



European  
Commission

EU REFERENCE LABORATORIES FOR RESIDUES OF PESTICIDES

# Facing Analytical Challenges of Dithiocarbamate Analysis

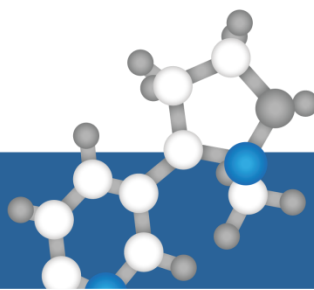
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## Step-by-Step



European  
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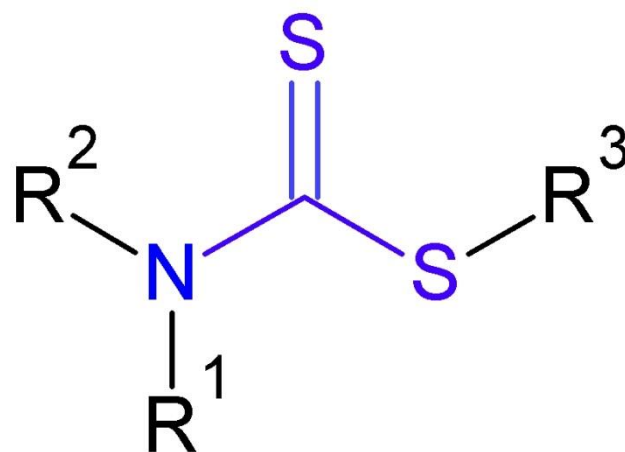
**EURL-SRM**



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EURL-SRM/CVUA Stuttgart  
21.10.2021

# Dithiocarbamate

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

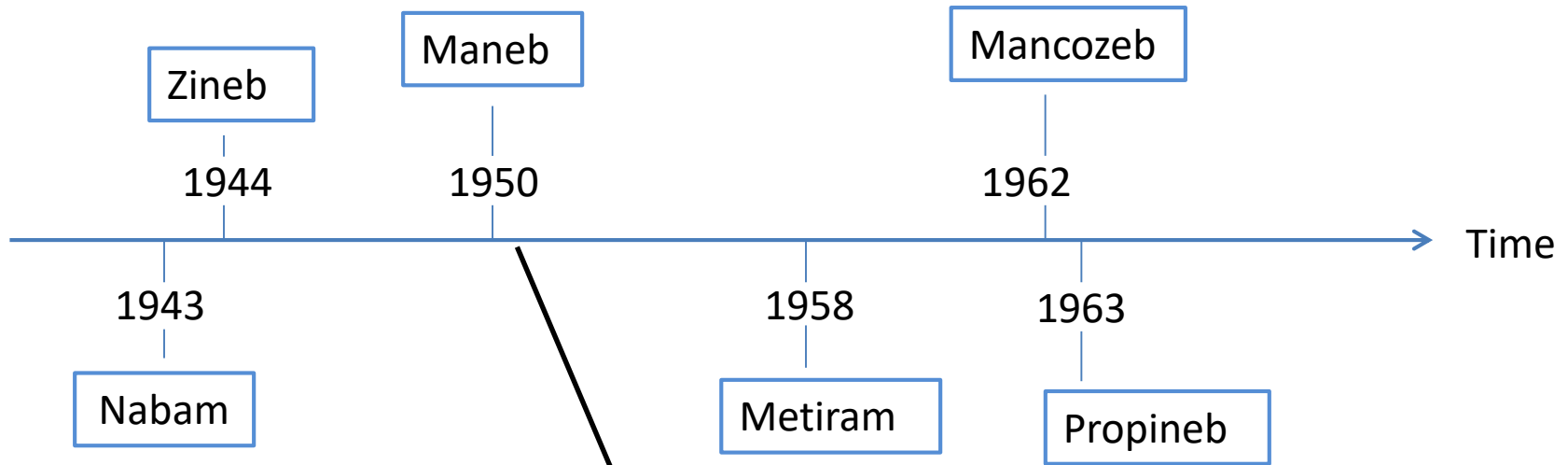


- first reports ...

- 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  $\text{CS}_2$  by mineral acids (e.g. Clarke et al. & Lowen)
- **1969:** Modifikation by Keppel *et al.* (addition of  $\text{SnCl}_2$  to the sample + boiling with diluted HCl)

### → official methods for determination of DTC residues:

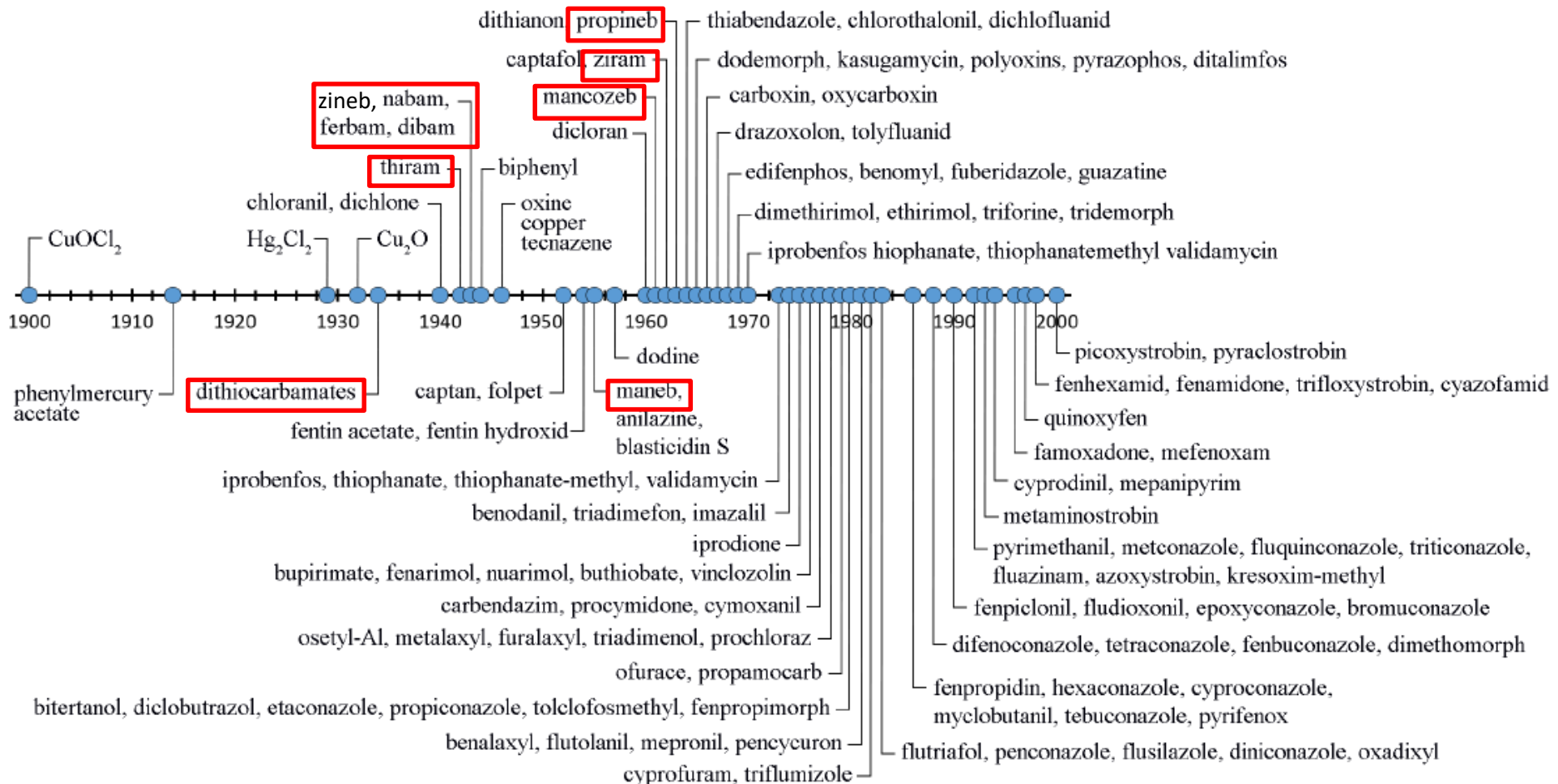
- EN 12396-1:  $\text{SnCl}_2/\text{HCl}$ -Cleavage, Cu(II) acetate & DEA spectroph. analysis
- EN 12396-2 type:  $\text{SnCl}_2/\text{HCl}$ -Cleavage, headspace SPME, GC-Analysis of  $\text{CS}_2$
- EN 12396-3 type:  $\text{SnCl}_2/\text{HCl}$ -Cleavage, KOH/MeOH, spectroph. analysis (Xanthogenate mth.)

