

SPECIFIC PROTOCOL

for the EU Proficiency Test for Pesticide Residues in Cereals/Feeding stuff using Multi Residue Methods, EUPT-CF19 (2025)

(last updated: 13 January 2025)

Introduction

This protocol is complementary to the [General Protocol for EU Proficiency Tests for Pesticide Residues in Food and Feed](#) (12th Edition). The current proficiency test covers pesticides that are determined by Multi Residue Methods. This EUPT is to be performed by all National Reference Laboratories for Cereals and/or Feeding stuffs (NRL-CFs) as well as by all official EU laboratories (OfLs) responsible for official pesticide residue controls on cereals and/or feeding stuff, as far as their scope overlaps with that of the EUPT-CF19.

Test Item (Test Material)

This proficiency test concerns the analysis of pesticide residues in rye kernels. The rye was grown in Denmark and pesticides were applied in the field.

The Organiser, will check the Test Items for sufficient homogeneity and for stability at conditions reproducing sample shipment and storage during the duration of the test, according to ISO 13528:2023, Annex B. All these tests will be conducted by the Organiser, the EURL-CF which is (ISO 17025:2017 accredited).

Analytical Parameters

The Test Item contains several pesticides from the **Target Pesticides List**.

Laboratories must report their results as stated in the Target Pesticides List.

Amount of Test Item

The participants will receive:

- approximately 100 g of rye kernels Test Item with incurred and spiked pesticides

Blank material will **not** be distributed to the participants.

Shipment of Test Items

The Test Items are planned to be shipped on 17 January 2024.

Test Items will be shipped frozen and packed in thermo-boxes together with a freezer block. The Organiser will aim to ensure that all participating laboratories will receive their shipments on the same day. Prior to shipment a reminder will be sent to the participating laboratories by e-mail.

Laboratories must make their own arrangements for the receipt of the package. They should inform the Organiser of any public holidays in their country/city during the week of the shipment, and must make the necessary arrangements to receive the shipment, even if the laboratory is closed.

Instructions on Test Item Handling

Once received, the Test Items should be stored deep-frozen (**at -18°C or below**) before analysis to avoid any possible deterioration/spoilage and to minimize pesticide losses. The test Item should be milled before analysis. After milling, mix the flour thoroughly, before taking the analytical portion(s).

All participants should use their own routine standard operating procedures for milling, extraction, clean-up and analytical measurement and their own reference standards for identification and quantification purposes.

The homogeneity test is conducted using 5 g of milled Test Item in all cases. As sub-sampling variability increases with decreasing analytical portion size, sufficient homogeneity can only be guaranteed where participants employ sample portions that are equal to or larger than the ones stated above.

EUPT Webtool and Deadlines

To select pesticide scope and report results and method information, the participants should log in to the **EUPT Webtool** using the username send by email, the password can be retrieved via <https://guest.dtu.dk/Sites/GuestLogin/RetrievePassword.aspx> using your email address or your username. Please, update the password every year.

Selection/deselection of scope: The analytical scope must be selected prior to the shipment of the samples. This is done via the **EUPT Webtool**. The scope selection subpage will be open from 13 January to 27 January 2025. As default all mandatory pesticides are preselected.

Results and method submission: The **EUPT Webtool** will be accessible from 28 January 2024 for sample receipt acknowledgement and submission results and method information.

The deadline for submission is 24 February 2025 at 23.00 CET.

IMPORTANT: After the final submission it will NOT be possible to edit the results. Participants will receive an email confirming the submission of their results. Attached to the email will be an excel file with all their submitted data and a pdf of the pesticide and concentration submitted.

Test Item Receipt and Acceptance: Once the laboratory has received the Test Items it must report to the Organiser, via the **EUPT Webtool**, the date of receipt, and its acceptance. If the laboratory does not respond by **31 January 2025 at 12.00 CET**, the Organiser will assume that the Test Items have been received and accepted.

If participants have not received the Test Items by **the 31 January 2025 at noon**, they must inform the Organiser immediately by e-mail to eurl-cf@food.dtu.dk.

Reporting Quantitative Results:

Results should **not** be reported where a pesticide

- a) was not detected,
- b) was detected below the RL (Reporting Limit) of the laboratory, or

Significant Figures:

Residue levels <0.010 mg/kg;

- to be expressed by two significant figures (e.g. 0.0058 mg/kg).

Residue levels ≥ 0.010 mg/kg;

- to be expressed by three significant figures, e.g. 0.156, 1.64, 10.3 mg/kg.

Reporting Analytical method: The laboratory must report details of the analytical methods they used. If not it will not be possible to submit results.

Reporting of supplementary information in case of false negative results

In case of false negative results, the affected laboratories will be asked to provide details on the methodology used after the deadline for result submission. This has also to be done by accessing EUPT Webtool. Deadline for this is 5 March 2025.

Follow-up actions

In accordance with Art. 32 1b of Regulation (EC) No 2017/625, underperformance of any NRL-CF/-C/-FE in comparative testing will be followed by EURL-CF.

Documents

All documents related to EUPT-CF19 can be found on EUPT-CF19 website.

[EURL | Pesticides in Cereals and Feedingstuffs | EUPT-CF19 on Rye kernels](#)

Calendar

Activity	Dates
Announcement Calendar Target Pesticide List	28 October 2024
EUPT-Registration Website open	27 November 2024
Deadline for registration	2 January 2025
Specific Protocol published	13 January 2025
Website for selecting pesticide scope open	13 January 2025
Website for selecting pesticide scope closed	27 January 2025
Distribution of Test items	27 January 2025
Deadline for receipt and acceptance of Test Materials	within 24 hr on receipt
Deadline for Result Submission	24 February 2025 at 23.00 CET
Deadline for submission of additional method information for false negative results	5 March 2025 at 23.00 CET
Preliminary Report (only compilation of results) published	5 May 2025
Final Report published	December 2025

Participation Fees

For participating laboratories from the EU, EU-candidate states and EFTA states the participation fee will be:

- 250 €

The participation fees for laboratories from third countries will be:

- 400 €

For further information, visit www.eurl-pesticides.eu.

Delays in Payment

Participants will receive an invoice from DTU. The terms of payment are 30 days net. After this deadline, reminders will be sent. From the second reminder onwards, an administration fee of DKK 100.00 excluding VAT (approximately 13 €) will be charged per reminder.

If the participant requests DTU to issue a new invoice because additional or new information is needed on the invoice, or if they simply want a copy of the original invoice, additional costs may be incurred due to the administrative workload.

Any questions concerning invoices must be directed to Anne Rhein Hansen, arh@dtu.dk at the financial department of DTU.

Contact information:

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