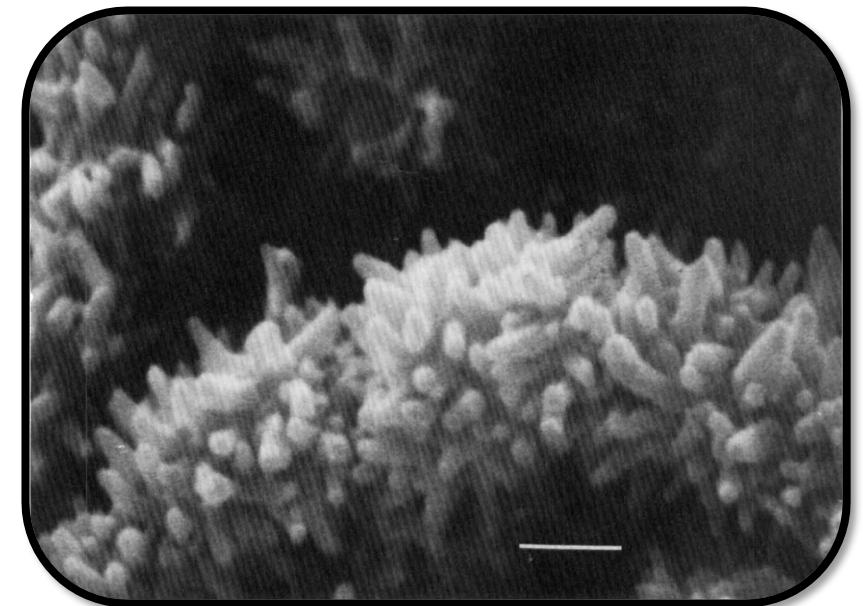




Correct spinosad quantitation strategies

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María Murcia-Morales
Carmen Ferrer
Amadeo R. Fernández-Alba

- Spinosad is a **mixture of two tetracyclic macrolide neurotoxins** of insecticidal action produced naturally by *Saccharopolyspora spinosa* (*S. spinosa*), first reported by Metz and Yao in 1990 in a sugar mill rum still.¹
- *S. spinosa* naturally occurring spinosyn A and spinosyn D were first isolated from in 1991 by Kirst et al. and subsequently developed as *Spinosad* and patented by Dow AgroSciences as *Tracer*^{®,2,3}
- A modification of naturally occurring spinosyns J and L to transform their 3-*O*'-methyl of the rhamnose moiety into 3-*O*'-ethyl group was also developed and patented by Dow AgroSciences as *Pulgus*^{TM,3}. The synthetic spinetoram J and L mixture presents a higher stability and faster insecticide activity compared to spinosad.



Scanning electron micrograph of *S. spinosa*, showing the spiny spore sheath surface. Bar = 1.0 µm.¹

¹ Metz, F. R.; Yao, R. C. *Saccharopolyspora spinosa* sp. nov. isolated from soil collected in a sugar mill rum still. *Int. J. Syst. Evol. Microbiol.* **1990**, *40*, 34-39.

² Kirst, H. A.; Michel, K. H.; Martin, J. W.; Creemer, L. C.; Chio, E. H.; Yao, R. C.; Nakatsukasa, W. M.; Boeck, L.V. D.; Occolowitz, J. L.; Paschal, J. W.; Deeter, J. B.; Jones, N. D.; Thompson, G. D. A83543A-D, Unique Fermentation-Derived Tetracyclic Macrolides. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, *37*, 4839-4842.

³ *Tracer*[®] and *Pulgus*TM are registered trademarks of Dow AgroSciences, now integrated in Corteva Agriscience.

