ANNOUNCEMENT/INVITATION

EUPT – SRM22

(Matrix: Milled Oats)

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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-SRM22). This exercise is organized by the EU Reference Laboratory for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (EURL-SRM).

The EUPT-SRM22 is scheduled to run from 18 January till 16 February, 2027.

All relevant documentation is linked within the **EUPT-SRM22-Website.**

1. AIMS

Participation in proficiency tests is part of the QA/QC system of laboratories. It enables laboratories to assess their analytical performance and compare it with that 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.

2. PROFICIENCY TESTING ITEM (PT Item)

The Test Item will be milled oats and will foreseeably contain spiked and incurred pesticides.

One bottle of Test Item containing either incurred or spiked pesticides or both will be sent to each participating lab. The amount of Test Material provided will be expectedly approximately 240 g. **NO Blank material will be sent to the participants.**

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

3. TARGET ANALYTES

The list of analytes potentially contained in the Test Item is shown in the **Target Pesticides List (TPL).** For each of the analytes a specific minimum required reporting level (MRRL) is given. The revised Target Pesticide List may be updated prior to the start of the PT. The latest version will always be accessible within the **EUPT-SRM22-Website.** In case of important changes the registered participants will be informed via e-mail.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

The names of the compounds contained in the Test Item will be disclosed to the participants within 3 days after the EUPT via e-mail. The preliminary assigned concentrations will be disclosed in the preliminary report, which will be usually released within 3 weeks after the end of the period for the revision of the method information.

5. 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.

6. SHIPMENT AND RECEIPT OF TEST ITEM:

The shipment of the Test Item is planned to start on **18 January 2027**.
If any laboratory will be on holiday in the week of the shipment, please inform the organizer by 4 January 2027 in order to arrange an alternative 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-SRM22 Result Submission website**". In case of no reaction, the organizers will assume that the materials have been accepted.

7. OBLIGED AND ELIGIBLE LABS

Participation in the EUPT-SRM22 is mandatory for:

- all NRLs for pesticides requiring Single Residue Methods (**NRL-SRMs**)[1],
- all Official Laboratories (**OfLs**) performing pesticide residue analyses of cereals and feeding stuff within the frame of National and EU official controls[2].

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 or differentiating information this regarding, should be reported to the corresponding NRL and to **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**.

This EUPT is furthermore open to the following laboratories:

- **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[3];
- NRLs and OfLs from **EFTA countries**;
- NRLs and OfLs from **EU-candidate countries**;
- Laboratories from **Third Countries** (countries outside EU) as long as they are **involved in controls of products destined for export to the EU**.

The above laboratories are considered as "**eligible**" for participation, but their participation is subject to the approval by the organizing EURL. The availability of test material and other factors are taken into account in this context.

The latter two lab groups have to provide a proof of their function during registration.
For laboratories designated as OfLs by the competent authorities of an EU Member State (MS) according to

[1] see Art. 101 (1)(a) of Reg. (EC) 625/2017
[2] see Art 38 (2) of Reg. (EC) 625/2017 and Art. 28 of Reg. (EC) 396/2005, this includes laboratories involved in import controls listed under Reg. (EU) 1793/2019.
[3] Internally classified as „889-labs"

Art 37 (1) of Reg. 625/2017/EU, the OfL status and the analytical scope covered within the framework of official controls must be confirmed by the responsible NRLs via the EURL-DataPool. In the case of **non-governmental laboratories that have been designated as OfLs according to Art 37 (1) of Reg. 625/2017/EU**, certain additional documentation must be provided to assist the NRLs and EUPT organisers in assessing the laboratory's eligibility or obligation to participate in a particular EUPT. This information can be provided in the form of electronic copies of documents which should testify the OfL-designation its scope (e.g. MACP or National monitoring programs)and period of validity. These document copies should be uploaded during the registration process and will be accessible to both the EURLs and the responsible NRLs. If there is any doubt, e.g. due to missing information, the PT organisers reserve the right to refuse participation in an EUPT. The PT organisers may also contact the relevant NRLs or competent authorities in the contracting MSs to verify the information received. In exceptional cases, NRLs or competent authorities may request exceptional PT participation for a laboratory[4].

Laboratories analysing official samples on behalf of EU Member States other than the Member State in which they are located must also provide an electronic copy of a document certifying their designation by the competent authority of the Member State in whose territory they are located (see Art 37 (2b) of Reg. 625/2017/EU). NRLs of countries subcontracting official control activities to such "exterritorial" laboratories should make sure to include these laboratories in the OfL-Network and that their activities are tracked within the EURL-DataPool.

8. REGISTRATION

The registration for the EUPT-SRM22 will run through the **EURL-DataPool**. **OfLs and their contact persons have to register into the EURL-DataPool first**.

To register for the EUPT-SRM22, please log-in to the EURL-DataPool using your EURL-DataPool login credentials and click the register "EUPT Registration". If you have lost your EURL-DataPool login credentials, please use the "**forgot password" feature** to request a new password.

