscalid (parent only)	0.010	Iprodione	0.010
Bromopropylate	0.010	Malaoxon	0.010
BTS 44595 (M201-04) (prochloraz metabolite)	0.010	Malathion	0.010
BTS 44596 (M201-03) (prochloraz metabolite)	0.010	Metaflumizone (sum of isomers)	0.010
Buprofezin	0.010	Methidathion	0.010
Carbendazim (carbendazim only)	0.010	Methiocarb	0.010
Chlordane, Cis-	0.010	Methiocarb-sulfone	0.010
Chlordane, Trans-	0.010	Methiocarb-sulfoxide	0.010
Chlorfenvinphos	0.010	Myclobutanil (parent only)	0.010
Chlorobenzilate	0.010	N-2,4-Dimethylphenyl-N-methylformamidin (amitraz metabolite)	0.010
Chlorpropham (parent only)	0.010	o,p'-DDT	0.010
Chlorpyrifos	0.010	Oxychlordane	0.010
Chlorpyrifos-methyl	0.010	p,p'-DDD	0.010
Clothianidin	0.010	p,p'-DDE	0.010
Coumaphos	0.010	p,p'-DDT	0.010
Cyfluthrin (sum of isomers)	0.010	Paraoxon-methyl	0.010
Cyhalothrin, Lambda- (sum of isomers)	0.010	Parathion	0.010
Cypermethrin (sum of isomers)	0.010	Parathion-methyl (parent only)	0.010
Cyproconazole	0.010	Pendimethalin	0.010
Cyprodinil	0.010	Permethrin (sum of isomers)	0.010
Deltamethrin	0.010	Phosalone	0.010

Analyte	MRRL (mg/kg)	Analyte	MRRL (mg/kg)
Diazinon	0.010	Pirimicarb	0.010
Dieldrin	0.010	Pirimicarb, Desmethyl-	0.010
Diethyl-m-toluamid, N,N-, (DEET)	0.010	Pirimiphos-ethyl	0.010
Difenoconazole	0.010	Pirimiphos-methyl	0.010
Dimethoate	0.010	Prochloraz	0.010
Dimethomorph	0.010	Profenofos	0.010
Dimoxystrobin	0.010	Propargite	0.010
Endosulfan, Alpha-	0.010	Prothioconazole-desthio (sum of isomers)	0.010
Endosulfan, Beta-	0.010	Pyraclostrobin	0.010
Endosulfan-sulfate	0.010	Pyrazophos	0.010
Endrin	0.010	Pyrimethanil	0.010
Epoxiconazole	0.010	Resmethrin (sum of isomers)	0.010
Ethoprophos	0.010	Spinosad <sup>(1)</sup>	0.010
Etofenprox	0.010	Spinosyn A <sup>(2)</sup>	0.010
Famoxadone	0.010	Spinosyn D <sup>(2)</sup>	0.010
Fenhexamid	0.010	Spiroxamine	0.010
Fenitrothion	0.010	tau-Fluvalinate	0.010
Fenpropidin (parent only)	0.010	Tebuconazole	0.010
Fenpropimorph (sum of isomers) (parent only)	0.010	Tebufenozide	0.010
Fenvalerate/Esfenvalerate (sum of RR, SS, RS and SR isomers)	0.010	Terbutylazine	0.010
Fipronil	0.005	Tetraconazole	0.010
Fipronil sulfone (MB46136)	0.005	Tetramethrin	0.010
Fluquinconazole	0.010	Thiacloprid	0.010
Flusilazole (parent only)	0.010	Thiamethoxam	0.010
Flutriafol	0.010	Thiophanate-methyl	0.010
Heptachlor	0.010	Triazophos	0.010
Heptachlorepoxyd, Cis-	0.010	Trichlorfon	0.010
Heptachlorepoxyd, Trans-	0.010	Trifloxystrobin (parent only)	0.010
Heptenophos	0.010	Vinclozolin	0.010

<sup>(1)</sup> Results for Spinosad should be reported either if individual standards for Spinosyn A and D or a mixture of Spinosyn A and D are used for quantification.

<sup>(2)</sup> Results for Spinosyn A or D should be reported, if the individual standards were used for quantification.



## Annex 2

### EUPT AO 18 Pesticide target list of **voluntary** analytes

**Table A2:** List of **voluntary** analytes and minimum required reporting levels (MRRL) in EUPT AO 18 (test item honey). Results shall be rounded to three significant figures (e.g. 0.0581, 0.251 or 1.35)

Analyte	MRRL (mg/kg)
Ametoctradin (parent only)	0.01
Benzovindiflupyr	0.01
Fenpyrazamine (parent only)	0.01
Fenthion	0.01
Fenthionoxon	0.01
Fenthionoxonsulfone	0.01
Fenthionoxonsulfoxide	0.01
Fenthionsulfone	0.01
Fenthionsulfoxide	0.01
Flonicamid (parent only)	0.01
Orthophenylphenol (2-phenylphenol)	0.01
Picoxystrobin	0.01
Spirotetramat	0.01
Spirotetramat-enol	0.01