PRICE AND CAS NUMBERS

Compound name	Components		
	Mixture	Spinetoram J	Spinetoram L
Spinetoram	Mixture 2.90 €/mg 935545-74-7	Not found 187166-40-1	Not found 187166-15-0
	Mixture 1.51 €/mg 168316-95-8	Spinosyn A 21.3 €/mg 131929-60-7	Spinosyn D 137.1 €/mg 131929-63-0

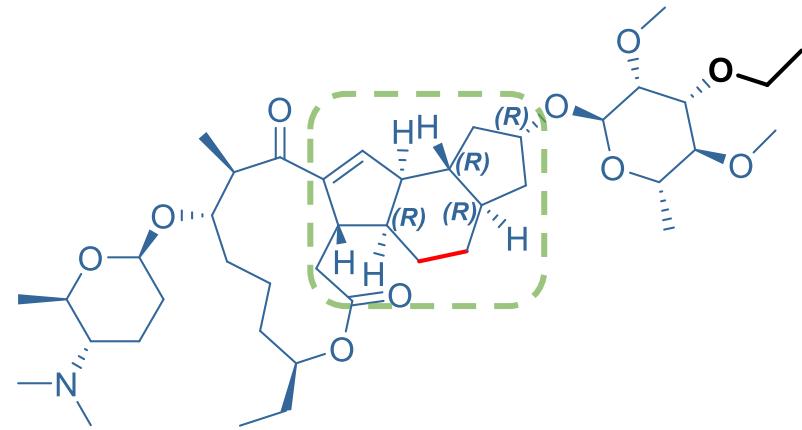
- The **spinosad technical mixture** is comprised of spinosyn A, the major component (50-95 %), and spinosyn D, the minor component (5-50 %).
- Although the **individual standards** are available, relative to the technical mixture, the cost can be between 5 200 % and 10 400 % higher.
- To the best of our knowledge, the individual spinetoram J and spinetoram L standards are not yet commercially available.

CAS number

In the past, **wrong CAS numbers** were detected in the main companies selling pesticide standards

- Check the CAS number of the component before purchasing
- Re-check the CAS number in the certificate of analysis after arrival

