

Solutions for addressing specific LC-MS problematic pesticide residues in multiresidue methods. Part I

Online videotutorial

Francisco José Díaz-Galiano
Amadeo R. Fernández-Alba



European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticide Residues in Fruits & Vegetables

Problems related to reporting false positives and false negatives for specific problematic compounds



False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03
(avocado)



7 laboratories reported 8 false positives

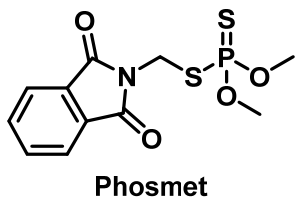
| Code | Pesticide | RL (mg/kg) | Concentration (mg/kg) | Determination technique |
|--------|--|------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Lab047 | Azinphos-methyl | 0.01 | 0.133732643 | LC-QQQ-MS/MS |
| Lab012 | Etofenprox | 0.01 | 0.0878 | LC-QQQ-MS/MS |
| Lab032 | Formetanate (expressed as formetanate (hydrochloride)) | 0.01 | 0.241 | LC-QQQ-MS/MS |
| Lab007 | Prothioconazole (Prothioconazole-isomers) | | 0.21 | LC-Orbitrap-MS |
| Lab062 | Tebuconazole | 0.01 | 0.02 | LC-QQQ-MS/MS GC-QQQ-MS/MS |

Lab047 False negative for Phosmet

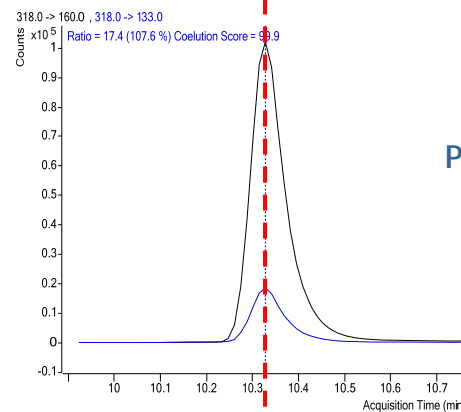


False positives and false negatives

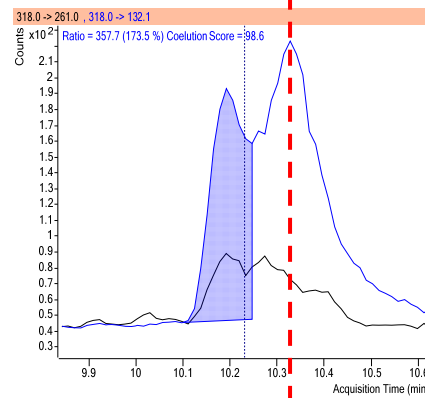
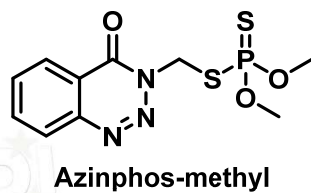
EUPT SC03
(avocado)



Azinphos-methyl



Phosmet (SC03 sample)



Azinphos-methyl
acquisition window
(SC03 sample)



False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03
(avocado)

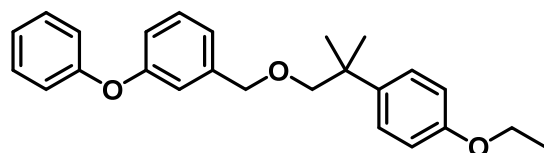


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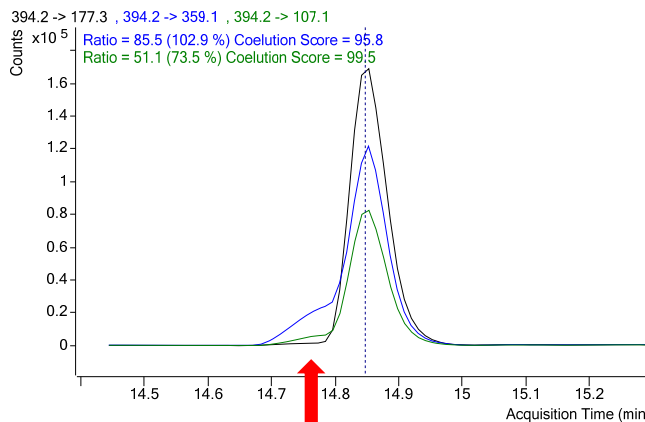
False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03
(avocado)