## • **N,N-Dimethyl-DTCs:**

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

# DTCs among the first Organic Fungicides

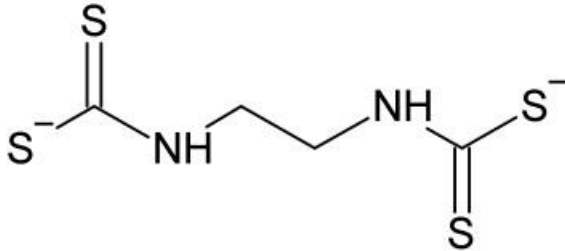
## ➤ Timeline of the development of selected fungicides (\*):



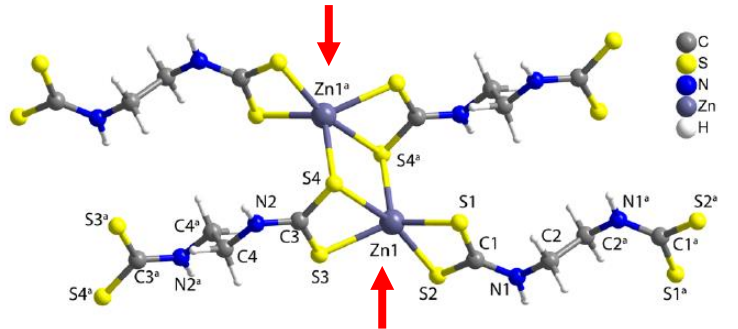
(\*) Reproduced from Lefton JB, Pekar KB, Runcevski T. The Crystal Structure of Zineb, 75 years later. ChemRxiv. Cambridge: Cambridge Open Engage; 2019

# DTC-Fungicides | Metal-based, polymeric complexes

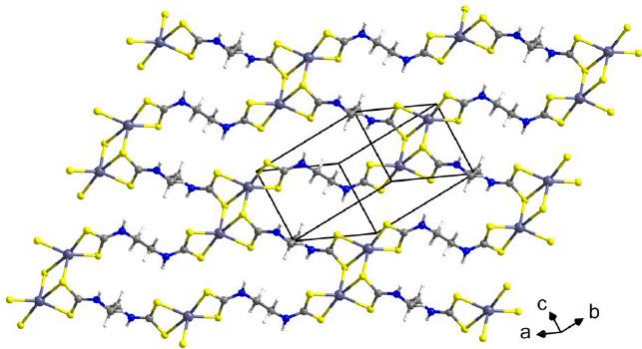
## • Mono Alkylene *bis*-DTCs

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

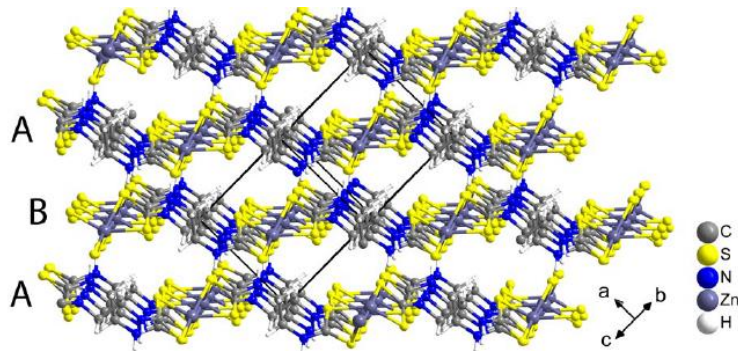
# Crystal Structure of Zineb (\*)



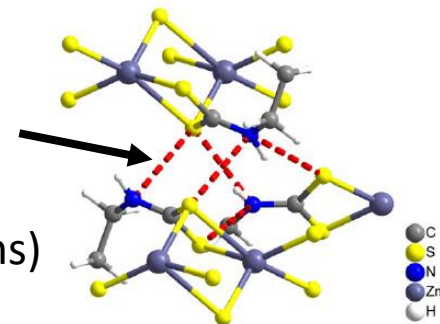
- $Zn^{2+}$  cations are coordinated by thiocarbamate groups of EBDTC-linkers
- each  $Zn^{2+}$  cations is coordinated by five S-atoms ( $\Rightarrow$  Zn-S-bond)
- inorganic fragment of structure:  $Zn_2S_8$ -cluster



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

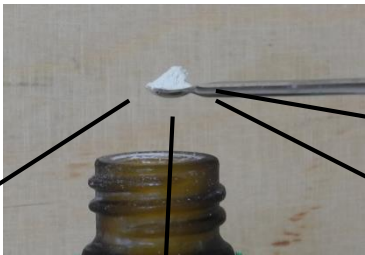


- polymeric layers stack one on top of another  $\Rightarrow$  layered crystal packing
- layers are held together by hydrogen bonding network (between the amine N-atoms and the thiocarbamate S atoms)

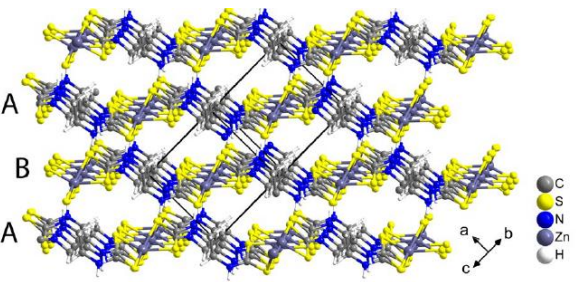


# Microcrystalline powder of Zineb, ... | Standard, Food Sample

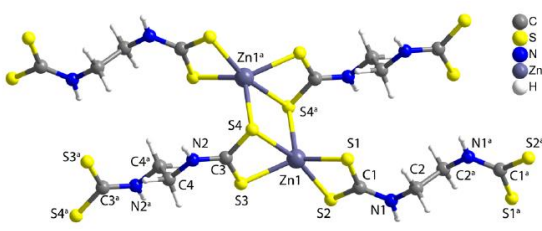
**Hypothesis!**



1. polymeric, stacked layers

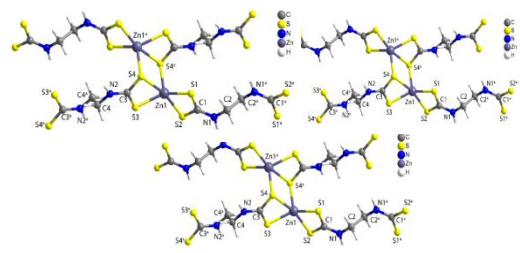


2. "monomer complexes"



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

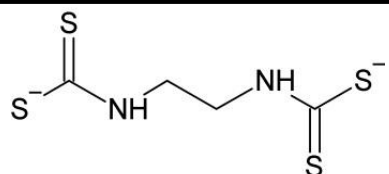
3. "oligomer complexes"



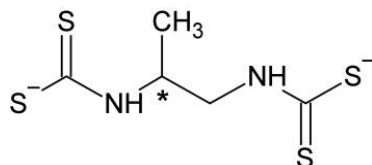
- **stock-/working solutions:**
  - solvent should preserve the complex structure of the DTCs
  - (other aspects: pipette handling, reproducibility, chemical stability, ...)
- **quantitative DTC-method:**
  - analytical procedure has to be able to quantitatively disrupt the complex DTC-structures and quantify the analyte (CS<sub>2</sub> or derivatization product or ...)

