



WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE EU REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR PESTICIDES IN CEREALS AND FEEDINGSTUFF

(Version 1 February 2013)

January-December 2013

LEGAL FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

The functions and duties of the Reference Laboratory are described in Article 32 of the EC Regulation No 882/2004.

1. OBJECTIVES FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER 2013

- A. General tasks**
- B. Development and validation of analytical methods**
- C. Quality assurance and quality control including the organisation and implementation of proficiency tests.**
- D. Technical and scientific support to NRLs/ EU Official labs, Commission and third countries**

2. WORKING PLAN FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY - DECEMBER 2013

A. General Tasks

1. Maintenance of the common web portal <http://www.crl-pesticides.eu> for the pesticide EURLs (horizontal task – see description in AWP for EURL-SRM). The communication platform supports the coordination activities of the EURLs and serves as contact, reference and service points for the National Reference laboratories and official pesticide residue laboratories in Europe. The website for Cereal and Feeding stuff will be maintained in coordination with the other EURLs and the following items will be updated: Presentation of the EURL,

information on proficiency test, training courses, workshop, annual work programme, AWP. Furthermore, validation data and analytical methods will be uploaded as well as an updated version of the document on general information on cereal production and pesticide.

FF.R&D.1

2. Maintenance of the common CIRCA database (horizontal task – see AWP for EURL-FV). Information on proficiency test, training courses, workshop, AWP. Furthermore, validation data and analytical methods will be uploaded as well as an updated version of the document on general information on cereal production and pesticide.

FF.R&D.1

3. Maintenance and further development of the online registration and result database and web tool for proficiency tests.

Three annual proficiency tests (PTs) organised by EURL-CF, EURL-AO and EURL-SRM use the Oracle database programs and server facilities located at the premises at DTU in Copenhagen. Although many hours of work have been used to develop these programs, they still need adjustments for each single PT. Many of these task demand edition in text on main pages, subpages and forms, and also changes in programs and database tables, views, procedures, sequences and triggers. Backup of the data is produced regularly, and all changes are stored in archive-files.

Before the new rounds of PTs the four EURLs agree on the changes to be made, both purely maintenance and new features.

Maintenance before the PT:

Registration database and web tool: The webpage is changed to fit the individual PT. This will be e.g. PT name, specific information needed to ship test items from different countries. We must also maintain a list of laboratories for which participation is mandatory.

Furthermore, the text on confirmation emails, assignment of usernames and passwords, organizer access to forms and online reports so they can supervise the registration.

The result submission database and web tool: Before the database is opened for submission of test results the web pages and data forms must be edited. A list of the pesticides in the actual PT is loaded into the database. In the main database table a row for each participant and each pesticide in the test is inserted (150 participants and 150 pesticides makes 15,000 rows in the database table). The main webpage and subpages are changed to fit the individual PT. The forms for result submission must be edited (PT name, test item name, the list of target pesticides, method information needed. Forms and reports must be prepared for the organizing EURL, so they can supervise the data submission. Before the link to the webpage is activated, the system is tested and a guide to enter results and information is prepared.

Maintenance during the PT:

During the registration period the process is supervised to take care of double registration and missing emails etc. When the PT is running and the result submission is likewise supervised to be able to correct any errors. After deadline for result submission, links to the web-pages must be de-activated and data must be extracted from the database for statistical processing.

Development:

For each PT round new wishes for the web tool and database are implemented as far as possible. For 2013 this could include that information on the number of official samples are included, or possibility for the participants to evaluate the PT.

FF.PT.1

4. Maintenance of the EURL/NRL/OfL network for laboratories performing analysis of cereals and feed. A record with information on the NRLs and OfL in the field of pesticide residues in cereals and feeding stuff will be updated, with contact name, addresses, email addresses and number of official samples analysed by the lab. The task is performed in cooperation with EURL-SRM.
5. Administrative duties e.g. budget management, preparation of work programme, budgets will be accomplished as well as compilation of annual technical and financial reports.

B. Development and Validation of Analytical Methods

To provide validated method for use by the NRLs, analytical scientific work will include the improvement and enhancement of existing approved multi-methods and the development or implementation of new multi-methods and detection techniques. As task for analytical work for 2013 are considered:

The development and validation with mainly focus on the following areas.

6. Extension of the pesticide profile for cereal multi methods using LC/MS/MS or GC/MS/MS:
Validation experiment with the QuEChERS method with additional 20 pesticides will be performed. The pesticides included will be selected among pesticides used worldwide in cereal production and/or pesticides included in the coordinated control program. The validation will include minimum four cereal matrices. The validation will include approximately 75 experiments.
Validation experiment with the SweEt method with additional 50 pesticides will be performed. The pesticides included will be selected among pesticides used worldwide in cereal production and/or pesticides included in the coordinated control program. The validation will include minimum four cereal matrices. The validation will include approximately 150 experiments.

