ANNOUNCEMENT/INVITATION

EUPT – SRM17

(Matrix: Tomato Homogenate)

(update on: 10/11/2021)

Dear Colleagues,

We herewith cordially invite you to participate in the upcoming European Proficiency Test on the analysis of residues of pesticides requiring single residue methods (EUPT-SRM17). This exercise is organized by the EU Reference Laboratory for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (EURL-SRM) in cooperation with EU Reference Laboratory for pesticides residues in Fruits and Vegetables (EURL-FV).

The EUPT-SRM17 is scheduled to run from 31 Jan. till 1 March, 2022.

All relevant documentation is linked within the **EUPT-SRM17-Website.**

AIMS

Participation in proficiency tests is part of the QA/QC system of laboratories. It provides them with an assessment of their analytical performance and allows them to make 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 commodity for the Test Item will be deeply frozen **Tomato Homogenate.** The Test Item will foreseeably contain spiked and incurred pesticides.

One Test Item containing either incurred or spiked pesticides or both will be sent to each participating lab. The content of the Test Item will be expectedly in the range between 250 and 300 g. NO Blank material will be sent to the participants.

As the amount of available test material is limited, additional Test Item can be provided (at extra charge) only if sufficient explanations are given by the requesting laboratory, and only if excess material is available. To request double amount of material (two Test Items) please enter your request in the **EUPT-Registration Website** and contact the **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**.

TARGET ANALYTES

Analytes potentially contained in the Test Item are shown in the **Target Pesticides List.** For each of the analytes a specific minimum required reporting level (MRRL) is given. The Target Pesticide List may be updated

prior to the start of the PT. The latest version will always be accessible within the **EUPT-SRM17-Website.** In case of important changes, the registered participants will be informed via e-mail.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

The names of the compounds contained in the Test Item will be disclosed to the participants within 3 working days after the final EUPT deadline via e-mail. The preliminary assigned concentrations will be disclosed in the preliminary report, which will be released within ~3 weeks after the deadline of the test.

METHODS TO BE USED

The use of routinely employed methods is preferred. However, participants are encouraged to use the EUPTs as a starting point for the expansion of their scope through the introduction of new methods and are, therefore, free in the choice of the methods applied in the EUPT.

SHIPMENT AND RECEIPT OF TEST ITEM:

The shipment of the Test Item is planned to start on **31 January 2022**.
If any laboratory will be on holiday in the week of the shipment, please inform the organizer by 15 January in order to arrange an alternative shipment.

Participants must check the integrity and condition of the materials upon receipt and requested to report **within 48 h** if they accept the materials or not. For this, please use the "**EUPT-SRM17 Result Submission website**". In case of problems with the sample receipt or condition, please additionally contact the organizers via e-mail (**eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**) to ensure that corrective actions are taken as early as possible. In case of no reaction, the organizers will assume that the material has been accepted.

OBLIGED AND ELIGIBLE LABS

Participation in the EUPT-SRM17 is mandatory for:

- all NRLs for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (**NRL-SRMs**), see Art. 101 (1)(a) of Reg. (EC) 625/2017,
- all Official Laboratories (**OfLs**) performing pesticide residue analyses of **fruits and vegetables** within the frame of National and EU official controls, see Art 38 (2) of Reg. (EC) 625/2017 and Art. 28 of Reg. (EC) 396/2005. This **includes laboratories involved in import controls of fruits and vegetables** listed under Reg. (EU) 1793/2019[1].

Based on the data stored in the Lab-Network Database about the commodity scope and the status of each lab, all official laboratories were categorized as "**obliged" or "not obliged"** to take part in this PT. This information can also be found on the EUPT-Registration page. In case an erroneous classification is noticed this shall be reported to the corresponding NRL and to **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**, accompanied by a brief explanation.

