

News from EURL-SRM

Current topics

Michelangelo Anastassiades

Interlaboratory Validation Study Round 3 - Glyphosate & Co.

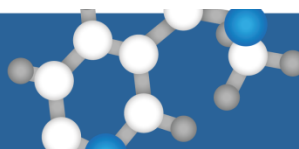
Ann-Kathrin Wachtler

Facing analytical challenges DTC analysis – step by step

Hubert Zipper

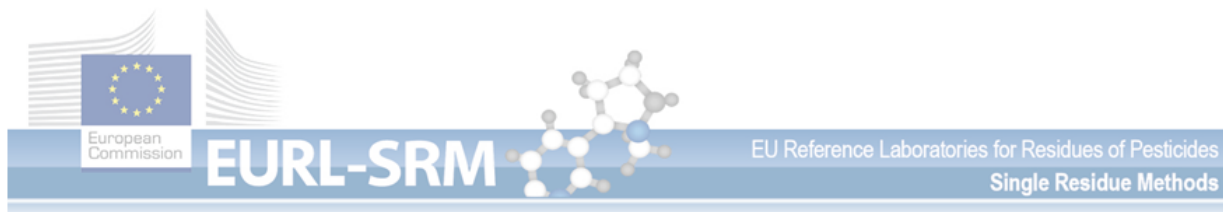
European
Commission

EURL-SRM



21.10.2021

Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides QuPPE Method “Gly&Co”



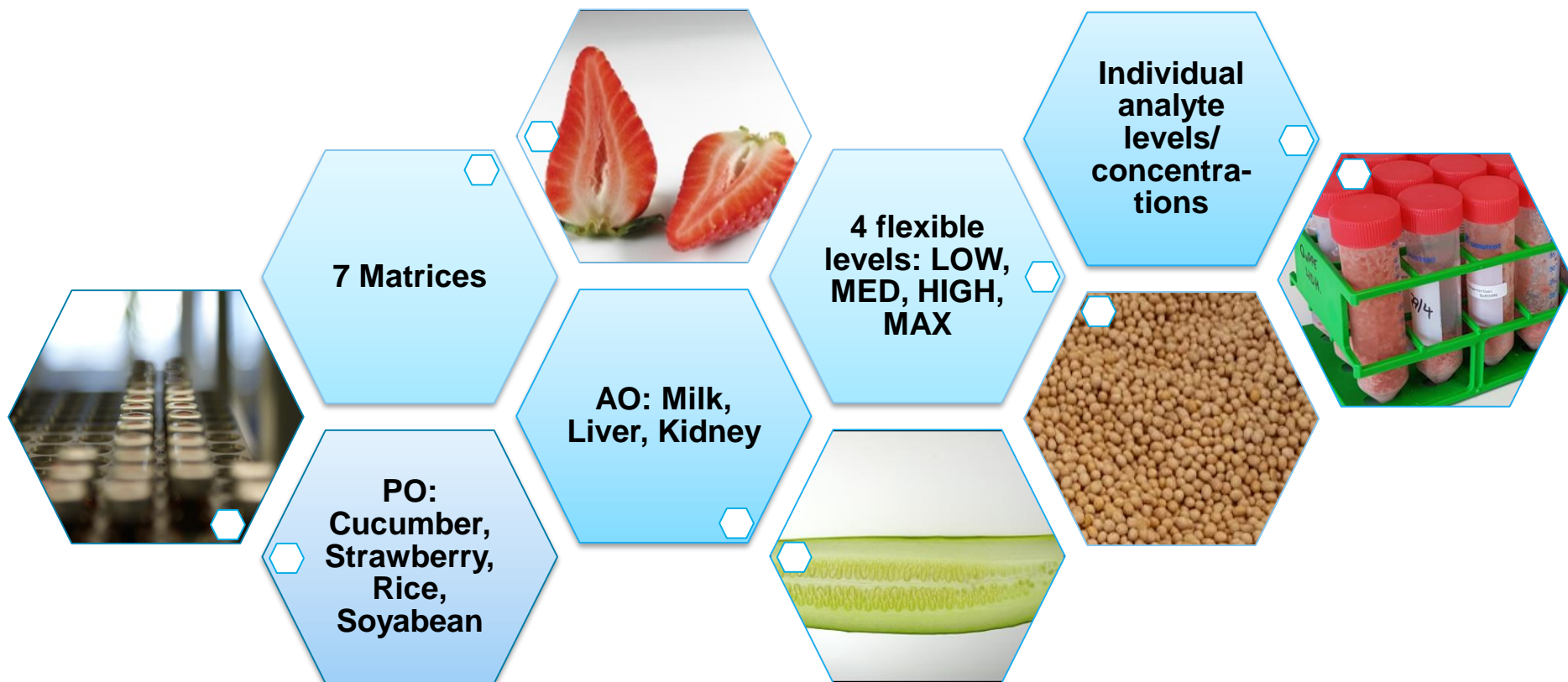
Protocol for the Interlaboratory Validation of QuPPE “Gly & Co.” (Version 1)

Introduction:

The QuPPE method is widely used by OfLs and commercial laboratories throughout the EU and beyond, various of these labs have expressed their wish to standardize the QuPPE method. A CEN-project has thus been launched aiming to introduce parts of the QuPPE method¹ as a CEN-standard. A central requirement in this process is **to prove that the method is fit for purpose** which can be achieved via **inter-laboratory validation trials**.

Two validation trials, one on QuPPE M4.1 (“Quats&Co.”) and one on QuPPE M1.4 (“PerChloPhos”), have been already successfully conducted. The present 3rd validation round, **focuses on analytes** of the “Gly&Co.”-group, which are analysed by LC-MS/MS in the ESI (neg.) mode.

Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides Overview



**17 participating labs sent 284 data sheets
containing data sets each for one matrix/level-combination**

Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides Spiking Levels - Exemplary for LOW Level

Analyte	Corresponding Analyte Spiking Levels [mg/kg]	
	Rice Soybean	Cucumber Strawberry Milk Liver Kidney
	5 g	10 g
AMPA	0.1	0.05
Cyanuric acid	0.1	0.05
Ethephon	0.02	0.01
Fosetyl-Al	0.02	0.01
Glufosinate	0.06	0.03
Glyphosate	0.1	0.05
HEPA	0.04	0.02
Maleic hydrazide	0.04	0.02
MPPA	0.04	0.02
N-Acetyl-Glufosinate	0.04	0.02
N-Acetyl-Glyphosate	0.1	0.05

Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides Spiking Levels - Exemplary for Glyphosate in Liver

HILIC: Torus DEA/APPC

LOW

- 0.05 mg/kg
- challenging, but feasible for most labs

MED

- 0.1 mg/kg
- Backup for LOW level

HIGH

- 0.25 mg/kg
- well feasible for most labs

PGC: Hypercarb

MED

- 0.1 mg/kg
- LOW level for PGC

HIGH

- 0.25 mg/kg
- Backup for LOW level

MAX

- 0.5 mg/kg
- well feasible for all labs

Dry commodities factor 2 higher

Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

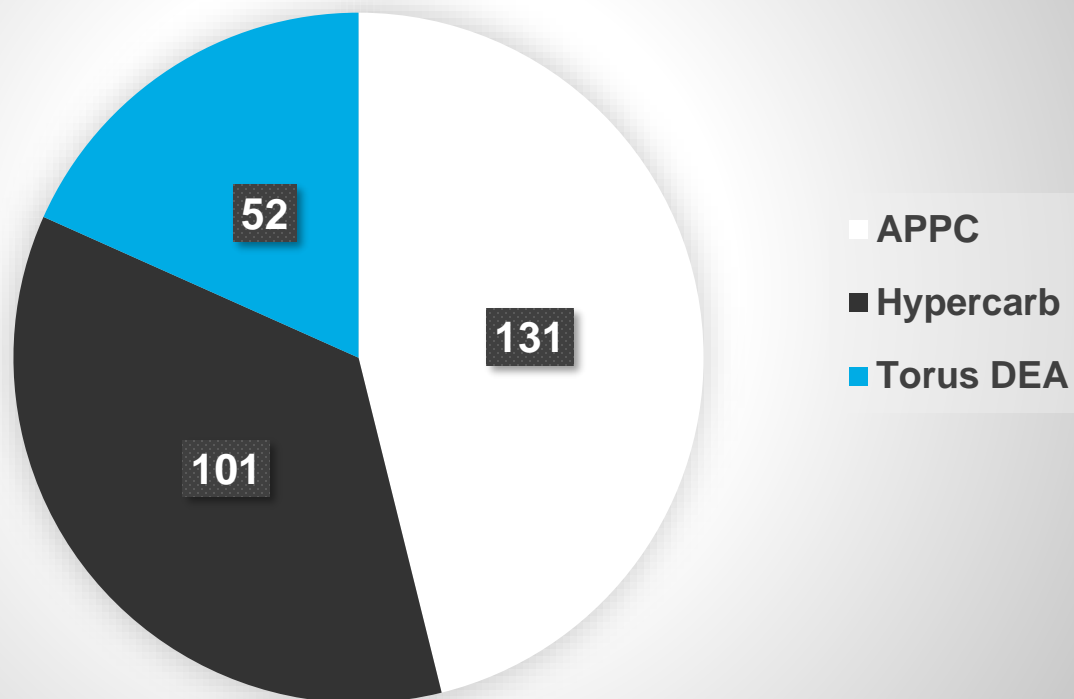
Chromatographic columns used

Lab Code	Hypercarb	APPC	Torus DEA
1		✓	
2	✓	✓	
3		✓	
4		✓	
5		✓	
6	✓	✓	
7		✓	
8	✓	✓	
9	✓		
10	✓	✓	
11	✓		
12	✓	✓	
13	✓		✓
14		✓	
15			✓
16	✓		✓
17	✓		
Sum	10	11	3
Number of Labs using 2 columns	8		

Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

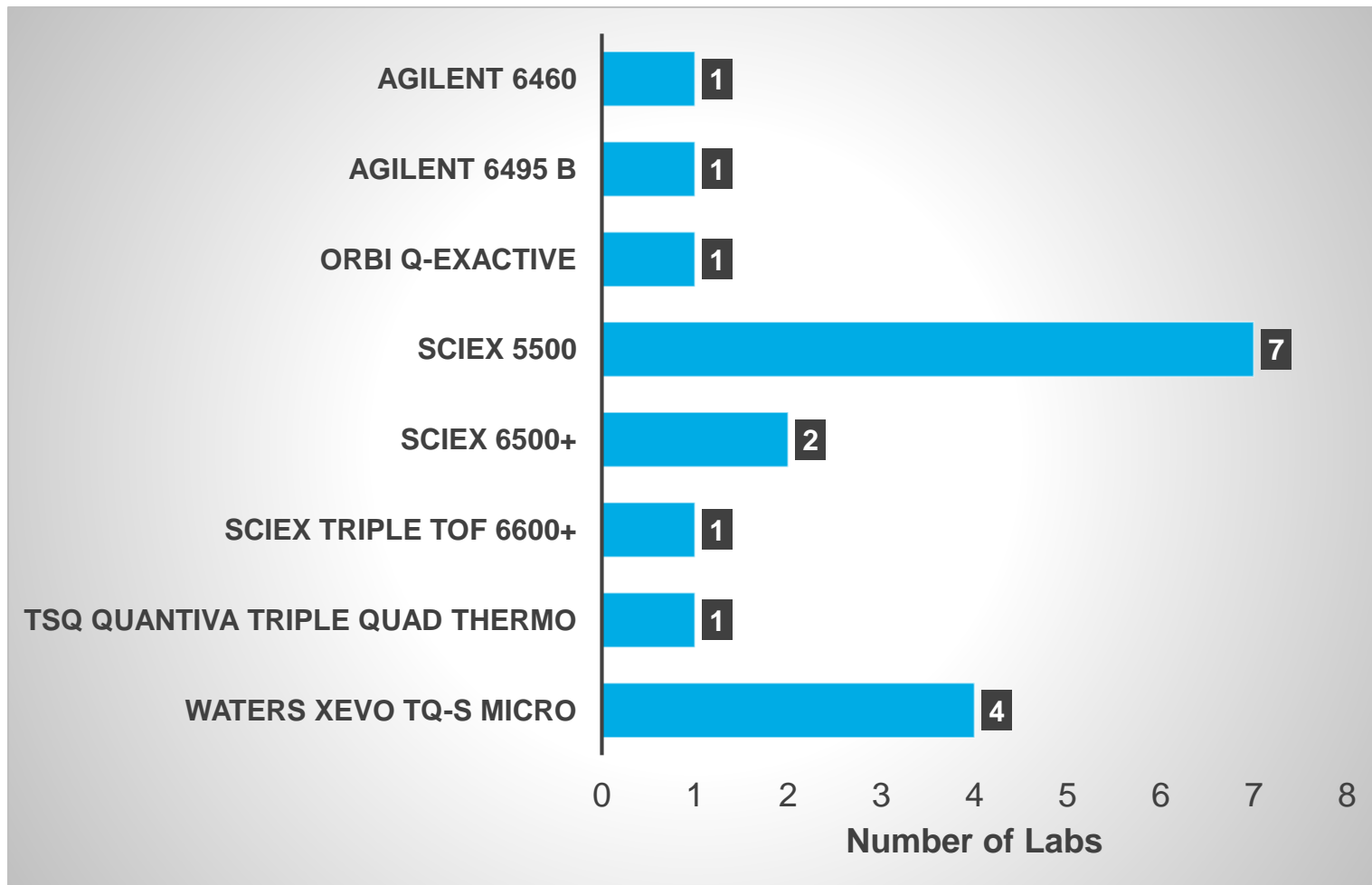
Chromatographic columns used

Total number of received data sheets by column



Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

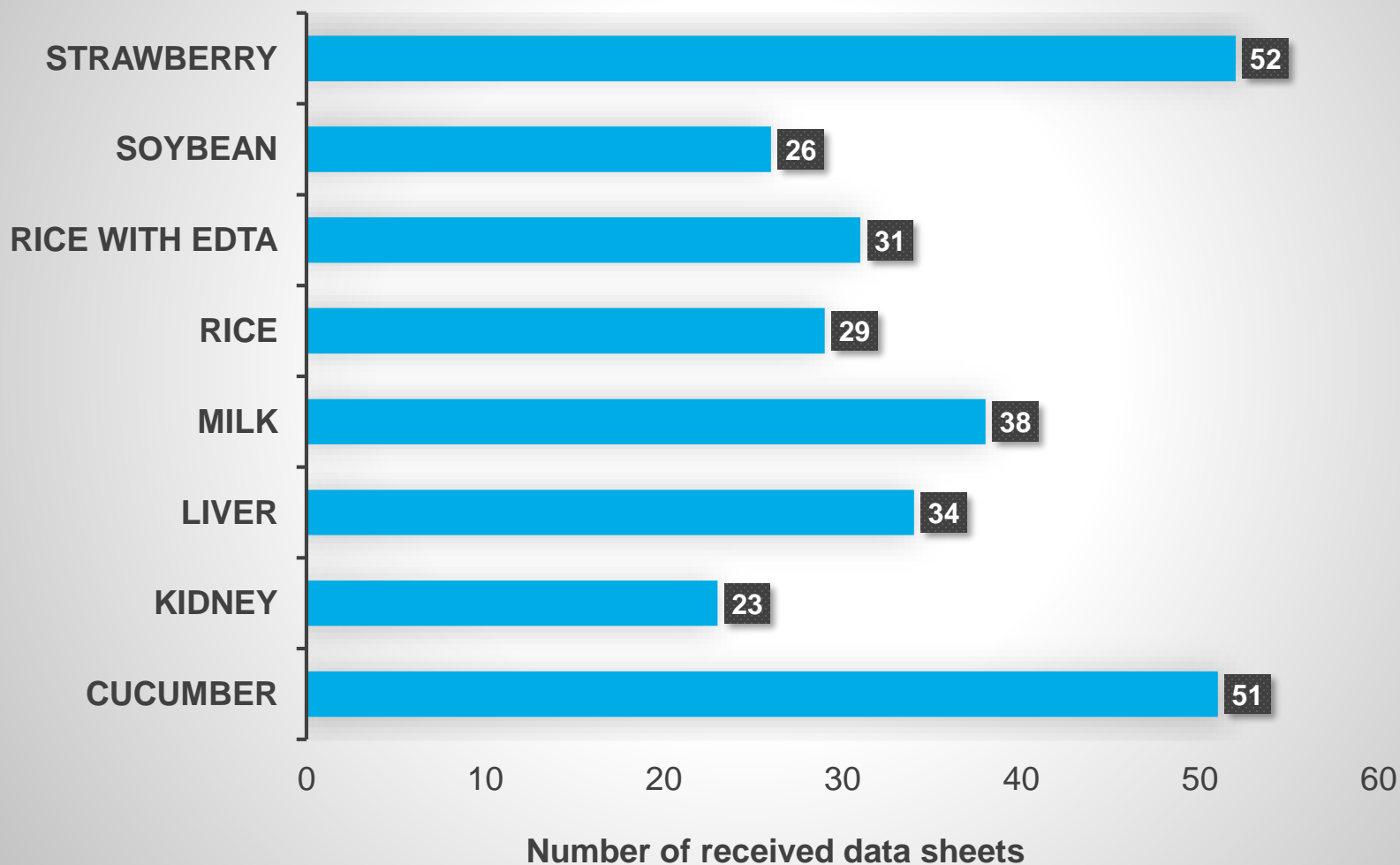
Instrumentation used



Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Data received

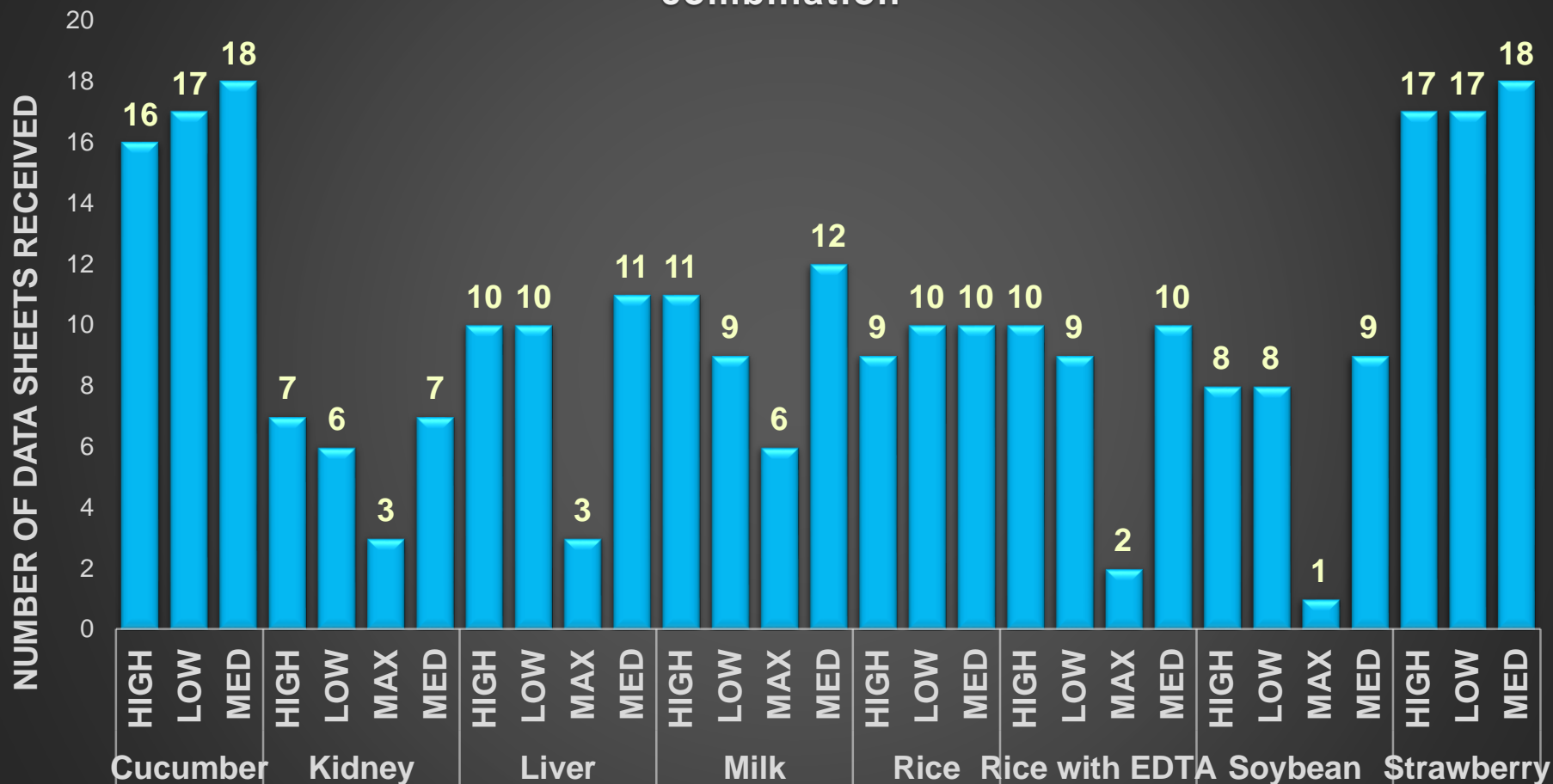
Total number of received data by matrix



Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Data received

Total number of received data sheets by matrix-level combination



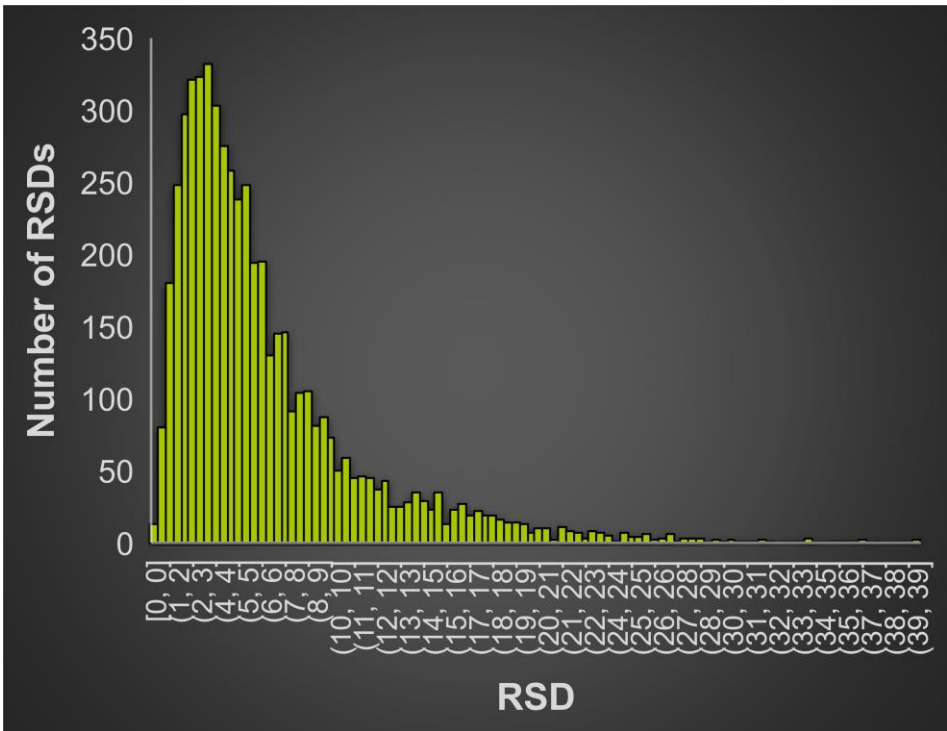
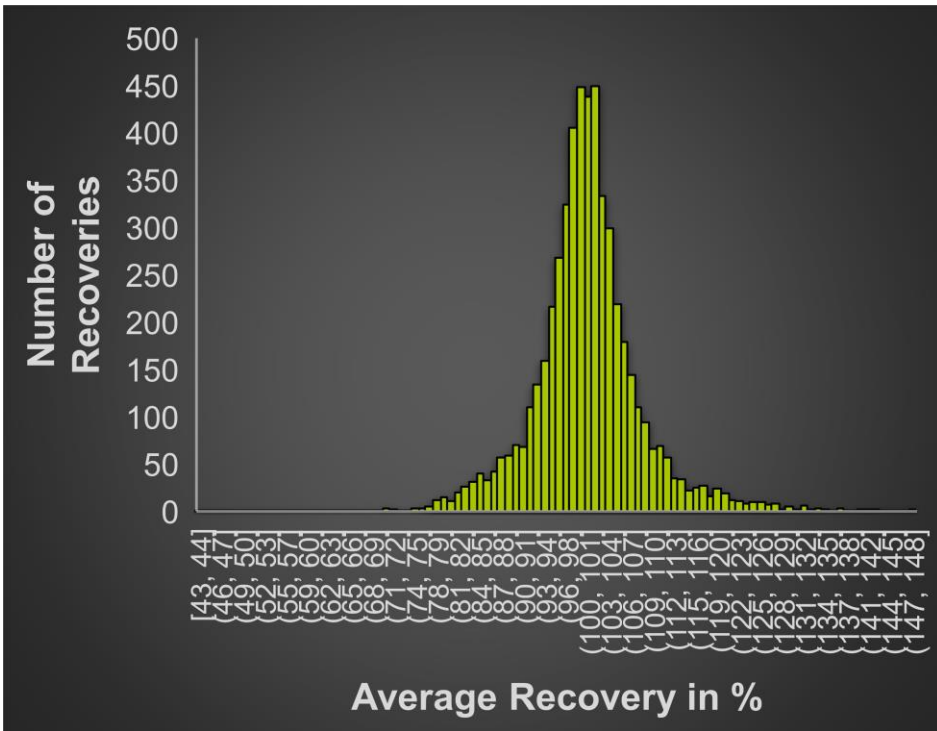
Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Preliminary results