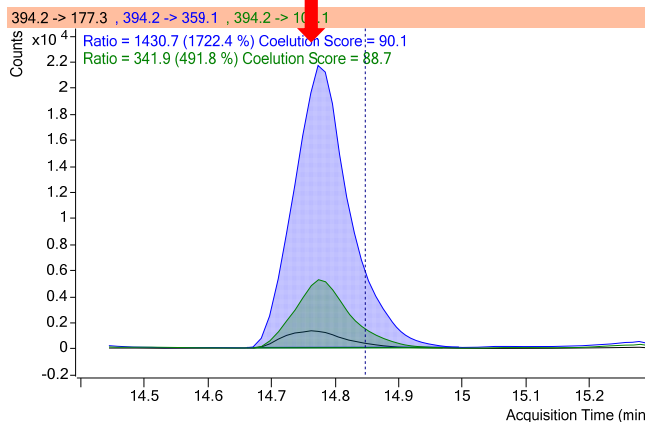


Etofenprox

Etofenprox



Std. etofenprox in
avocado
0.500 mg/L

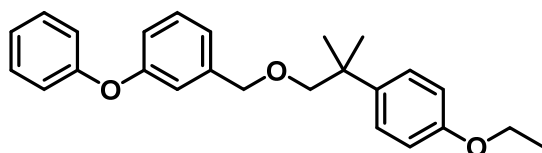


EUPT-SC03
sample

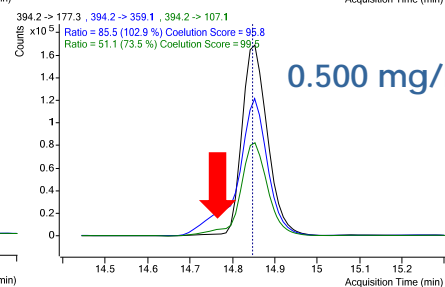
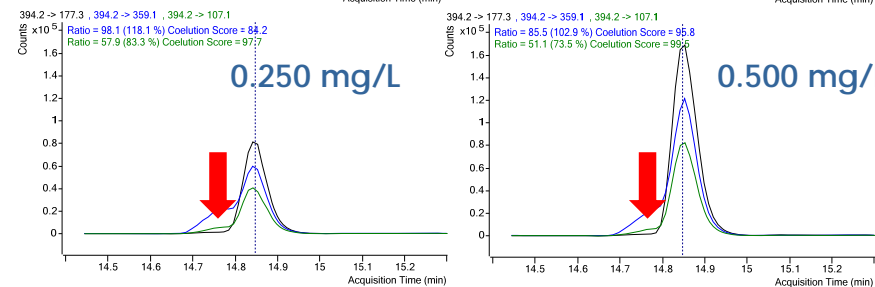
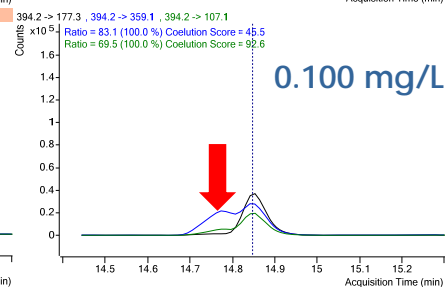
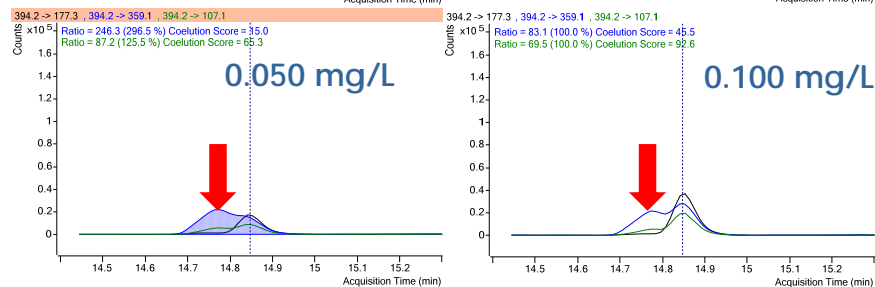
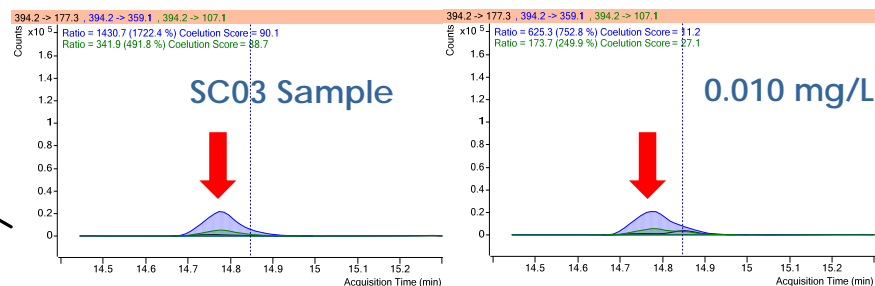


False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03 (avocado)