[1] Reg. (EU) 1793/2019 repealed Reg. (EC) No 669/2009. Labs conducting official analyses within the frame of this regulation were internally classified as "669-Labs"

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;
- NRLs and OfLs from **EU-candidate countries** and **EFTA countries**;
- **laboratories analysing official organic samples** within the frame of Reg. 889/2008/EC[2];
- Laboratories from **Third Countries** (countries outside EU) as long as they are **involved in controls of products destined for export to the EU**.

From the latter two groups of labs may be requested to **provide a proof of their function** (e.g. scan copy of a document stating official appointment)

REGISTRATION

The registration for the EUPT-SRM17 will run through the **EUPT-Registration Website** that is connected with the **EURL-DataPool**. To register for the EUPT-SRM17, please login to the **EUPT-Registration Website** using your **EURL-DataPool login credentials**. If you are not yet registered in the EURL-DataPool, you have to register into the EURL-DataPool first. If you have lost your EURL-DataPool login credentials, please use the "**forgot password" feature**.

The registration period is open from 06 to 31 December, 2021. An instruction on EUPTs registration can be found on the **EUPT-Registration Website** and on the **EUPT-SRM17-Website**.

For more information on how to register, you may consult the following documents:

- **Obliged EU-Official Laboratories**
- **Voluntary Laboratories**

OBLIGED LABS NOT PARTICIPATING:

DG-SANTE expects from all **obliged labs not intending to participate** in this EUPT to **give an explanation**. The aim is to track all explanations for non-participation provided by the affected labs within the database. Therefore, please **enter this information only directly into the EUPT-Registration Website** and please **do NOT submit it via e-mail**. If you do so, you will still be prompted to access the website and enter your explanation there.

All obliged labs should thus access the Registration Website, regardless of whether they intend to participate or not.

[2] Internally classified as „889-labs"

IMPORTANT DATES

- **The EUPT-SRM16 registration form within the "EUPT-Registration Website"** will be accessible from **06 – 31 December, 2021.**
- The **shipment** of the Test Items is planned on **31 January 2022.**
- **Results and method information** should be submitted by **01 March 2022 at 23:30 h (11:30 p.m.) CET** on the "**EUPT-SRM17 Result Submission website**".

PARTICIPATION FEE and PAYMENT

A general fee of **250 €** for one bottle Test Item 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 **400 €**.

An invoice issued for the "invoice address" stated in the registration form will be sent after the shipment to the e-mail address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the PT and, if stated during registration, also to the person in charge of the payment. **Details on payment will be given in the invoices**.

Additional costs may apply if extra services are requested in relation to the payment or if invoices have to be changed due to new information, or requesting of it being resent.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

All documents relating to EUPT-SRM17 will be uploaded onto the **CIRCA-BC platform** and linked to the **EUPT-SRM17-Website.**

The schedule for all activities and deadlines within this PT can be found in the **EUPT-SRM17 Calendar**.

The pesticides potentially present in the Test Item can be found in the **EUPT-SRM17 Target Pesticides List.**

The **EUPT-SRM17 Specific Protocol** will be published by 17 January, 2022. This should be read carefully. Please also refer to the valid version of the **General EUPT Protocol**, which entails the general evaluation rules of the EUPTs.

GENERAL INFORMATION, CONFIDENTIALITY, DISCLAIMER

The EUPT-SRM17 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 the Directorate on Health and Food Audits and Analysis.

- In each EUPT, the participating 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-SRM17 codes of all OfLs in their respective networks.**
- The organizers further reserve 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 EU **countries where only one laboratory has participated**, the identification of certain laboratories could thus be indirectly revealed.
- All laboratories are requested to **provide information on the 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 or to exclude the lab from the final report.
- 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. **However, please still check periodically the EUPT-SRM17-Website for possible updates** in case the email does not get through to you.
- By registering for this EUPT, the laboratories accept all above conditions and provisions.

SUPPORT AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The EUPT-SRM17 organizing Team is always at your disposal to answer any questions and give you technical support. For any further questions about the EUPT-SRM17, please mail to **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**.

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Best regards,

The EUPT-SRM17 Organising Team