Matrix matched + IL-IS

Distribution of average recoveries

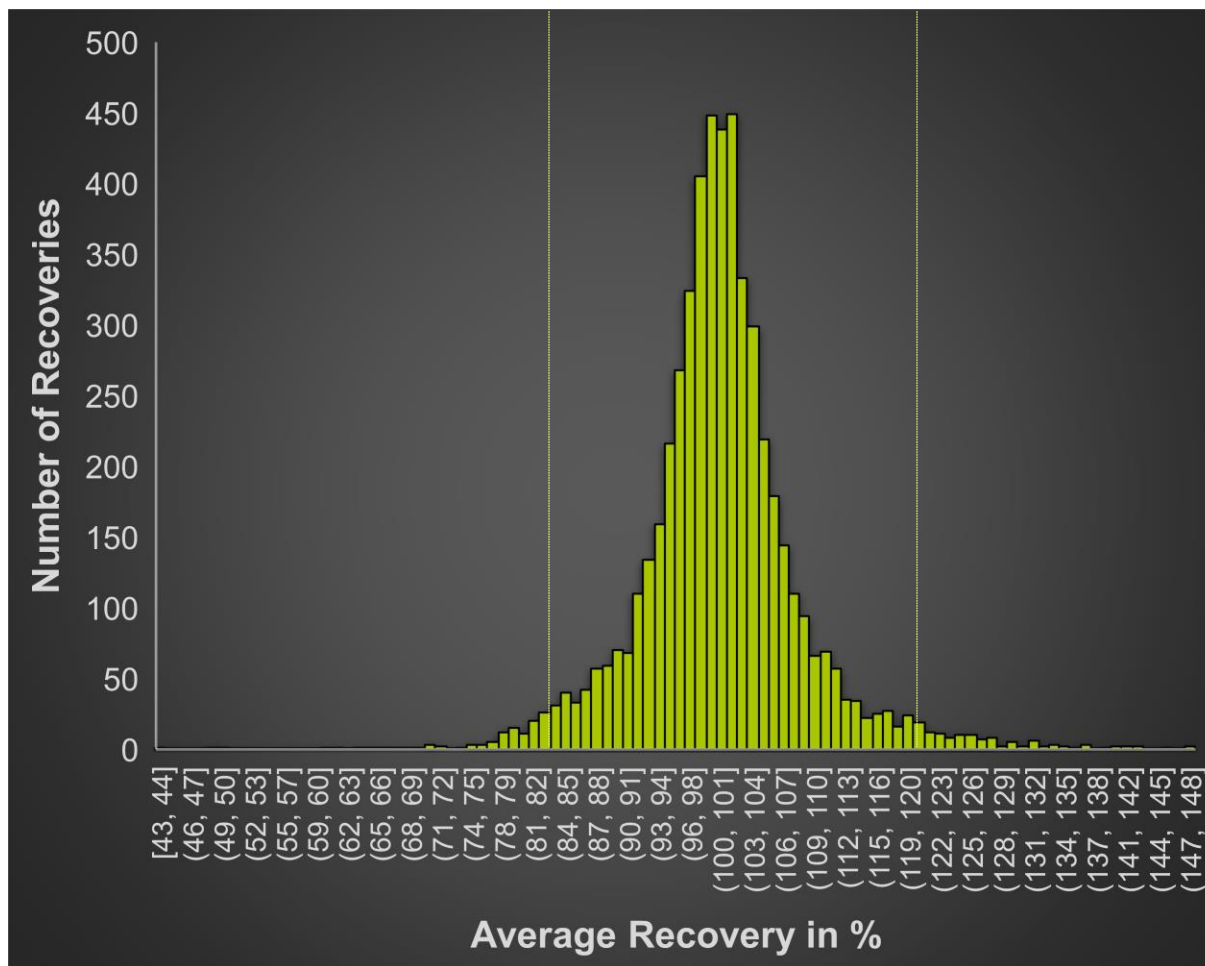
Distribution of RSDs



Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Preliminary results

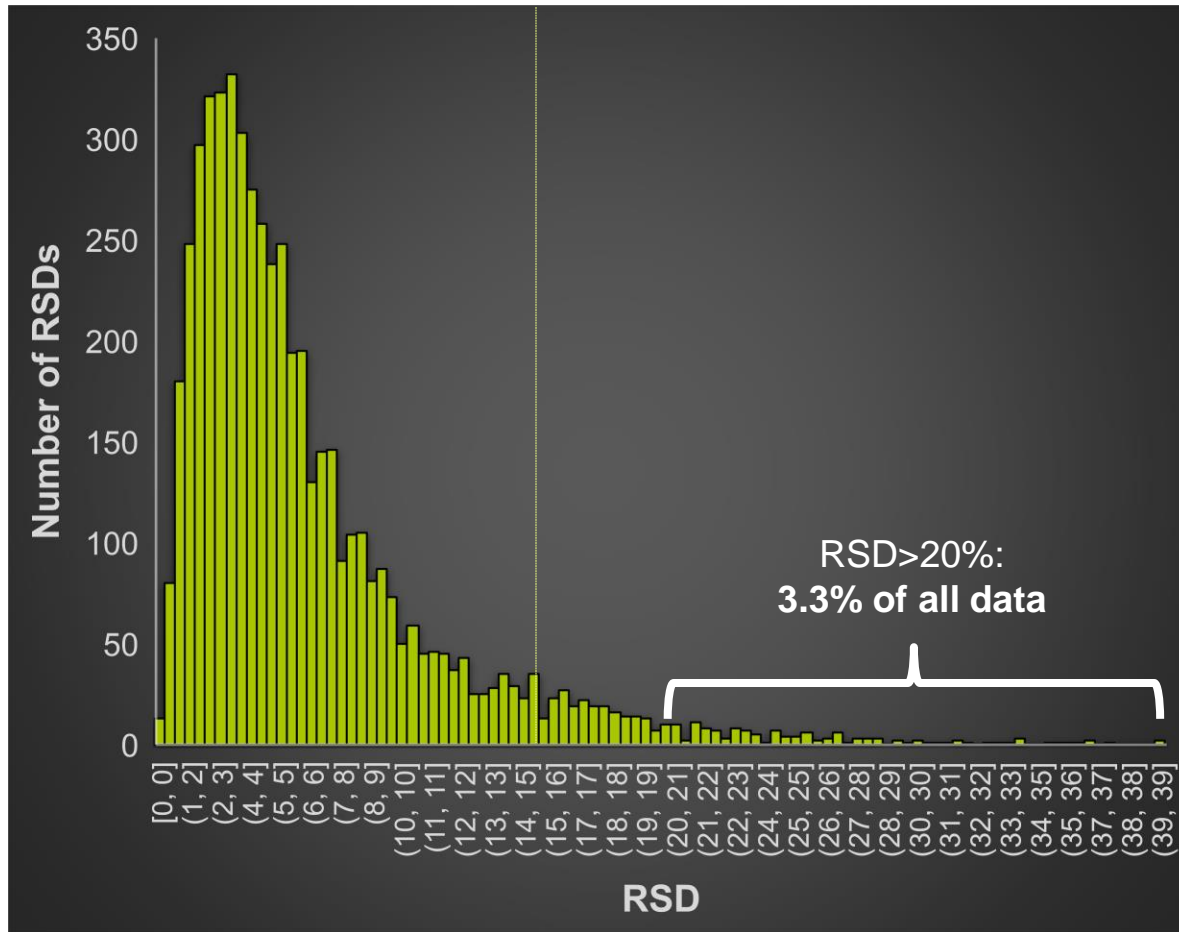
Matrix matched + IL-IS



Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Preliminary results

Matrix matched + IL-IS



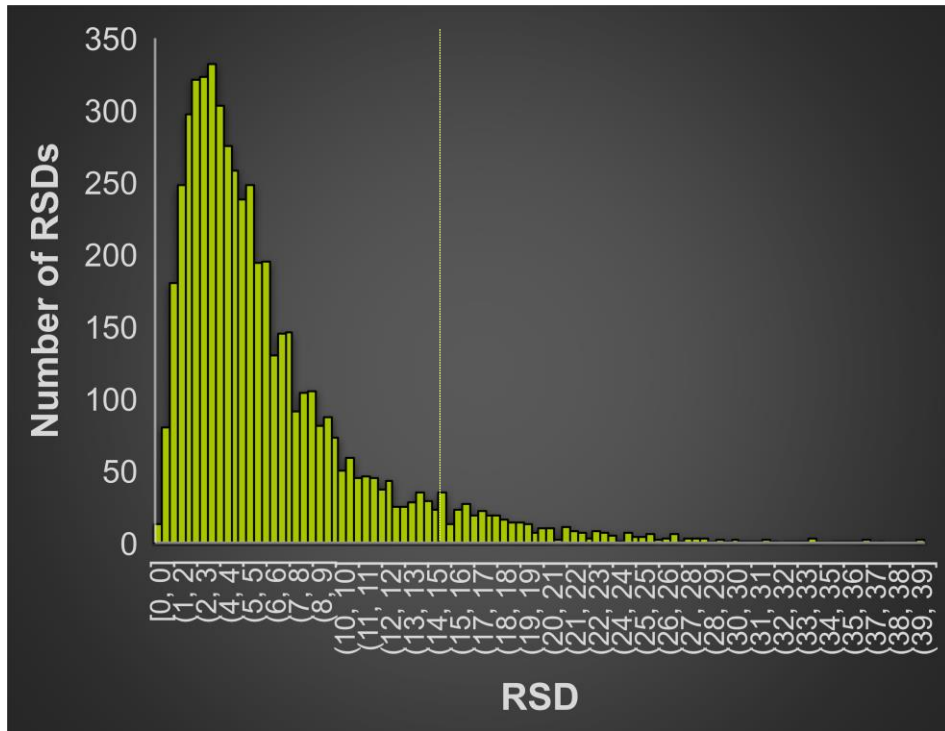
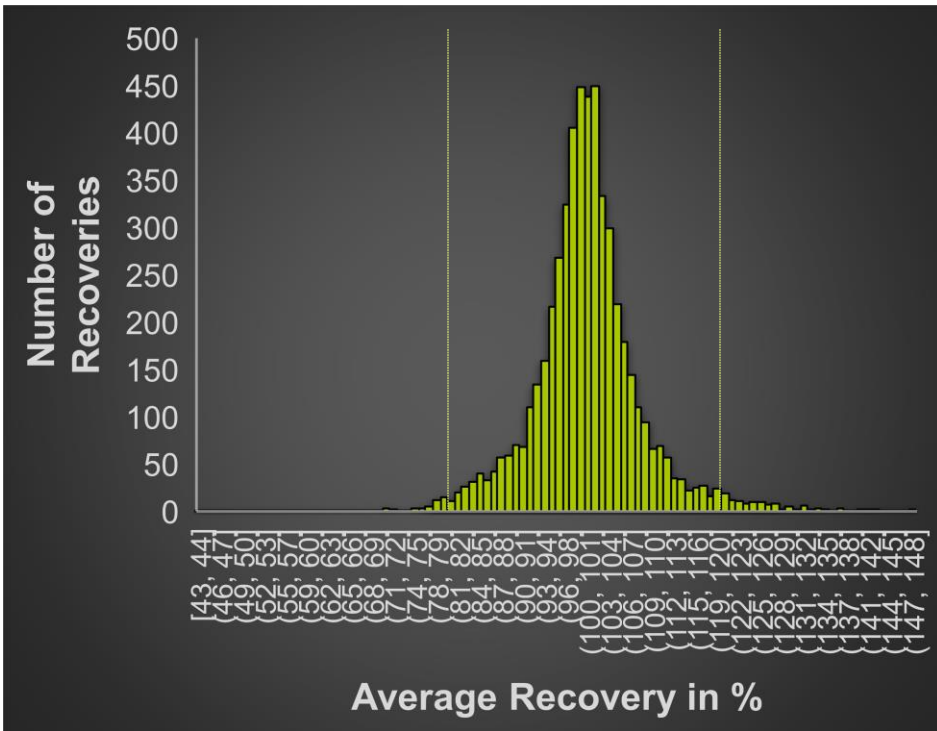
Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Preliminary results

Matrix matched + IL-IS

Distribution of average recoveries

Distribution of RSDs

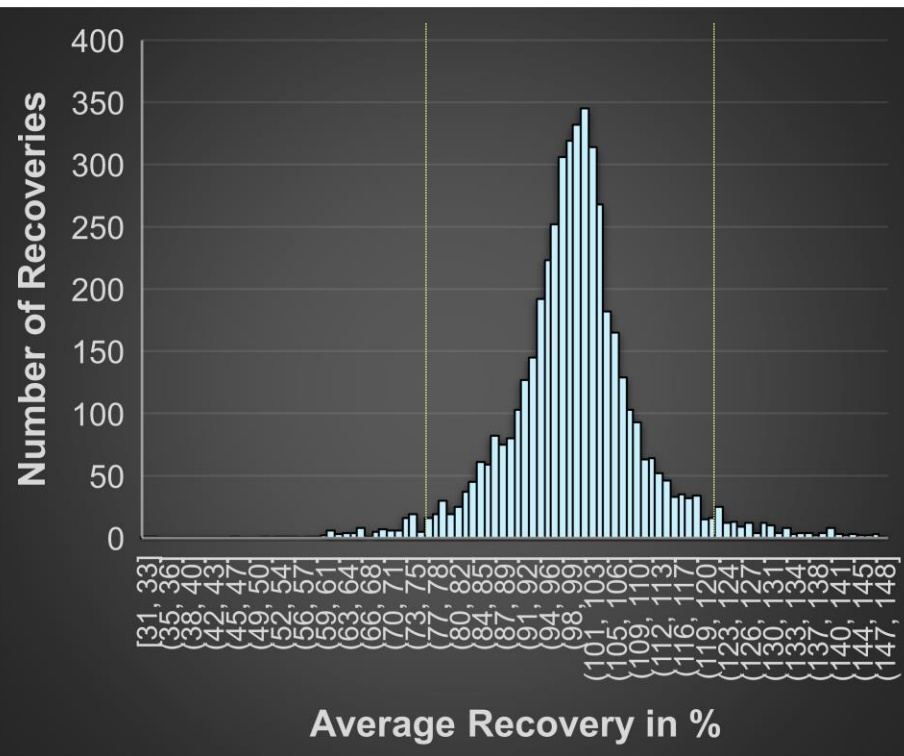


Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

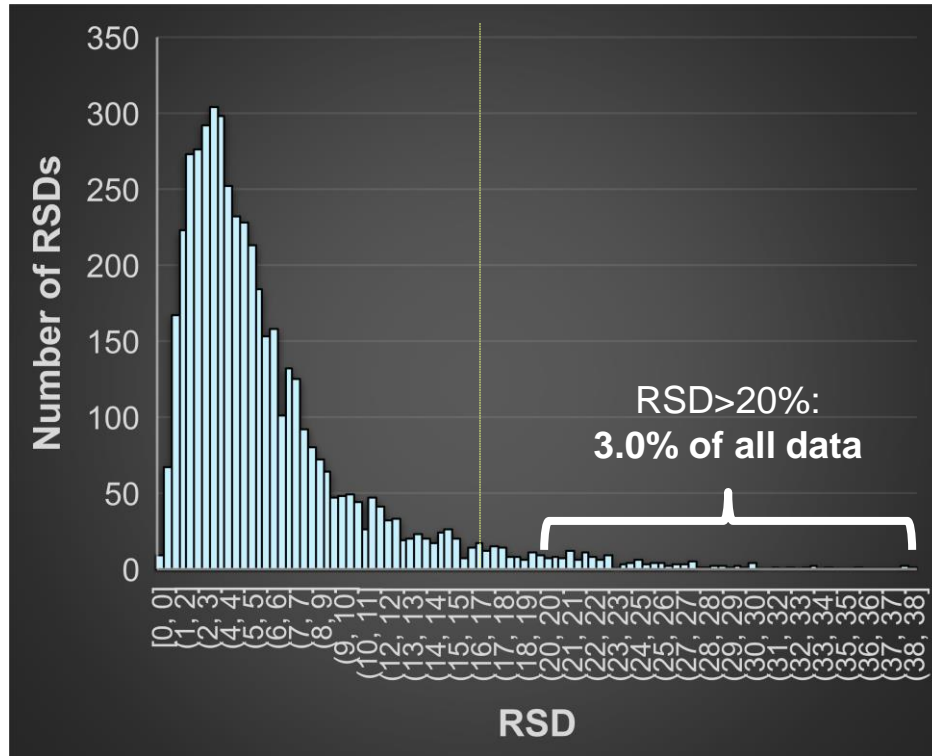
Preliminary results

Calibration on cucumber extract + IL-IS

Distribution of average recoveries



Distribution of RSDs



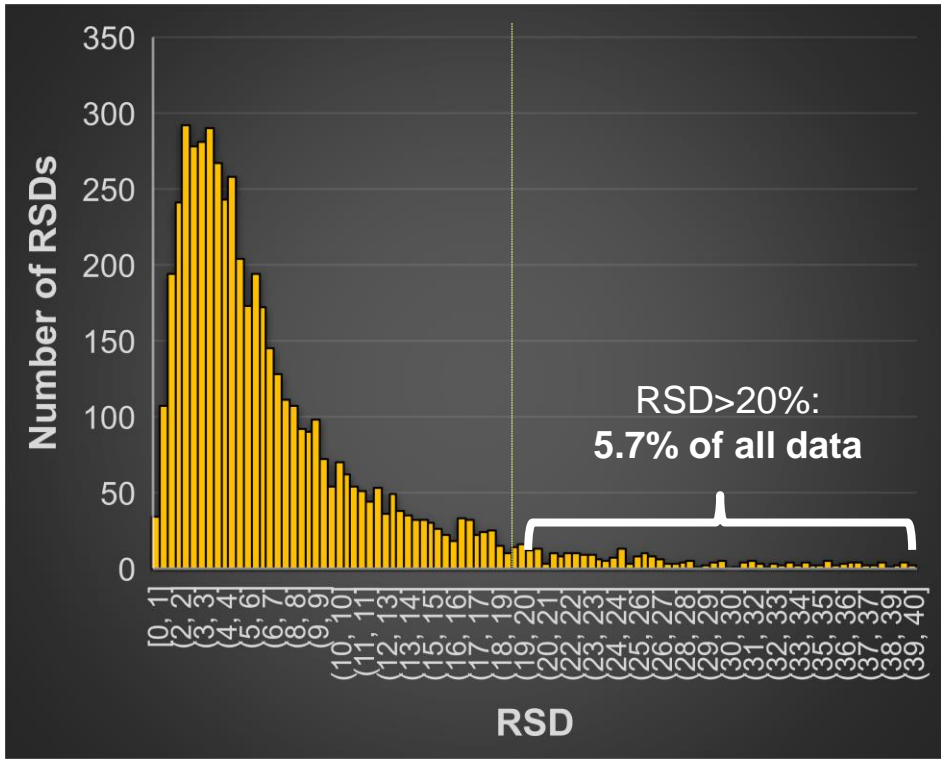
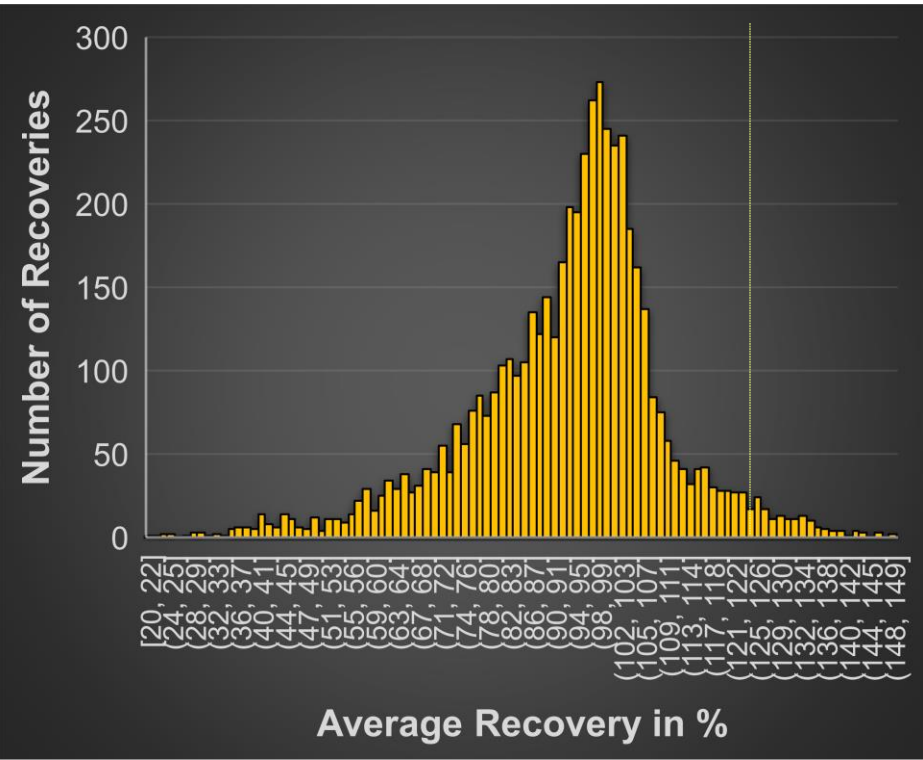
Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides

Preliminary results

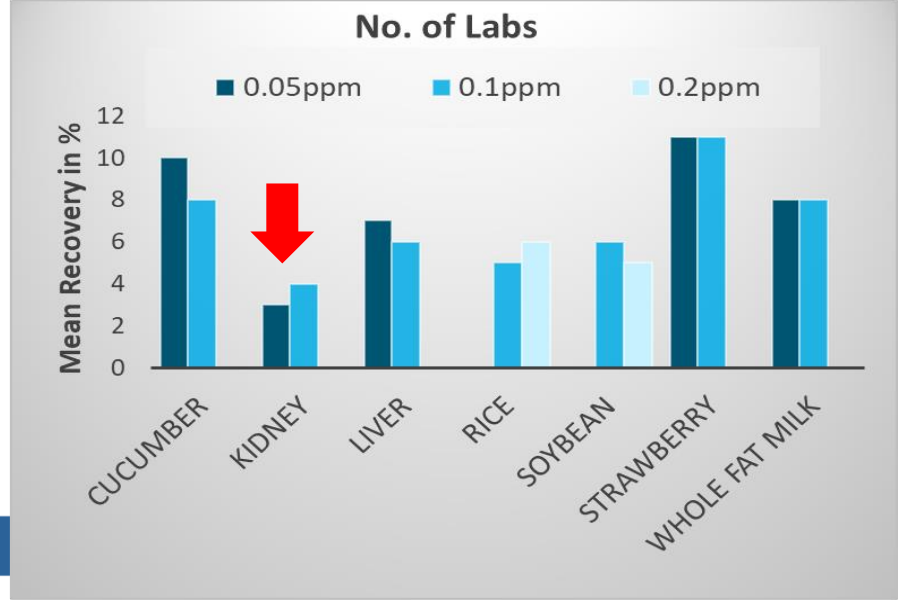
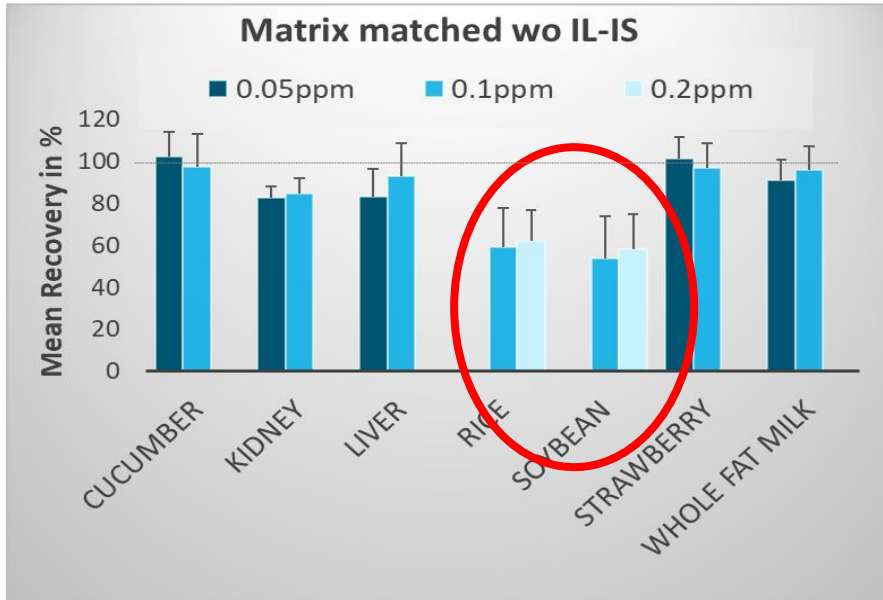
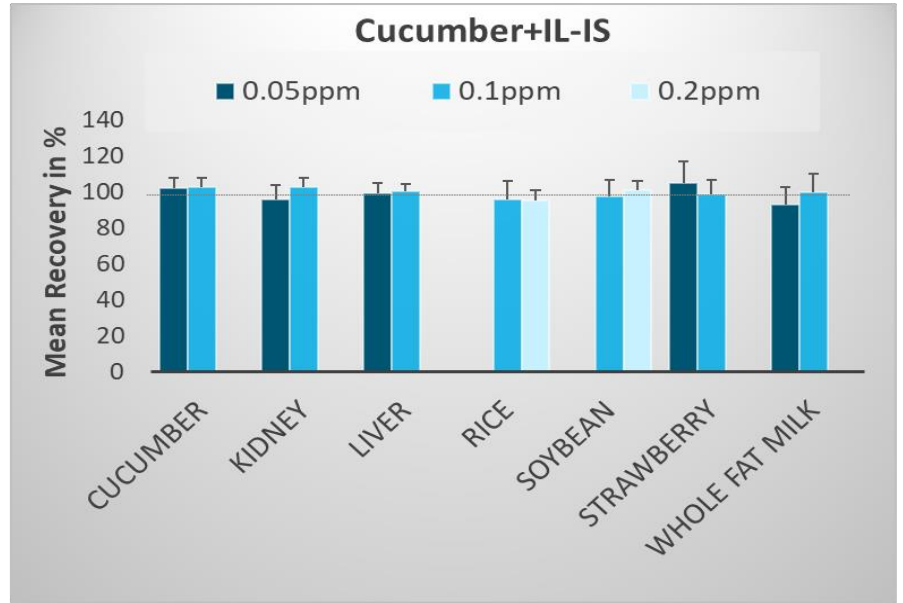
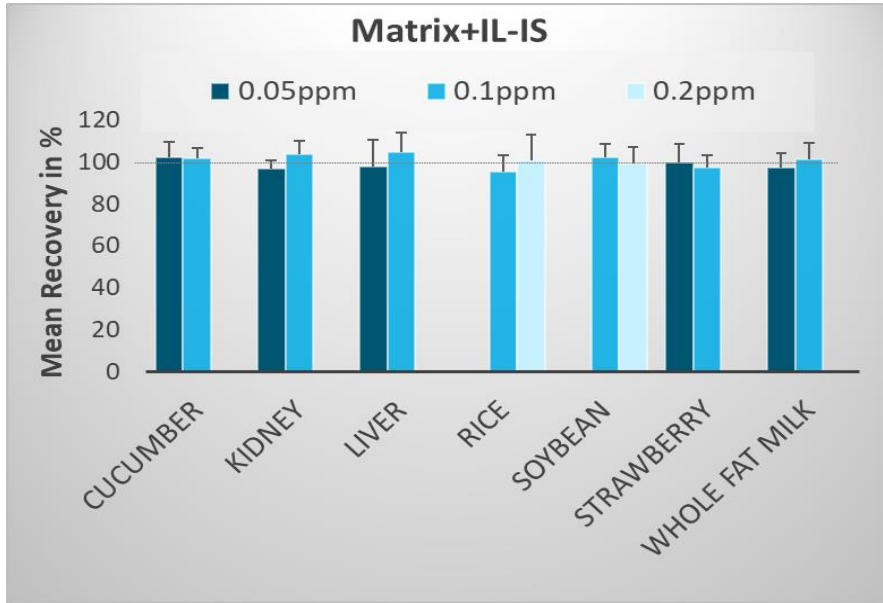
Matrix matched wo IL-IS

Distribution of average recoveries

Distribution of RSDs

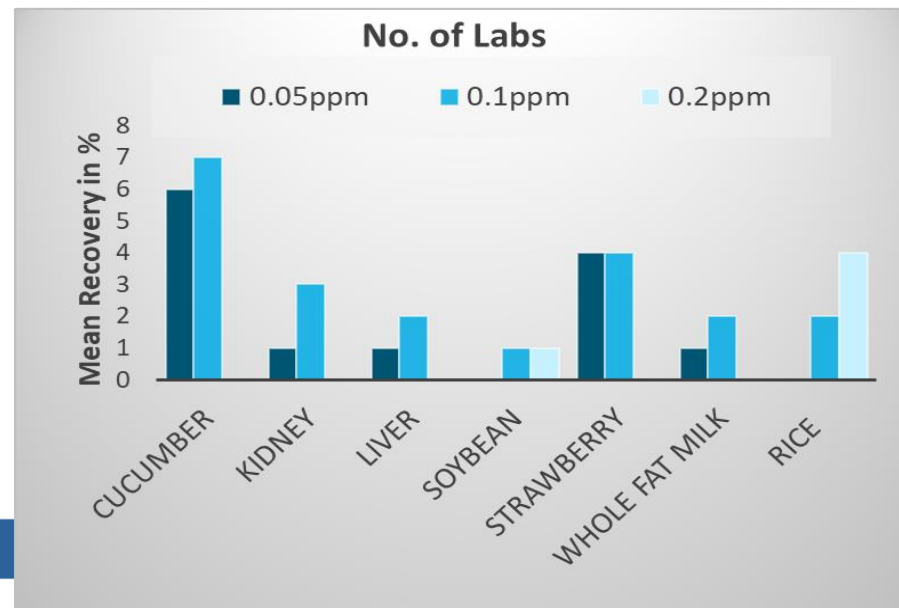
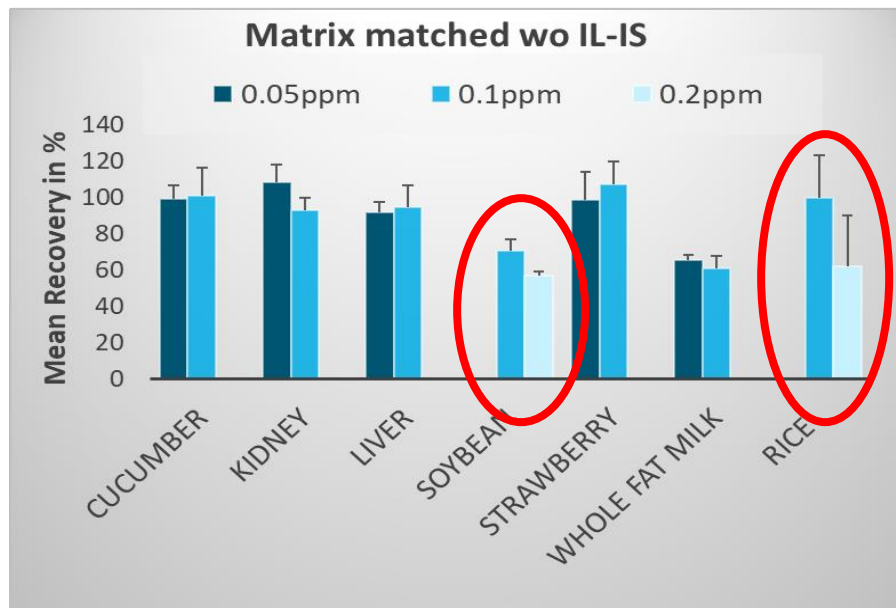
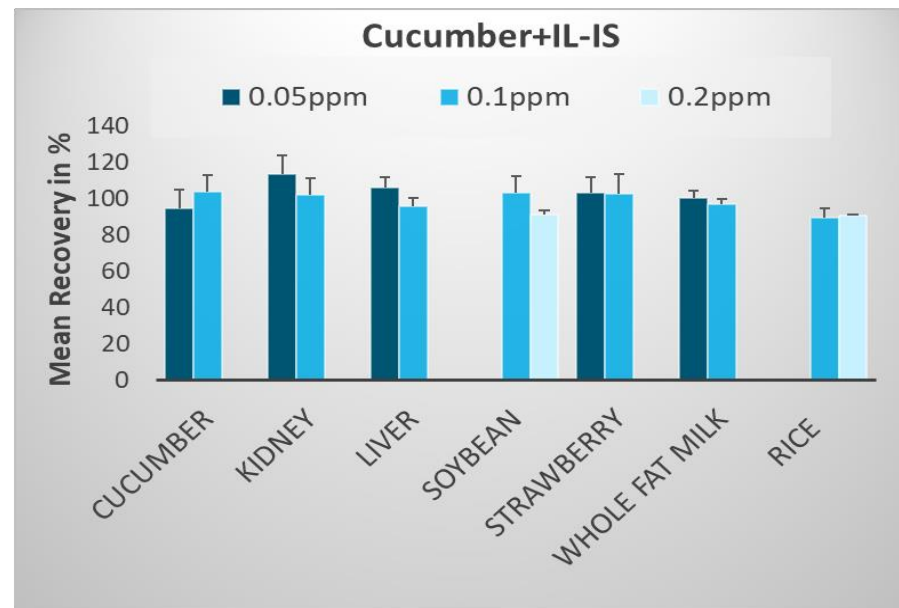
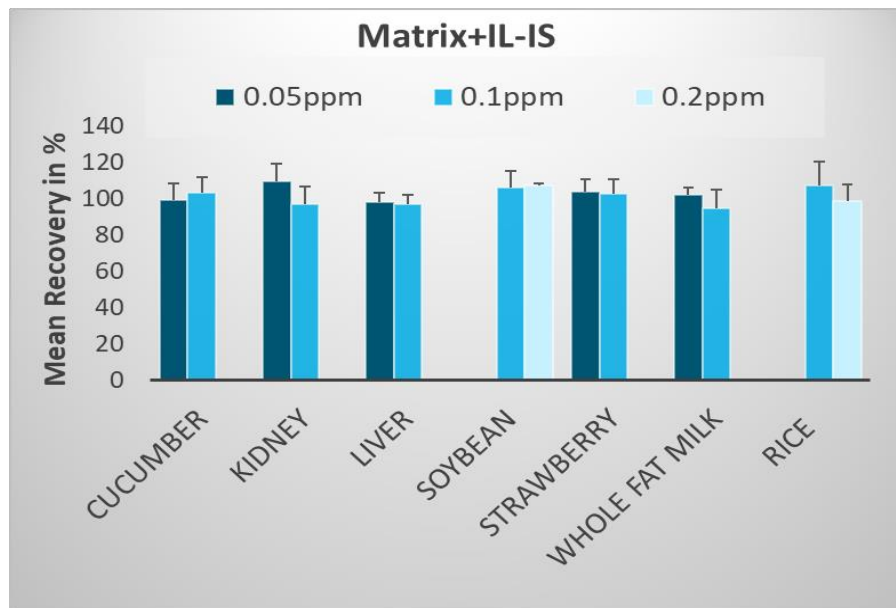