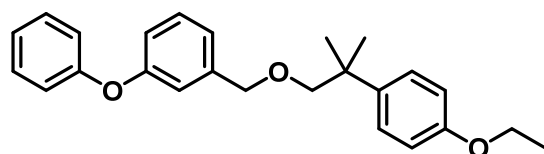


Etofenprox

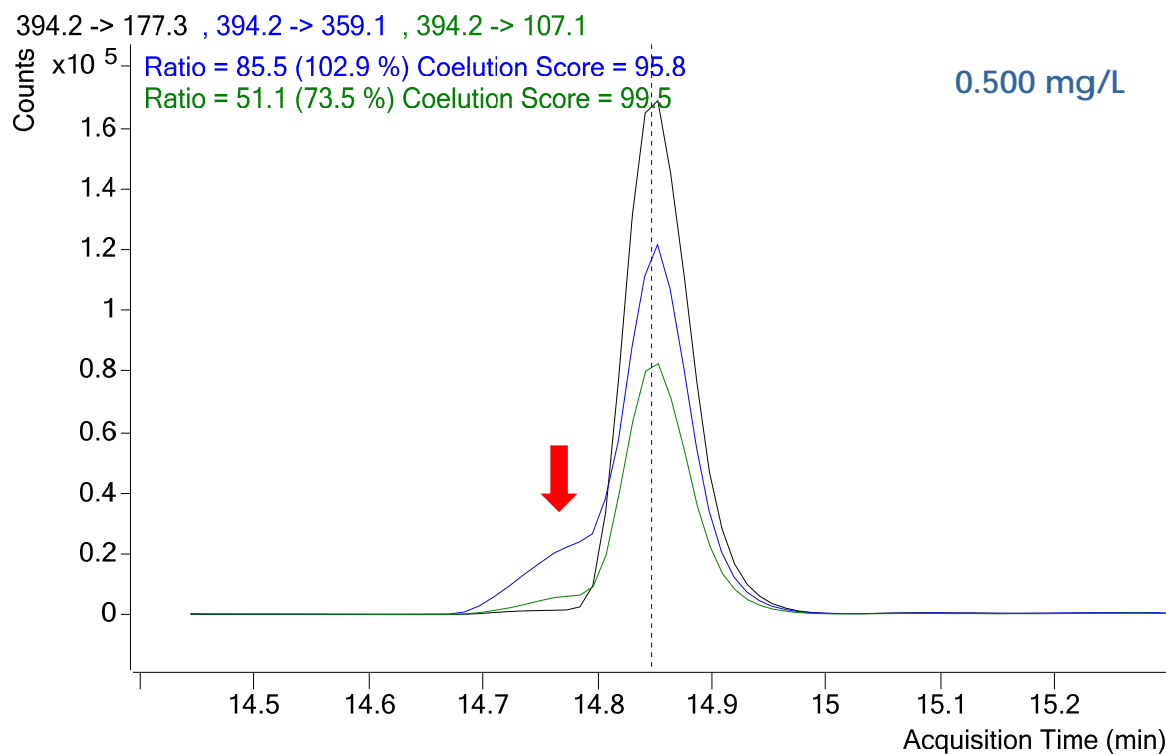


False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03
(avocado)



Etofenprox



False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03
(avocado)



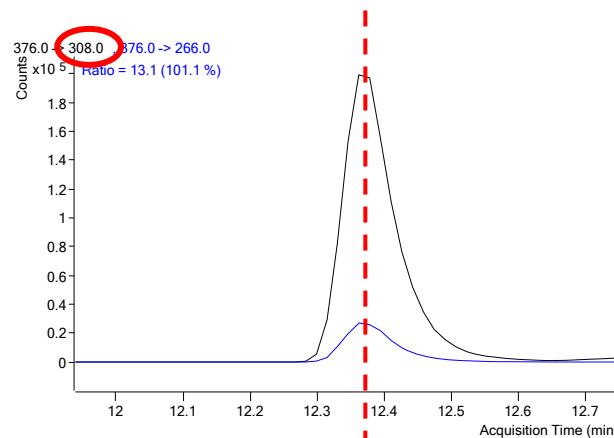
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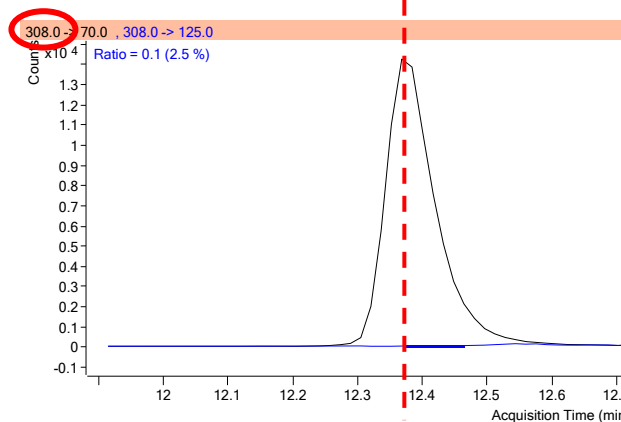


False positives and false negatives

EUPT SC03
(avocado)



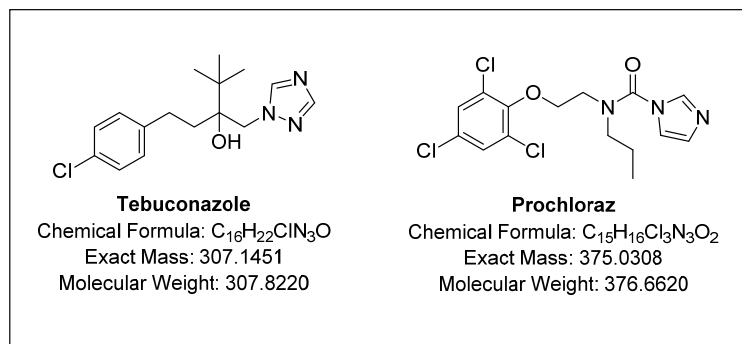
Prochloraz in SC03 sample
(Prochloraz's acquisition window)