FF.ANA.1, FF.PT.5, FF.PT.6

7. Validation experiments with the accredited feeding stuff multi methods with additional 20 pesticides. The pesticides included will be selected among pesticides relevant for feed and possible residues in animals especially those pesticides included in the coordinated control program. The validation will include one feed stuff matrix. The validation will include approximately 150 experiments.

FF.ANA.1, FF.PT.5, FF.PT.6

8. Screening methods
Further validation of screening method for cereals by LC-Q-TOF. The method is currently validated for 35 pesticides. Validation experiment with additional 50 pesticides will be performed.
Validation of a screening method for cereals by GC-Q-TOF. The method will be validated for 25 pesticides.

FF.ANA.1, FF.ANA.QI

9. Postponed to 2014 –
Screening survey of rye and oat samples for pesticides not included in the MCPP. In order to detect possible residues of pesticide currently not included in MCPP in wheat samples on the EU market, the EURL-CF will perform a survey. The EU NRLs in the field of cereals will be asked to collect 2 wheat samples from the growing season 2013. One sample should be locally produced and the other imported from Third Countries. The samples should be shipped to the EURL-CF for screening.
10. Postponed to 2014 –
The document 'Cereals and feeding stuff – production, consumption and pesticides', will be updated with relevant new information. Focus will be on residues data, mainly from MCPP. The document will be uploaded the the webportal and CIRCA.

C. Quality Assurance and Quality Control

11. Proficiency test PT-C7 on feed for laying hens.
A proficiency test will be organized in 2013. The proficiency test will cover pesticides analysed by multi methods (not SRM). The target pesticides will includes approximately 50 pesticides, as agree on by the Advisory Group. The test item 'feed for laying hens', will be produced by a consultant. After production the test item will be homogenized and portions will weighed out into screw-capped polyethylene plastic bottles, sealed, numbered, and stored in a freezer at about -20 °C prior to homogeneity and stability testing. Before shipment of the test items, 20 homogeneity experiments will be performed

(double determinations of 10 randomly selected test items). Stability test will be performed on five occasions during the PT periods, in total 25 experiments.

The EURL has no experience with organizing PT on feed test items and it is therefore difficult to predict the number of participants. However, it is foreseen that around 50 EU NRL and EU OfL will participate in the PT and additionally 10 official laboratories from Third Country.

FF.PT.1 ,FF.PT.2, FF.PT.3 FF.PT.4 , FF.ORG.1, FF.ORG.2, FF.ORG.3

12. Preparation of test items for proficiency test 2014, EUPT-C8

If necessary, field spraying of cereals performed by a consultant will take place to prepare for EUPT-C8. The proficiency test will focus on crops agreed upon by the Advisory Group.

FF.PT.1

13. Maintenance of in-house QA/QC activities in according to ISO 17025 accreditation of all analytical work done within the EURL and ISO 17043 in relation to the proficiency test organized by the EURL.

FF.PT.QI

D. Technical and Scientific Support to NRLs/EU official labs, the Commission and Third Countries

14. A workshop coordinated between the EURL-FV, EURL-SRM and EURL-AO will be organized and held in Almería, Spain. The workshop will be arranged for NRL, but OfL laboratories will also be invited. The agenda for the workshop will include results from proficiency test, discussion on coordinated monitoring programme and analytical challenges and other relevant issues decided by the EURLs.

FF.NRL.1, FF.NRL.2, FF.NRL.3

15. Postponed to 2014 –

Training

A 2-days training course will be organised at the premises of the EURL. The hands-on laboratory training will be on 'Introduction to screening method' and will include production and evaluation of data. Six NRLs with limited experience with the technique will be invited at no cost. Additional 6 NRLs/OfL or thirds countries will be invited on their own cost. The NRLs will be selected based on their access to LC/GC-Q-TOF instrument in their institutions.

FF.NRL.5, FF.NRL.6, FF.NRL.QI, FF.ORG.QI

16. Webinars (horizontal task – see AWP for EURL-FV)

The pesticide EURLs will explore the possibility to organize webinars intended to disseminate information to the NRLs and official laboratories in a cost effective but still interactive way.

FF.R&D.1

17. Technical and scientific support to the Commission and its offices, as requested by the Commission. Support to the COM for the drafting of the EU coordinated control programme. Analysis of official samples, counter analysis will be performed on request by the Commission.
FF.COM.1, FF.COM.2, FF.COM.QI
18. Involvement in the EFSA residue evaluation to give its opinion about residue definitions and routine validated methods for cereals and feeds, especially on article 12.
FF.COM.2
19. Missions
Participation in up to 2 coordinating meetings between EURLs for pesticide residues in order to coordinate AWP, PTs, web portals and online result submission.
Participation in 4 Standing Commission meeting and EFSA pesticide network meetings.
Participation in advisory groups organized by the EURL for fruit and vegetables (horizontal task organised by EURL-FV, see AWP for EURL-FV).
Pre-approval from the Commission will be obtained for all non-planned missions.
FF.COM.2
20. One NRL visit will be conducted to a laboratory selected in agreement with the COM, where the EUPTs results have been problematic over the last three years. The task will be performed in collaboration with EURL-FV and EURL-SRM.
FF.NRL.4