Preliminary results AMPA - HILIC LOW and MED Level



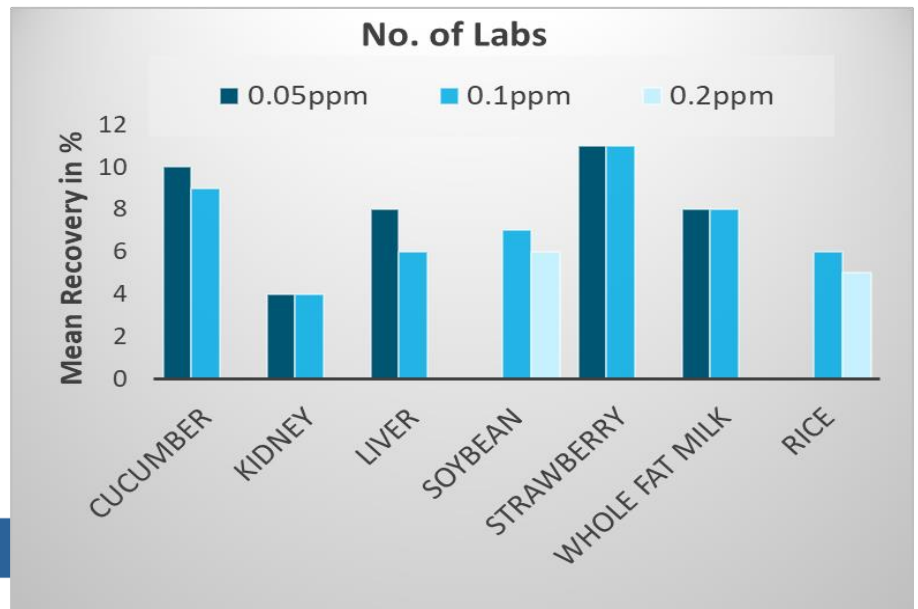
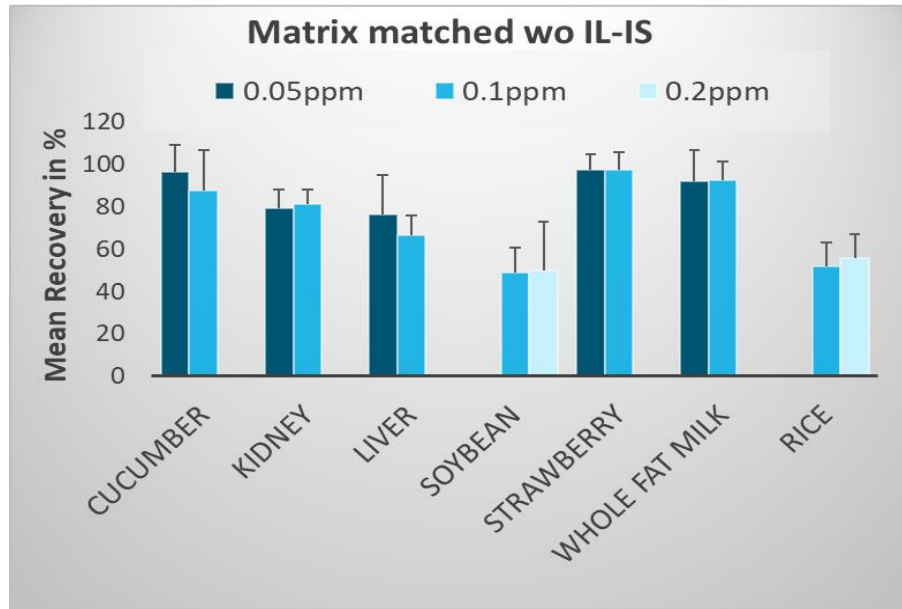
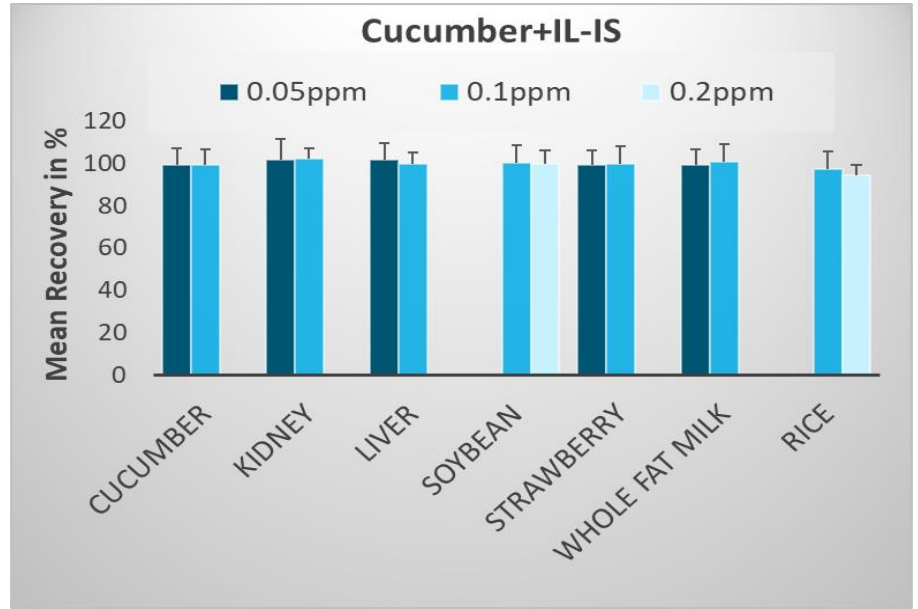
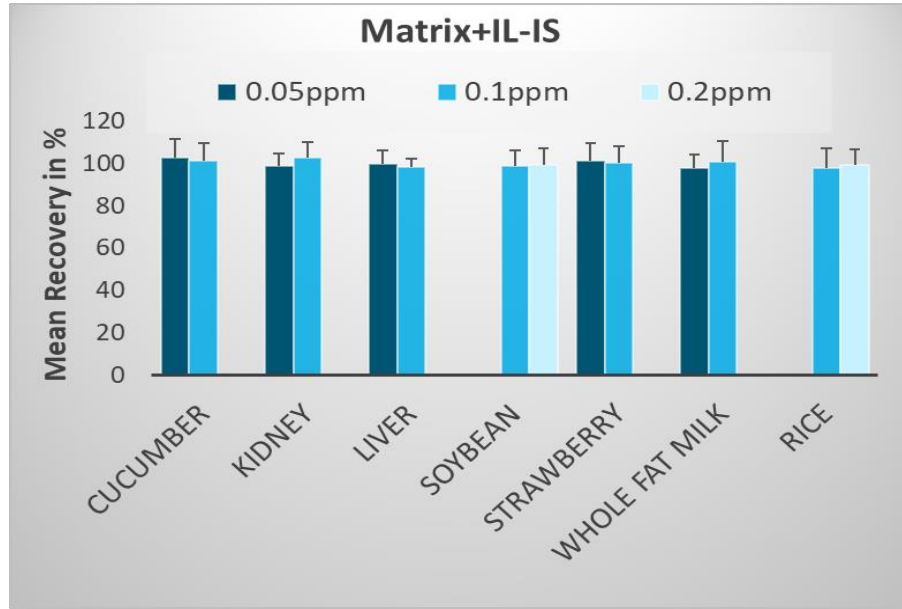
Preliminary results AMPA - PGC

LOW and MED Level



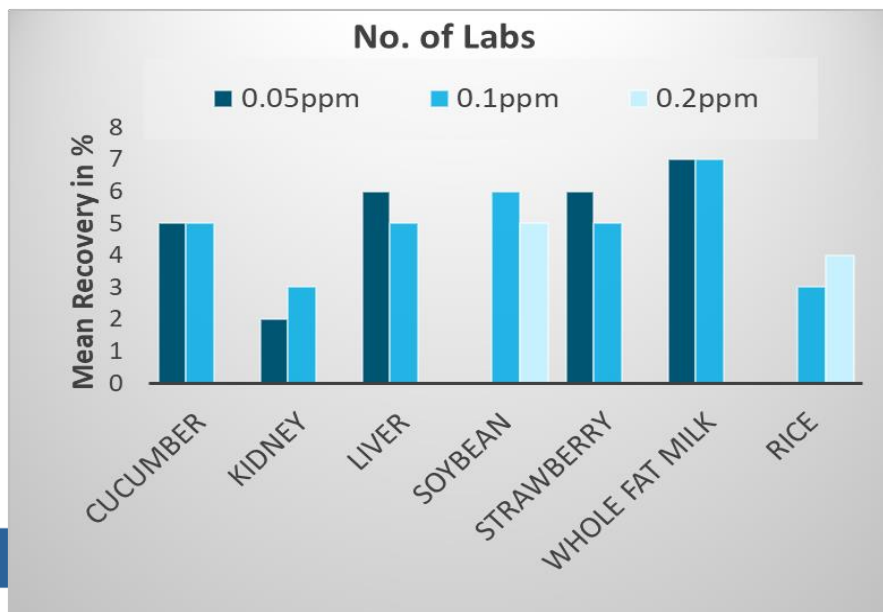
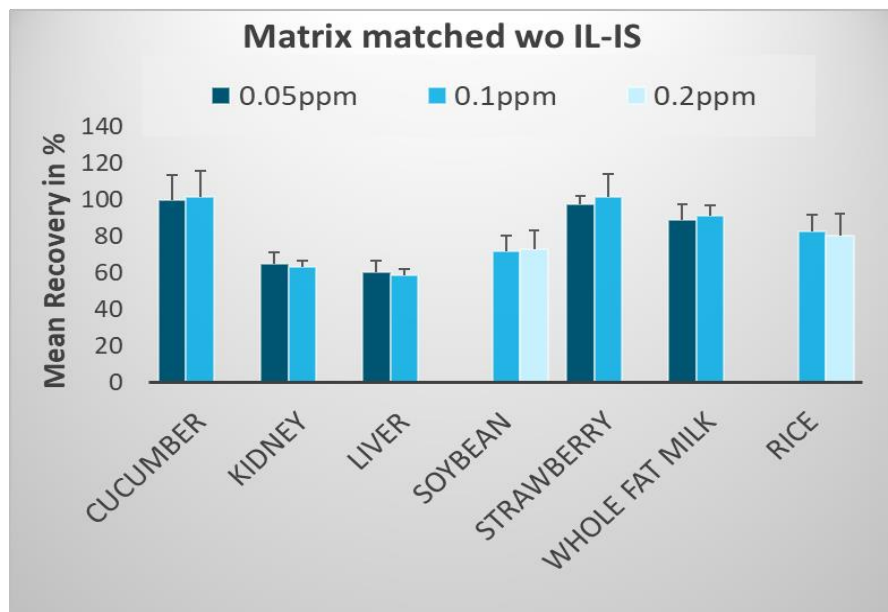
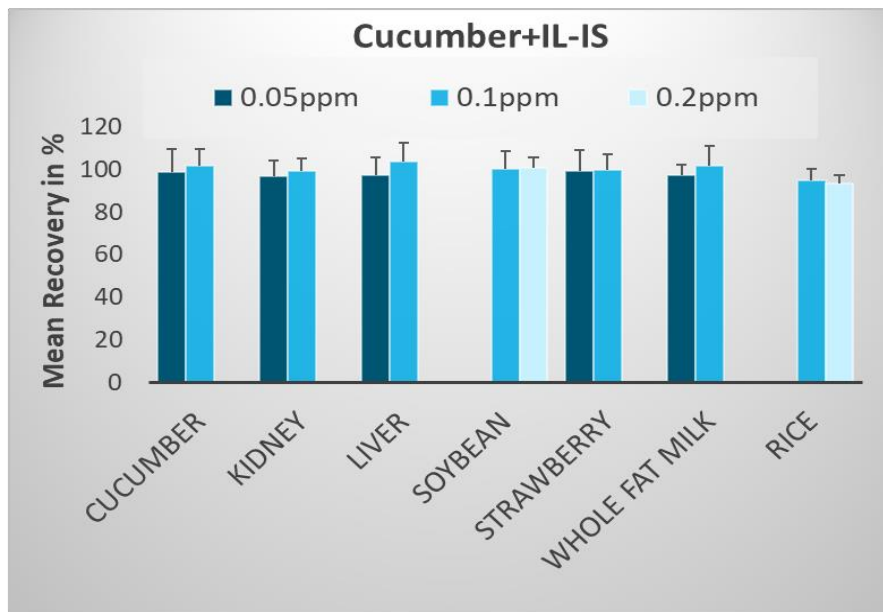
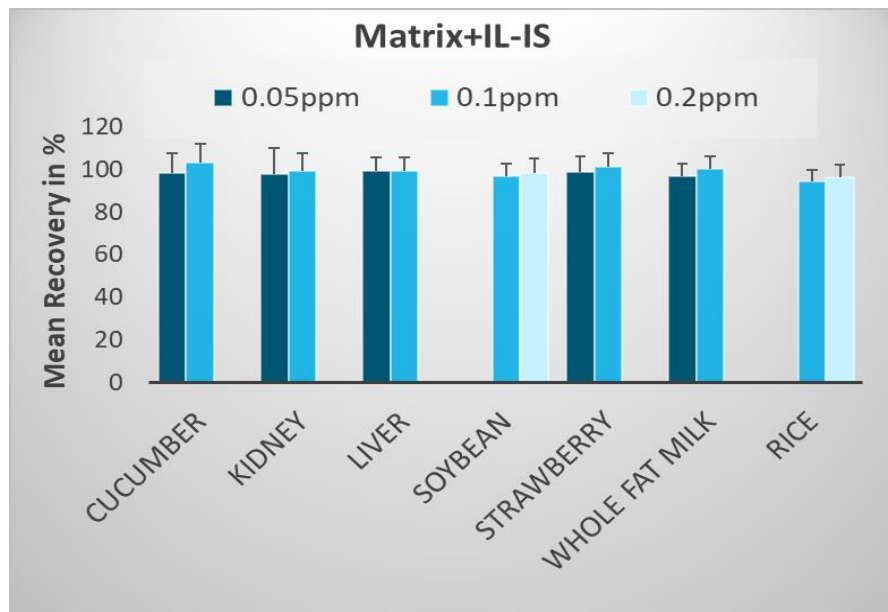
Preliminary results Glyphosate HILIC

LOW and MED Level



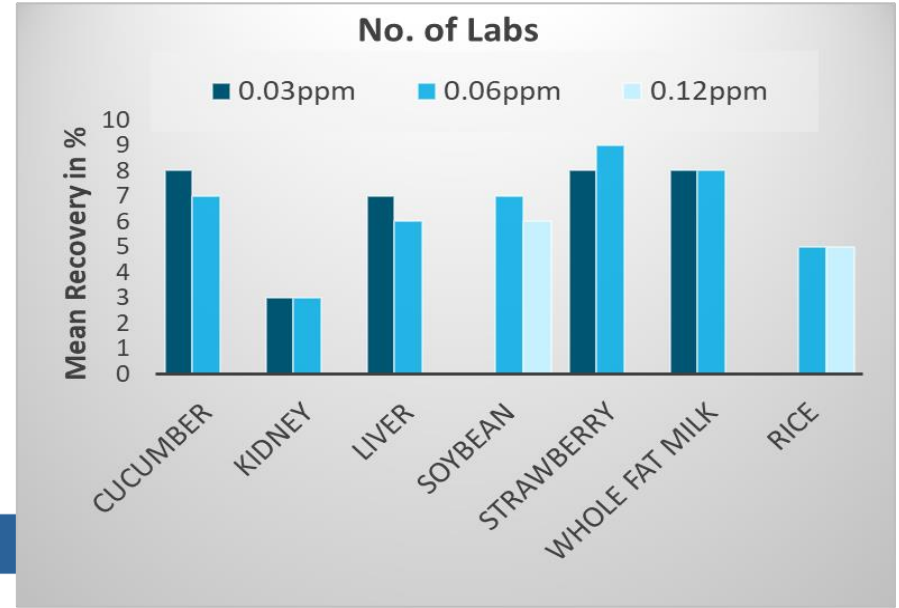
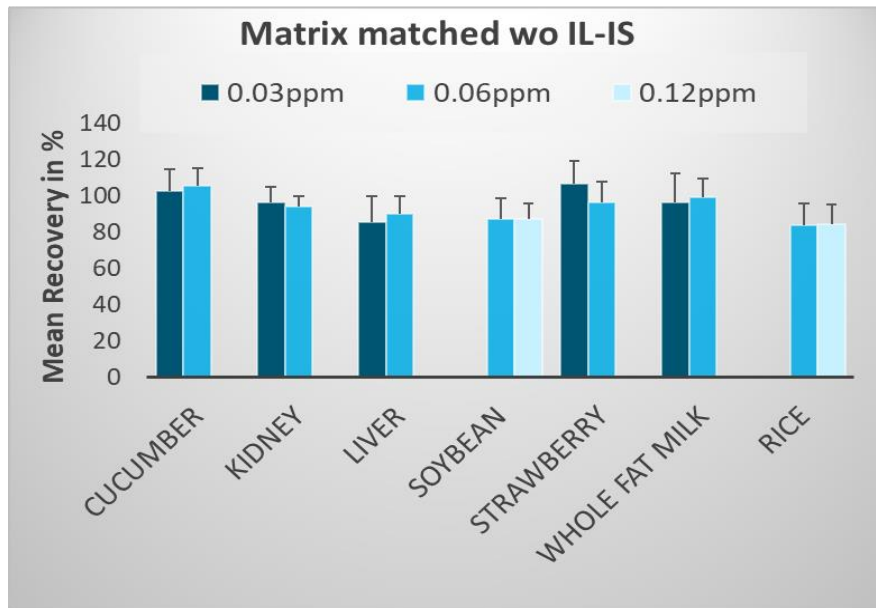
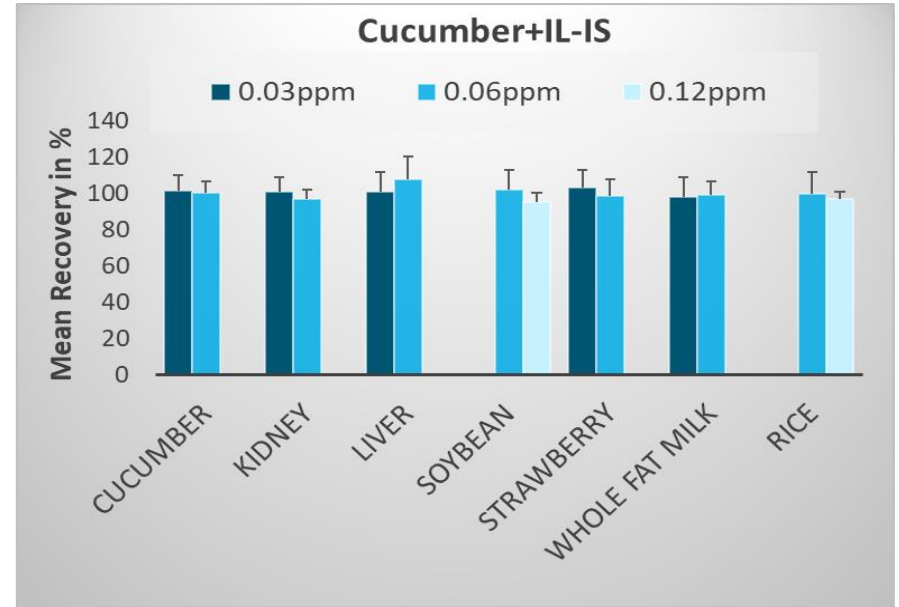
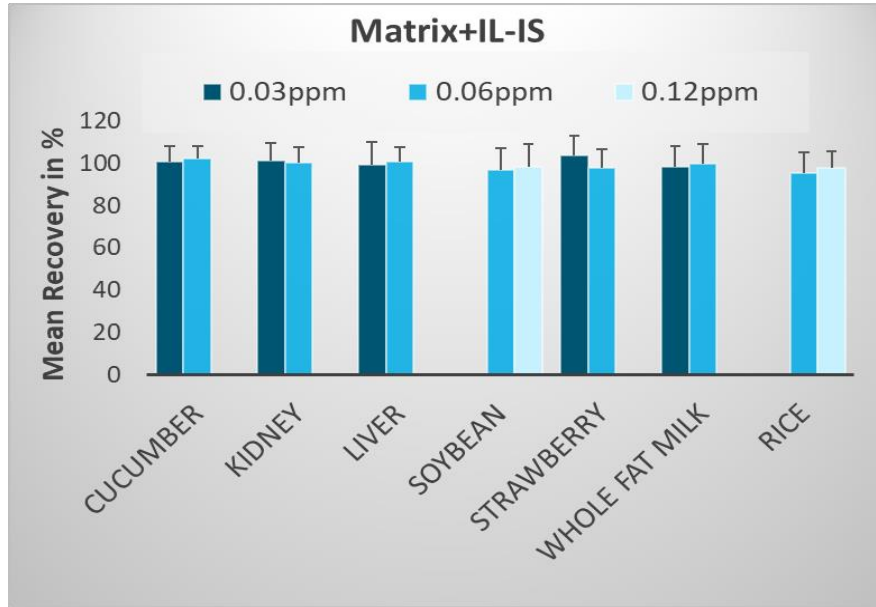
Preliminary results N-Acetyl-Glyphosate HILIC

LOW and MED Level



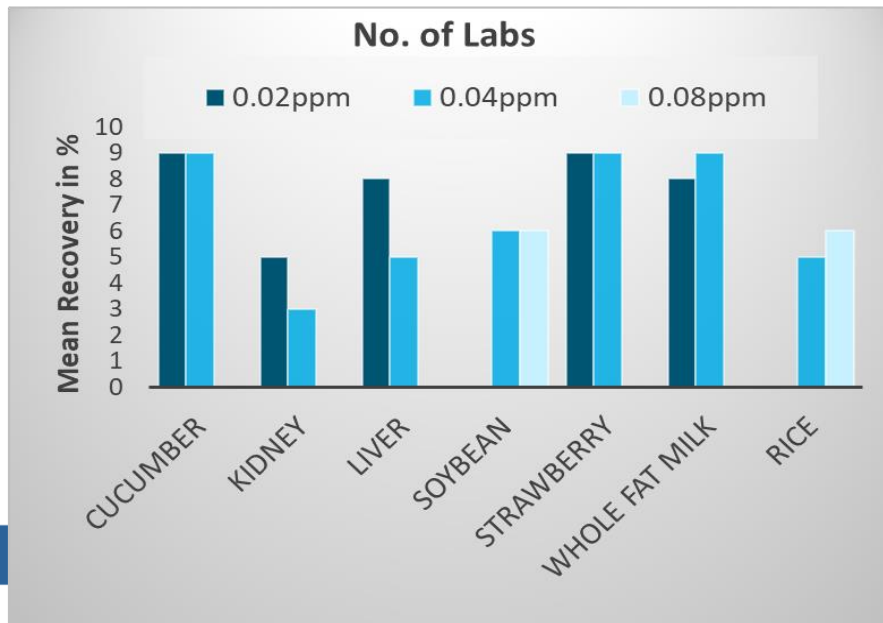
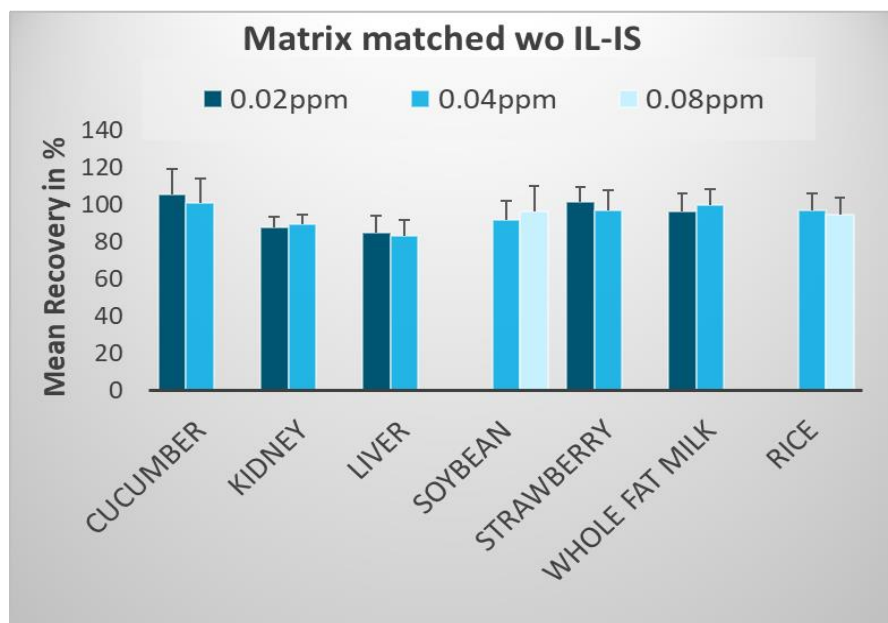
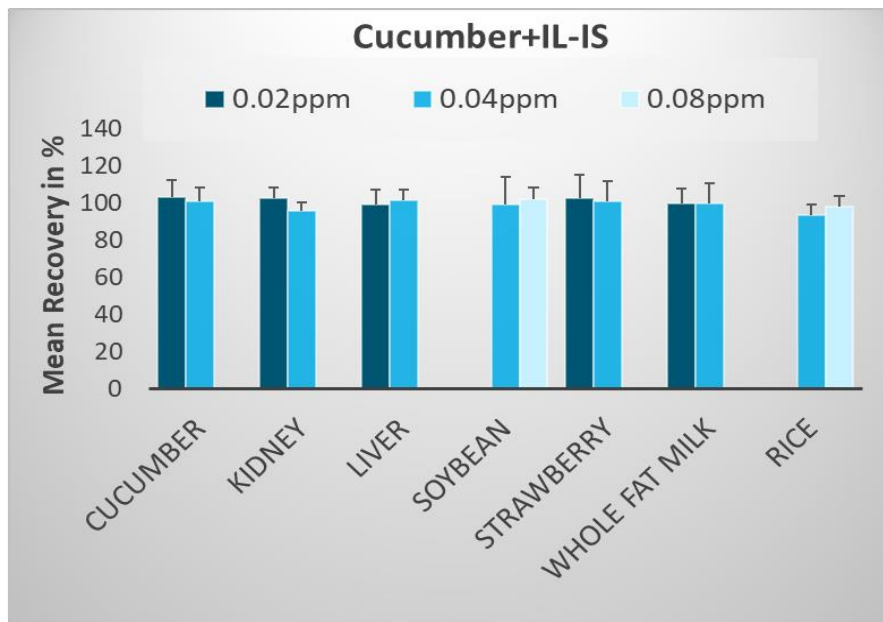
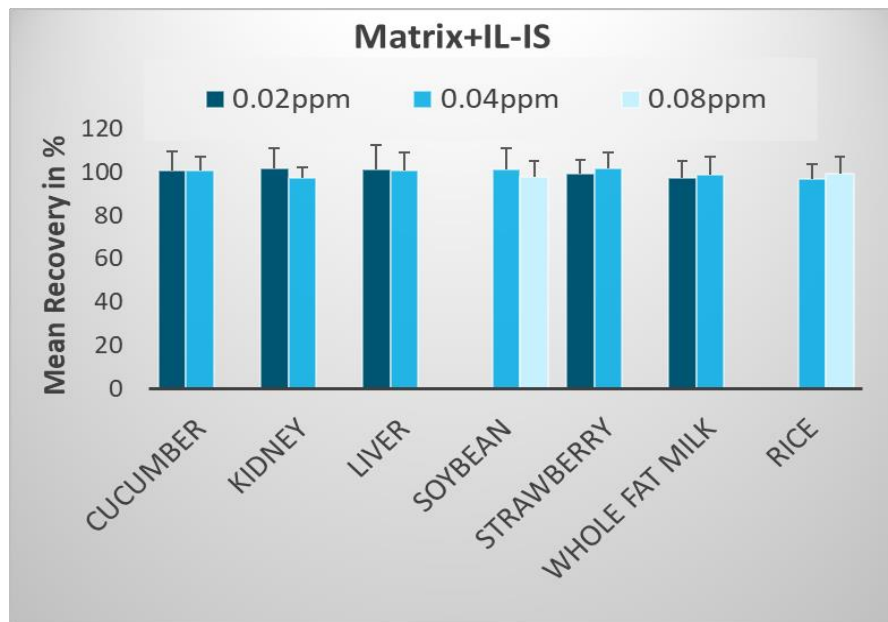
Preliminary results Glufosinate HILIC