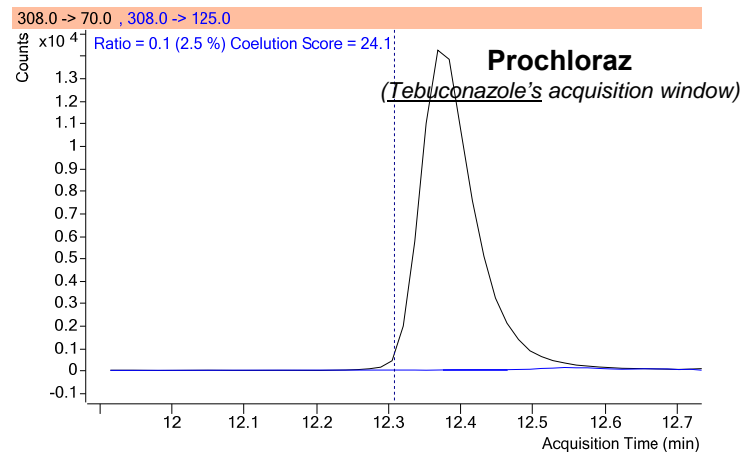
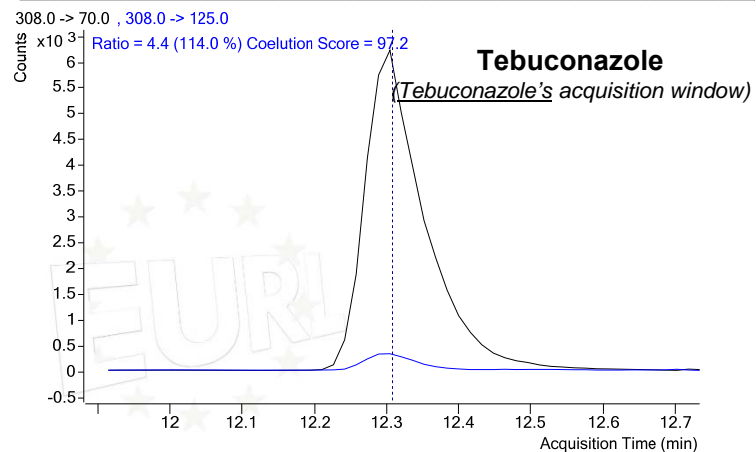
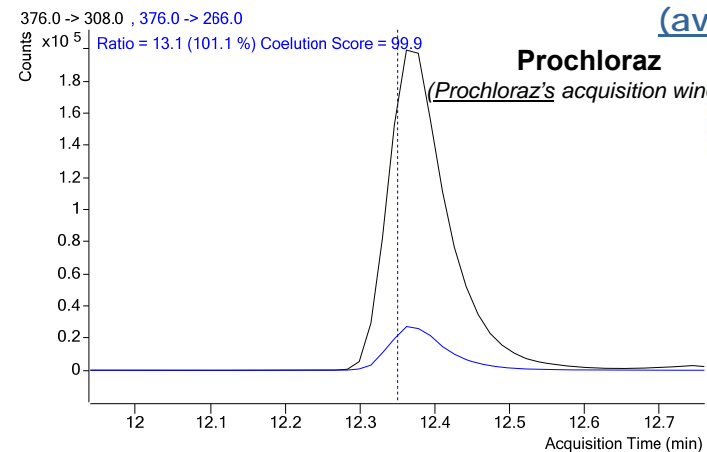
Prochloraz in SC03 sample
(Tebuconazole's acquisition window)



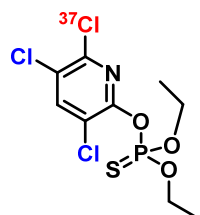
False positives and false negatives



EUPT SC03
(avocado)



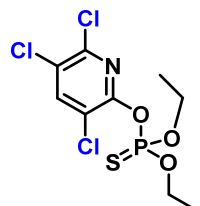
Tentative false positives and negatives: common mass transitions



Chlorpyrifos (³⁷Cl³⁵Cl₂)
C9H11Cl2³⁷ClNO3PS
 Exact Mass: 350,9233 Da

352 > 200

352 > 125

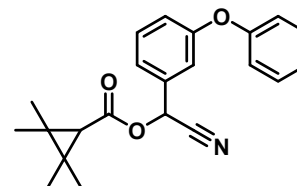


Chlorpyrifos (³⁵Cl₃)
C9H11Cl3NO3PS
 Exact Mass: 348,9263 Da

350 > 198

350 > 125

350 > 97



Fenpropathrin
 Exact mass: 349.1678 Da

367 > 350

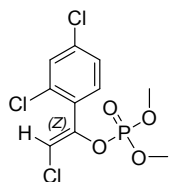
367 > 125

350 > 125

350 > 97

Depending on the selected mass transitions in LC-QqQ-MS/MS, false positives or negatives might be reported for chlorpyrifos and fenpropathrin

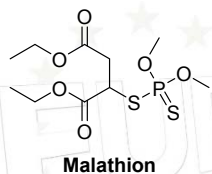
Tentative false positives and negatives: common mass transitions



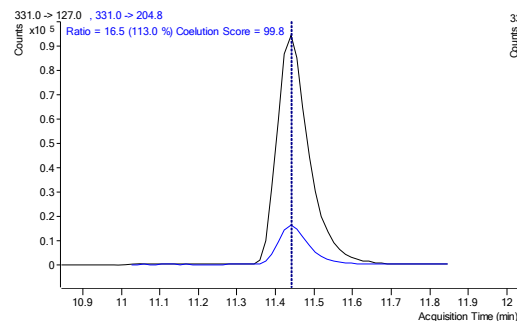
Dimethylvinphos (Z isomer)
 Chemical Formula: $C_{10}H_{10}Cl_3O_4P$
 Exact Mass: 329.9382
 Molecular Weight: 331.5098

331 > 127

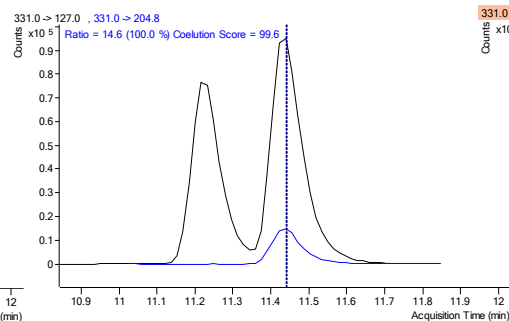
Hint: make use of the several chlorine atoms in dimethylvinphos to select a different precursor ion (333)