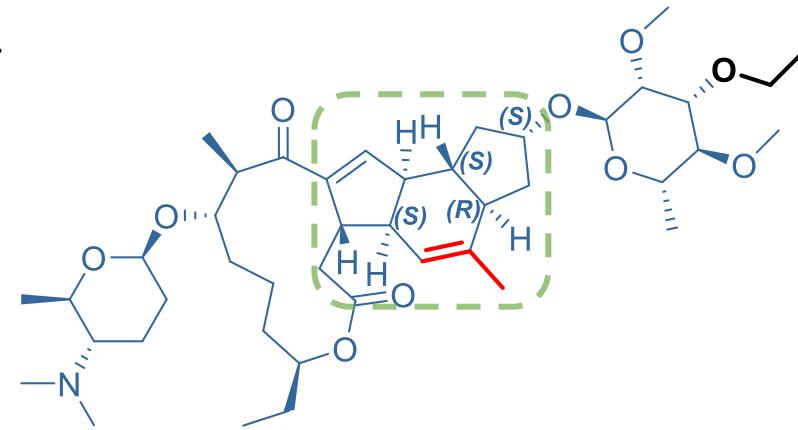
Spinosyns



Spinetoram J

Chemical Formula: $C_{42}H_{69}NO_{10}$

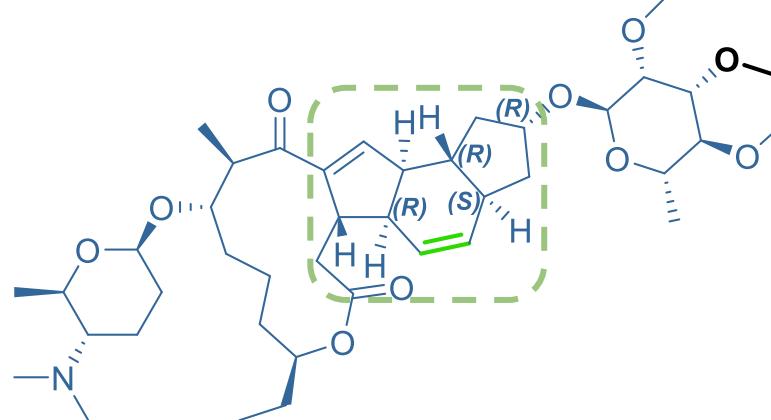
Exact Mass: 747.4921 Da



Spinetoram L

Chemical Formula: $C_{43}H_{69}NO_{10}$

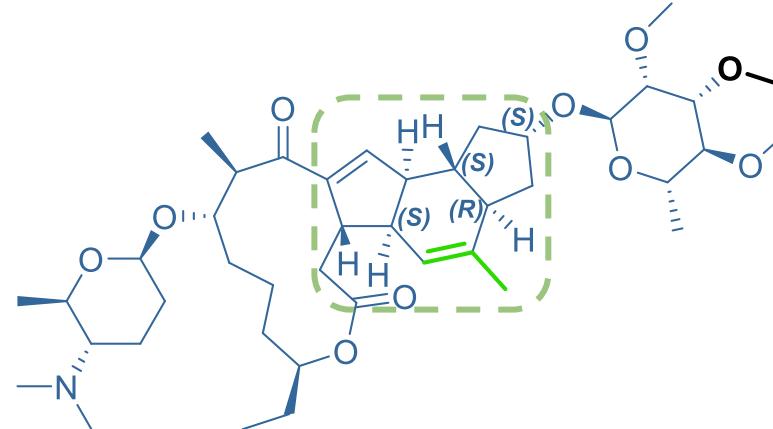
Exact Mass: 759.4921 Da



Spinosyn A

Chemical Formula: $C_{41}H_{65}NO_{10}$

Exact Mass: 731.4608 Da



Spinosyn D

Chemical Formula: $C_{42}H_{67}NO_{10}$

Exact Mass: 745.4765 Da

745.4765 (100.0%)

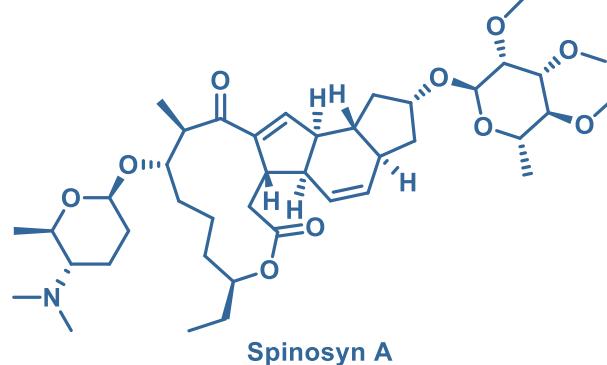
746.4799 (45.4%)

747.4832 (10.1%)

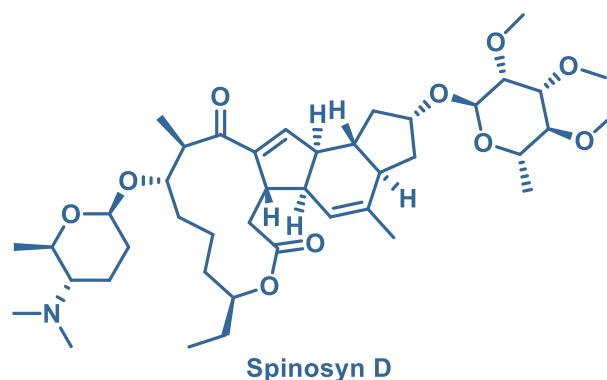
Spinosad



Spinosad (spinosad,
sum of spinosyn A and spinosyn D)