LOW and MED Level



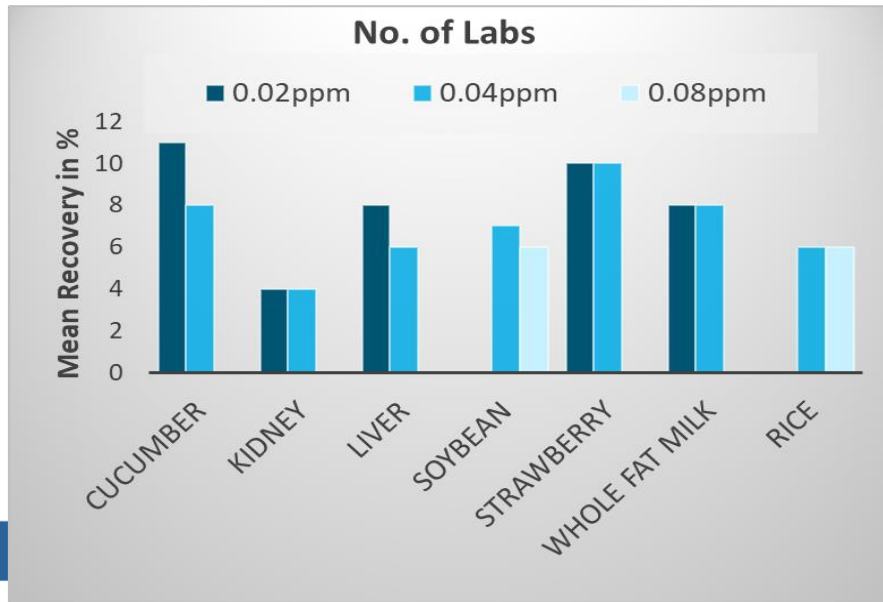
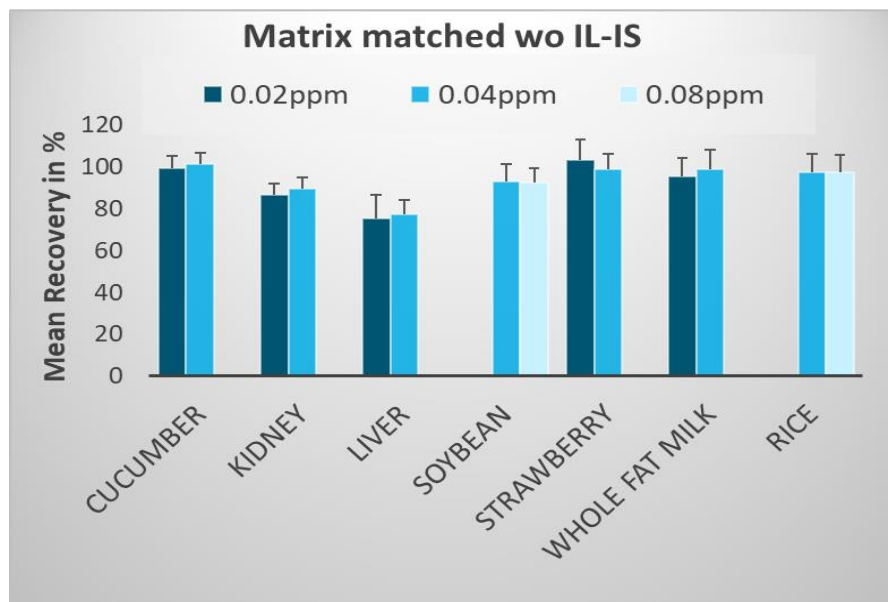
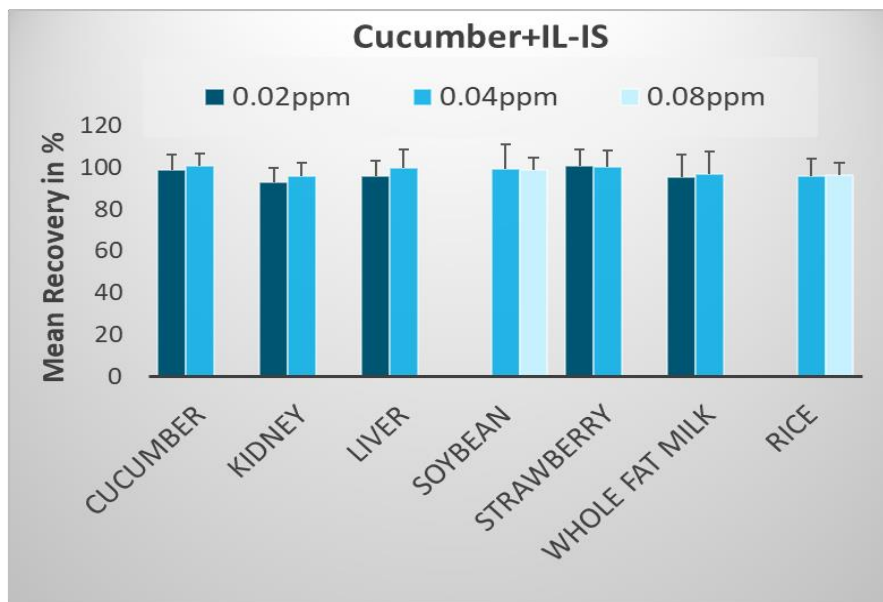
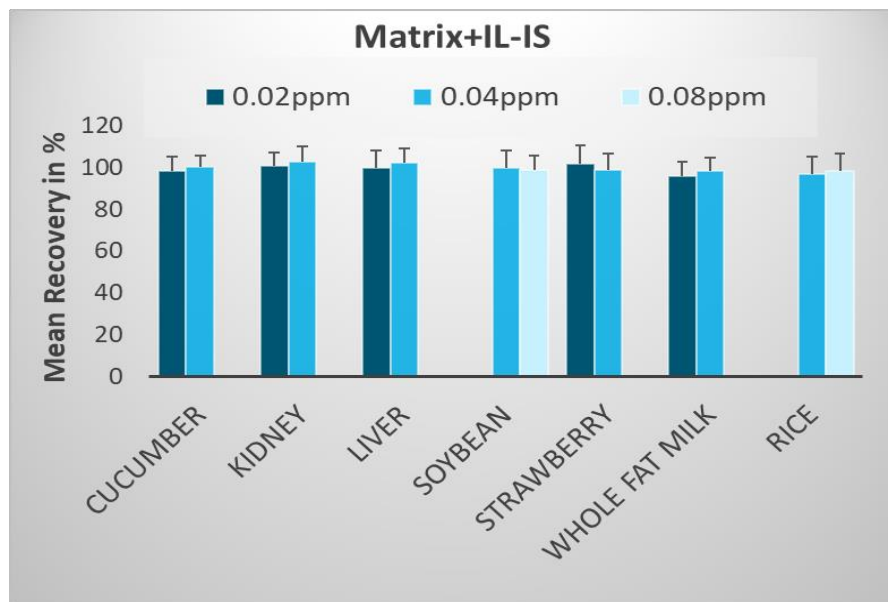
Preliminary results MPPA HILIC

LOW and MED Level



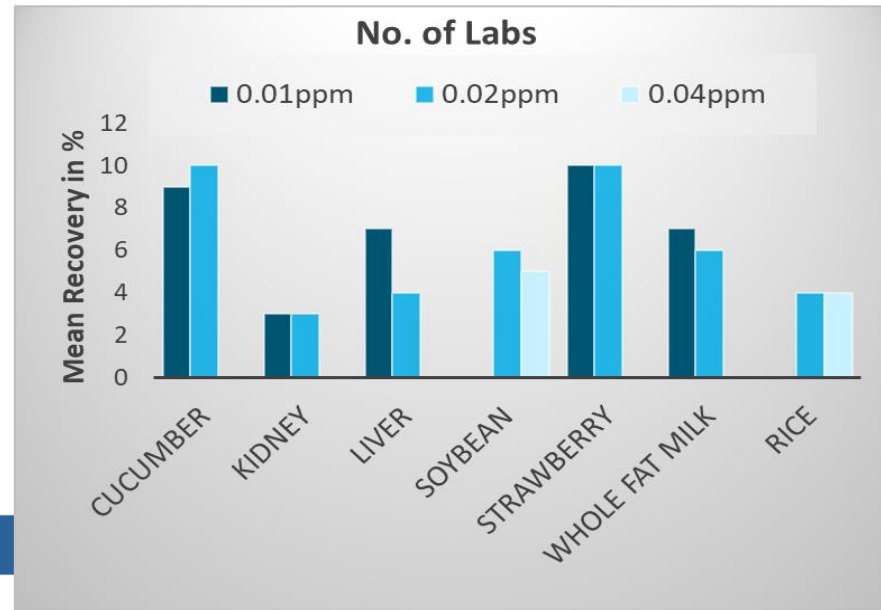
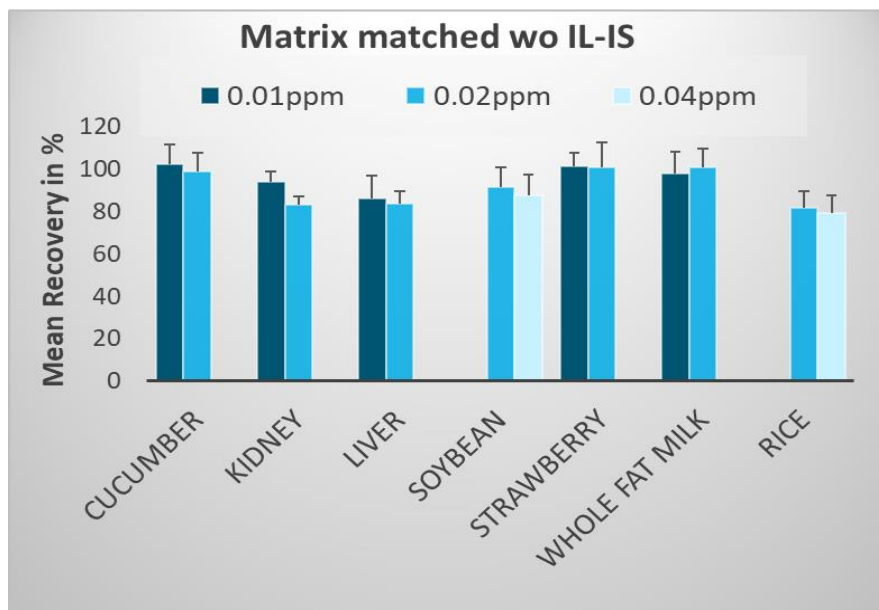
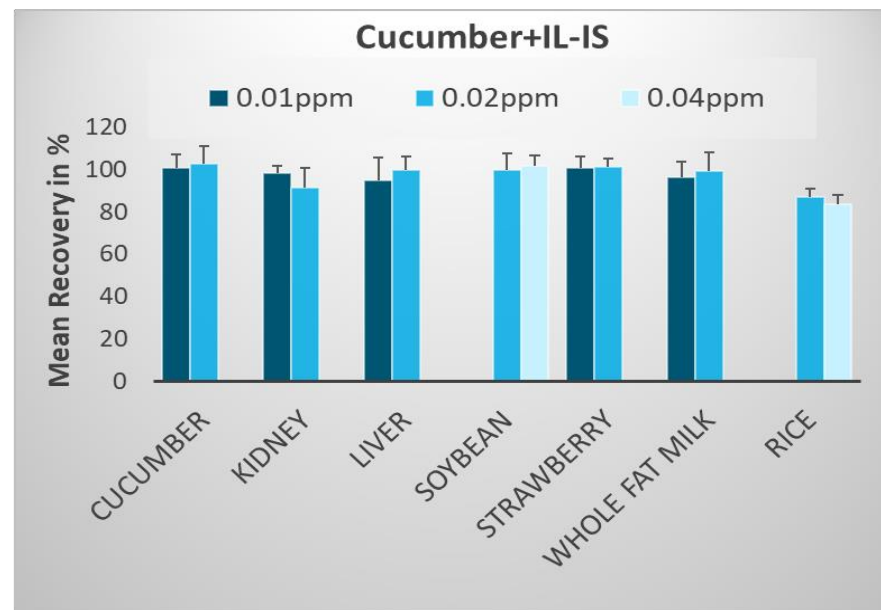
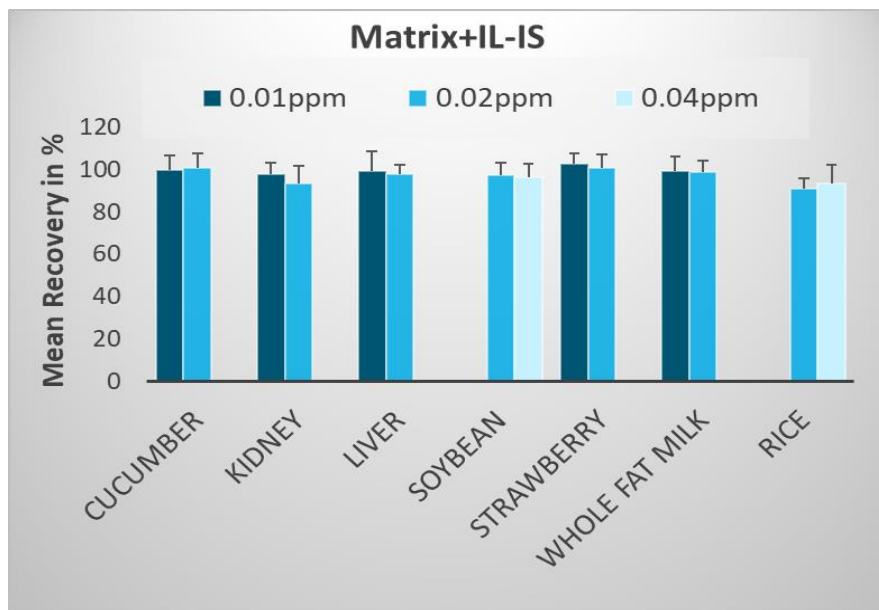
Preliminary results N-Acetyl-Glufosinate HILIC

LOW and MED Level



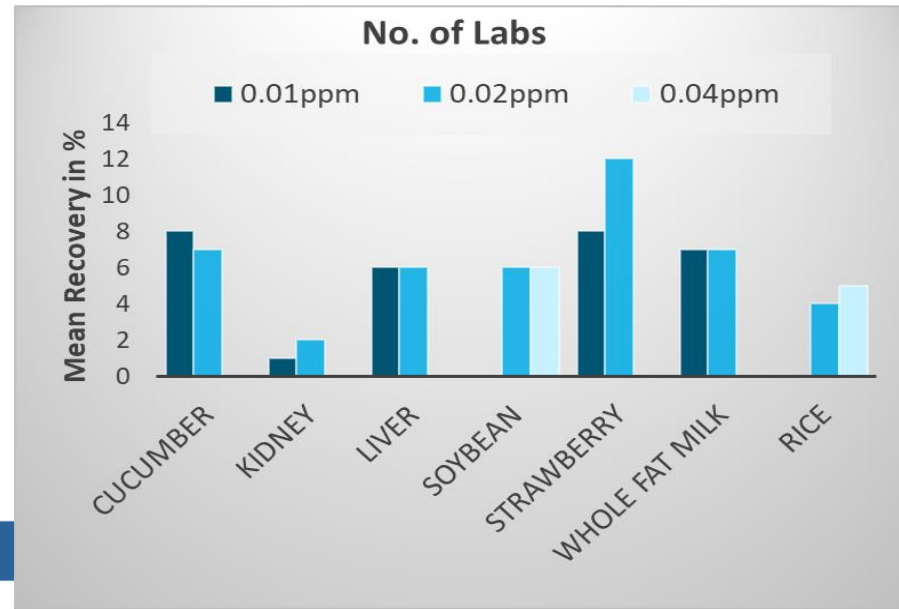
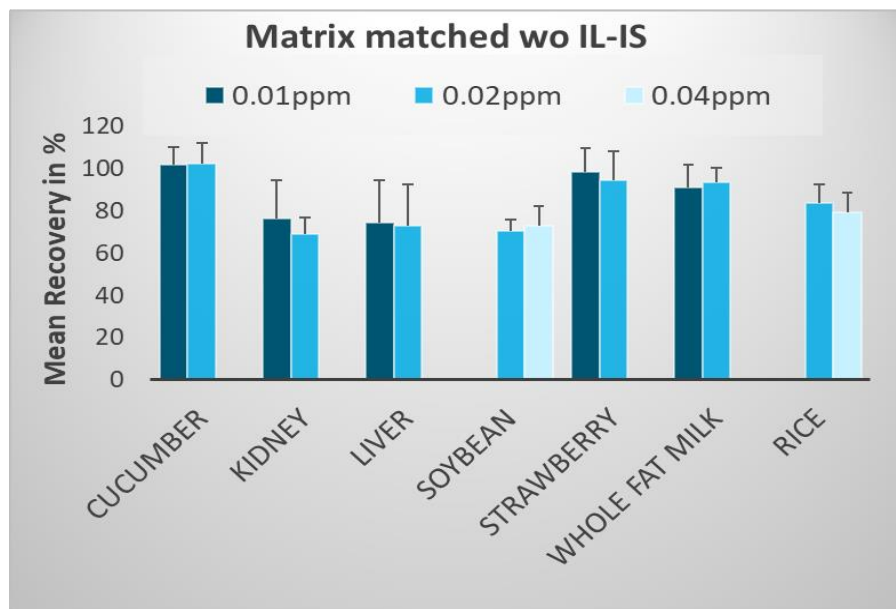
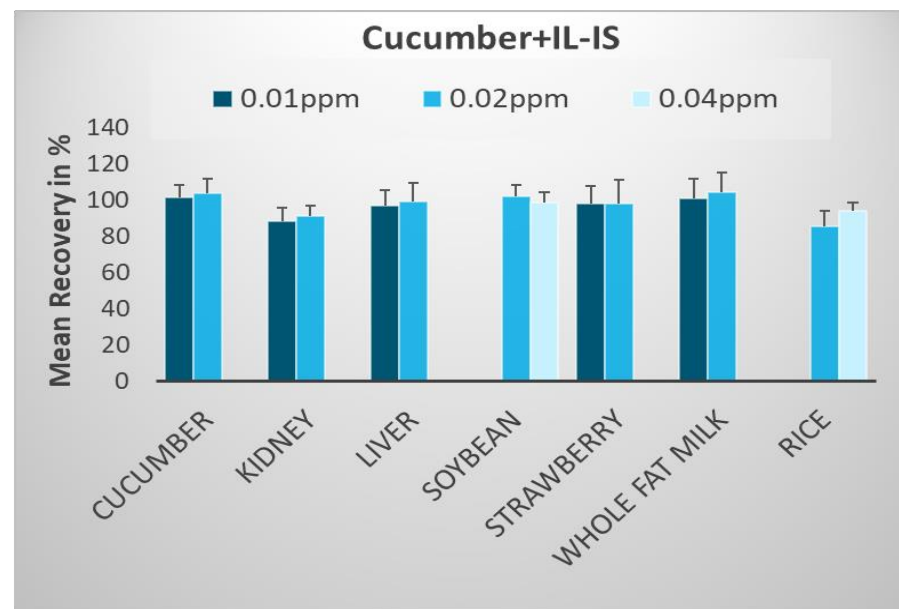
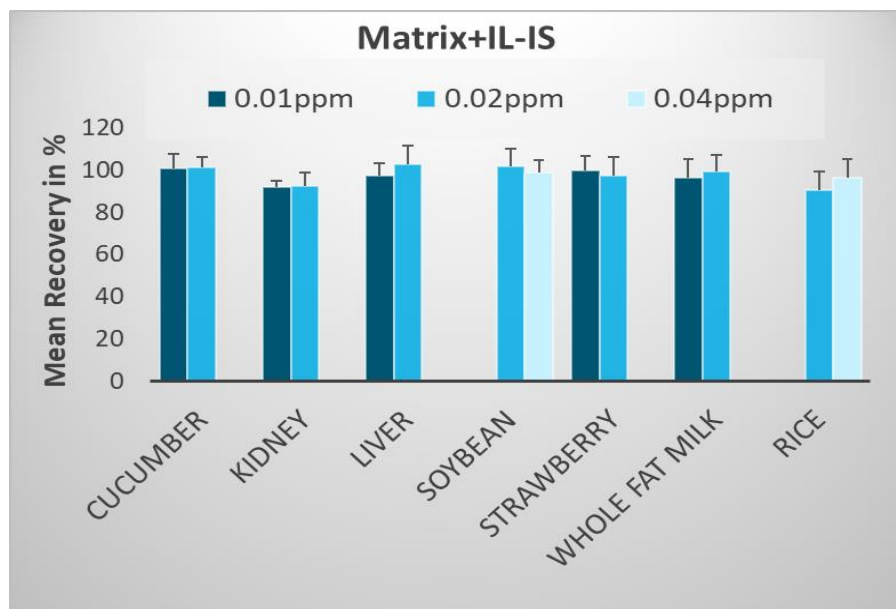
Preliminary results Fosetyl-AI HILIC

LOW and MED Level



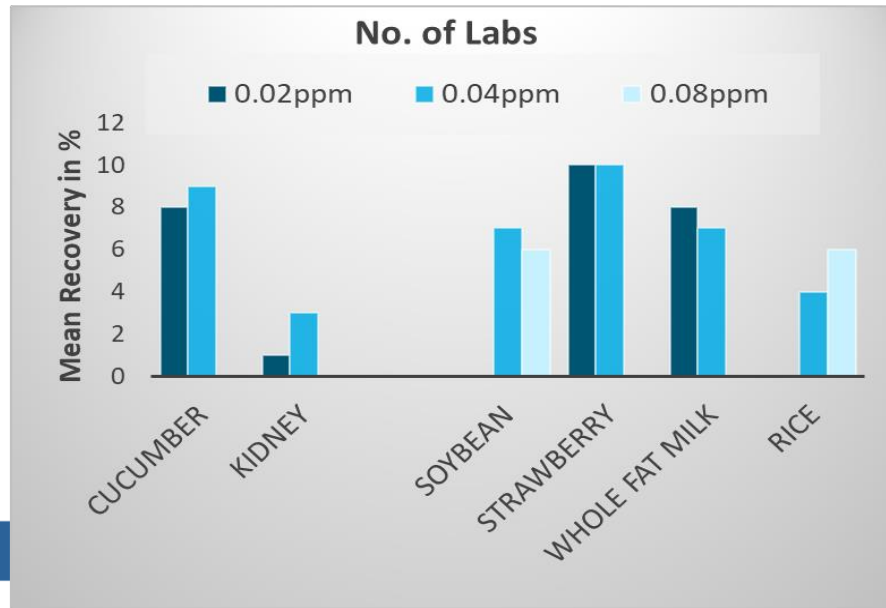
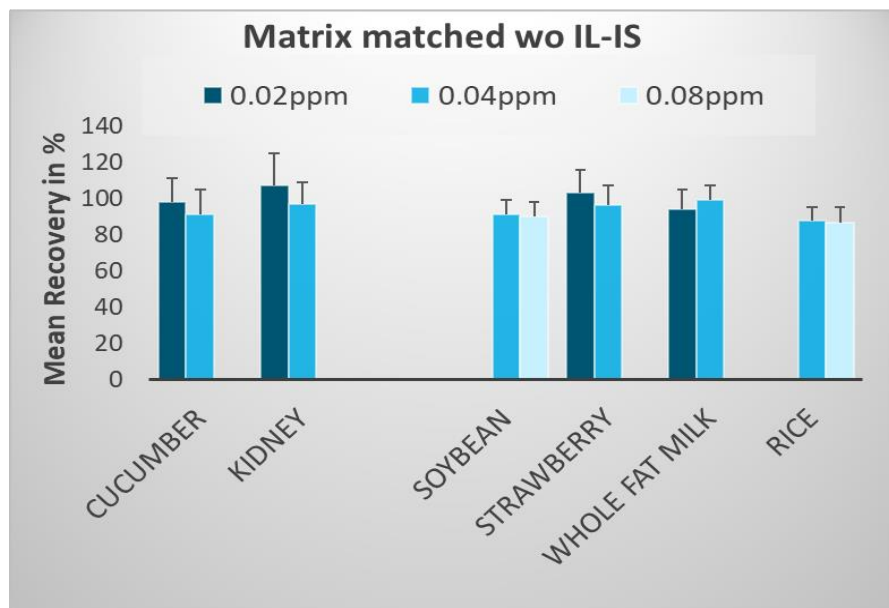
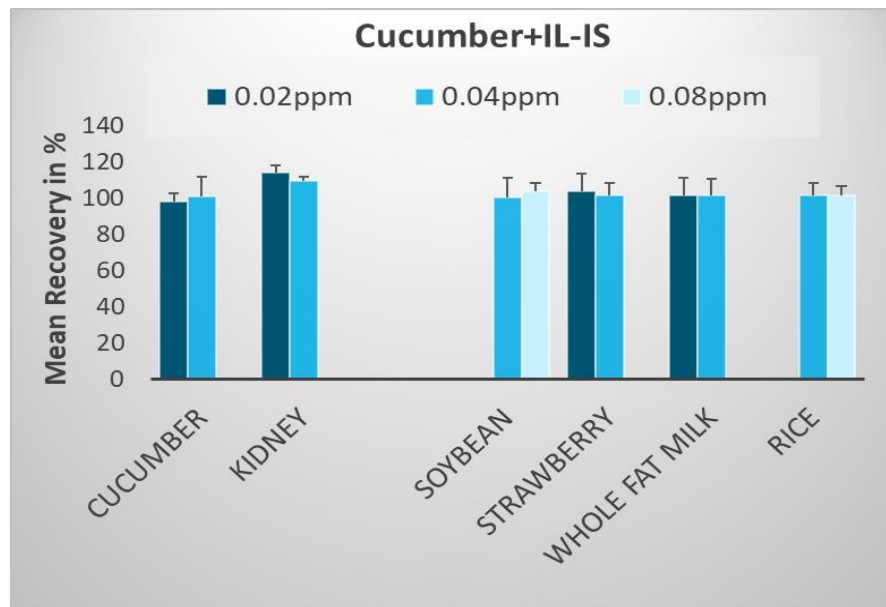
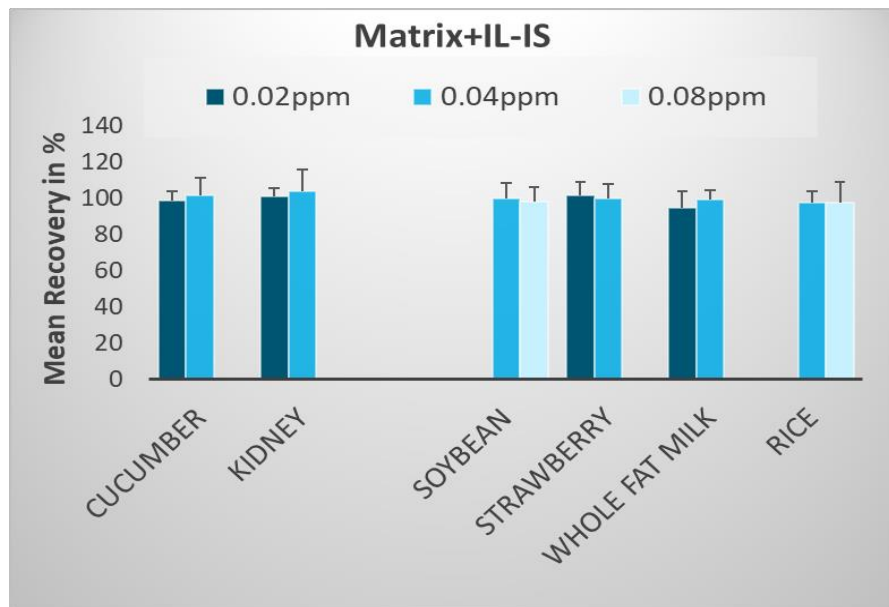
Preliminary results Ethephon HILIC