# Quantitative DTC-Analysis | Analytical Challenges (among others)

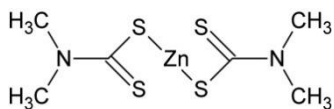
- suitable solvent for preparation of DTC-stock/working solutions
- **Quantitative DTC-Analysis:**



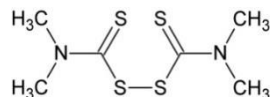
**Ethylene *bis*-DTCs**



**Propylene *bis*-DTCs**

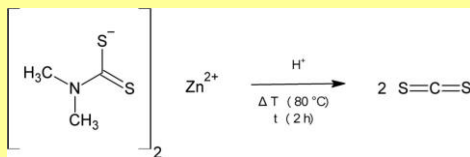


**Ziram**



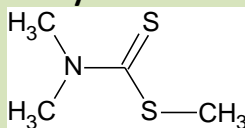
**Thiram**

**Acid decomposition of DTC & release of CS<sub>2</sub>**

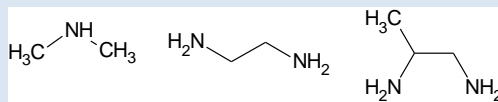


**Derivatisation**

e.g. methylation



**Amine-Moiety**



**Other methods (see scientific literature)**

**Single Residue Methods!**

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



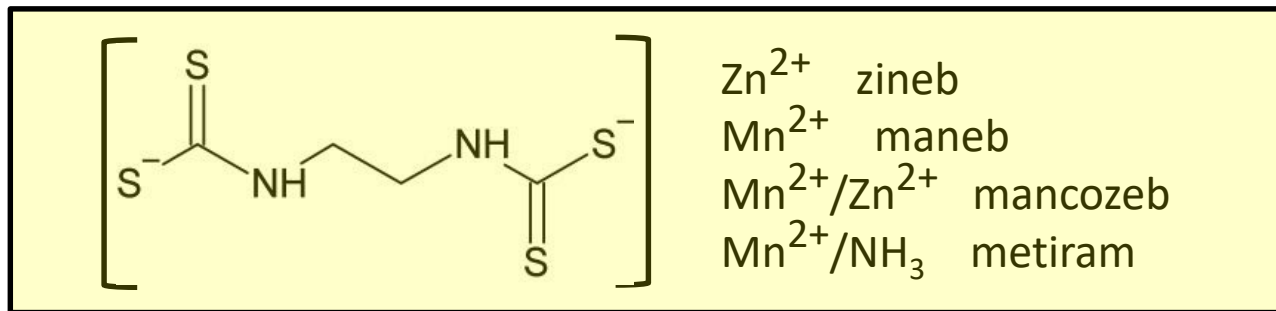
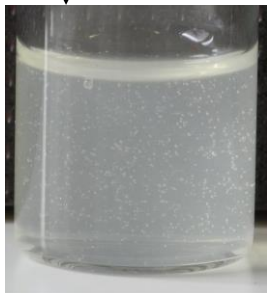
# DTC-stock/working solutions | Suitable Solvent?

- 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));

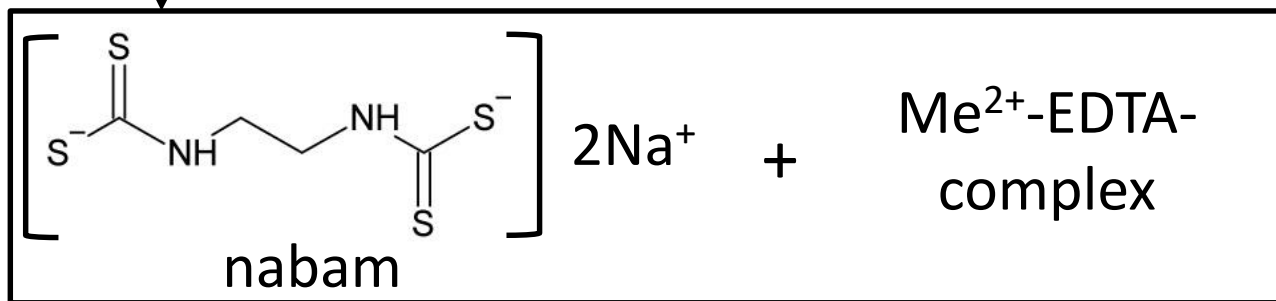


e.g. mancozeb-susp.  
(1 mg/ml)

↓ + EDTA

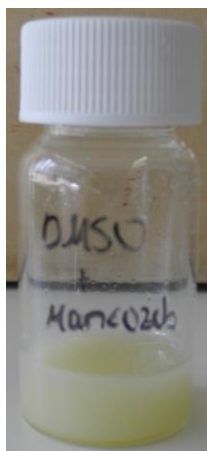


Conversion of the water-insoluble DTC (zineb, ...) into the soluble sodium salt by means of EDTA

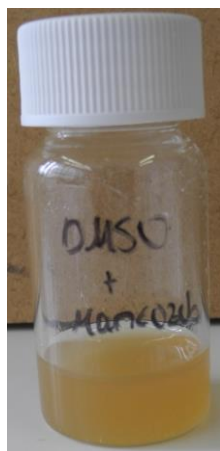


# DTC-stock/working solutions | Suitable Solvent?

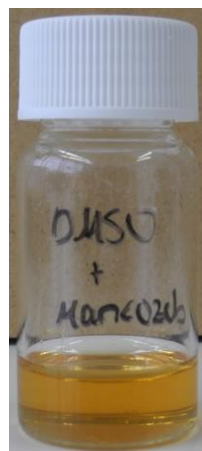
- Dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) as solvent for DTCs?



10 min  
at RT

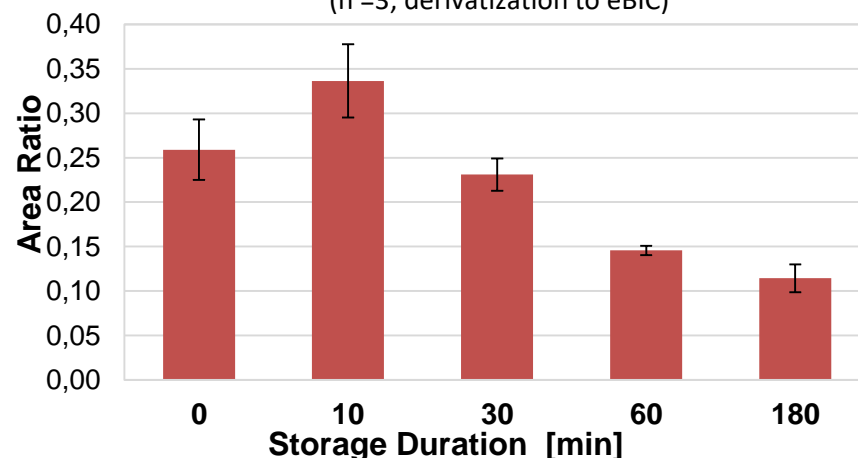


60 min  
at RT



## Stability of Mancozeb in DMSO

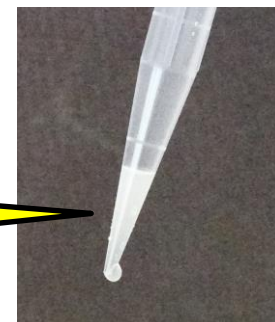
(n = 3; derivatization to eBIC)



→ 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

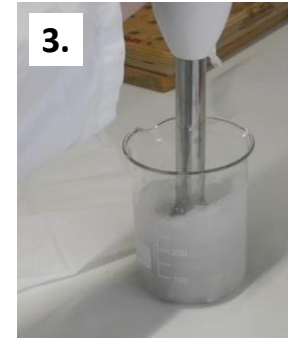
## ➤ Xanthan gum (from *Xanthomonas campestris*):

- 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



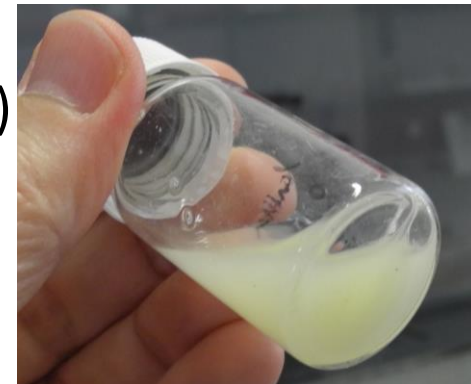
(Air bubbles can be removed with ultrasound.)