The registration period will last from 16 November to 11 December, 2026. An instruction on EUPTs registration is provided here: **How to Register in EUPTs?**

9. OBLIGED LABS NOT PARTICIPATING:

DG-SANTE expects to receive an **explanation** from all **obliged labs not intending to participate** in EUPTs. This **explanation will be tracked in the DataPool**, and for this the affected labs have to **complete the EUPT Registration Form and state their explanation there. Do not submit your explanation via email.** If you do so, you will still be prompted to access the website and enter your explanation there.

Therefore, all obliged labs should access the Registration Website via DataPool, regardless of whether they intend to participate or not!

[4] e.g. if required documentation could not be fully collected in due time, or if the fulfilment of the above criteria is not yet complete but envisaged, or if PT-participation would help the competent authority in evaluating the laboratory's performance, in view of a potential designation as OfL.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **The EUPT-SRM22 registration form within the " EURL-DataPool"** will be accessible from **16 November to 11 December, 2026**.
- The **shipment** of the Test Items is planned to start on **18 January, 2027.**
- **Results and method information** should be submitted by **16 February 2027 at 23:30 h (11:30 p.m.) CET** on the "**EUPT-SRM22 Result Submission website**".

10. PARTICIPATION FEE and PAYMENT

To cover handling and shipping costs, each **participating laboratory from EU Member States, EU candidate countries or EFTA countries** will be charged a general fee of **249 €** for one bottle of PT item. The fee for laboratories in **third countries** is set at **399 €** for one PT item. **If you order two bottles** you will receive two shipments and **the fee will be double**.

A PDF invoice will be sent to the email address(es) of the person(s) responsible for the PT, as stated in the registration form, after the shipment. If stated during registration, it will also be sent to the person in charge of the payment. Details on payment will be given in the invoices.
If no payment or no proof of payment is received and no explanation is given to the organisers by the payment deadline, the organisers reserve the right not to issue the participation certificate for the concerned laboratory, to exclude its results and its name from the Final EUPT-Report, and to refuse its participation in future EUPT-SRMs.

As stated in the **General EUPT Protocol**, the EURLs will issue digital invoices in PDF format only and without any electronic signature. If a participating laboratory requires an electronic invoice due to local legal requirements, it must provide the PT organisers with a suitable, freely accessible tool for generating the e-invoice and provide full assistance if requested by the EURL, including assistance if the tool requires the use of a language other than English. Otherwise, the PT organisers will not issue an e-invoice. Depending on the extra workload incurred, the participating laboratory may be charged for this service.

The EURLs will not complete any special forms required by participating laboratories for their financial departments or payment offices. If completion of such forms is a prerequisite for payment at the participating laboratory's institution, the laboratory or its payment office is requested to complete the forms itself using the data on the **financial certification** and send the completed form to the EUPT organisers. The EURLs are willing to provide any information required in the form, as long as it is readily available; however, they do not agree to provide any personalised (private) data for this purpose. After verifying the information – and, if necessary, correcting and supplementing it – the EUPT organisers will return the form with a signature and stamp.

Participants must get familiar with the payment system in their laboratories and take responsibility for ensuring that the information stated during registration is correct. For example, if a purchase number is required on the invoice, participants must enter it when registering. **Additional costs may be incurred if extra services are requested in relation to the payment or if invoices have to be modified and re-sent due to new information or incorrect data.**

11. RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

All documents related to EUPT-SRM22 will be accessible on-line and linked to the **EUPT-SRM22-Website.** They will be additionally uploaded onto the **CIRCA-BC platform**[5].

The schedule for all activities and deadlines within this PT can be found in the **EUPT-SRM22 Calendar**.

The pesticides potentially present in the Test Item can be found in the **EUPT-SRM22 Target Pesticides List..**

The **EUPT-SRM22 Specific Protocol** will expectedly be published by 5 January 2027 and should be read carefully.

Please also refer to the valid version of the **General EUPT Protocol**, which contains the general procedures and rules valid for all proficiency tests organised by the four EURLs for pesticide residues, among them the general rules for the statistical evaluation of results of the EUPTs and the payment conditions.

12. GENERAL INFORMATION, CONFIDENTIALITY, DISCLAIMER

The EUPT-SRM22 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 EUPT Final-Report, the list of participating laboratories will not be linked to their laboratory codes.
- **The participating laboratories are not permitted 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 share EUPT results and codes with other EURLs and the responsible NRLs.**
- All laboratories are requested to **provide information on the analytical methods used**. If information on the methodology used is not sufficiently 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 significant changes, participants will be informed by e-mail. **However, please still check the EUPT-SRM22-Website regularly for any updates** in case the email does not reach you.
- By registering for this EUPT, the laboratories accept all above conditions and provisions

[5] Note that this platform has a restricted access

13. SUPPORT AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The EUPT-SRM22 Organizing Team is always at your disposal to answer any questions and provide technical support. For any further questions about the EUPT-SRM22, please mail to **eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**.

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14. EUPT SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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Best regards,
The EUPT-SRM22 Organizing Team