LOW and MED Level

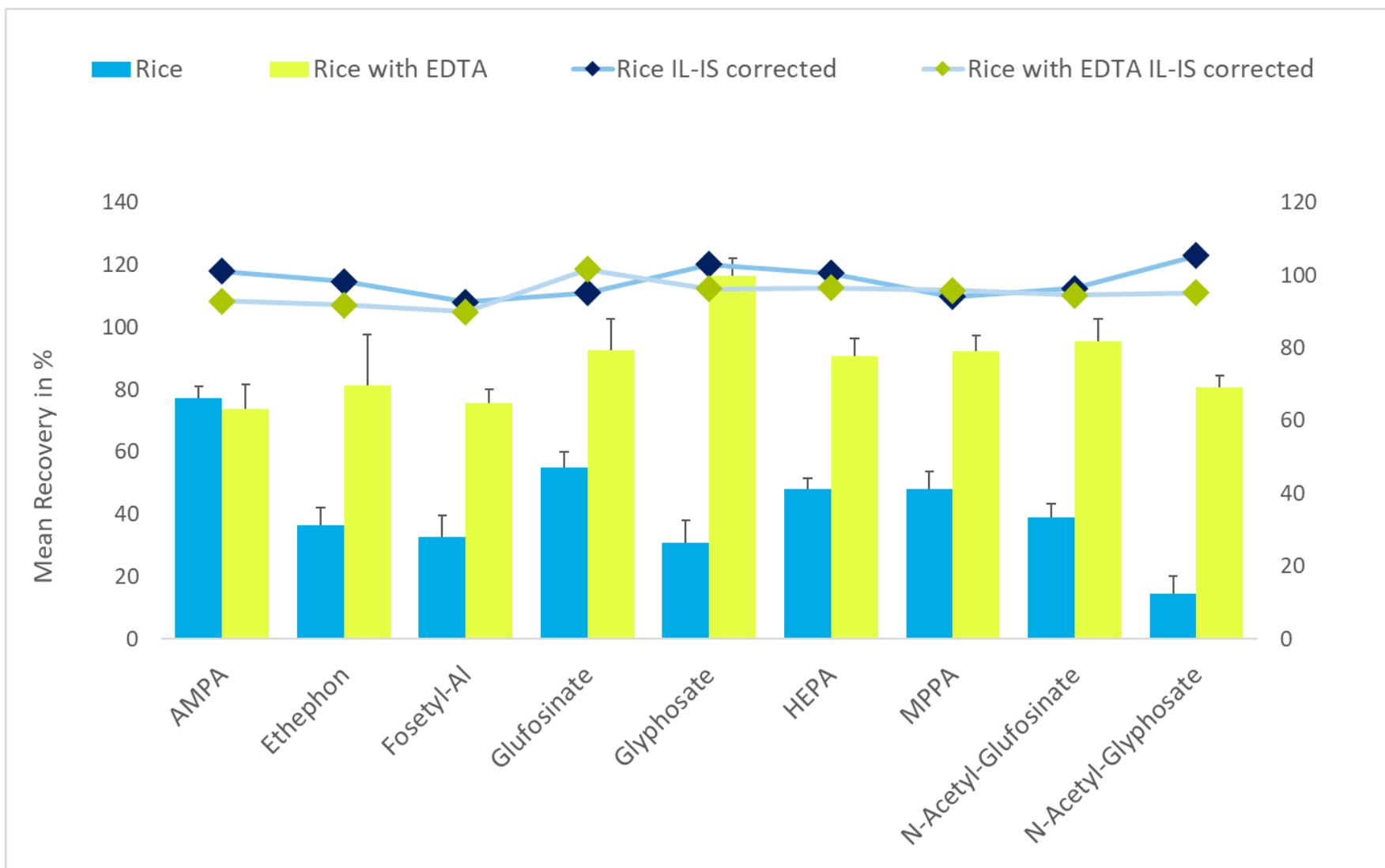


Preliminary results HEPA HILIC

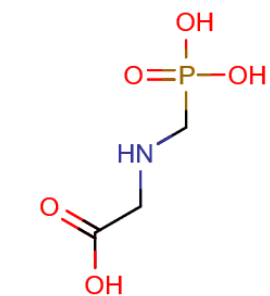
LOW and MED Level



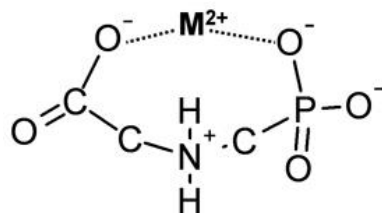
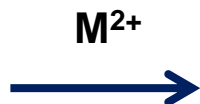
Recovery rates Rice with and without using EDTA – EURL-SRM



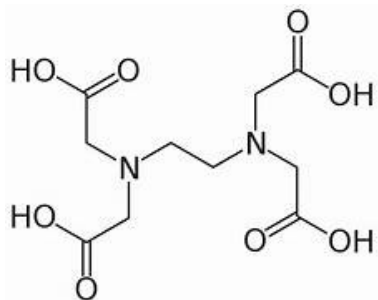
QuPPE Method – Cereals, Pulses, Nuts and Oily Seeds



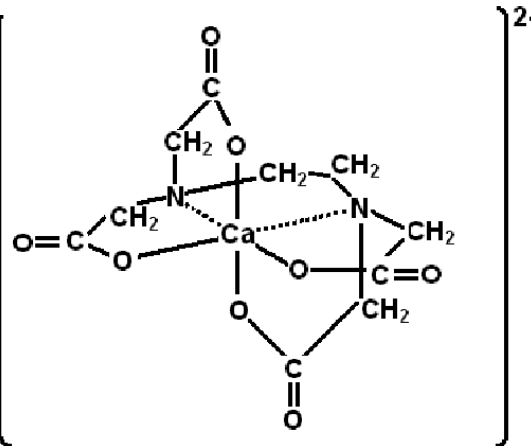
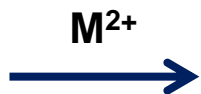
Glyphosate



Metal ions: e.g.
 Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Fe^{2+} ,
 Cu^{2+} etc.



EDTA



**EDTA - Metal ion
 complex**

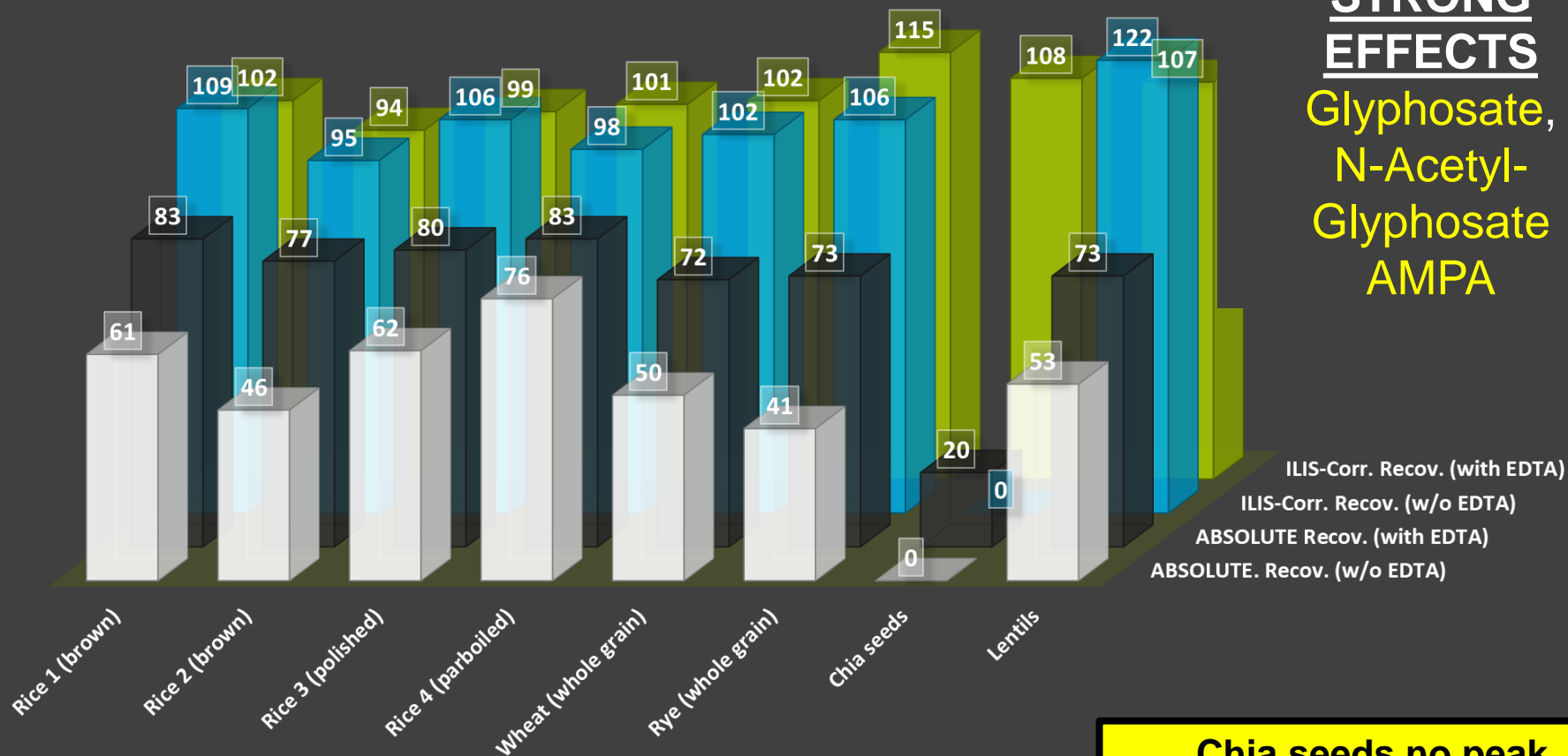
**commodities containing high
 amounts of metal ions:**

- animal origin
- pulses
- oily seeds
- nuts
- **cereals!**



QuPPE Method – Cereals, Pulses, Nuts and Oily Seeds

IMPACT OF EDTA ON RECOVERY RATES OF AMPA



STRONG EFFECTS
 Glyphosate,
 N-Acetyl-
 Glyphosate
 AMPA

ILIS-Corr. Recov. (with EDTA)
 ILIS-Corr. Recov. (w/o EDTA)
 ABSOLUTE Recov. (with EDTA)
 ABSOLUTE Recov. (w/o EDTA)

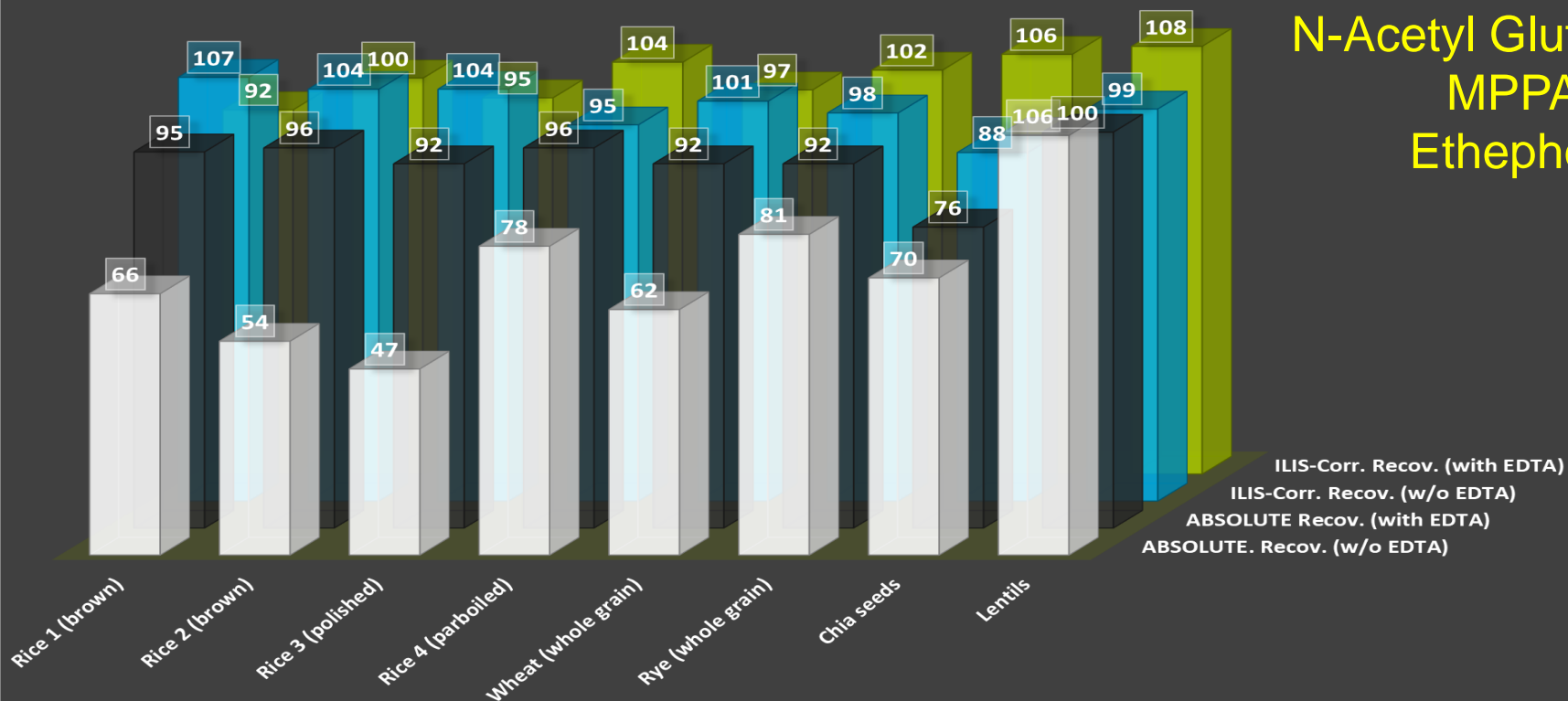
**Chia seeds no peak detected w/o EDTA;
 → No calculation possible**

QuPPE Method – Cereals, Pulses, Nuts and Oily Seeds

IMPACT OF **EDTA** ON RECOVERY RATES OF **MPPA**

INTERMEDIATE EFFECTS

Glufosinate
N-Acetyl Glufosinate
MPPA
Ethephon

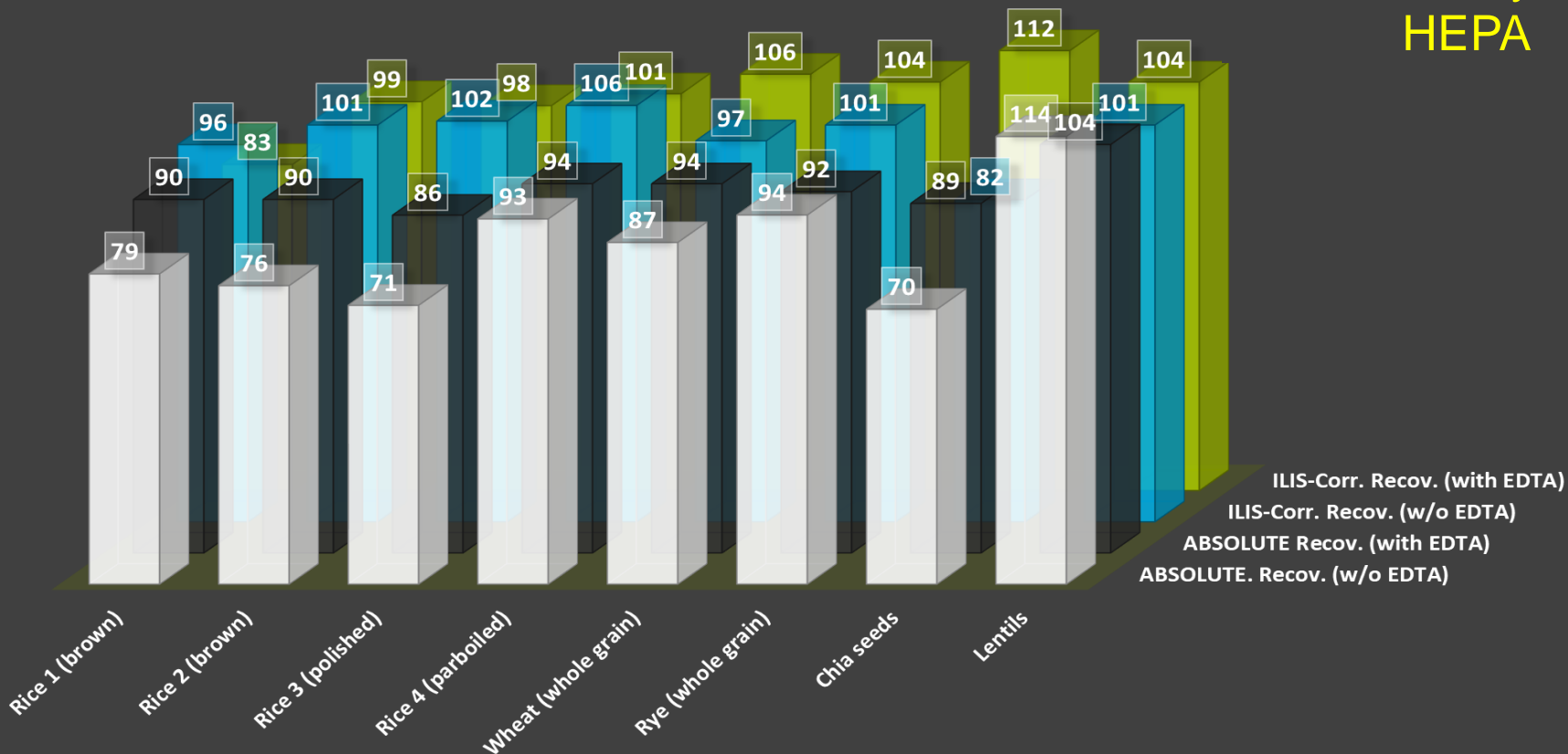


QuPPE Method – Cereals, Pulses, Nuts and Oily Seeds

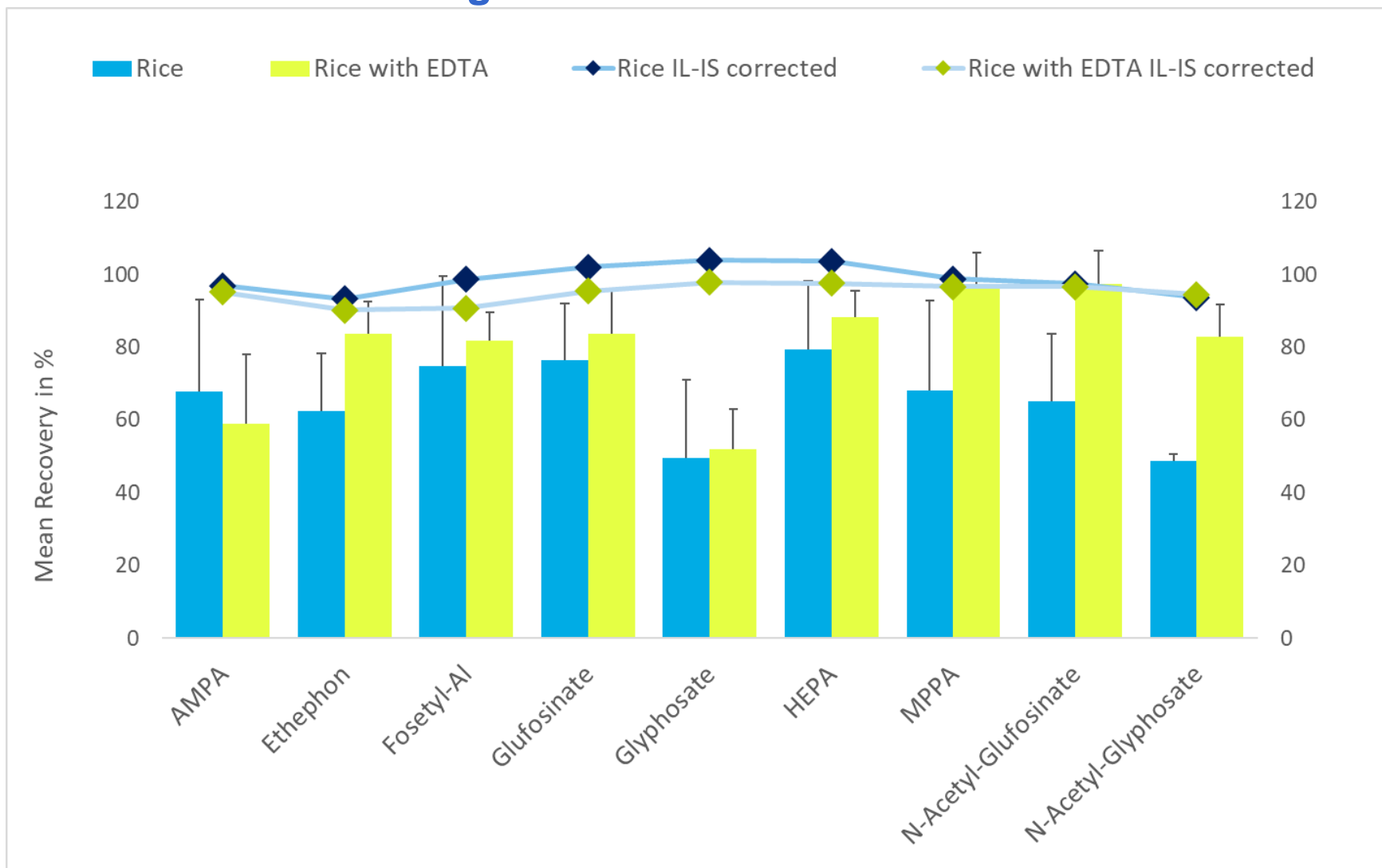
IMPACT OF **EDTA** ON RECOVERY RATES OF **FOSETYL**

WEAKER EFFECTS

Fosetyl
HEPA

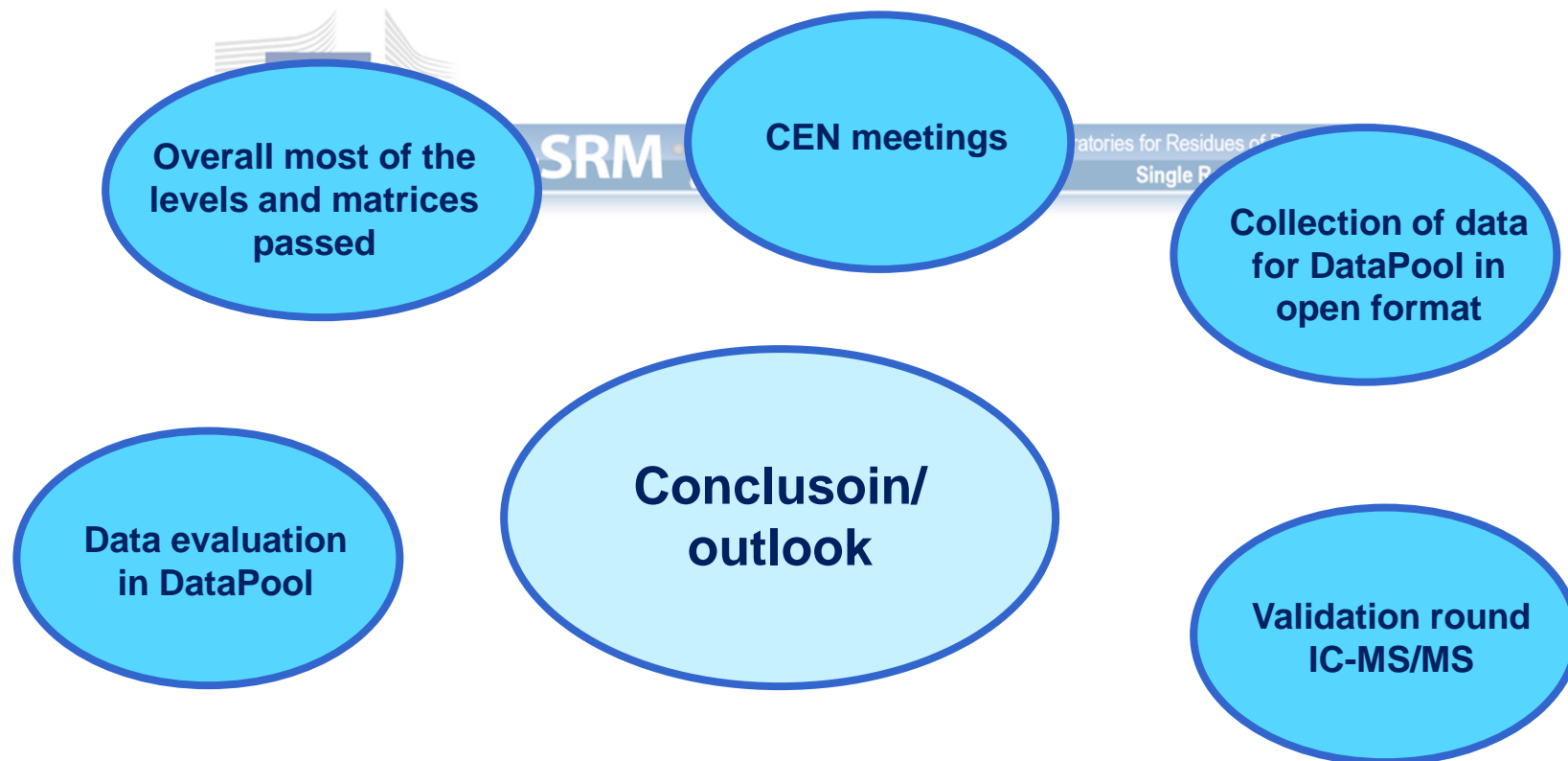


Recovery rates Rice with and without using EDTA – All labs



Interlaboratory Validation Study Polar Pesticides Round 3

QuPPE Method “Gly&Co”



Many thanks to all participants!!



European
Commission

EU REFERENCE LABORATORIES FOR RESIDUES OF PESTICIDES

Facing Analytical Challenges of Dithiocarbamate Analysis

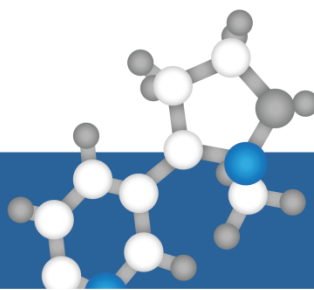
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Step-by-Step



European
Commission

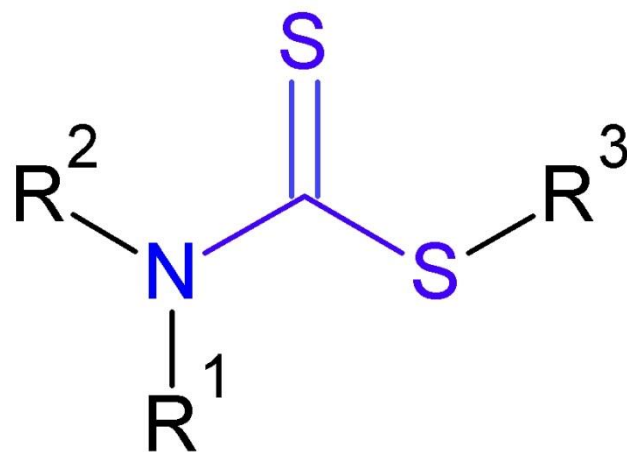
EURL-SRM



Dr. Hubert Zipper
EURL-SRM/CVUA Stuttgart
21.10.2021

Dithiocarbamate

- Dithiocarbamate are esters and salts (or their derivatives) of N-substituted dithiocarbamic acid.

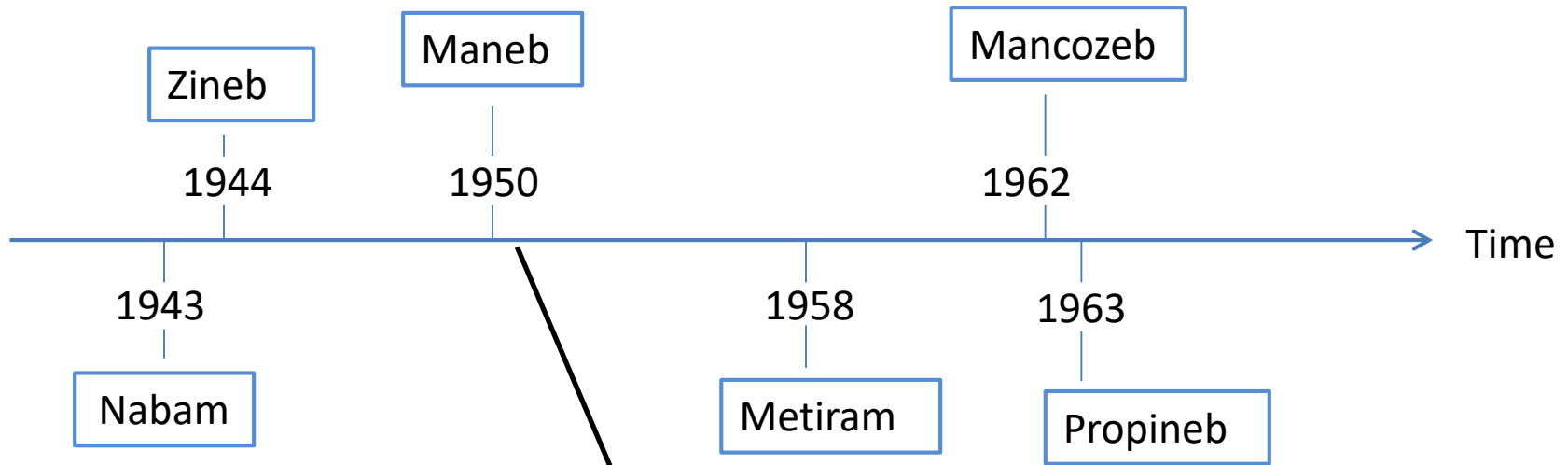


- first reports ...