+ DTC-standard

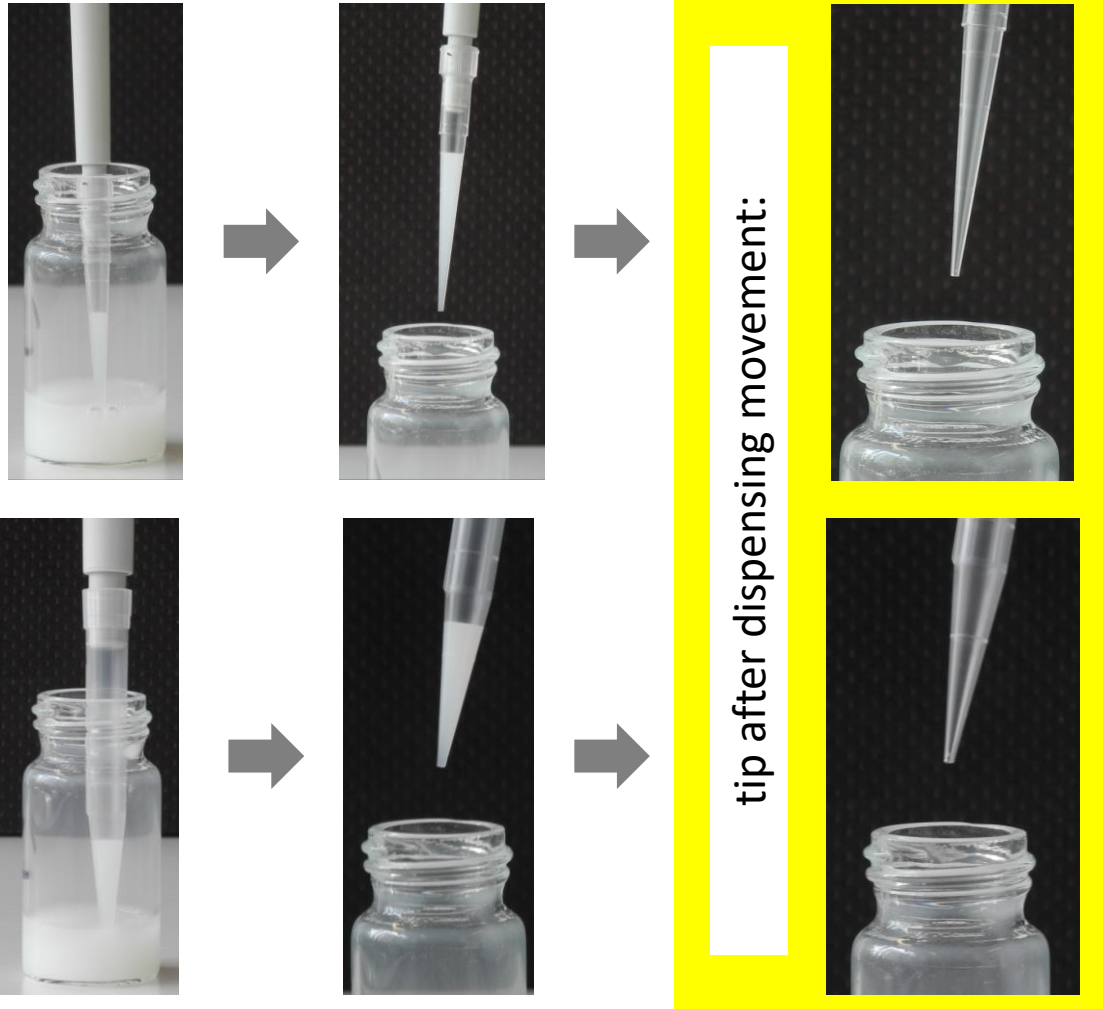


- Stable & homogeneous suspension of DTC (up to 60 min)
- Hypothesis: DTC complexes & polymeric DTC structure remain intact
- Chemical stability of DTC in xanthan gum solution???



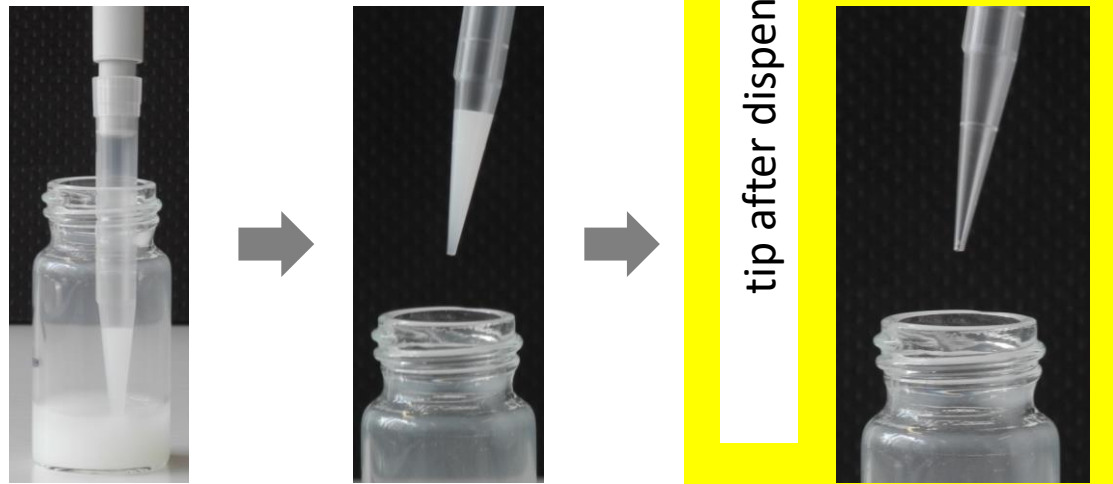
# DTC-Xanthan Gum Suspension | Pipette Handling

## 100 $\mu$ l-Pipette (\*):



## 1000 $\mu$ l-Pipette (\*):

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



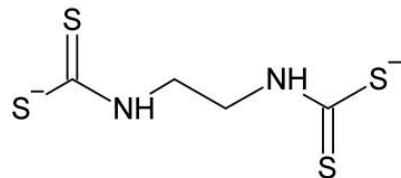
Only very minor residues of DTC-stock-suspension remain in tip after dispensing movement.

