



Planned work programme for 2012

Legal functions and duties

The functions and duties of the European Union Reference Laboratory are described in Regulation No 882/2004. Objectives for the period January - December 2012 will be:

General Objectives

- 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

Working plan for the period January - December 2012 and multi-annual goals

A. General Tasks

1. Participation in co-ordinating meetings and general management activities of EURLs for residues. The EURL “pesticides in food of animal origin and commodities with high fat content” (EURL-AO) needs a close cooperation with the other pesticide EURLs.
2. Technical and scientific support to the Commission and its offices, as requested by the Commission.
3. Compilation of the Technical and Financial Report for 2011 by 31 March 2012.



4. Compilation of the planned activities and estimated budget for 2013 by 31 August 2012.
5. For the EURL/NRL network, the list with all NRLs, OFLs and contact points in the field “pesticides in food of animal origin and commodities with high fat content” will be kept updated and will be made available to the Commission and NRLs.
6. A workshop with NRL-AOs in 2012 in Freiburg, Germany
7. Maintenance of the EURL-website in cooperation with the other pesticide EURLs, exchange of information via the website and updating on regular basis with the particular aim of disseminating information to NRLs. Information about important improvements of analytical methodology and major changes in EU legislation.
8. Scientific support to the Commission and EFSA as regards the evaluation of possible applicability of proposed post-registration methods in routine analysis laboratories and residue definitions.

B. Development and Validation of Analytical Methods

Analytical scientific work should cover the improvement of existing, approved multi-methods and the development and implementation of new multi-methods. As pillars of analysis are considered:

- Pesticides in food of animal origin (lipophilic, semi-polar and polar);
 - Pesticides in commodities with high fat content (lipophilic and semi-polar);
 - Pesticides in honey (lipophilic, semi-polar and polar).
9. Three groups of pesticides (organochlorine, organophosphorous and pyrethroid pesticides) can be considered to have been introduced to a certain degree in the daily routine of NRLs for pesticides in food of animal origin and high fat commodities. The evaluation of the results of EUPTs AO-01 to AO-05 proved that there is further need for improvement also for these groups. The spectrum of analytes will be extended continuously, also by inclusion of LC-MS-based methods.
 10. In particular for semi-polar pesticides in egg samples, a multi-method for determination of residues of more polar pesticides in food of animal origin is being developed in 2011. Method validation follows the Quality Control Procedures for Pesticide Residues Analysis (Document N° SANCO/2009/10684). The developed and validated analytical method will be provided to the NRL/OFL network for possible in-



clusion and coverage of selected analytes in EUPT-AO 07, in particular of analytes relevant for the monitoring programme 2012.

11. The EU-RLs for CF, SRM and AO will start a cooperation on detection of possible pesticide residues in feed for ruminants and in milk. Feed is one of the main sources for incurring pesticide residues in farmed animals. The detection of residues in feed for ruminants is an indication for possible residues in milk. On the other hand the detection of residues in milk is an indication for possible residues in feed for cows for milk production. The joint project will include the development of analytical methods for determination of selected pesticides in feed and milk. This project is based on data evaluation and is not necessarily based on a feeding experiment.
12. Conclusions on a more selective monitoring of pesticide residues in food of animal origin were presented at EPRW 2010 and the workshop of the EURL AO in 2010. Comprised are pesticides from different groups with many substances not being included in daily routine programmes. For a more tailored monitoring programme, the EURL AO will continue developing analytical methods for selected substances which are not covered by presently applied methods.

C. Quality Assurance and Quality Control

13. As multi-annual goal, the availability of validated methods for the most important groups of pesticide residues in the most important matrices should be checked and promoted within the EURL / NRL network.
14. Maintenance of in-house QA/QC activities in consequence of the ISO 17025 accreditation of all analytical work done within the EURL.
15. Performance of a proficiency test (PT) with all NRLs and official laboratories of the EU Member States and Associated States and discussion of results with NRLs at the workshop. The PT will be based on a matrix of food of animal origin and will be performed and evaluated in accordance with the general protocol for EU proficiency tests for pesticide residues in food and feed. Results will be discussed at the workshop (see A.6). The schedule will be coordinated with the other pesticide EURLs and the Commission to avoid overlapping periods.



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

16. Analytical support to Member States (NRLs) and Commission upon request.
17. Support to the Commission for the drafting of the EU coordinated working programme.
18. Missions to NRLs and dissemination of scientific information if necessary.
19. Analyses of official samples (submitted by EU Member States in case of dispute between Member States or in case of analytical problems with a responsible NRL).