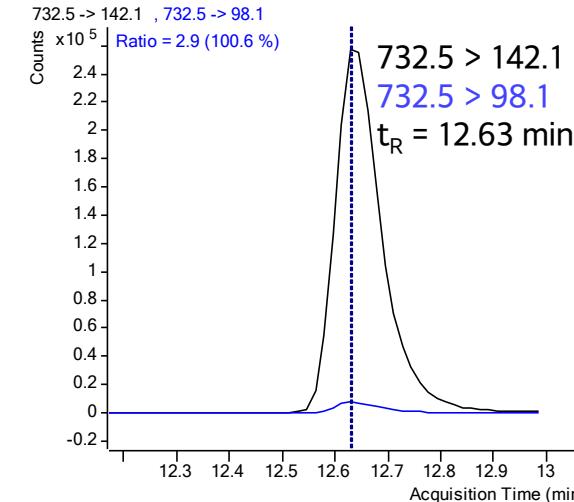


Spinosyn A

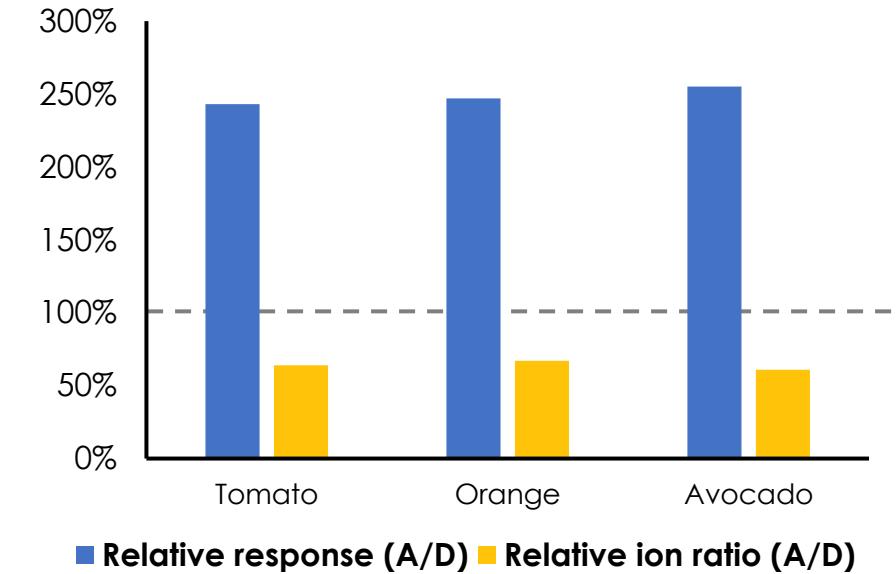
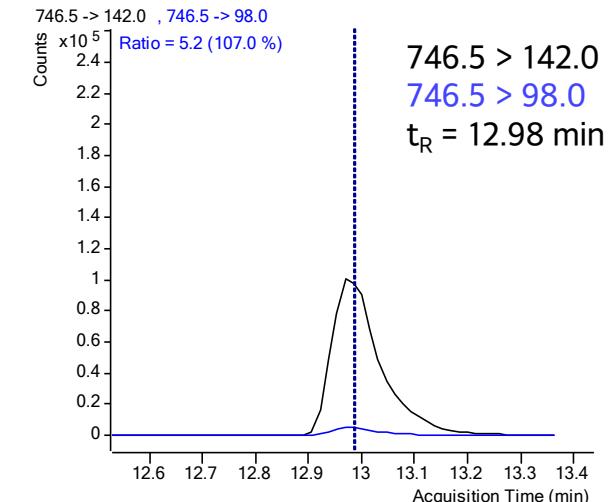


Spinosyn D

Spinosyn A



Spinosyn D



Potential quantitation strategies

1. Use of the spinosad technical mixture

- A. Assume equal concentrations of spinosyn A and D.
 - i. Quantitate independently and sum the concentrations.
 - ii. Quantitate with the sum of spinosyn A and D areas.
 - iii. Quantitate with the average of spinosyn A and D areas.

- B. Apply a correction factor.
 - i. Check the relative purity of spinosyn A and D in the technical mixture. Quantitate independently and sum the individually corrected concentrations.

2. Use individual spinosyn A and spinosyn D standards

- A. Quantitate independently and sum the concentrations.
- B. Quantitate with the sum of spinosyn A and D areas.
- C. Quantitate with the average of spinosyn A and D areas.

Correct quantitation strategies

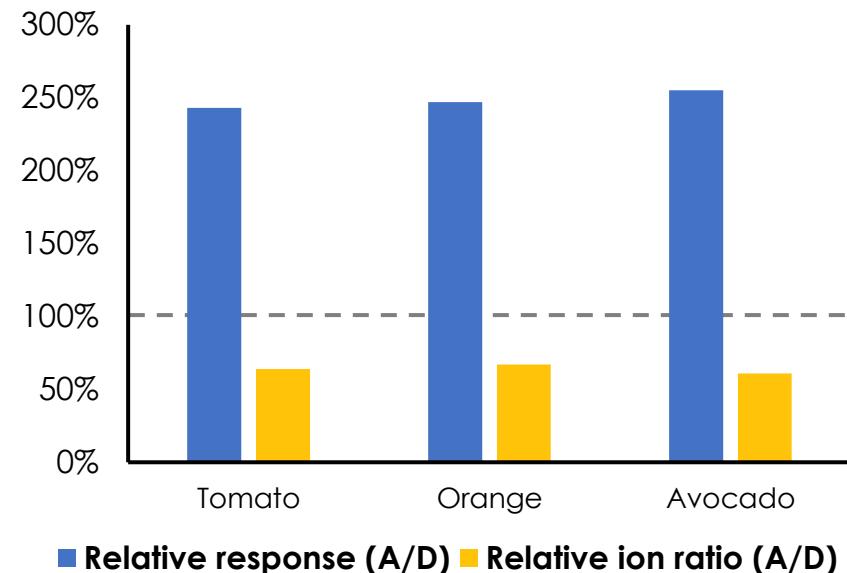
1. Use of the spinosad technical mixture