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

# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Mancozeb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Mn<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>**  
**(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; SnCl<sub>2</sub>/HCl-Hydrolysis (80°C, 2h); CS<sub>2</sub>-Detection: GC-MS/MS

Supplier	Stock Suspension (1 mg/ml)	Storage time	Recovery via CS <sub>2</sub> (calc. as mancozeb) [%]					Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
			1	2	3	4	5		

### Supplier I

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

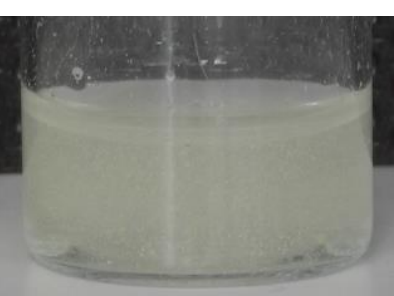


0 min	89	90,1	81,5	86,5	68,7*	<b>86,8</b>	<b>3,8</b>
4 h	75,8	69,4	69,8	70,1	67,3	<b>70,5</b>	<b>4,0</b>

Exp. date: 31.01.23

### Supplier II

Purity: 99,3% (assay: CS<sub>2</sub>)



0 min	38,1	24,9	59,5	60,5	35,2	<b>43,6</b>	<b>32,2</b>
4 h	26,3	32,0	30,3	38,8	33,8	<b>32,3</b>	<b>12,7</b>

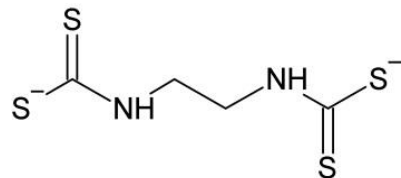
Exp. date: 01.09.24

\*: identified as outlier

# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Zineb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Zn<sup>2+</sup>**

experimental conditions

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

### Supplier

Stock Suspension  
(1 mg/ml)

Storage  
time

Recovery via CS<sub>2</sub>  
(calc. as zineb) [%]

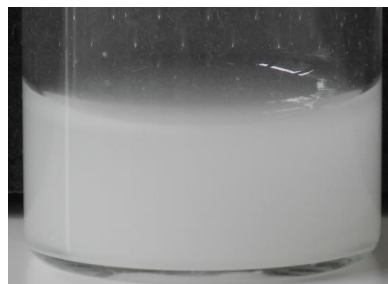
Mean  
Rec [%]

RSD  
[%]

1      2      3      4      5

### Supplier I

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



0 min	78,0	97,1	105,2	84,4	111,6	<b>95,2</b>	<b>13,2</b>
30 min	135,2	117,0	123,4	110,7	137,9	<b>124,8</b>	<b>8,3</b>

Exp. date: 01.02.23

### Supplier II

Purity: 95,2% (assay: qNMR)



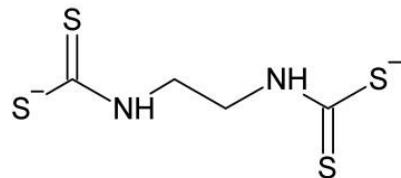
0 min	93,6	99,1	84,9	88,2	81,3	<b>89,4</b>	<b>7,1</b>
30 min	80,2	74,4	84,5	81,6	86,4	<b>81,4</b>	<b>5,1</b>

Exp. date: 01.05.26

# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Metiram

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Zn<sup>2+</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub>**

experimental conditions

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

## Supplier

Stock Suspension  
(1 mg/ml)

Storage  
time

Recovery via CS<sub>2</sub>  
(calc. as metiram) [%]

Mean  
Rec [%]

RSD  
[%]

1 2 3 4 5

## Supplier III

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



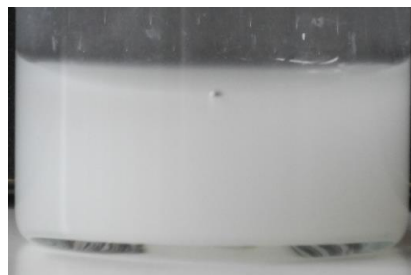
Exp. date: 19.03.24



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



**Ultrasonication of stock suspension (7 min)**

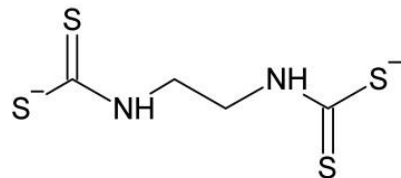


Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	62,7	53,8	53,8	63,6	55,5	<b>57,8</b>	<b>7,6</b>
30 min	71,6	77,9	49,2	52,8	43,9	<b>59,1</b>	<b>22,4</b>

# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Metiram

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Zn<sup>2+</sup>, NH<sub>3</sub>**

experimental conditions

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

## Supplier

Stock Suspension  
(1 mg/ml)

Storage  
time

Recovery via CS<sub>2</sub>  
(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	<b>78,9</b>	<b>4,4</b>
30 min	77,9	66,3	81,5	80,1	83,3	<b>77,8</b>	<b>7,8</b>



**+ 0,1 M NaCl**



0 min  
30 min

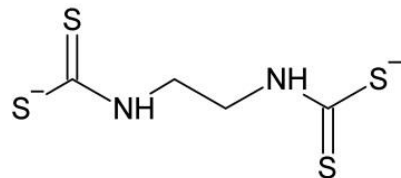
n. d.



# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Maneb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Mn<sup>2+</sup>**

experimental conditions

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

### Supplier

Stock Suspension  
(1 mg/ml)

Storage  
time

Recovery via CS<sub>2</sub>  
(calc. as maneb) [%]

Mean  
Rec [%]

RSD  
[%]

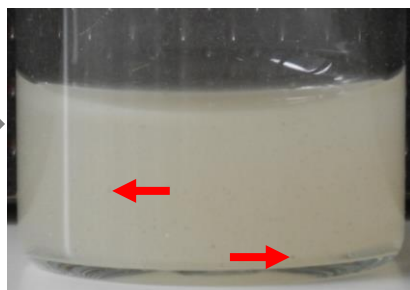
1      2      3      4      5

### Supplier I

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



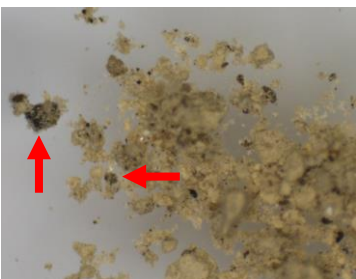
Exp. date: 01.02.26



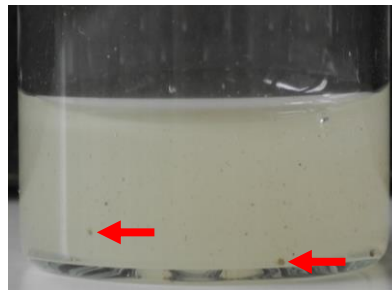
0 min	25,7*	45,0	38,6	40,4	35,8	<b>40,0</b>	<b>8,4</b>
30 min	68,0*	37,7	37,7	38,6	36,7	<b>37,7</b>	<b>1,7</b>

### Supplier II

Purity: 95,0% (assay: CS<sub>2</sub>)



Exp. date: 01.09.24



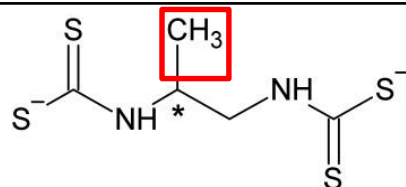
0 min	71,6	83,8	74,2	50,6	50,6	<b>66,2</b>	<b>20,1</b>
30 min	50,6	58,5	55,9	61,1	32,3*	<b>56,5</b>	<b>6,9</b>

\*: identified as outlier

# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Propineb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Zn<sup>2+</sup>**

experimental conditions

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

**Supplier**

Stock Suspension  
(1 mg/ml)

Storage  
time

Recovery via CS<sub>2</sub>  
(calc. as propineb) [%]

Mean  
Rec [%]

RSD  
[%]

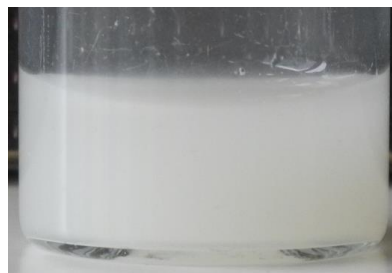
1 2 3 4 5

**Supplier I**

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



Exp. date: 30.06.23



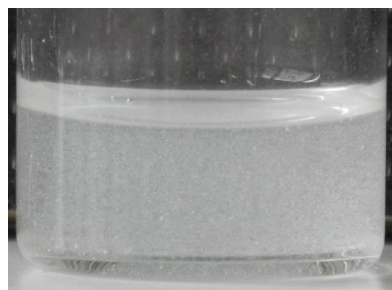
Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	164,9	138,2	147,8	144,9	148,7	<b>148,9</b>	<b>5,9</b>
30 min						n.d.	