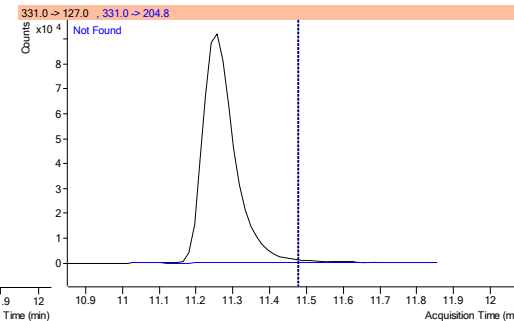
Malathion
 Chemical Formula: $C_{10}H_{19}O_6PS_2$
 Exact Mass: 330.0361
 Molecular Weight: 330.3498



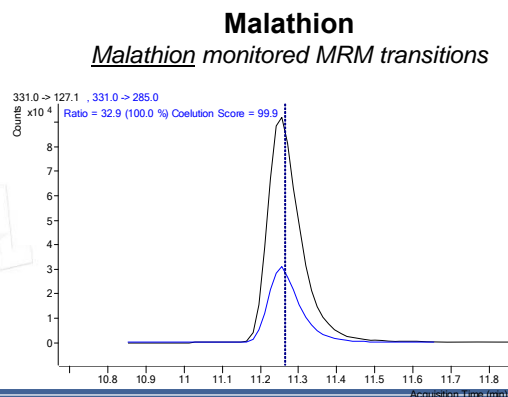
Dimethylvinphos
Dimethylvinphos monitored MRM transitions



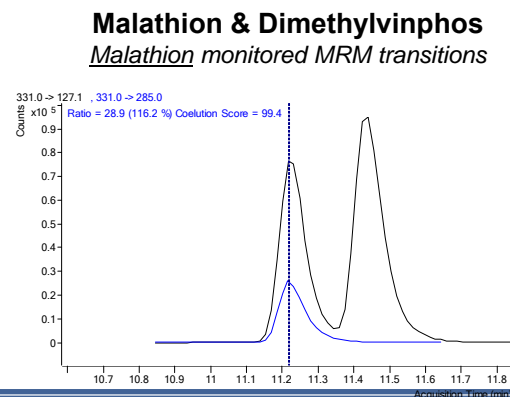
Dimethylvinphos & Malathion
Dimethylvinphos monitored MRM transitions



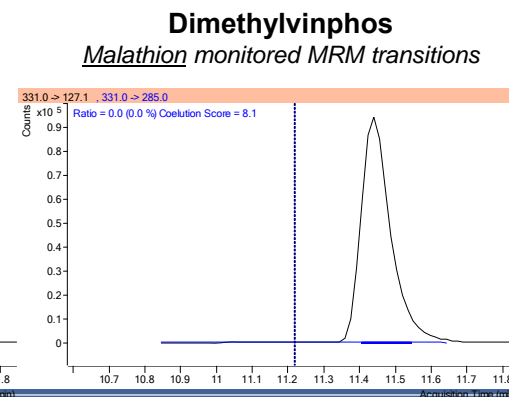
Malathion
Dimethylvinphos monitored MRM transitions



Malathion
Malathion monitored MRM transitions

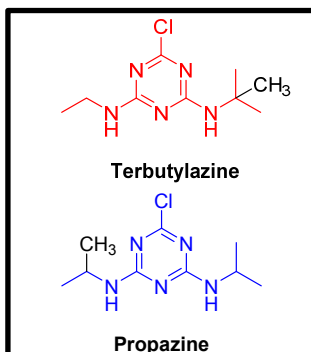


Malathion & Dimethylvinphos
Malathion monitored MRM transitions

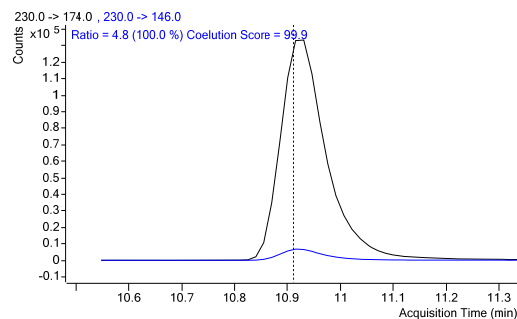


Dimethylvinphos
Malathion monitored MRM transitions

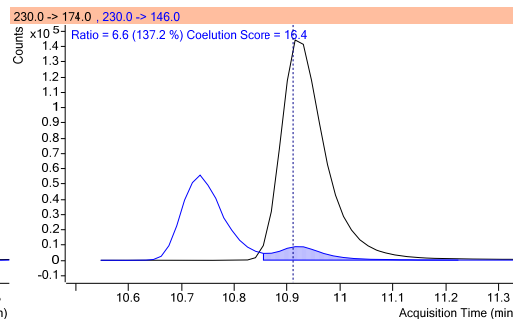
Tentative false positives and negatives: common mass transitions



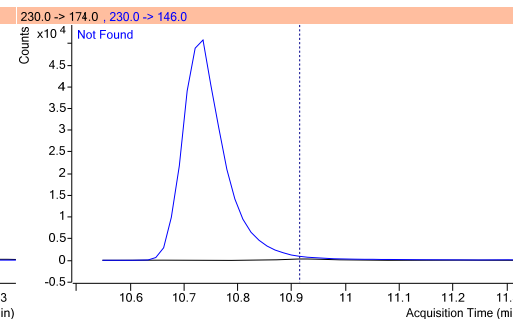
230 > 146



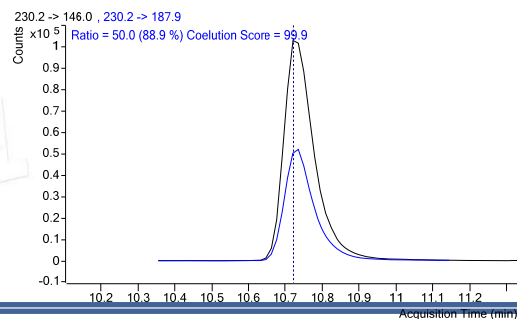
Terbutylazine
Terbutylazine monitored MRM transitions