- Debus, H. Ueber die Verbindungen der Sulfocarbaminsäure. Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem. **1850**, 73, 26–34.
- Delépine, M. **Metallic salts of dithiocarbamic acids**; preparation of isothiocyanates in the aliphatic series. Compt. Rend. **1907**, 144, 1125–1127

Dithiocarbamate-Fungicides (DTCs) | A Short History

• Mono Alkylene *bis*-DTCs



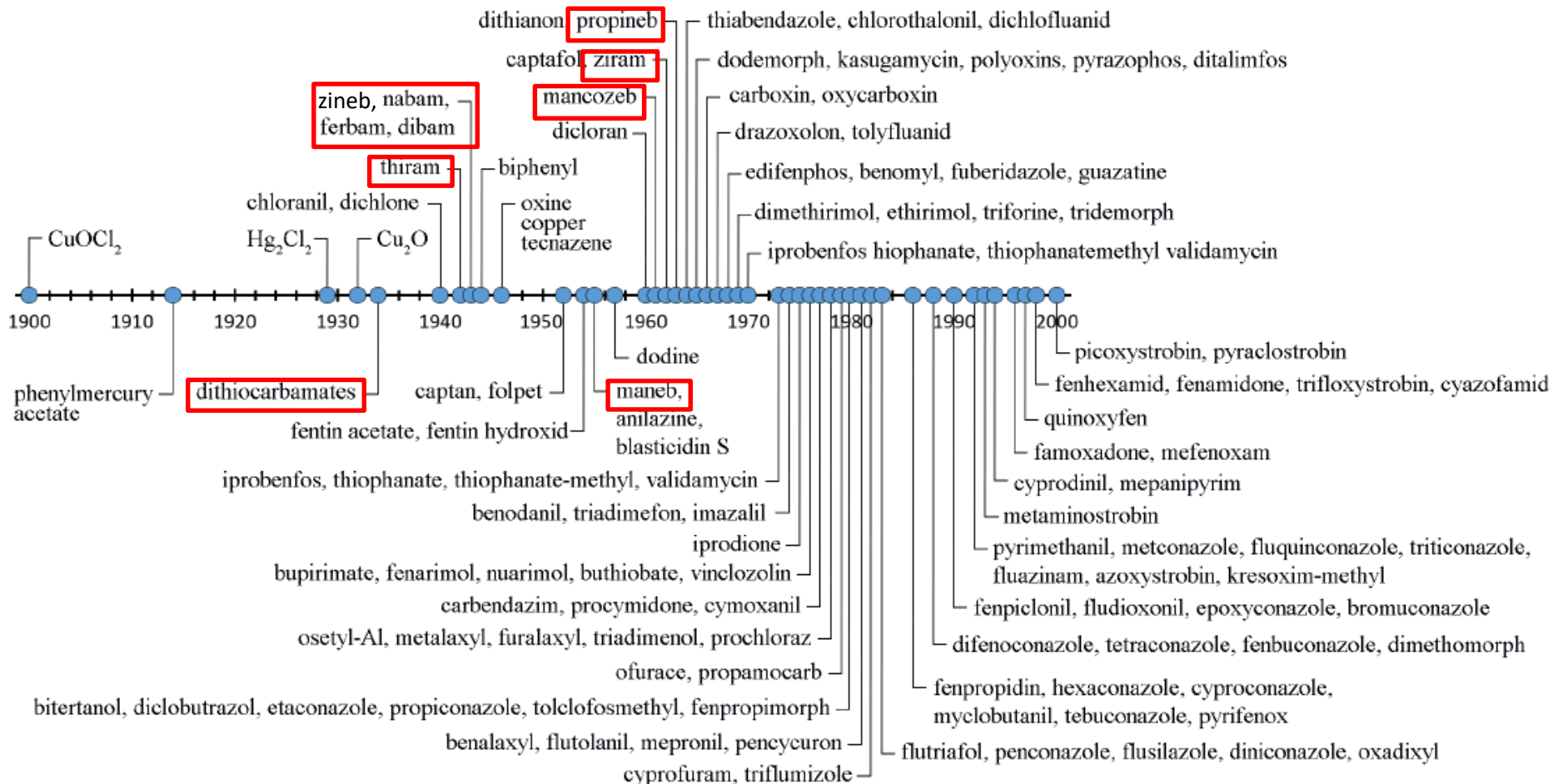
- **1951:** Decomposition of DTCs to CS_2 by mineral acids (e.g. Clarke et al. & Lowen)
 - **1969:** Modifikation by Keppel *et al.* (addition of SnCl_2 to the sample + boiling with diluted HCl)
- **official methods for determination of DTC residues:**
- EN 12396-1: SnCl_2/HCl -Cleavage, Cu(II) acetate & DEA spectroph. analysis
 - EN 12396-2 type: SnCl_2/HCl -Cleavage, headspace SPME, GC-Analysis of CS_2
 - EN 12396-3 type: SnCl_2/HCl -Cleavage, KOH/MeOH, spectroph. analysis (Xanthogenate mth.)

• **N,N-Dimethyl-DTCs:**

Thiram -> 1931; Ferbam -> 1948; Ziram -> 1960

DTCs among the first Organic Fungicides

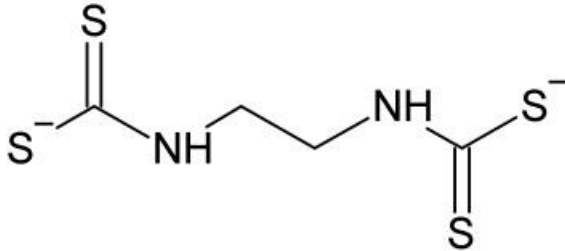
➤ Timeline of the development of selected fungicides (*):



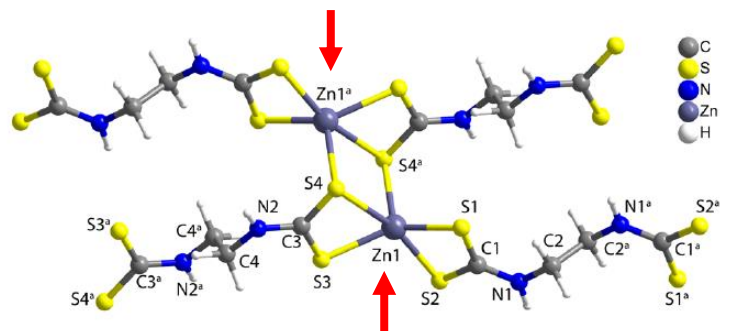
(*) Reproduced from Lefton JB, Pekar KB, Runcevski T. The Crystal Structure of Zineb, 75 years later. ChemRxiv. Cambridge: Cambridge Open Engage; 2019

DTC-Fungicides | Metal-based, polymeric complexes

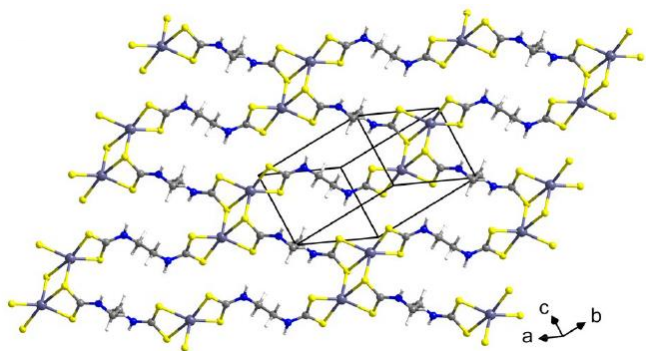
• Mono Alkylene *bis*-DTCs

DTC-Fungicide	Structure		Remark	EC 1107/2009 Status
	common organosulphur skeleton	counter ion(s)		
Nabam		2 Na ⁺	soluble in water, unstable as a solid	not approved
Zineb		Zn ²⁺	Poor or no solubility in water & in commonly used organic solvents	not approved anymore
Maneb		Mn ²⁺		
Mancozeb		Mn ²⁺ , Zn ²⁺ (94:6)		
Metiram		Zn ²⁺ , NH ₃		
Mancopper		13,7% Mn, 4 % Cu		
Propineb		Zn ²⁺	Poor or no solubility in water & in commonly used organic solvents	not approved anymore

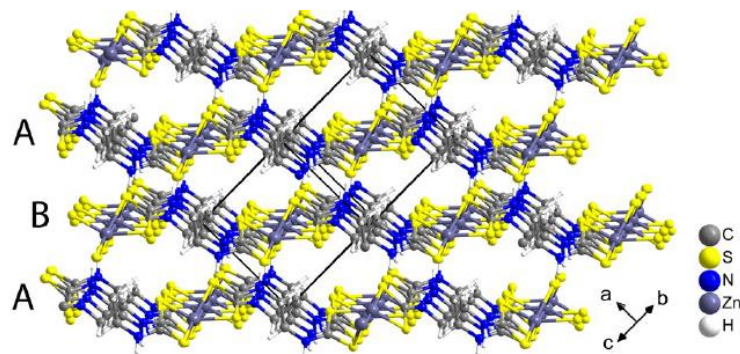
Crystal Structure of Zineb (*)



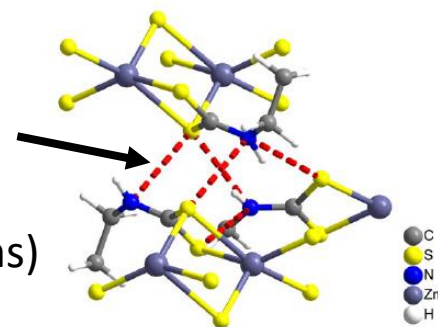
- Zn^{2+} cations are coordinated by thiocarbamate groups of EBDTC-linkers
- each Zn^{2+} cations is coordinated by five S-atoms (\Rightarrow Zn-S-bond)
- inorganic fragment of structure: Zn_2S_8 -cluster



- Zn^{2+} cations are linked via EBDTC-ligands and form extended, polymeric layers

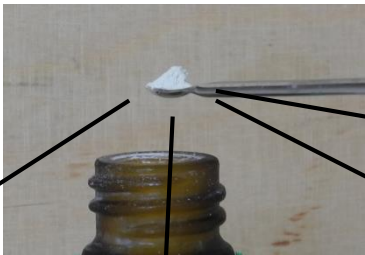


- polymeric layers stack one on top of another \Rightarrow layered crystal packing
- layers are held together by hydrogen bonding network (between the amine N-atoms and the thiocarbamate S atoms)

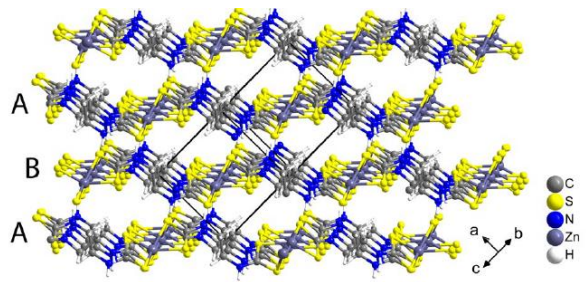


Microcrystalline powder of Zineb, ... | Standard, Food Sample

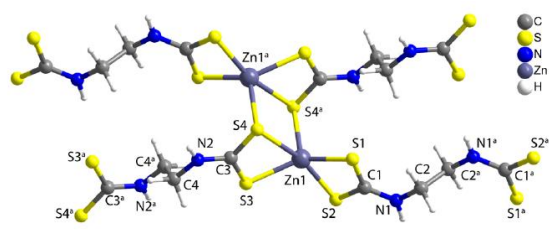
Hypothesis!



1. polymeric, stacked layers

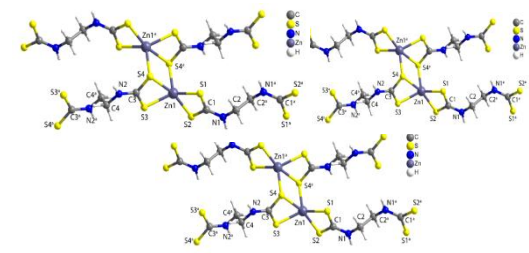


2. "monomer complexes"



4. degradation products (e.g. ETU, eBIC, ...)

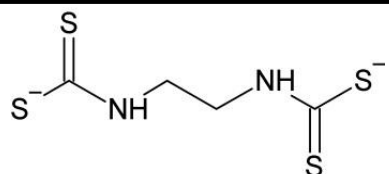
3. "oligomer complexes"



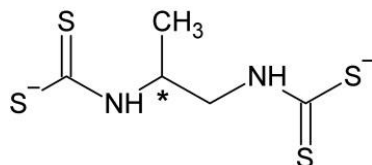
- **stock-/working solutions:**
 - solvent should preserve the complex structure of the DTCs
 - (other aspects: pipette handling, reproducibility, chemical stability, ...)
- **quantitative DTC-method:**
 - analytical procedure has to be able to quantitatively disrupt the complex DTC-structures and quantify the analyte (CS₂ or derivatization product or ...)

Quantitative DTC-Analysis | Analytical Challenges (among others)

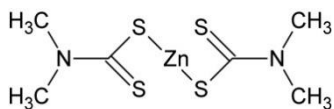
- suitable solvent for preparation of DTC-stock/working solutions
- **Quantitative DTC-Analysis:**



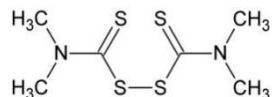
Ethylene *bis*-DTCs



Propylene *bis*-DTCs

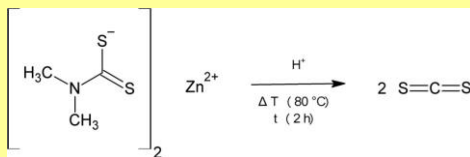


Ziram



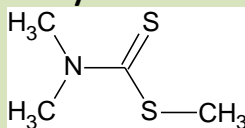
Thiram

Acid decomposition of DTC & release of CS₂

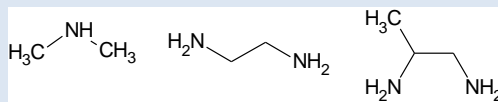


Derivatisation

e.g. methylation



Amine-Moiety



Other methods (see scientific literature)

Single Residue Methods!

???
Is screening for DTCs via multi-residue-methods possible?

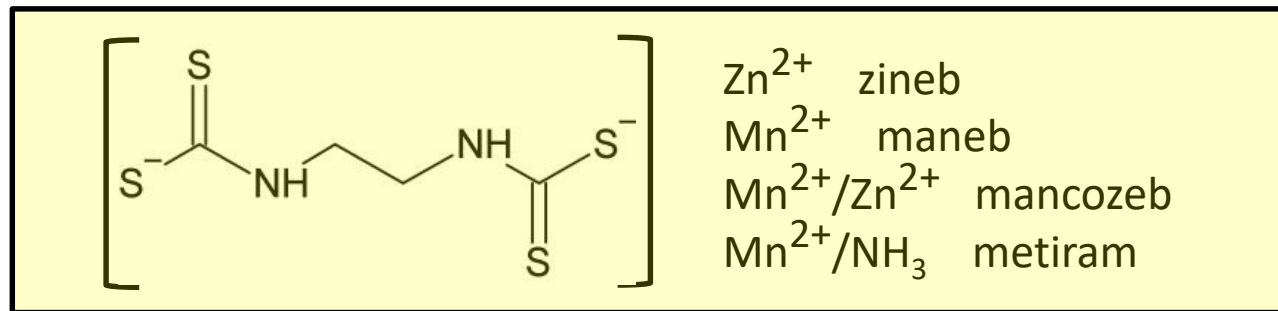
DTC-stock/working solutions | Suitable Solvent?

- Most DTCs have low solubility in water and a number of organic solvents (Acetonitrile, Dimethylformamid, Dimethylformamid/Toluol, Tetrahydrofuran)
- **The chelating agent EDTA is often used in aqueous solutions** (e.g. EDTA-4Na (150 µg/ml)/L-cysteine (5 µg/ml));

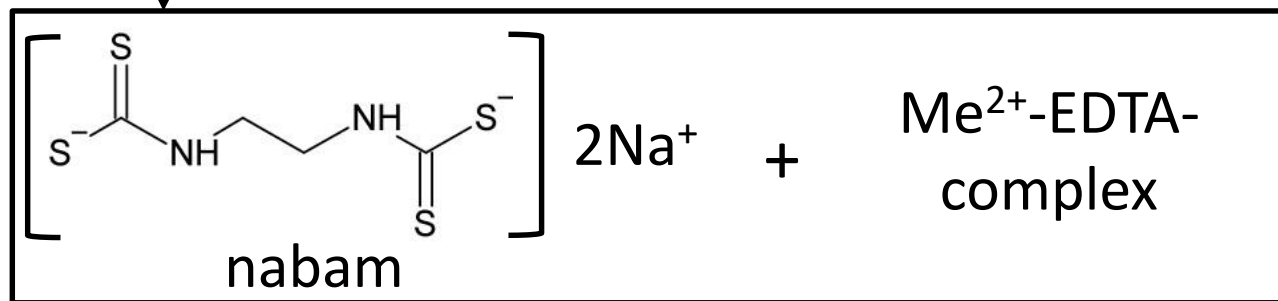


e.g. mancozeb-susp.
(1 mg/ml)

↓ + EDTA

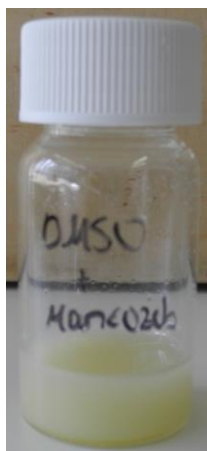


Conversion of the water-insoluble DTC (zineb, ...) into the soluble sodium salt by means of EDTA

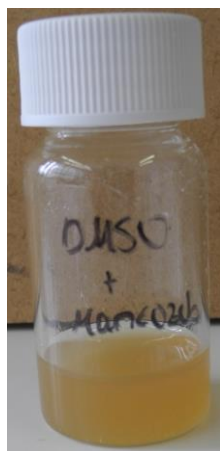


DTC-stock/working solutions | Suitable Solvent?

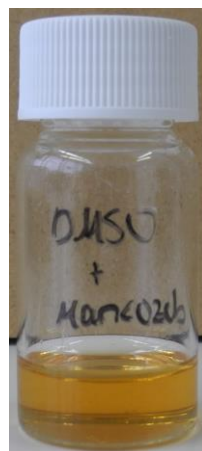
- Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) as solvent for DTCs?



10 min
at RT

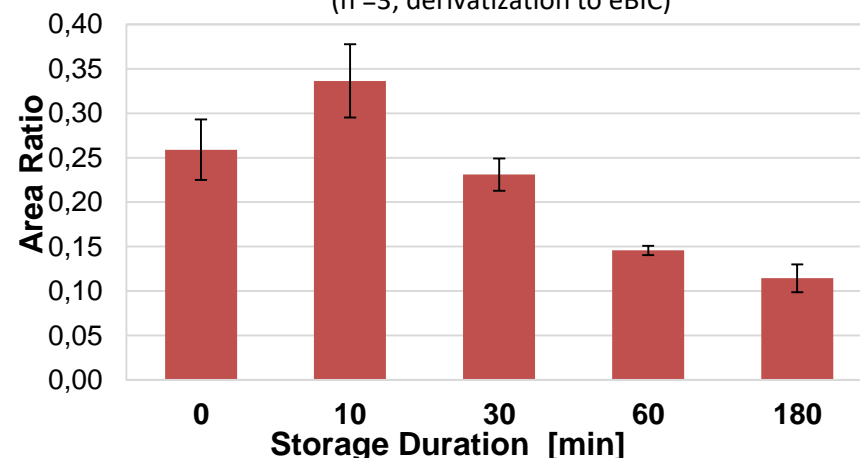


60 min
at RT



Stability of Mancozeb in DMSO

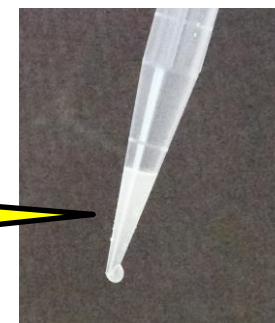
(n = 3; derivatization to eBIC)



→ DTCs soluble in DMSO, BUT unstable

- Glycerin/iso-Propanol 3:1 (v/v) → stabile DTC-suspension!

challenge: pipette handling!
tip after dispensing movement



Xanthan gum-solution to prepare DTC-suspensions

➤ Xanthan gum (from *Xanthomonas campestris*):

- used as a thickener, but also as an efficient stabilizer for suspensions, emulsions, foams
- soluble in both cold and hot water
- generally not affected by (a) changes in pH value, (b) addition of large amounts of salt

➤ Water/acetonitrile/xanthan gum (95/5/0,2 V/V/W):



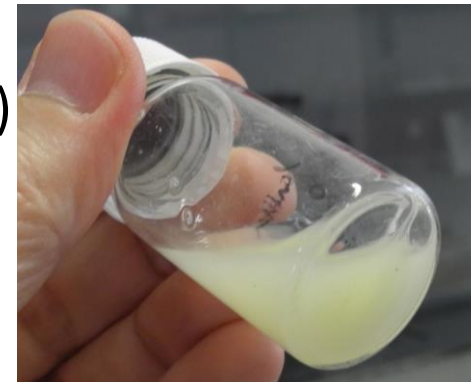
- a) 0,2 g xanthan gum (from *X. campestris*)
- b) 100 ml water/acetonitril-solution 95/5 (V/V)
- c) Hand blender



(Air bubbles can be removed with ultrasound.)



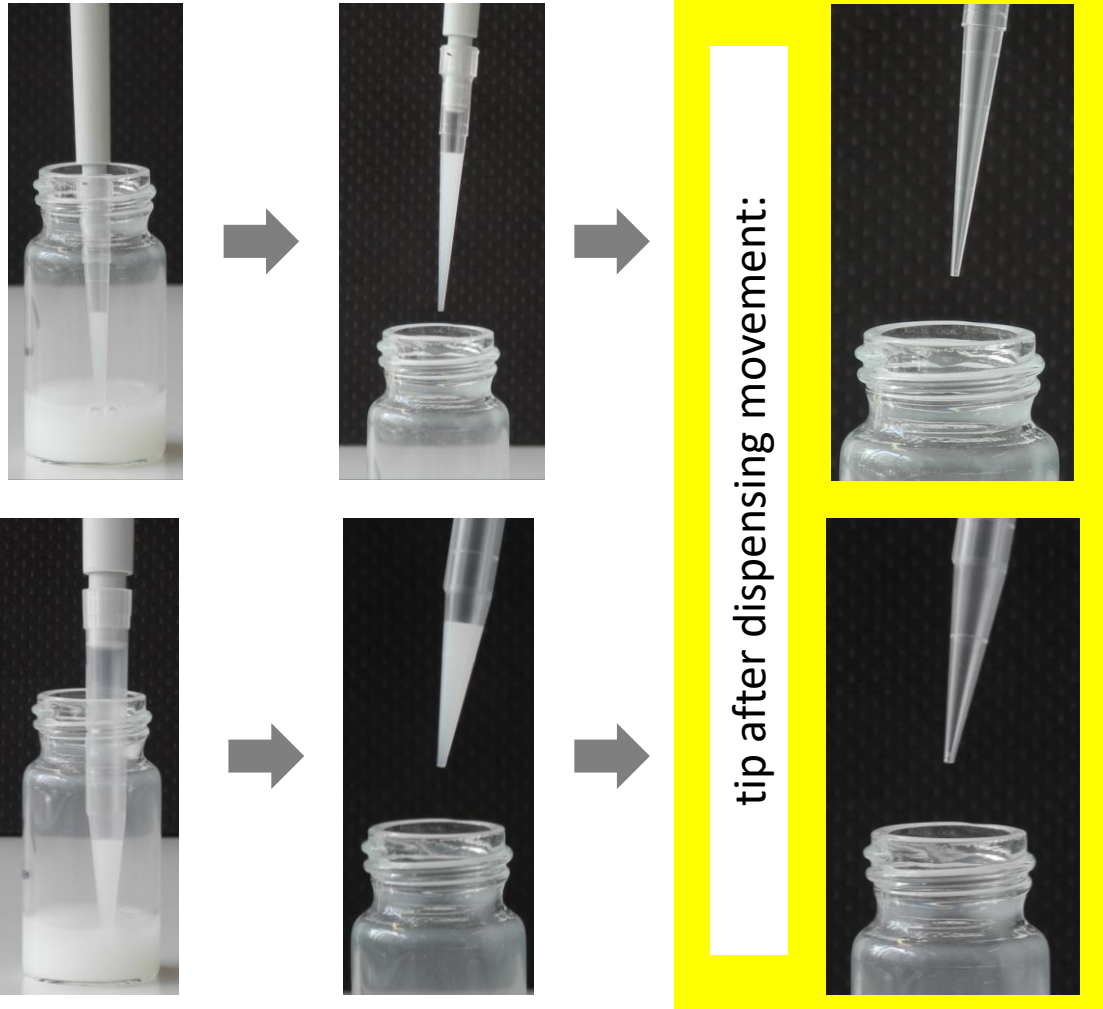
+ DTC-standard



- Stable & homogeneous suspension of DTC (up to 60 min)
- Hypothesis: DTC complexes & polymeric DTC structure remain intact
- Chemical stability of DTC in xanthan gum solution???

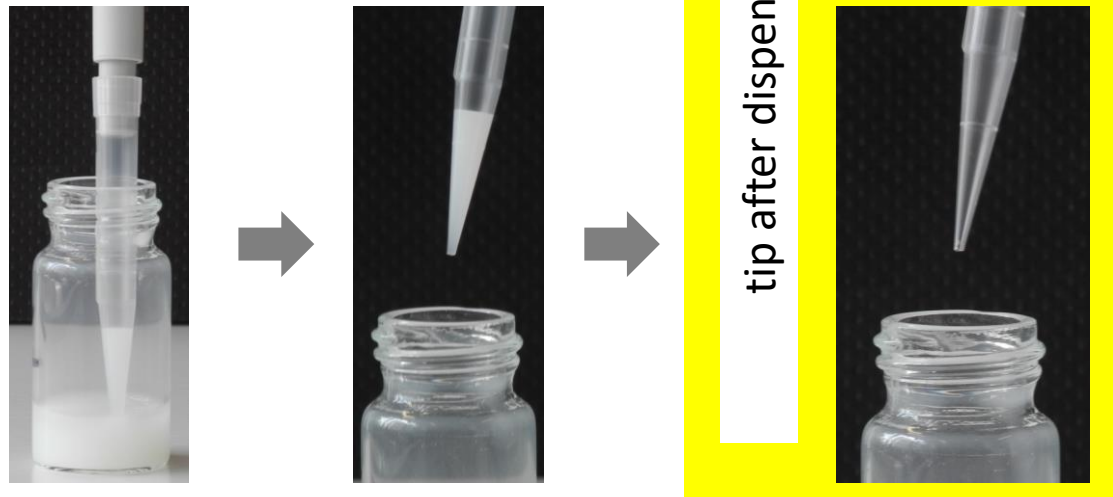
DTC-Xanthan Gum Suspension | Pipette Handling

100 μ l-Pipette (*):



1000 μ l-Pipette (*):

[(*) propineb-stock-suspension (1 mg/ml) used for this demo; similar pipetting behavior was observed for other DTCs.]



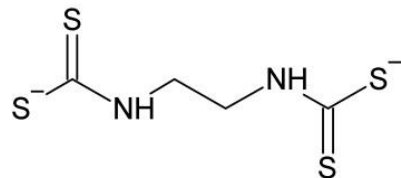
Only very minor residues of DTC-stock-suspension remain in tip after dispensing movement.

=> minimal losses of standard during pipetting (e.g. diluting, spiking)

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Mancozeb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Mn²⁺, Zn²⁺
(94:6)

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,5 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

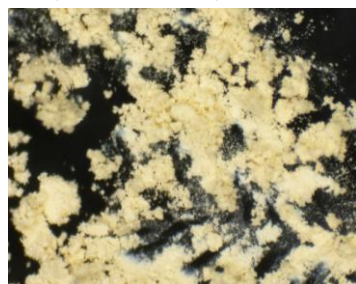
Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as mancozeb) [%]

Mean
Rec [%]

RSD
[%]

Supplier I

Purity: 99,6% (assay: HPLC/UV-VIS)



0 min

89 90,1 81,5 86,5 68,7* **86,8** **3,8**

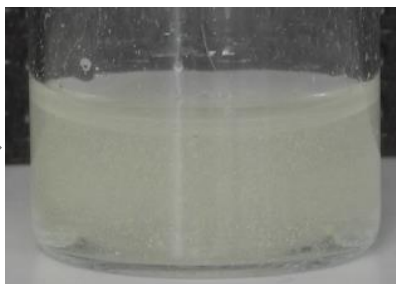
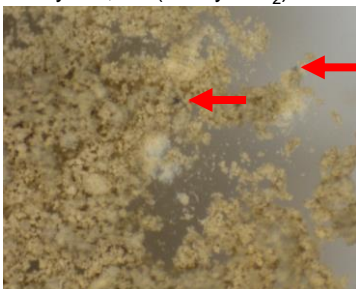
4 h

75,8 69,4 69,8 70,1 67,3 **70,5** **4,0**

Exp. date: 31.01.23

Supplier II

Purity: 99,3% (assay: CS₂)



0 min

38,1 24,9 59,5 60,5 35,2 **43,6** **32,2**

4 h

26,3 32,0 30,3 38,8 33,8 **32,3** **12,7**

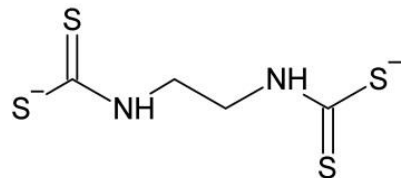
Exp. date: 01.09.24

*: identified as outlier

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Zineb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Zn²⁺

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,2 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as zineb) [%]

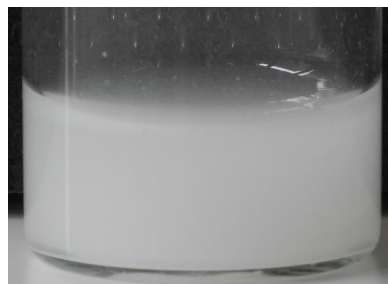
Mean
Rec [%]

RSD
[%]

1 2 3 4 5

Supplier I

Purity: 98,2% (assay: EDTA-titration)



Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	78,0	97,1	105,2	84,4	111,6	95,2	13,2
30 min	135,2	117,0	123,4	110,7	137,9	124,8	8,3

Exp. date: 01.02.23

Supplier II

Purity: 95,2% (assay: qNMR)



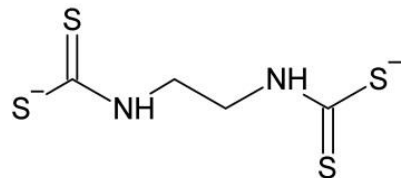
Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	93,6	99,1	84,9	88,2	81,3	89,4	7,1
30 min	80,2	74,4	84,5	81,6	86,4	81,4	5,1

Exp. date: 01.05.26

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Metiram

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Zn²⁺, NH₃

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,2 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as metiram) [%]

Mean
Rec [%]

RSD
[%]

1 2 3 4 5

Supplier III

Purity: 84,3% (assay: elemental anal.)