**Supplier II**

Purity: 94,1% (assay: CS<sub>2</sub>)



Exp. date: 01.03.23

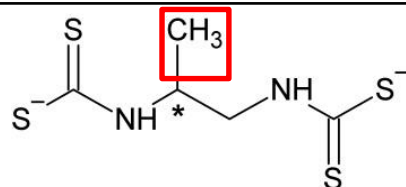


Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	6,7	5,7	4,8	6,7	6,7	<b>6,1</b>	<b>12,5</b>
30 min	6,7	5,7	6,7	8,6	5,7	<b>6,7</b>	<b>15,6</b>

# DTC-Suspensions used for spiking procedures | Recovery Studies

## Propineb

organosulphur skeleton



counter ion(s)

**Zn<sup>2+</sup>**

experimental conditions

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

**Supplier**

Stock Suspension  
(1 mg/ml)

Storage  
time

Recovery via CS<sub>2</sub>  
(calc. as propineb) [%]

Mean  
Rec [%]

RSD  
[%]

**Supplier IV**

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



**1. Experiment**

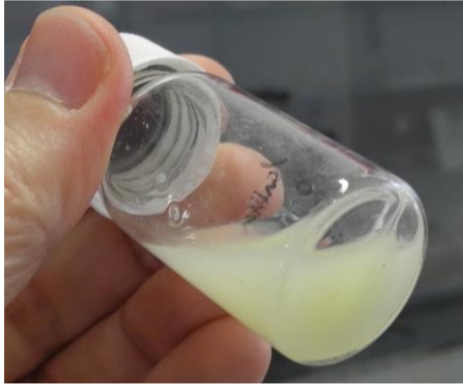
Storage time	1	2	3	4	5	Mean Rec [%]	RSD [%]
0 min	94,4	86,7	93,4	95,3	88,7	<b>91,7</b>	<b>3,7</b>
30 min	93,4	94,3	86,7	95,3	90,6	<b>92,1</b>	<b>3,4</b>

**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	<b>82,2</b>	<b>6,4</b>
30 min	83,9	85,8	86,7	80,1	98,2	<b>86,9</b>	<b>7,0</b>

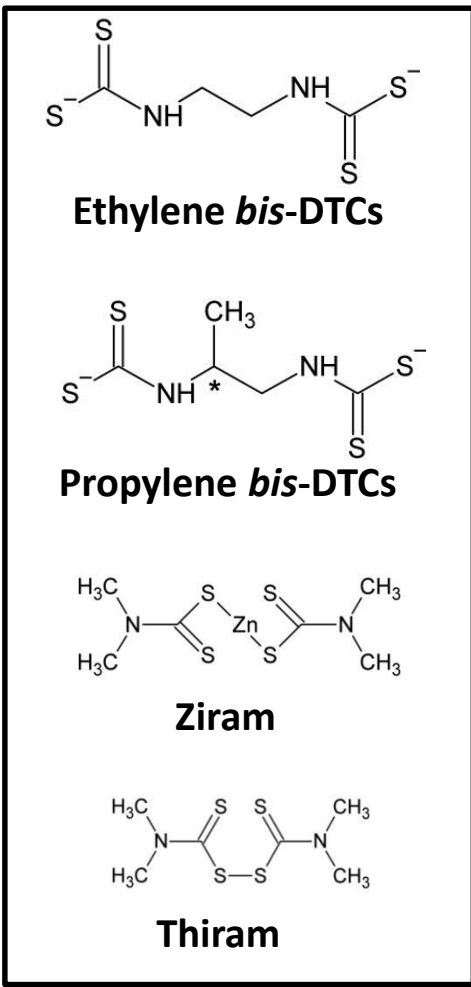
# DTC-Xanthan Gum Suspension



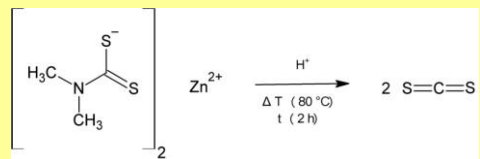
- In case you intend to use this **suspension for validation studies with DTCs**, please **send us your experiences/feedback/results: [eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de](mailto:eurl-srm@cvuas.bwl.de)**

# Quantitative DTC-Analysis | Analytical Challenges (among others)

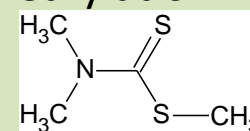
- suitable solvent for preparation of DTC-stock/working solutions
- **Quantitative DTC-Analysis:**



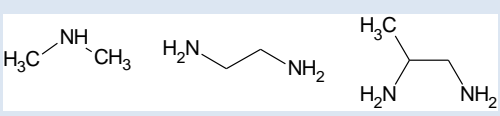
**Acid decomposition of DTC & release of CS<sub>2</sub>**



**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](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

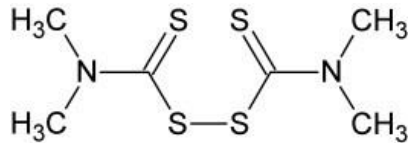
Remark

Ziram,  
Thiram

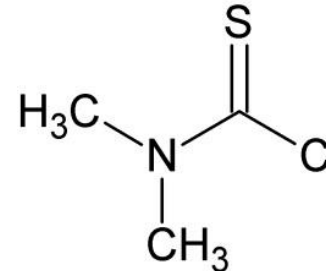
? Dimethyldithiocarbamate-  
Methyl (DiMeDTC-Me)  
?  
Dimethyldithiocarbamoyl-  
chloride (DMTCC)  
(other screening-marker see  
previous presentation)

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

Thiram



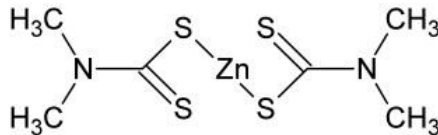
QuEChERS



Dimethyl-  
thiocarbamoylchlorid  
(DMTCC)

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

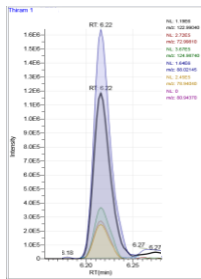
Ziram



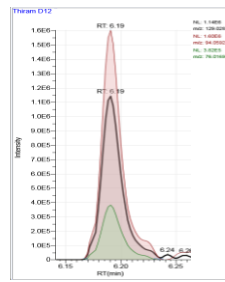
➤ DMTCC is being formed during QuEChERS procedure:

- Conversion of D<sub>12</sub>-Thiram / D<sub>12</sub>-Ziram to D<sub>6</sub>-DMTCC

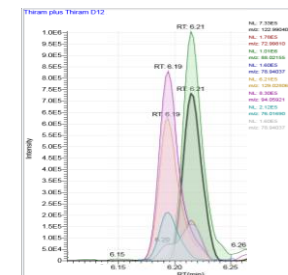
Thiram:



D<sub>12</sub>-Thiram:



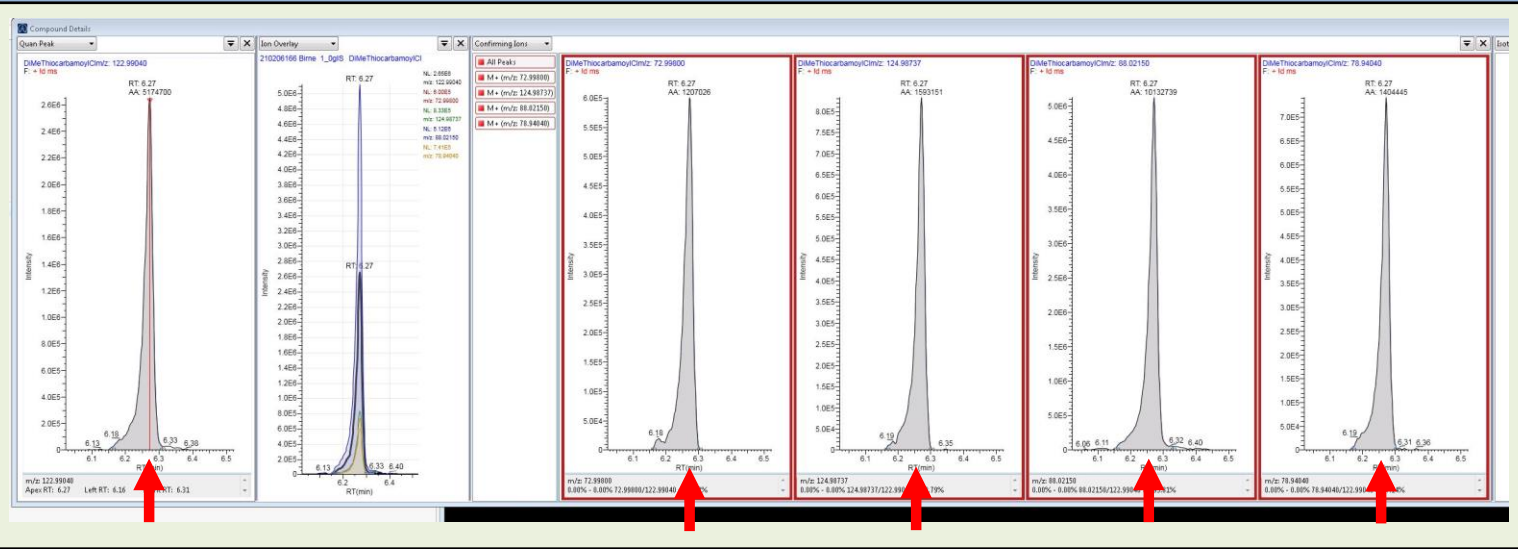
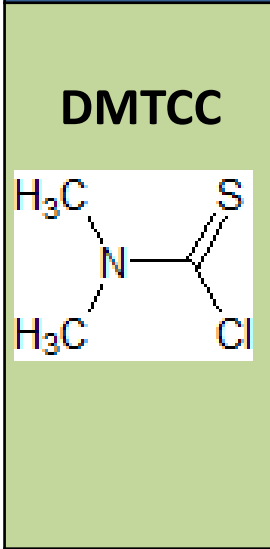
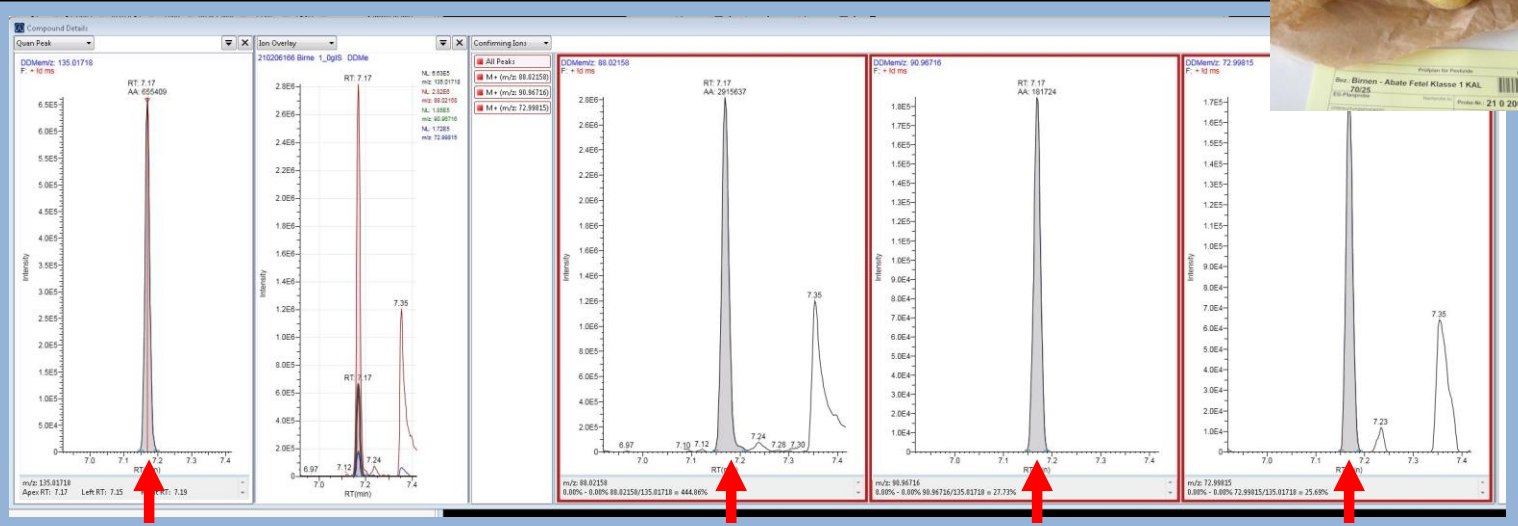
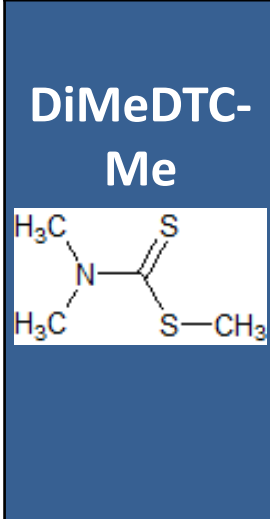
Thiram + D<sub>12</sub>-Thiram:



# DMTCC / DiMeDTC as Screening Marker?



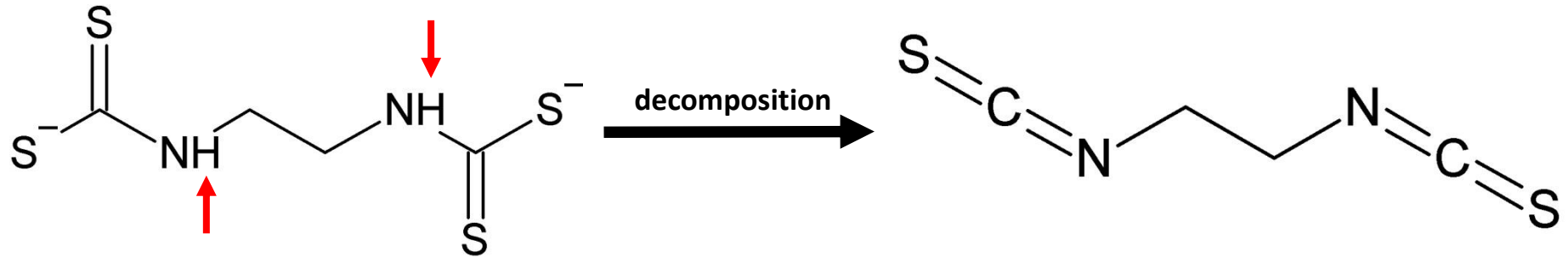
- Example: Pear (Italy), QuEChERS extract; GC-Orbitrap (PTV injector):