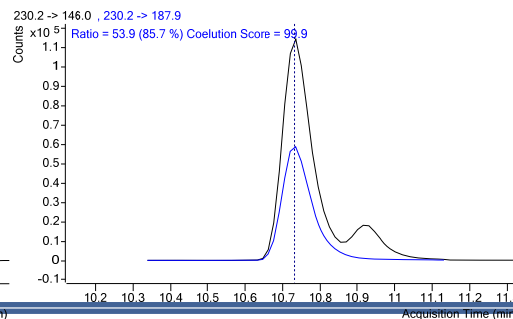
Terbutylazine & Propazine
Terbutylazine monitored MRM transitions



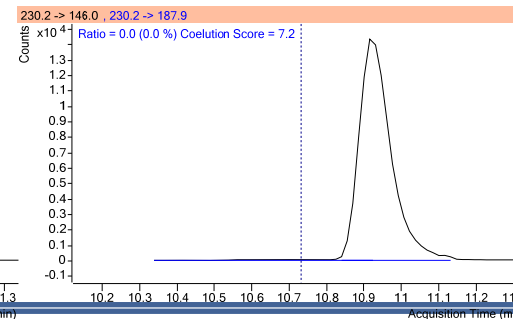
Propazine
Terbutylazine monitored MRM transitions



Propazine
Propazine monitored MRM transitions

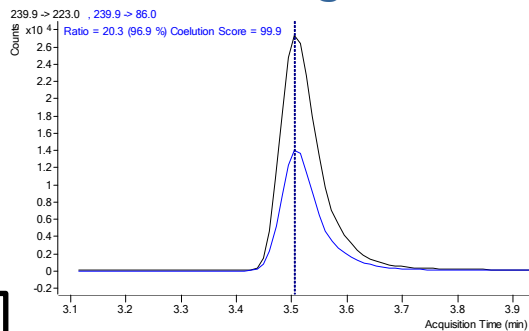


Propazine & Terbutylazine
Propazine monitored MRM transitions

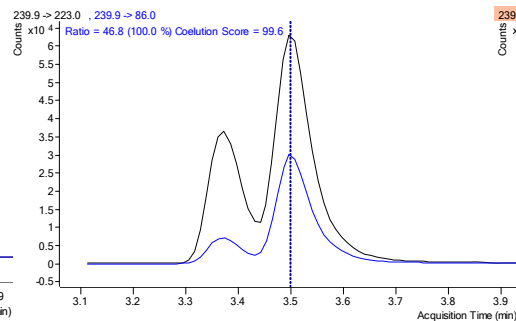


Terbutylazine
Propazine monitored MRM transitions

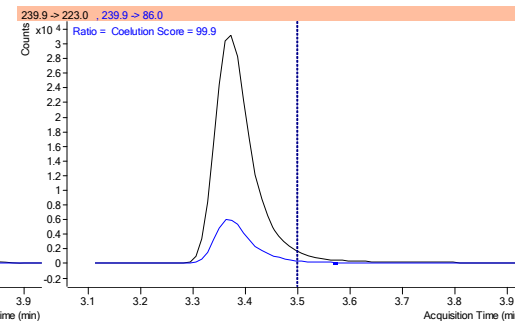
Tentative false positives and negatives: common mass transitions



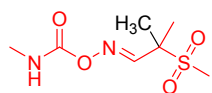
Aldicarb-sulfone
Aldicarb-sulfone monitored MRM transitions



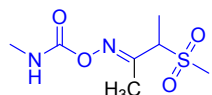
Aldicarb-sulfone & Butoxycarboxim
Aldicarb-sulfone monitored MRM transitions



Butoxycarboxim
Aldicarb-sulfone monitored MRM transitions



Aldicarb-sulfone

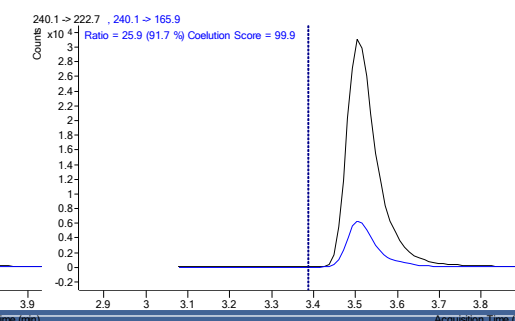
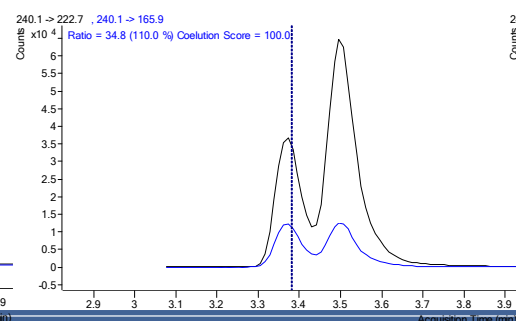
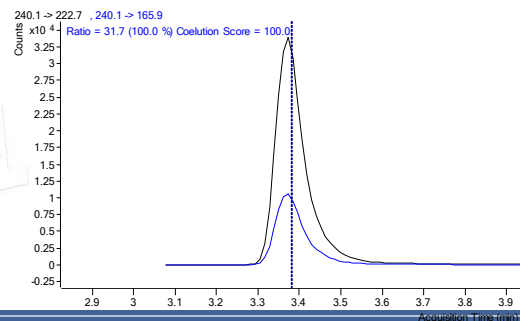