A. Assume equal concentrations of spinosyn A and D.

- i. ~~Quantitate independently and sum the concentrations.~~ 
- ii. ~~Quantitate with the sum of spinosyn A and D areas.~~ 
- iii. ~~Quantitate with the average of spinosyn A and D areas.~~ 

B. Apply a correction factor.

- i. Check the relative purity of spinosyn A and D in the technical mixture. Quantitate independently and sum the individually corrected concentrations.



2. Use individual spinosyn A and spinosyn D standards

A. Quantitate independently and sum the concentrations.

B. ~~Quantitate with the sum of spinosyn A and D areas.~~ 

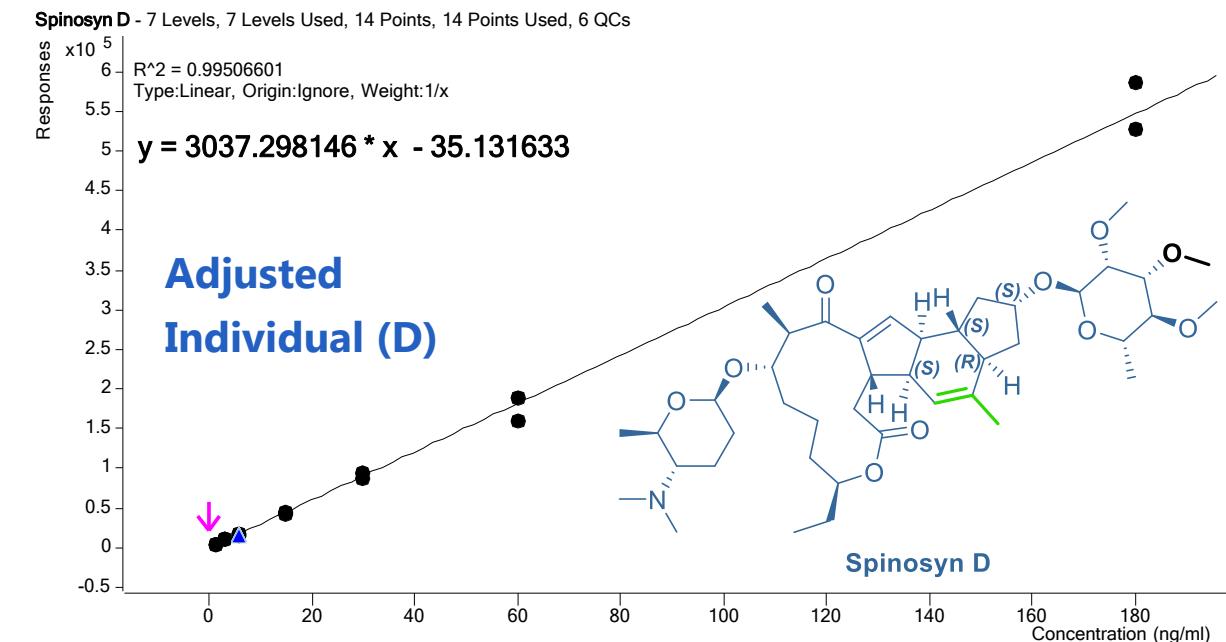
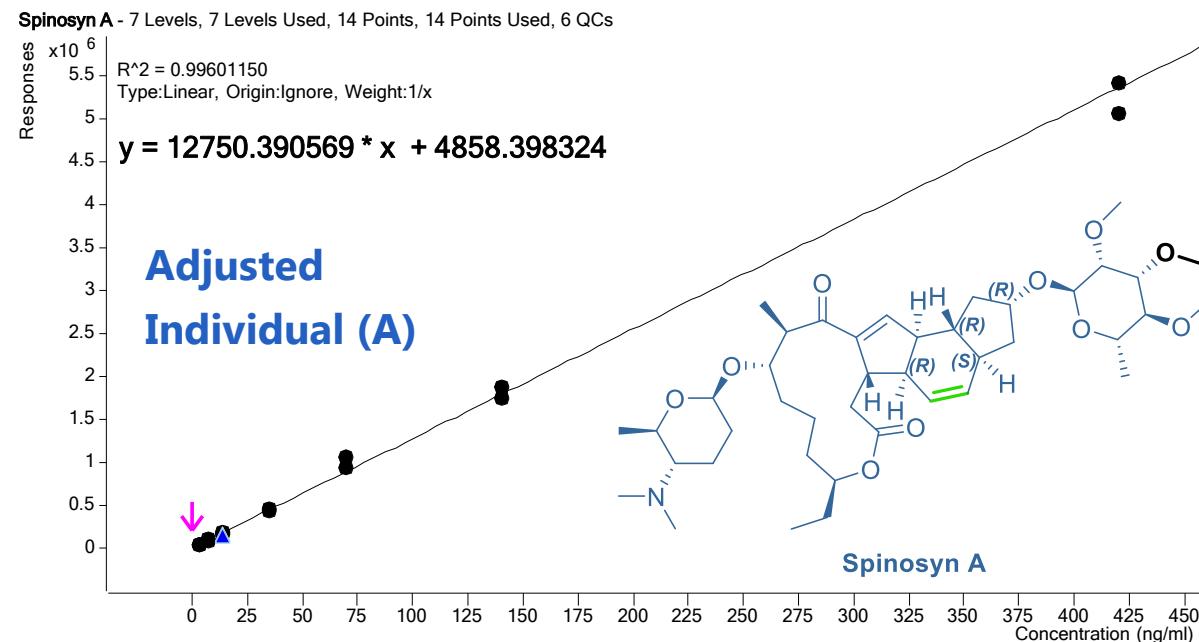
C. ~~Quantitate with the average of spinosyn A and D areas.~~ 