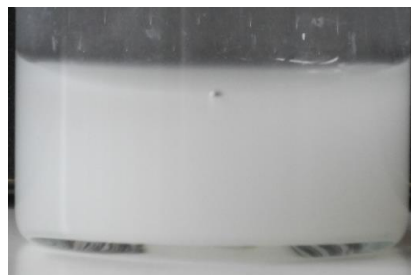
Exp. date: 19.03.24



Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	82,4	79,7	72,5	77,9	81,5	78,9	4,4
30 min	77,9	66,3	81,5	80,1	83,3	77,8	7,8



Ultrasonication of stock suspension (7 min)

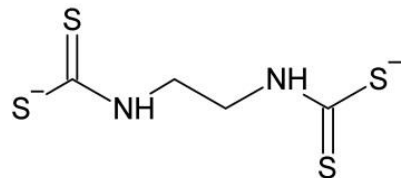


Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	62,7	53,8	53,8	63,6	55,5	57,8	7,6
30 min	71,6	77,9	49,2	52,8	43,9	59,1	22,4

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Metiram

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Zn²⁺, NH₃

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,2 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as metiram) [%]

Mean
Rec [%]

RSD
[%]

1 2 3 4 5

Supplier III

Purity: 84,3% (assay: elemental anal.)



Exp. date: 19.03.24



Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	82,4	79,7	72,5	77,9	81,5	78,9	4,4
30 min	77,9	66,3	81,5	80,1	83,3	77,8	7,8



+ 0,1 M NaCl



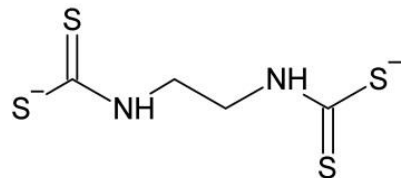
0 min
30 min

n. d.

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Maneb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Mn²⁺

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,2 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as maneb) [%]

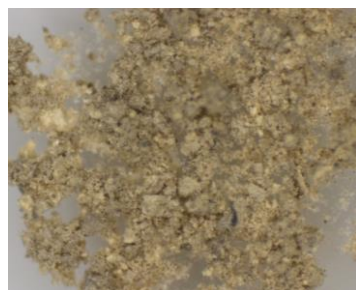
Mean
Rec [%]

RSD
[%]

1 2 3 4 5

Supplier I

Purity: 85,7% (assay: N/A)



Exp. date: 01.02.26



Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	25,7*	45,0	38,6	40,4	35,8	40,0	8,4
30 min	68,0*	37,7	37,7	38,6	36,7	37,7	1,7

Supplier II

Purity: 95,0% (assay: CS₂)



Exp. date: 01.09.24



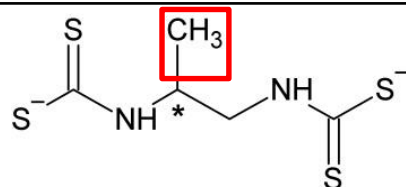
Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	71,6	83,8	74,2	50,6	50,6	66,2	20,1
30 min	50,6	58,5	55,9	61,1	32,3*	56,5	6,9

*: identified as outlier

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Propineb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Zn²⁺

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,2 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as propineb) [%]

Mean
Rec [%]

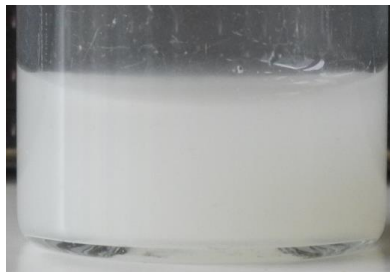
RSD
[%]

Supplier I

Purity: 17,7% (assay: EDTA-titration)



Exp. date: 30.06.23



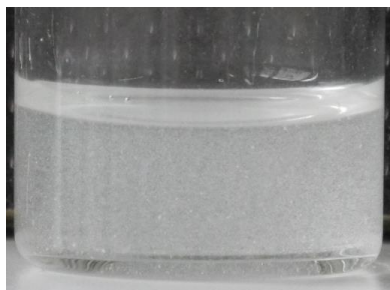
Storage time	Recovery via CS ₂ (calc. as propineb) [%]					Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
	1	2	3	4	5		
0 min	164,9	138,2	147,8	144,9	148,7	148,9	5,9
30 min						n.d.	

Supplier II

Purity: 94,1% (assay: CS₂)



Exp. date: 01.03.23

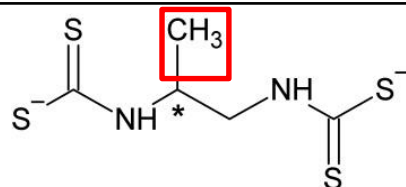


0 min	6,7	5,7	4,8	6,7	6,7	6,1	12,5
30 min	6,7	5,7	6,7	8,6	5,7	6,7	15,6

DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

Propineb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

Zn²⁺

experimental conditions

- Solvent of Suspension: Water/ACN/Xanthan (95/5/0,2 % V/V/W)
- Recovery Study: **spiking level: 0,2 ppm**; matrix: tomato; SnCl₂/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS₂-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier

Stock Suspension
(1 mg/ml)

Storage
time

Recovery via CS₂
(calc. as propineb) [%]

Mean
Rec [%]

RSD
[%]

Supplier IV

Purity: 71,5% Exp. date: N/A



1. Experiment

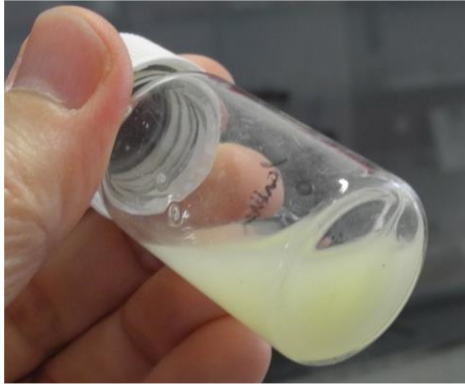
Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	94,4	86,7	93,4	95,3	88,7	91,7	3,7
30 min	93,4	94,3	86,7	95,3	90,6	92,1	3,4

2. Experiment

(another person, another day)

Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	89,6	86,7	79,1	75,3	80,1	82,2	6,4
30 min	83,9	85,8	86,7	80,1	98,2	86,9	7,0

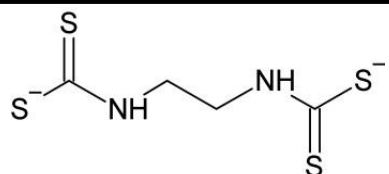
DTC-Xanthan Gum Suspension



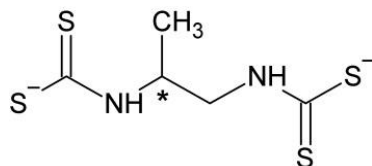
- In case you intend to use this **suspension for validation studies with DTCs**, please **send us your experiences/feedback/results: eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de**

Quantitative DTC-Analysis | Analytical Challenges (among others)

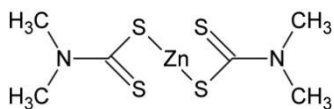
- suitable solvent for preparation of DTC-stock/working solutions
- **Quantitative DTC-Analysis:**



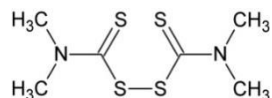
Ethylene *bis*-DTCs



Propylene *bis*-DTCs

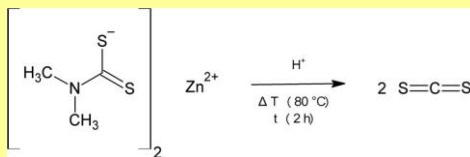


Ziram



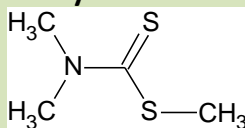
Thiram

Acid decomposition of DTC & release of CS₂

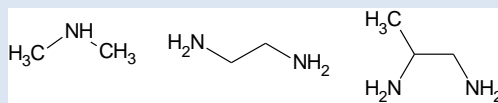


Derivatisation

e.g. methylation



Amine-Moiety



Other methods (see scientific literature)

Single Residue Methods!

???

qualitative method that enables the **screening for characteristic decomposition products** of

- ethylene-DTCs (e.g. maneb)
- propylene-DTC (propineb)
- N,N-dimethyl DTCs (e.g. ziram)

in QuEChERS-extracts by routine MS-techniques

DTC-Decomposition Products as Screening-Marker

• Mono Alkylene *bis*-DTCs

DTC	Suitable screening-marker for DTCs	Remark
Nabam, Zineb, Maneb, Mancozeb, Metiram, Mancopper	✓ Ethylene-bis-isothiocyanate (eBIC)	QuEChERS, GC-amenable
	✓ ETU	QuPPE, LC-MS/MS (*)
	(other screening-marker see previous presentation)	
Propineb	✓ Propylene-bis-isothiocyanate (pBIC)	QuEChERS, GC-amenable
	✓ PTU	QuPPE, LC-MS/MS (*)
	(other screening-marker see previous presentation)	

(*) https://www.eurl-pesticides.eu/docs/public/tmpl_article.asp?CntID=887&LabID=200&Lang=EN

DTC-Decomposition Products as Screening-Marker

DTC

Suitable screening-marker for
N,N- dimethyl DTCs

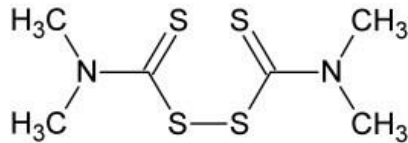
Remark

Ziram,
Thiram

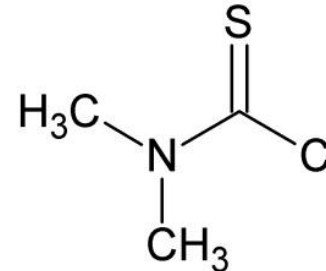
? Dimethyldithiocarbamate-
Methyl (DiMeDTC-Me)
?
Dimethyldithiocarbamoyl-
chloride (DMTCC)
(other screening-marker see
previous presentation)

QuEChERS,
GC-amenable,
(false positive (-> GC-vial caps!))

Thiram



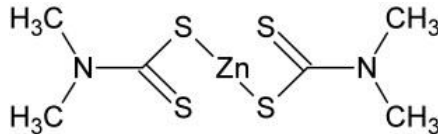
QuEChERS



Dimethyl-
thiocarbamoylchlorid
(DMTCC)

- **very labile!**
- false positives (e.g.
Vial Caps)

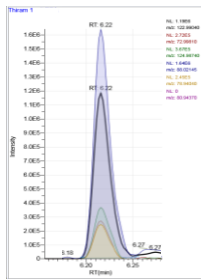
Ziram



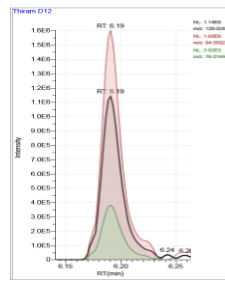
➤ DMTCC is being formed during QuEChERS procedure:

- Conversion of D₁₂-Thiram / D₁₂-Ziram to D₆-DMTCC

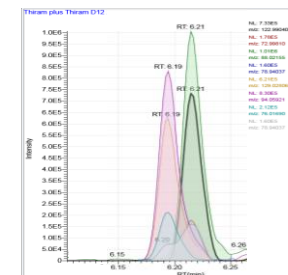
Thiram:



D₁₂-Thiram:



Thiram + D₁₂-Thiram:

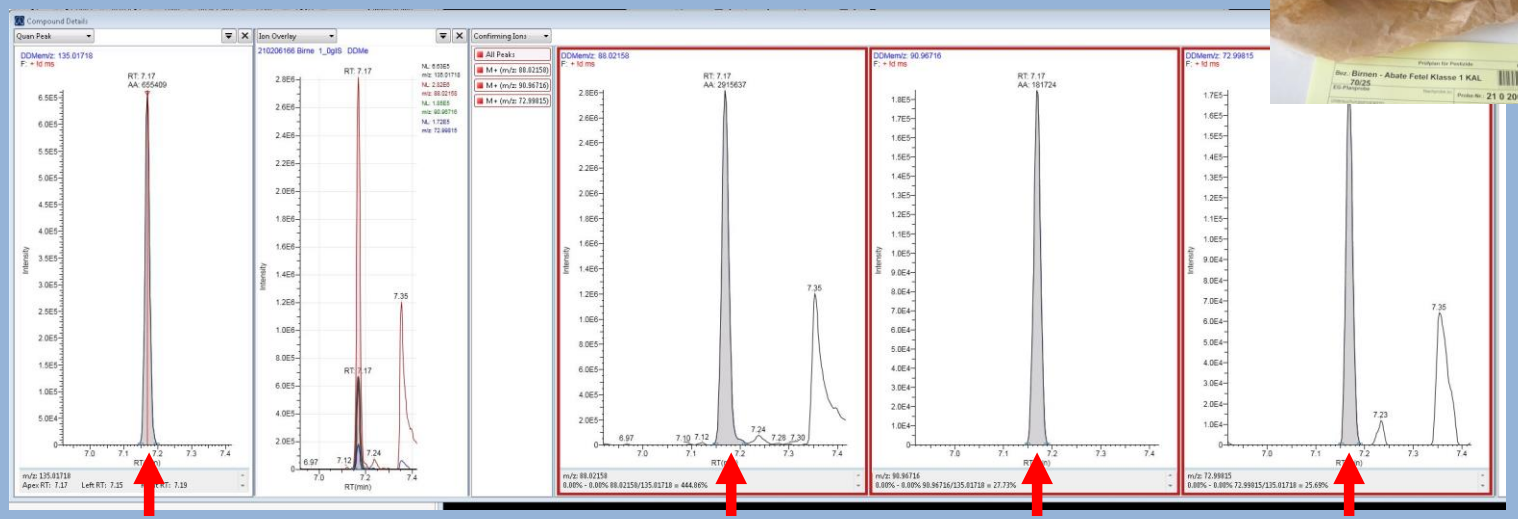
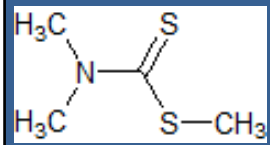


DMTCC / DiMeDTC as Screening Marker?

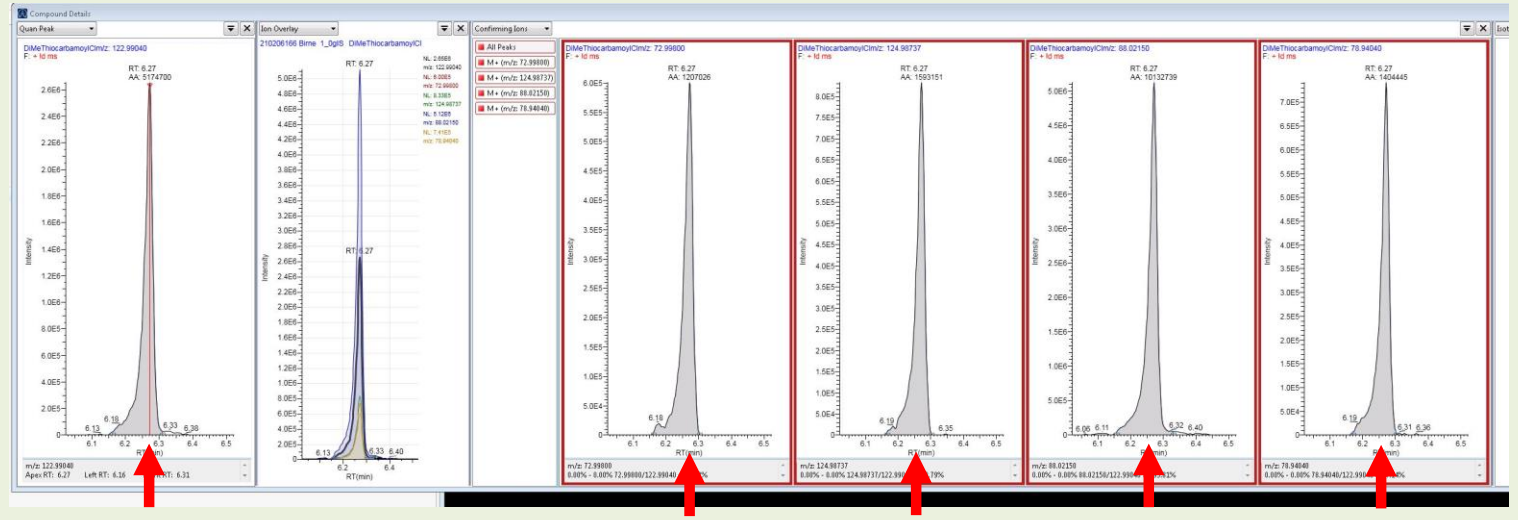
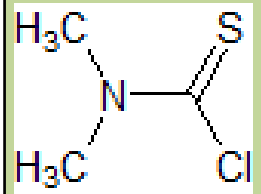


- Example: Pear (Italy), QuEChERS extract; GC-Orbitrap (PTV injector):

DiMeDTC-Me

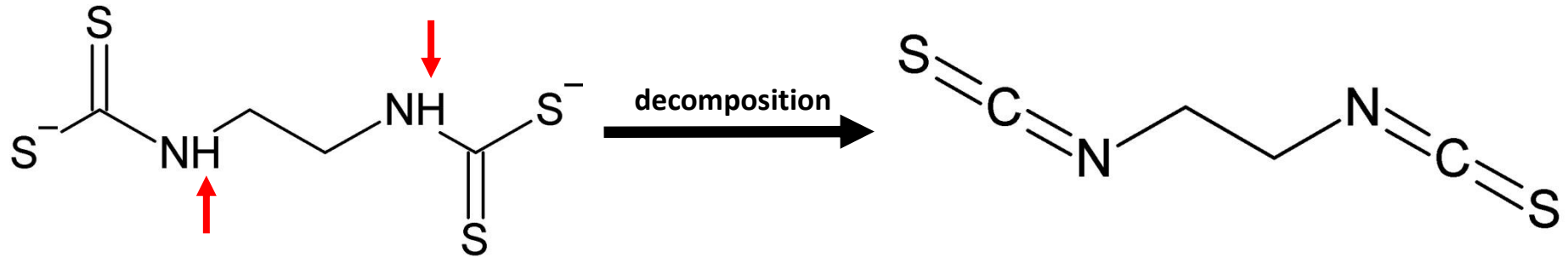


DMTCC



- CS₂-finding: 0,61 mg/kg

Decomposition of Ethylene-bis-DTCs to eBIC



Ethylene-*bis*-DTC

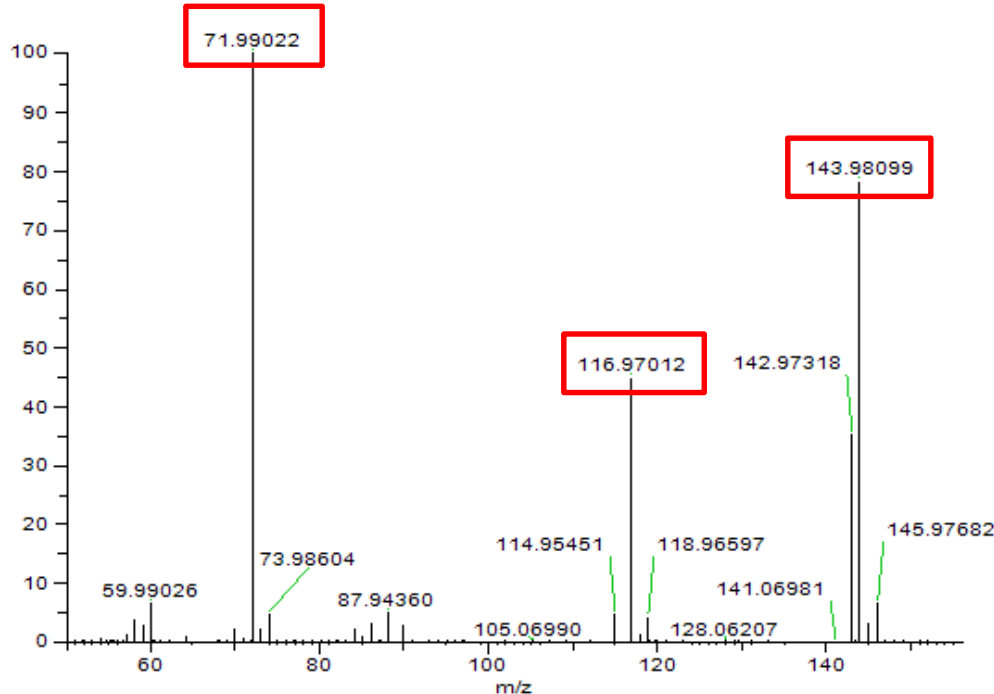
Ethylene-*bis*-isothiocyanate (eBIC)

- see metabolic pathways of ethylene-*bis*-DTC
- **GC-amenable**
- NOT LC-MS (ESI pos/neg) amenable
- calculated
- LogP = 2,0
- standard not stable!
- for qualitative screening-purposes: extraktion of eBIC of e.g mancozeb-standard with acetonitrile

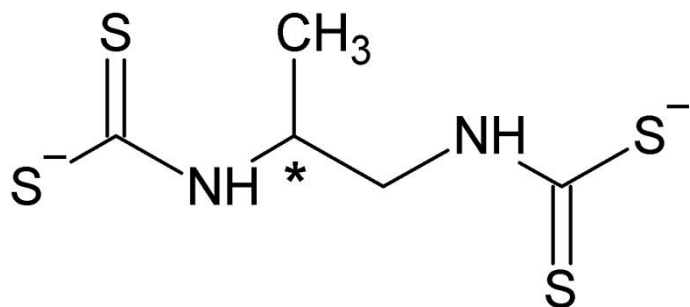


GC-EI spectrum of eBIC:

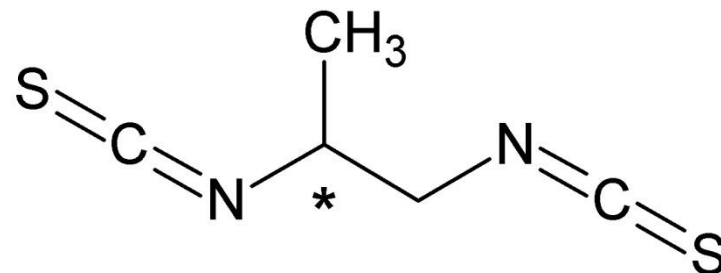
1686 eDITC 5er #946 RT: 7.68 AV: 1 NL: 4.79E+008
T: FTMS + c EI Full ms [50.0000-600.0000]



Decomposition of Propylene-*bis*-DTCs to pBIC



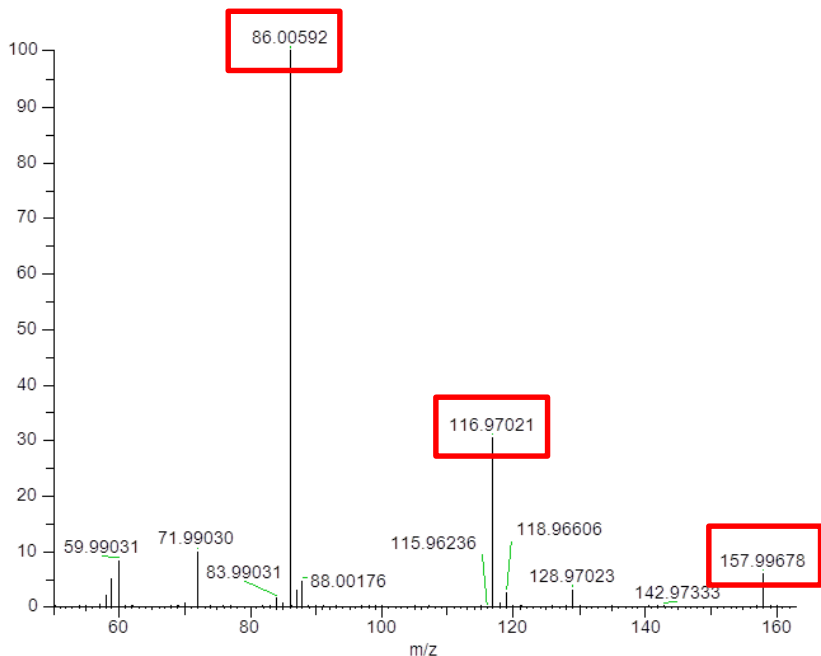
Propylene-*bis*-DTC



Propylene-*bis*-isothiocyanate (pBIC)

GC-EI spectrum of pBIC:

1726 pDITC 5er #926 RT: 7.64 AV: 1 NL: 2.50E+009
T: FTMS + c EI Full ms [50.0000-600.0000]



- see metabolic pathways of Propylene-*bis*-DTC
- **GC-amenable**
- NOT LC-MS (ESI pos/neg) amenable
- calculated logP = 2,3
- standard commercially available



Screening Detection Limits (SDL) according to SANTE/11813/2017

GC-MS/MS:

- 2 (or more) transitions

	eBIC	pBIC
Quantifier	144 > 72	158 > 86
Q1	72 > 45	86 > 60
Q2	144 > 88	117 > 88

→ SDL:

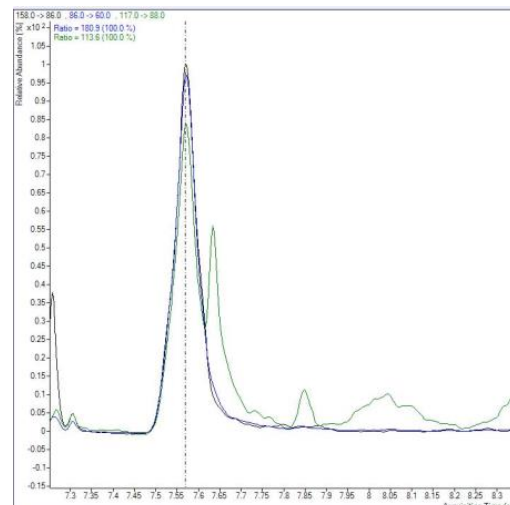
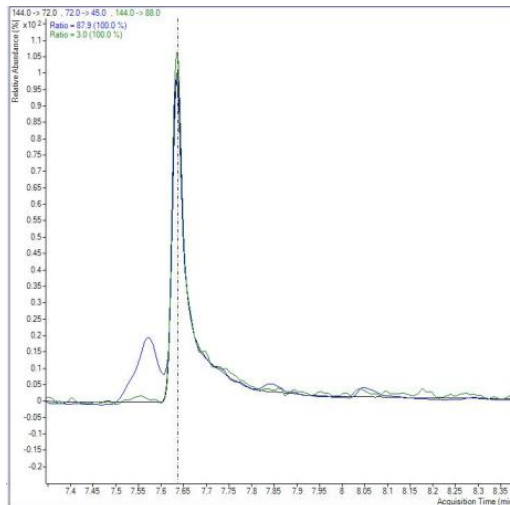
5 ppb eBIC

5 ppb pBIC

- Ion ratio within $\pm 30\%$ (relative) of average of calibration standards from same sequence

eBIC – Apple (QuEChERS-extract) – 5 ppb

pBIC – Apple (QuEChERS-extract) – 5 ppb



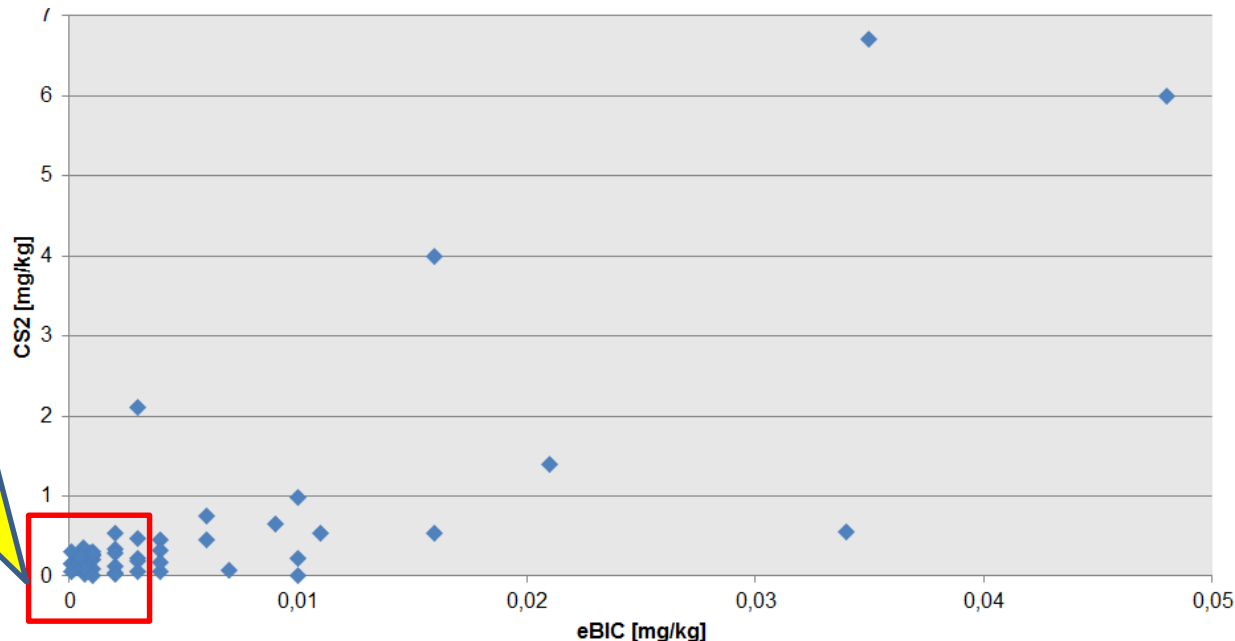
BIC Screening | Achievements: more CS₂-findings

- Good correlation of eBIC/ETU-positives and CS₂-results (DTC-cleavage to CS₂):

Matrix	# of samples screened	# of positive eBIC-findings		# of ETU-findings (QuPPE, LC-MS/MS)	CS ₂ -Results	
		GC-MS/MS	GC-Orbitrap		# of samples	[mg/kg]
Pear	27	3	5	3	5	0,031 – 0,61
Zucchini	56	3	3	3	3	0,02 – 0,041
Parsley	16	2	2	2	2	1,6 – 1,7

data from 2021; LOQ for CS₂ (GC-MS/MS): 0,01 mg/kg

- BUT: no correlation of eBIC- or pBIC-concentration and CS₂-concentration



Samples were positive for CS₂ (chemical cleavage of DTCs), although eBIC-values were below SDL! CS₂-values as screening detection limits reflect the situation better than eBIC-SDL and pBIC-SDL in this case.