Butoxycarboxim

Butoxycarboxim
Butoxycarboxim monitored MRM transitions

Butoxycarboxim & Aldicarb-sulfone
Butoxycarboxim monitored MRM transitions

Aldicarb-sulfone
Butoxycarboxim monitored MRM transitions

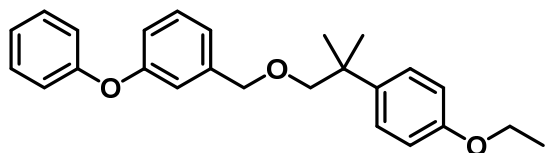


240 > 223
240 > 86
240 > 166

Summary and key points



Coextracted matrix interferences (avocado) found within EUTs



Etofenprox

Chemical Formula: C₂₅H₂₈O₃

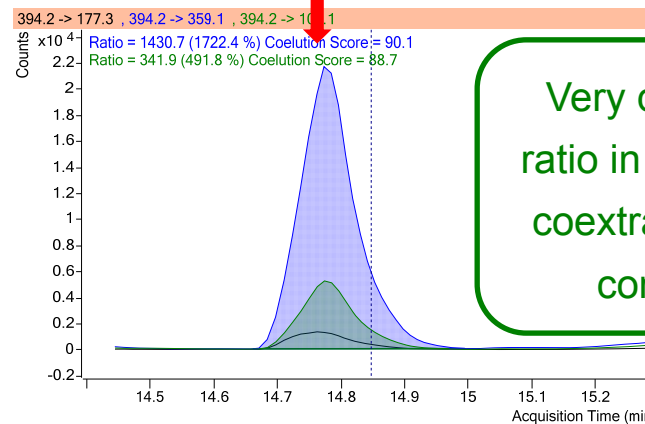
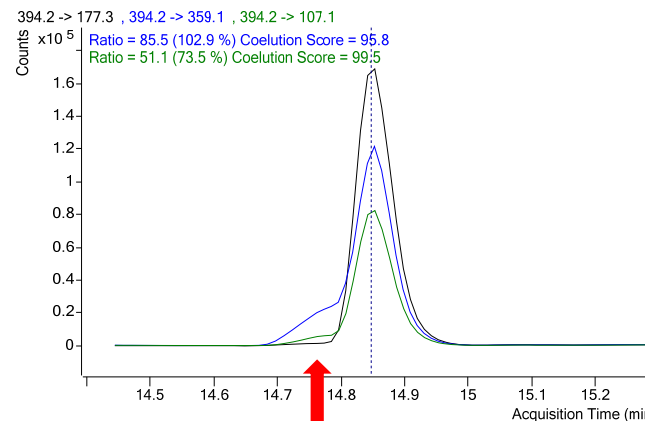
Exact Mass: 376.2038 Da

m/z: 376.2038 (100.0%), 377.2072 (27.0%), 378.2106 (2.7%)

394.2 > 177.3

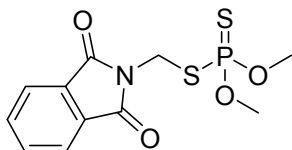
394.2 > 359.1

394.2 > 107.1



Very different ion ratio in the avocado coextracted matrix component

Compounds with common mass transitions found within EUPTs

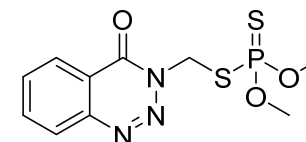


Phosmet

Chemical Formula: $C_{11}H_{12}NO_4PS_2$

Exact Mass: 316.9945 Da

m/z: 316.9945 (100.0%), 317.9979 (11.9%),
318.9903 (4.5%), 318.9903 (4.5%)



Azinphos-methyl

Chemical Formula: $C_{10}H_{12}N_3O_3PS_2$

Exact Mass: 317.0058 Da

m/z: 317.0058 (100.0%), 318.0091 (10.8%),
319.0016 (4.5%), 319.0016 (4.5%)

Pay attention to the
retention times and
exclusive mass transitions

318.0 > 160.0

318.0 > 133.0

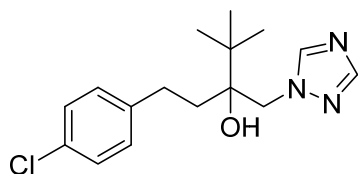
Elutes earlier

318.0 > 261.0

318.0 > 132.1

Elutes later

Compounds with common mass transitions found within EUPTs



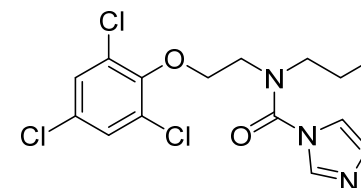
Tebuconazole

Chemical Formula: C₁₆H₂₂ClN₃O

Exact Mass: 307.1451 Da

m/z: 307.1451 (100.0%), 309.1422 (32.0%),
308.1485 (17.3%), 310.1455 (5.5%)

A prochloraz fragment can
be fragmented again to
give rise to the 308.0 >
70.0 mass transition



Prochloraz

Chemical Formula: C₁₅H₁₆Cl₃N₃O₂

Exact Mass: 375.0308 Da

m/z: 375.0308 (100.0%), 377.0279 (95.9%),
379.0249 (30.6%), 376.0342 (16.2%),
378.0312 (15.6%), 380.0283 (5.0%)