Instrumental behaviour
is not equal for
spinosyn A and D

Practical examples: different quantitation approaches

1. Use of the spinosad technical mixture (e.g. 70:30, w/w, A:D)

- A. Appropriately **adjust the concentration** of each calibration point to the actual spinosyn A or D concentration.
- B. In such a 0.100 mg/L spinosad **calibration point** (here in avocado) there are 0.070 mg/L of spinosyn A and 0.030 mg/L of spinosyn D.



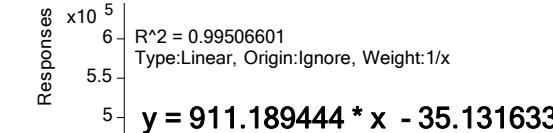
Spinosad

Spinosyn A - 7 Levels, 7 Levels Used, 14 Points, 14 Points Used, 6 QCs

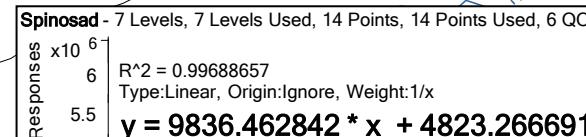


Non-adjusted
Individual (A)

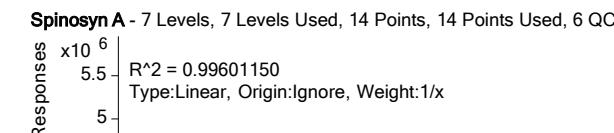
Spinosyn D - 7 Levels, 7 Levels Used, 14 Points, 14 Points Used, 6 QCs



