



## PROTOCOL

### Ring Test Certified Standard Solutions FV18 (2016)

#### **Introduction**

This ring test is complementary to the European Proficiency Test in Fruits and Vegetables 18 (EUPT-FV18), organised by the EURL for Pesticide Residues in Fruit and Vegetables covering Multiresidue Methods (MRM) of analysis. The aim of this ring test is to help the participant laboratories in EUPT-FV18 to check if their working standard solutions have affected the z-scores obtained in EUPT-FV18.

#### **Test item**

This ring test is based on the analysis of a certified standard solution that contains all the pesticides included in EUPT-FV18. The standard solutions have been prepared by an external specialised firm, LabStandard®, division of Lab. Instruments, and they are sent to the participant laboratories in sealed glass ampoules. The solvent is acetonitrile. The ampoules are stored at -20°C prior to shipment to participants.

#### **Steps to follow**

The procedure to follow by the participants will be:

1. To participate, each laboratory must accept their participation by e-mail.
2. When the registration period is closed, laboratories will receive an e-mail confirming their participation in this exercise, and assigning them each a Laboratory Code

3. The sample delivery will be provided free of charge for EU-National Reference Laboratories (NRLs), and it will be 65 euros for the rest of the laboratories.
4. The ampoules will be delivered to the participant laboratories on week 36 (September 5<sup>th</sup> 2016). At the same time they will receive by e-mail an Excel file where they will be able to report the results.
5. The standard solutions have to be diluted 100 times (that way the concentration values will be between 10 and 500 µg/l). This dilution has to be performed following the laboratory's own procedures using the appropriate solvents for each analytical technique.
6. The deadline for submitting the results of this proficiency test is 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
7. The Organiser will evaluate the results at the end of the proficiency test, once the deadline for the receipt of results has passed. The Organiser will upload an electronic version of the Final Report onto the EURL-FV website and will send it to each participant laboratory by e-mail.

#### **Amount of Test Item**

Participants will receive:

- 1 sealed glass ampoule containing 1 ml of certified standard solution in acetonitrile.

#### **Shipment of Test item**

The ampoules will be packed in foam lined cardboard boxes.

The shipment of the test item will be carried out on week 36 (September 5<sup>th</sup> 2016). An information message will be sent out by e-mail the day of the shipment. Laboratories must make their own arrangements for the receipt of the package. They must inform the Organiser of any public holidays in their country/city during the delivery period given in the calendar.

#### **Advice on Test item Handling**

Once received, the test item should be stored at -20°C prior to analysis. After opening the ampoule, its content should be transferred to an amber vial.

### **Test item Receipt**

Once the laboratory has received the test item, its arrival must be reported to the Organiser by e-mail. If any laboratory has not received the test item by September 9<sup>th</sup>, they must inform the Organiser by e-mail ([cferrer@ual.es](mailto:cferrer@ual.es)).

### **Submission of results:**

Once the laboratory has analysed the certified standard solution and is ready to submit their data, they must enter their results in the Excel file provided by the Organisers and send it to the following e-mail address: [cferrer@ual.es](mailto:cferrer@ual.es).

All analyte concentrations **in the ampoule** must be expressed in mg/l. The number of significant figures should be based on the guidelines provided in SANTE/11945/2015. Additional significant figures may be recorded for the purpose of statistical analysis. Please bear this in mind when reporting data:

- Residue levels above the reporting level and < 10 mg/l should be rounded to two significant figures.
- Residue levels  $\geq$  10 mg/l may be rounded to three significant figures or to a whole number.

If a pesticide was not sought, it should be recorded as 'NA' (Not Analysed). The actual results measured must be reported as numbers.

Further instructions on how to fill in the Excel file will be provided in the same file.

## Calendar

<b>EU-RT-FV18 CALENDAR</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Sample shipment	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2016
Deadline for receiving results	19 <sup>th</sup> September 2016
Preliminary Report: only results.	26 <sup>th</sup> September 2016
Final Report	December 2016

### Cost of test item shipment.

The sample delivery will be **65 €**. For EU-NRLs it will be free of charge. Regarding payment procedures, each laboratory can specify their details and invoice requests when applying for the test. Payment details are as follows:

**BANK NAME: CAJAMAR - Caja Rural Sociedad Corporativa de Crédito**

**BANK ACCOUNT HOLDER: Universidad de Almeria**

**BANK ADDRESS: Office Number 990. Universidad de Almeria. Spain**

**IBAN: ES0730580130172731005000**

**SWIFT: CCRIES2A**

**REFERENCE GIVEN: Invoice No. or Lab Code**

### Contact information

The official organising group details are as follows:

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**Organising team (e-mails and phone numbers):**

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**Scientific Committee**

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Philippe Gros, Laboratoire du SCL de Montpellier, France.

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