BIC Screening | Achievements: **more MRL-violations**

- Identification of EU-MRL violations by BIC Screening:



Matrix	Screening	CS ₂ -Befund [mg/kg]	EU-HM CS ₂ [mg/kg]
> MRL (non compliant)			
Figs	eBIC / ETU	4,0	0,05
Raspberry (frozen)	eBIC	0,3	0,05
Parsley	eBIC / ETU	24,5	5,0
Sugar pea	pBIC / PTU	0,3	0,05
> MRL, but compliant due to uncertainty interval			
Basil	eBIC / ETU	6,0	5,0
Head lettuce	eBIC / ETU	5,6	5,0
Basil	eBIC / ETU	7,2	5,0

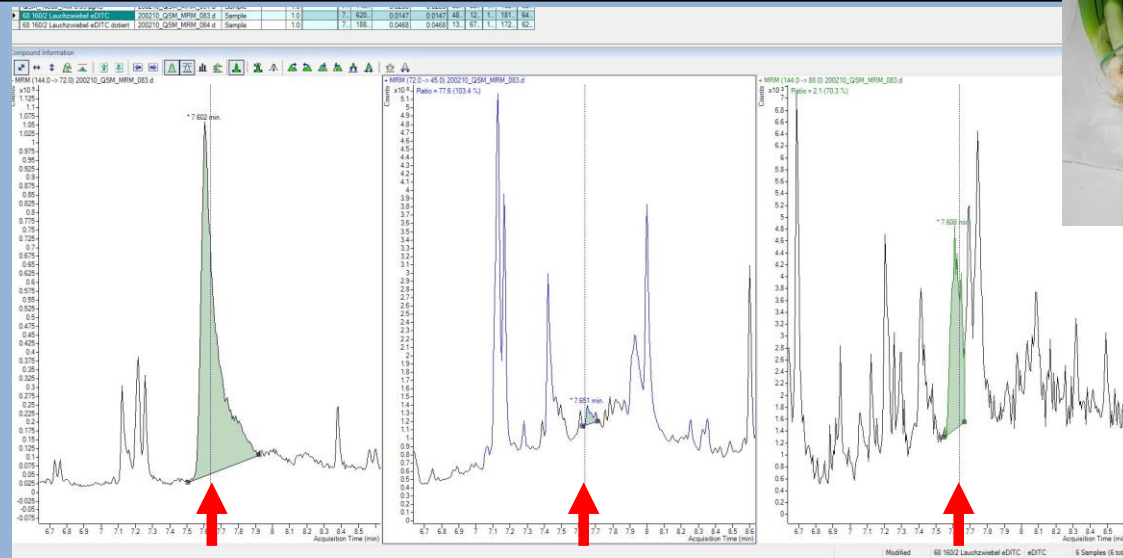
- Samples were analyzed for CS₂ by chemical cleavage of DTCs because of **positive BIC screening**.

1. Example | Spring onion: eBIC

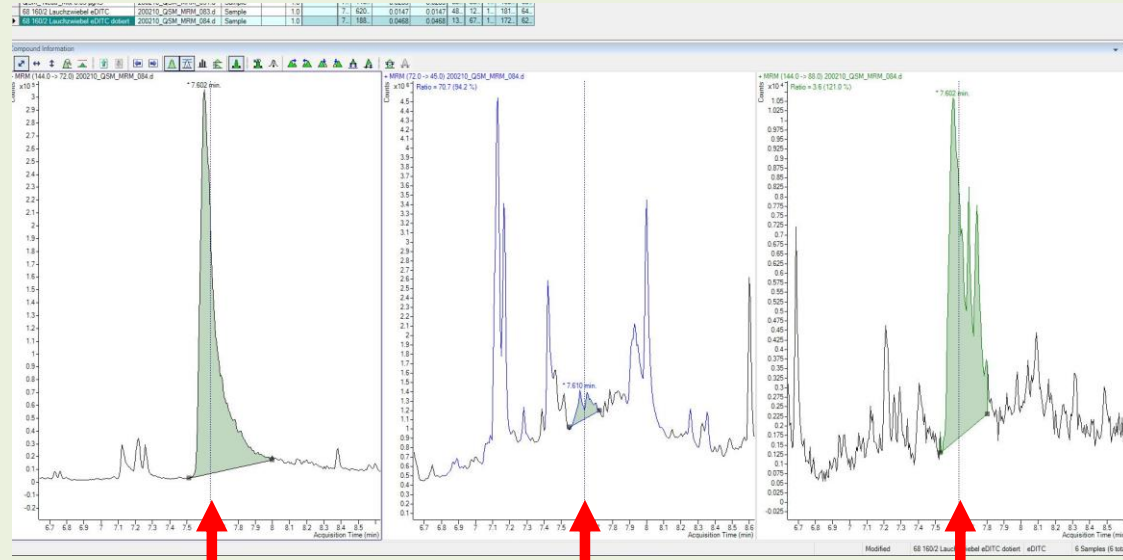
- QuEChERS extract; **GC-MS/MS** chromatogram:



eBIC
(~0,016
ppm)



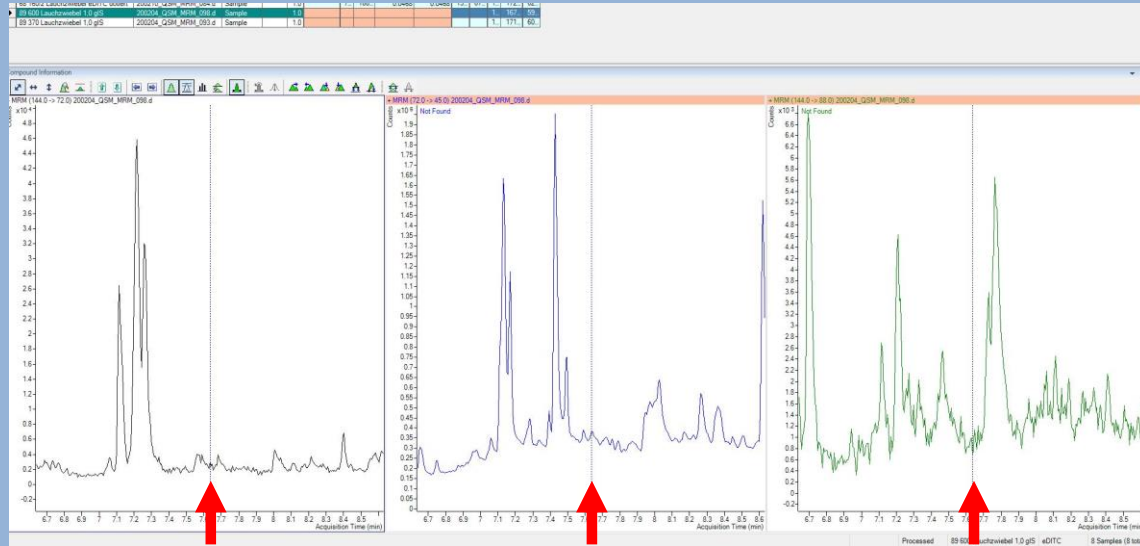
eBIC
spiked



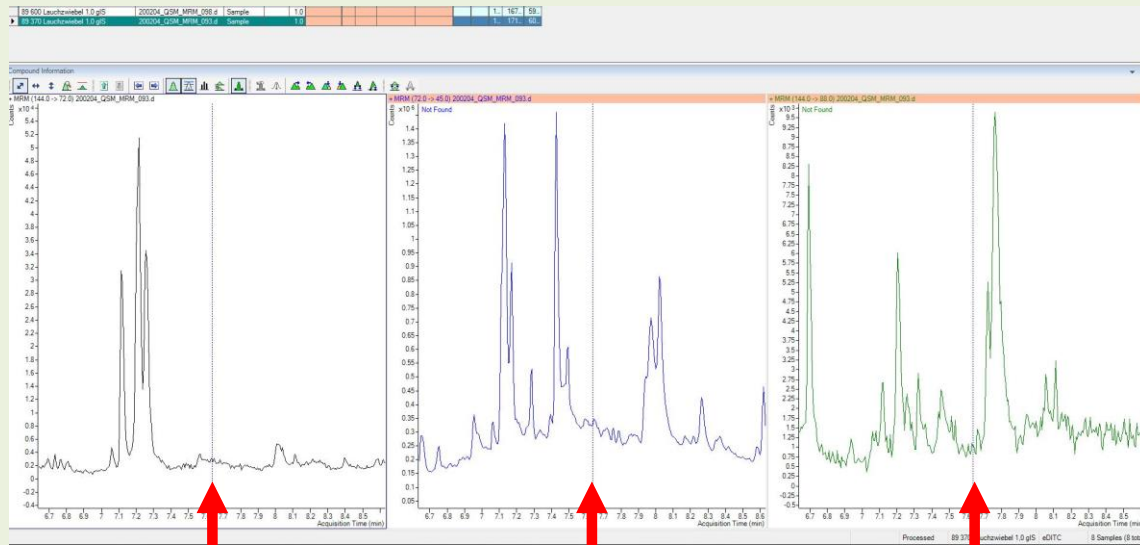
1. Example | Spring onion: control samples

- QuEChERS extract; **GC-MS/MS** chromatogram:

Control 1

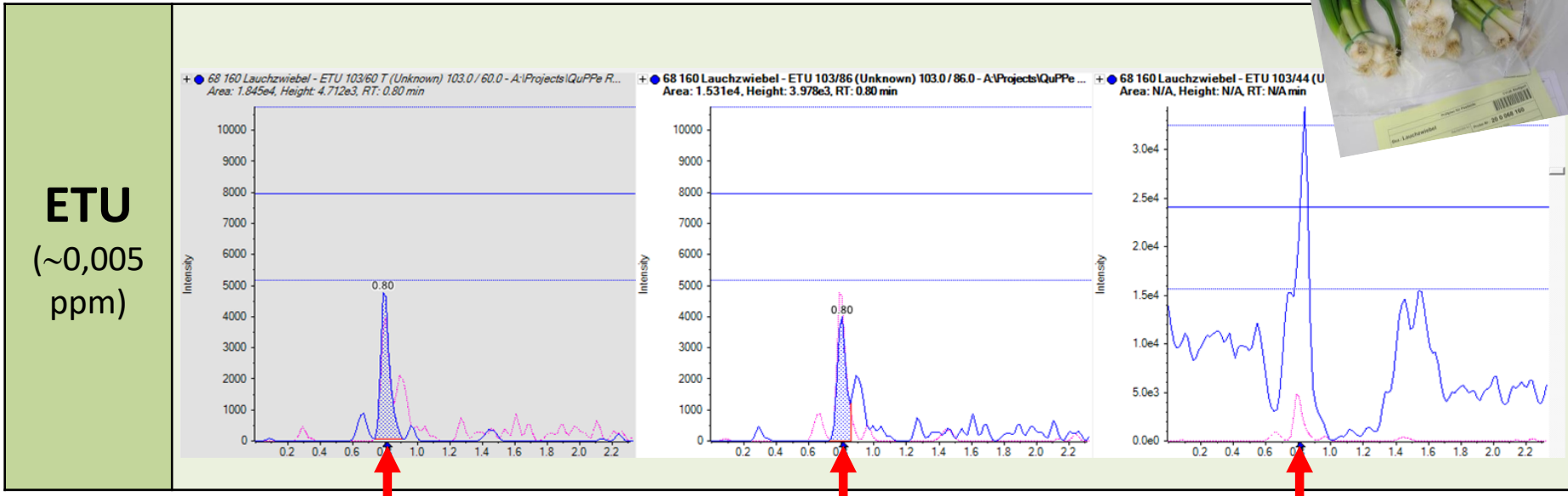


Control 2



1. Example | Spring onion: ETU

- QuPPE extract; **LC-MS/MS** Chromatogram:



	Result [mg/kg]	EU-MRL [mg/kg]
Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates expressed as CS ₂ , including maneb, mancozeb, metiram, propineb, thiram and ziram)	0,99	1,0

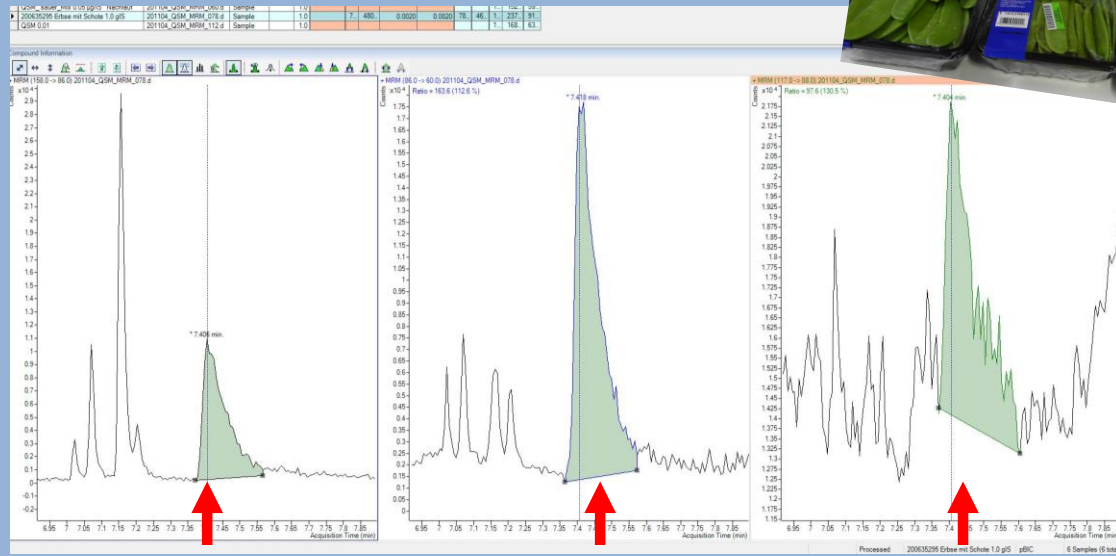
- Alliaceae naturally contain compounds (e.g. **mustard oil glycosides**) that can transform to intermediates (e.g. isothiocyanates) which can release CS₂ when applying the the acidic digestion/hydrolysis method => background CS₂-levels

2. Example | Sugar peas (Kenya): pBIC, eBIC

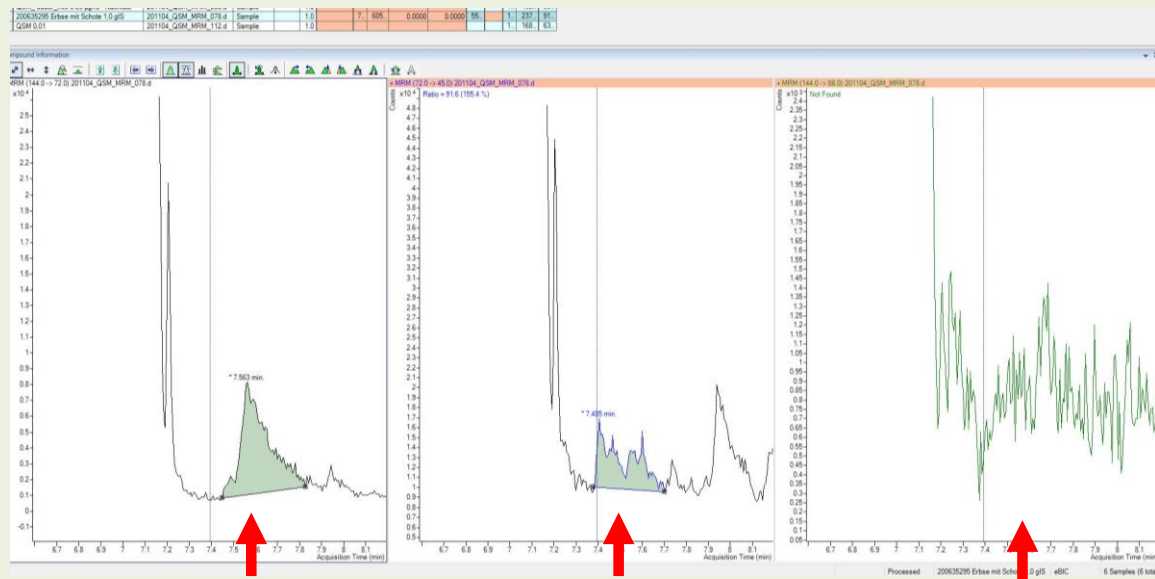
- QuEChERS extract; **GC-MS/MS** Chromatogram:



pBIC
(~0,002 ppm)



eBIC
(~0,001 ppm)

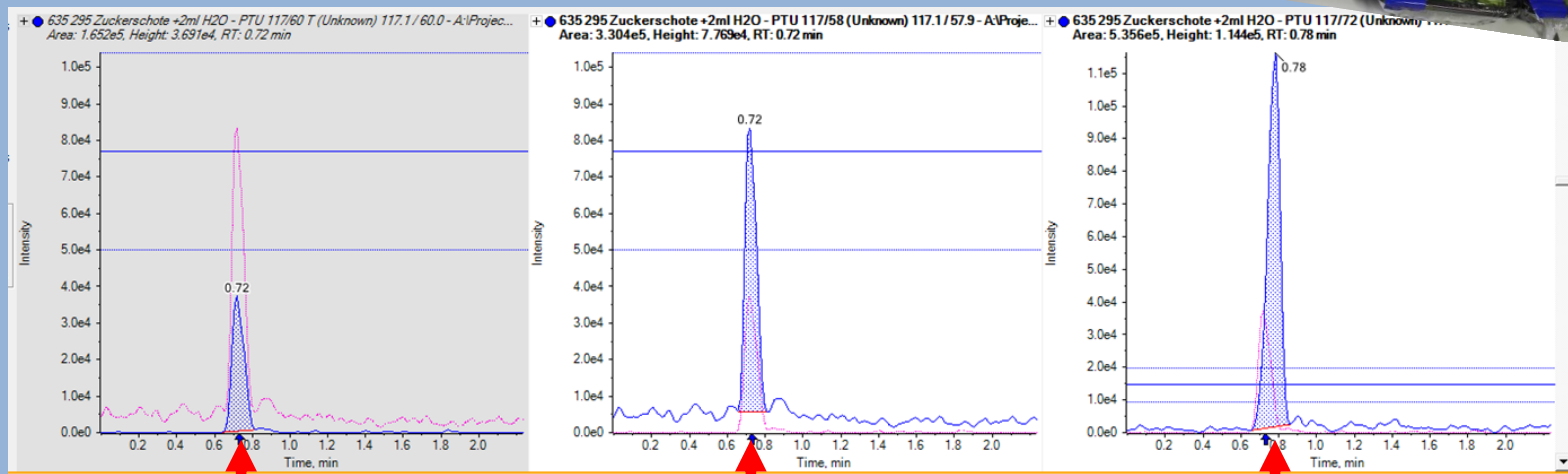


2. Example | Sugar peas (Kenya): PTU, ETU

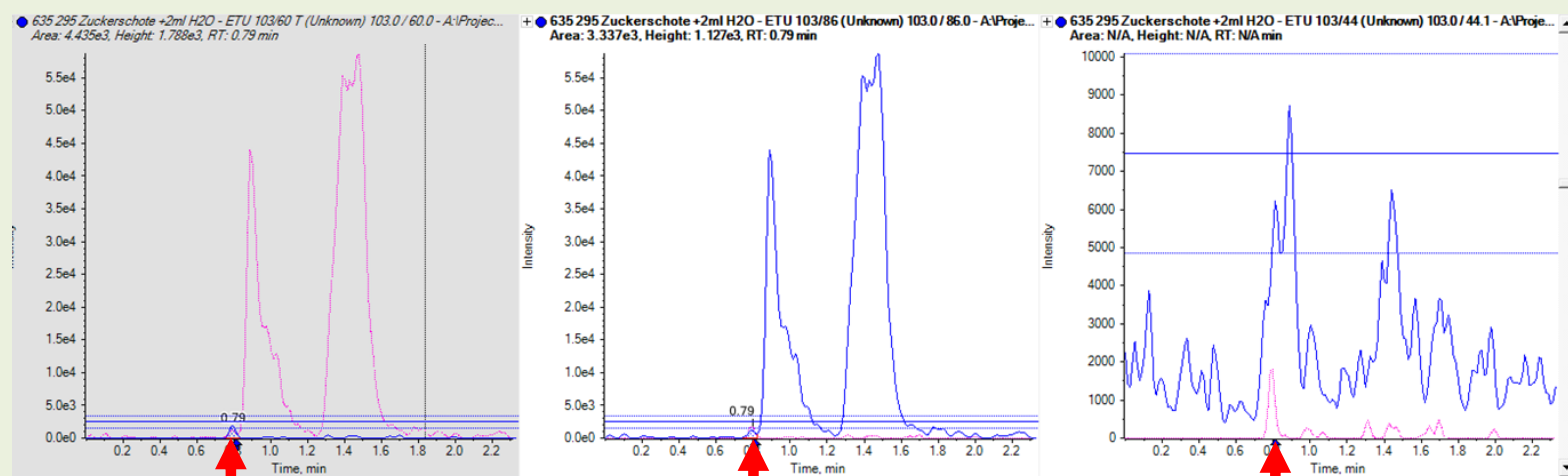
- QuPPE extract; **LC-MS/MS** Chromatogram:



PTU
(~0,005 ppm)



ETU
(~0,0008 ppm)



2. Example | Sugar peas (Kenya)



- **EU MRL residue definitions for propineb:**
 - Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates **expressed as CS₂**, including maneb, mancozeb, metiram, **propineb**, thiram and ziram)
 - **Propineb, expressed as propilendiamine** (SANTE/12108/2020; Reg. (EC) No 149/2008)

- Quantification of propineb in sugar pea-sample via derivatization to pBIC (standard addition (spiking of test portions), GC-MS/MS)

	Result [mg/kg]	EU-MRL [mg/kg]
Propineb (expressed as propilendiamine)	0,30	0,05
Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates expressed as CS ₂ , including maneb, mancozeb, metiram, propineb, thiram and ziram)	(0,62*)	1,0

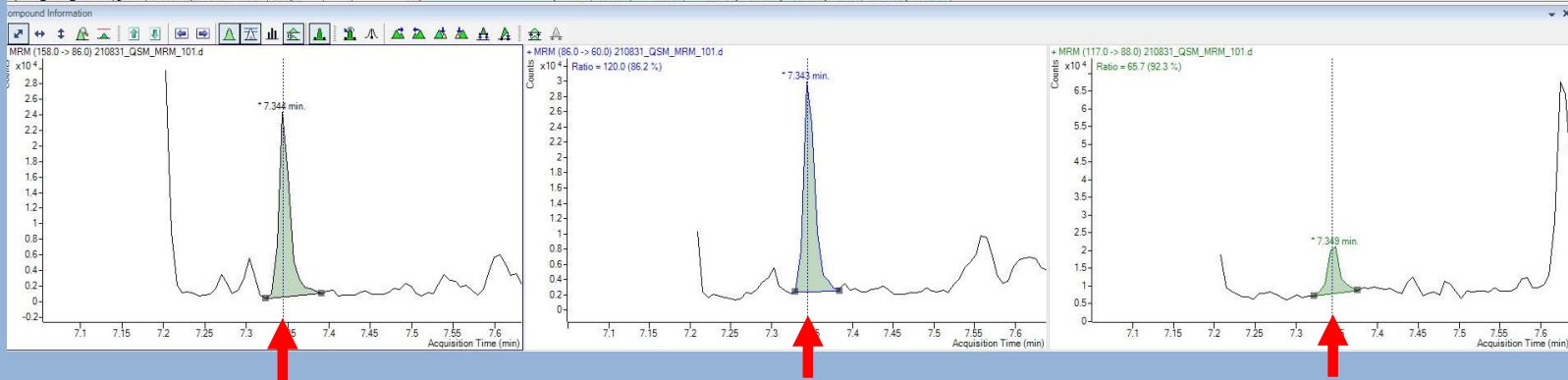
*theoretical CS₂-result (calculated on basis of propineb-finding)

3. Example | Tamarillo (Colombia): Propineb



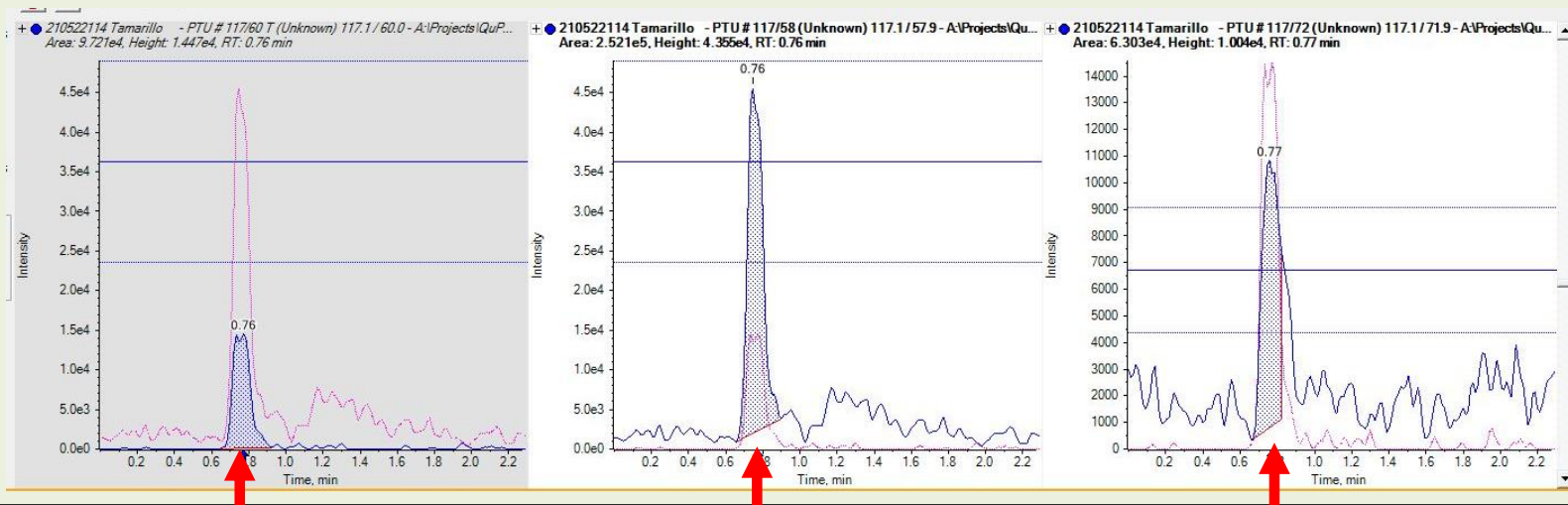
QuEChERS; GC-MS/MS Chromatogramm:

Sample	Area	Height	Ratio	RT	Area	Height	Ratio	RT				
210522113 Apfel 1.0gIS	210831_QSM_MRM_100.d	Sample	1.0	7.344	22405	0.0004	0.0004	26876	14721	10.124	3852432	1322661
210522114 Tamarillo 1.0gIS	210831_QSM_MRM_101.d	Sample	1.0	7.347	607694	0.0407	0.0407	677238	355665	10.131	4287199	1422807
QSM_Neutr_Mix 0.05 µgIS	210831_QSM_MRM_102.d	Sample	1.0									



pBIC
(~0,0004
ppm)

QuPPE; LC-MS/MS Chromatogramm:



PTU
(~0,003
ppm)

3. Example | Tamarillo (Colombia): Propineb



EU Pesticides Database:

Code number	Products to which	Scientific name(s): Carica papaya
0163040	● Papayas	<i>Other products names or synonyms:</i> Akee apples Feijoas/pineapple guavas Langsats/lanzones/longkongs Mangosteens Naranjillas/lulos Paw paws Tamarillos

Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates expressed as CS ₂ , including maneb, mancozeb, metiram, propineb, thiram and ziram) (O) ⓘ	Propineb (expressed as propilendiamine) (O) ⓘ
Reg. (EU) 2017/171	Reg. (EC) No 149/2008
applicable	applicable
7 ⓘ	0.05*

Clickable footnotes | * Indicates lower limit of analytical determination

- CS₂-finding: 0,039 mg/kg

Summary

- Xanthan gum-solvent is suitable to prepare DTC-suspensions; only usage of freshly prepared suspensions is recommended
- Quality of DTC-standards varies
- Screening for mono alkylene *bis*-DTCs via eBIC/pBIC and/or ETU/PTU is a CHANCE (more CS₂-findings, more MRL-violations)!

What's next?

- Enhance chemical stability of DTC-xanthan gum-suspensions
- Check for other DTC-screening marker (especially for N,N-dimethyl-DTCs)
- Development of a group-specific DTC-method
- Survey on DTC-methods (in cooperation with French NRL)

Our Pesticide-Team