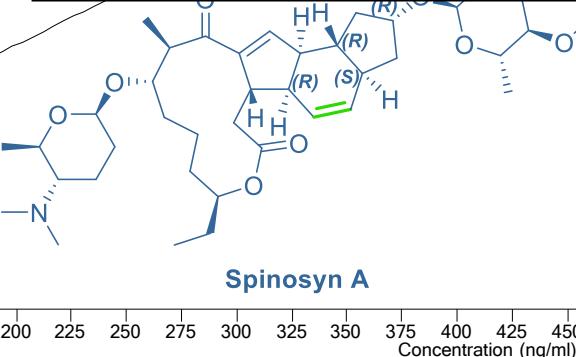
Non-adjusted



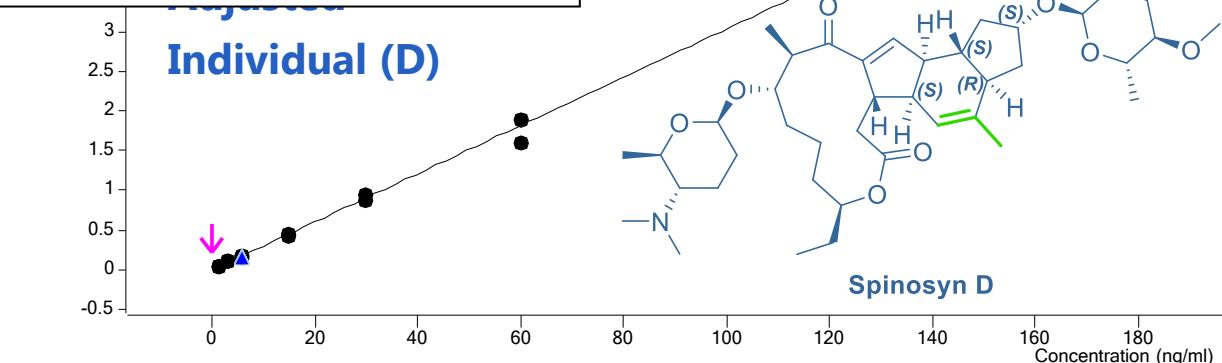
Non-adjusted
Response sum



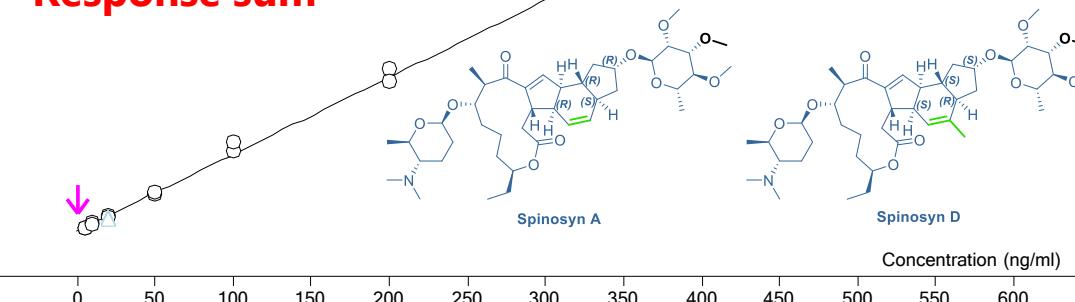
Adjusted
Individual (A)



Individual (D)



Non-adjusted
Response sum



Practical examples: different quantitation approaches

1. Use of the spinosad technical mixture (e.g. 70:30, w/w, A:D)

- Appropriately **adjust the concentration** of each calibration point to the actual spinosyn A or D concentration.
- In such a 0.100 mg/L spinosad **calibration point** (here in avocado) there are 0.070 mg/L of spinosyn A and 0.030 mg/L of spinosyn D.

Results for an instrumental response of 5.0E5 counts for each spinosyn A and spinosyn D			
Analyte	Adjusted, individual calibration curves. Sum of spinosyn A and D	Non-adjusted, individual calibration curves. Sum of spinosyn A and D	Response sum calibration curve
Spinosyn A	0.039 mg/kg	0.055 mg/kg	-
Spinosyn D	0.16 mg/kg	0.59 mg/kg	-
Spinosad	0.20 mg/kg	0.65 mg/kg	0.10 mg/kg

+325 %

-50 %

FURTHER READING: EURLFV-2020-M41



European Union Reference Laboratory for Pesticide Residues
Fruits and Vegetables

www.eurl-pesticides.eu

**Comparison of the instrumental response of
different constituents of specific pesticides**