308.0 > 70.0

308.0 > 125.0

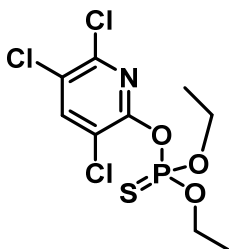
Elutes earlier

376.0 > **308.0**

376.0 > 266.0

Elutes later

Compounds with common mass transitions (other)

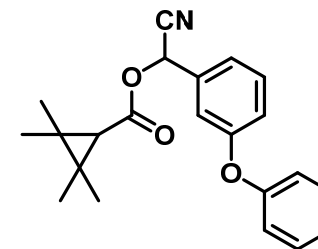


Chlorpyrifos

Chemical Formula: C₉H₁₁Cl₃NO₃PS

Exact Mass: 348.9263 Da

m/z: 348.9263 (100.0%), 350.9233 (95.9%),
352.9204 (30.6%), 349.9296 (9.7%), 351.9267
(9.3%), 350.9221 (4.5%)



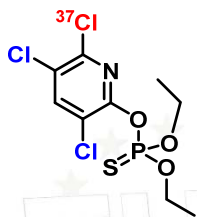
Fenpropathrin

Chemical Formula: C₂₂H₂₃NO₃

Exact Mass: 349.1678

m/z: 349.1678 (100.0%), 350.1711 (23.8%),
351.1745 (2.7%)

Avoid the 350 m/z
precursor for
chlorpyrifos

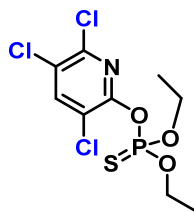


Chlorpyrifos (³⁷Cl³⁵Cl₂)
C₉H₁₁Cl₂³⁷ClNO₃PS
Exact Mass: 350,9233 Da

352 > 200

352 > 125

Elutes earlier



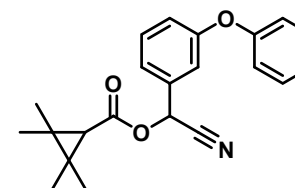
Chlorpyrifos (³⁵Cl₃)
C₉H₁₁Cl₃NO₃PS
Exact Mass: 348,9263 Da

350 > 198

350 > 125

350 > 97

Elutes earlier



Fenpropathrin
Exact mass: 349.1678 Da

367 > 350

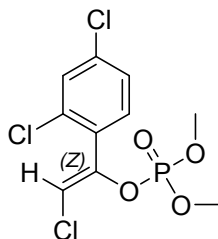
367 > 125

350 > 125

350 > 97

Elutes later

Compounds with common mass transitions (other)



Dimethylvinphos (Z isomer)

Chemical Formula: C₁₀H₁₀Cl₃O₄P

Exact Mass: 329.9382 Da

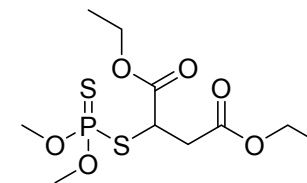
m/z: 329.9382 (100.0%), 331.9353 (95.9%), 333.9323 (30.6%), 330.9416 (10.8%), 332.9386 (10.4%)

Employ the 333 m/z
for dimethylvinphos

331.0 > 127.0

331.0 > 204.8

Elutes later



Malathion

Chemical Formula: C₁₀H₁₉O₆PS₂

Exact Mass: 330.0361

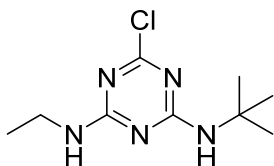
m/z: 330.0361 (100.0%), 331.0394 (10.8%), 332.0319 (9.0%), 331.0355 (1.6%), 332.0403 (1.2%)

331.0 > 127.1

331.0 > 285.0

Elutes earlier

Compounds with common mass transitions (other)



Terbutylazine

Chemical Formula: $C_9H_{16}ClN_5$

Exact Mass: 229.1094 Da

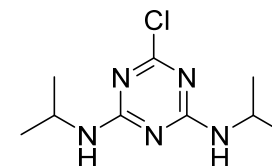
m/z: 229.1094 (100.0%), 231.1065 (32.0%),
230.1128 (9.7%)

230.0 > 174.0

230.0 > 146.0

Elutes later

Pay attention to the
retention times and
exclusive mass
transitions



Propazine

Chemical Formula: $C_9H_{16}ClN_5$

Exact Mass: 229.1094 Da

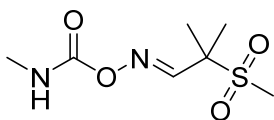
m/z: 229.1094 (100.0%), 231.1065 (32.0%),
230.1128 (9.7%)

230.0 > 146.0

230.0 > 187.9

Elutes earlier

Compounds with common mass transitions (other)



Aldicarb-sulfone

Chemical Formula: C₇H₁₄N₂O₄S

Exact Mass: 222.0674 Da

m/z: 222.0674 (100.0%), 223.0708 (7.6%),
224.0632 (4.5%)

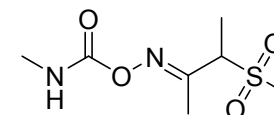
239.9 > 223.0

239.9 > 86.0

Elutes later

Pay attention to the
retention times.

Three mass transitions
in common



Butoxycarboxim

Chemical Formula: C₇H₁₄N₂O₄S

Exact Mass: 222.0674 Da

m/z: 222.0674 (100.0%), 223.0708 (7.6%),
224.0632 (4.5%)

240.1 > 222.7

240.1 > 165.9

Elutes earlier

Thank you for your attention

This online tutorial is part of a series of online tutorials that will continue through the rest of the year:

www.eurl-pesticides.eu