- CS<sub>2</sub>-finding: 0,61 mg/kg



# Decomposition of Ethylene-bis-DTCs to eBIC

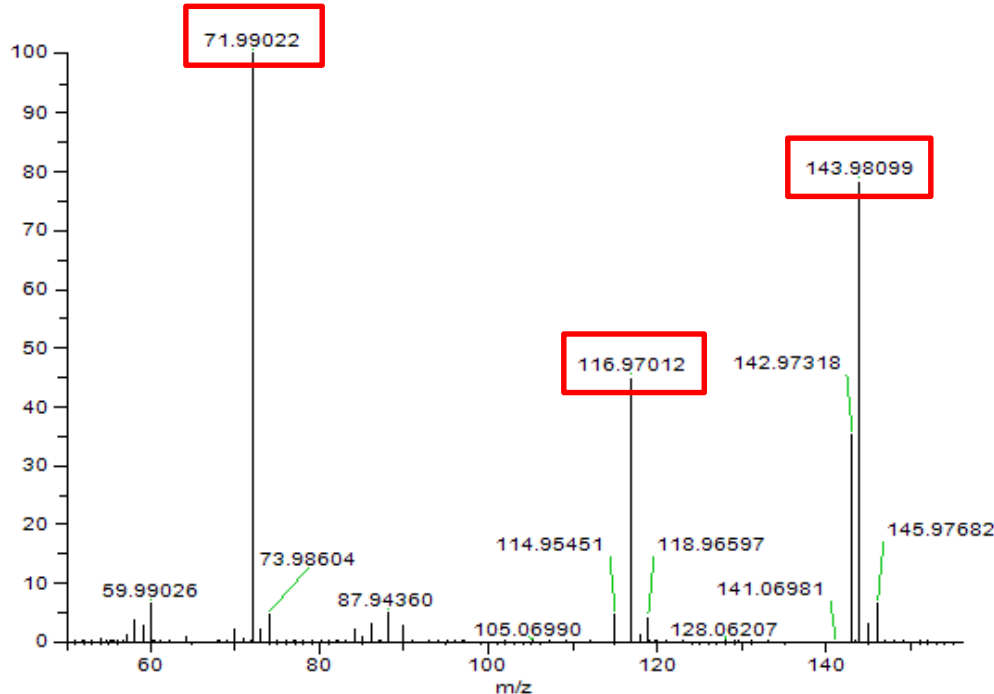


Ethylene-*bis*-DTC

Ethylene-*bis*-isothiocyanate (eBIC)

## GC-EI spectrum of eBIC:

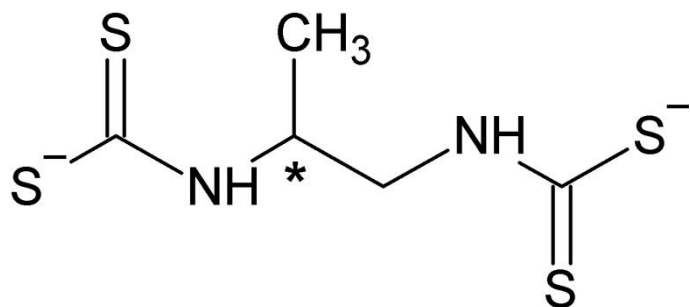
1686 eDITC 5er #946 RT: 7.68 AV: 1 NL: 4.79E+008  
T: FTMS + c EI Full ms [50.0000-600.0000]



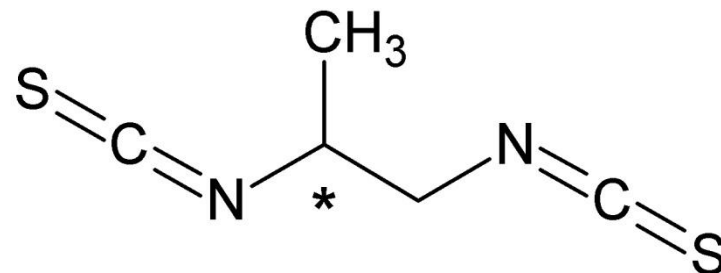
- see metabolic pathways of ethylene-*bis*-DTC
- **GC-amenable**
- NOT LC-MS (ESI pos/neg) amenable
- calculated  
LogP = 2,0
- standard not stable!
- for qualitative screening-purposes:  
extraktion of eBIC of e.g mancozeb-  
standard with acetonitrile



# Decomposition of Propylene-*bis*-DTCs to pBIC



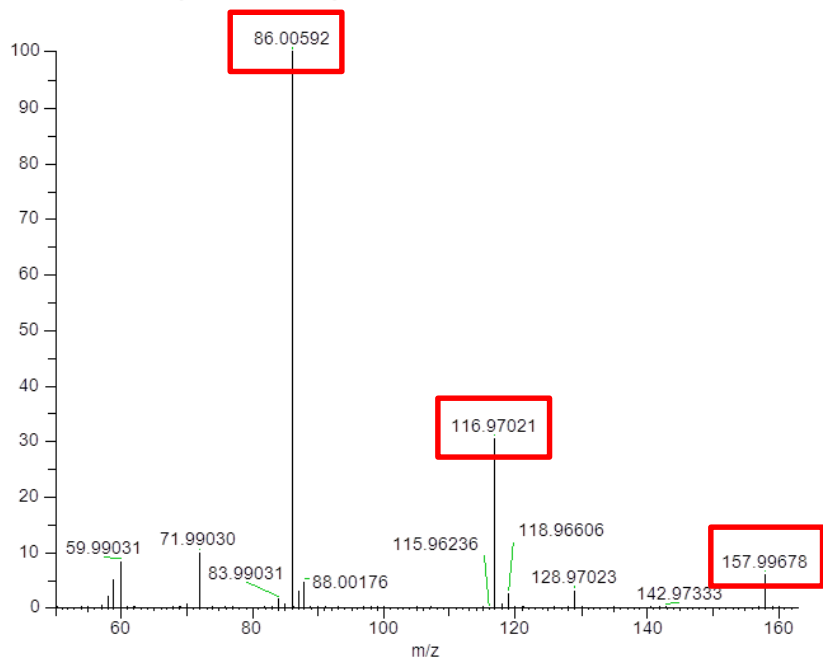
Propylene-*bis*-DTC



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:

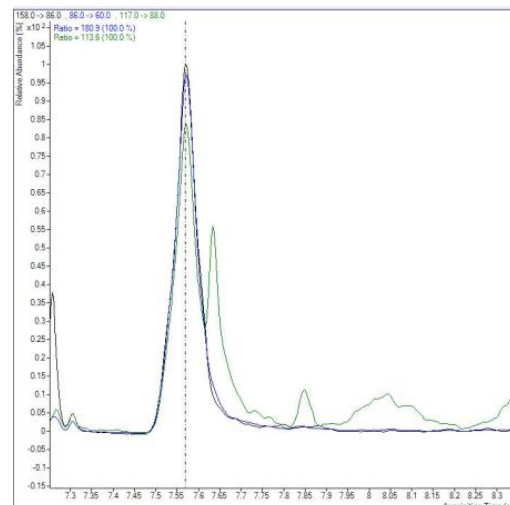
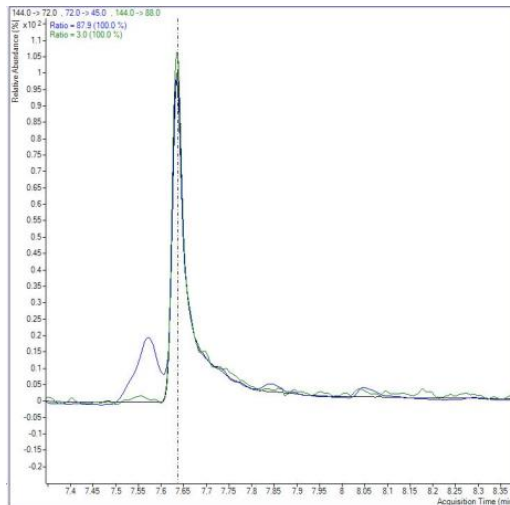
**5 ppb eBIC**

**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



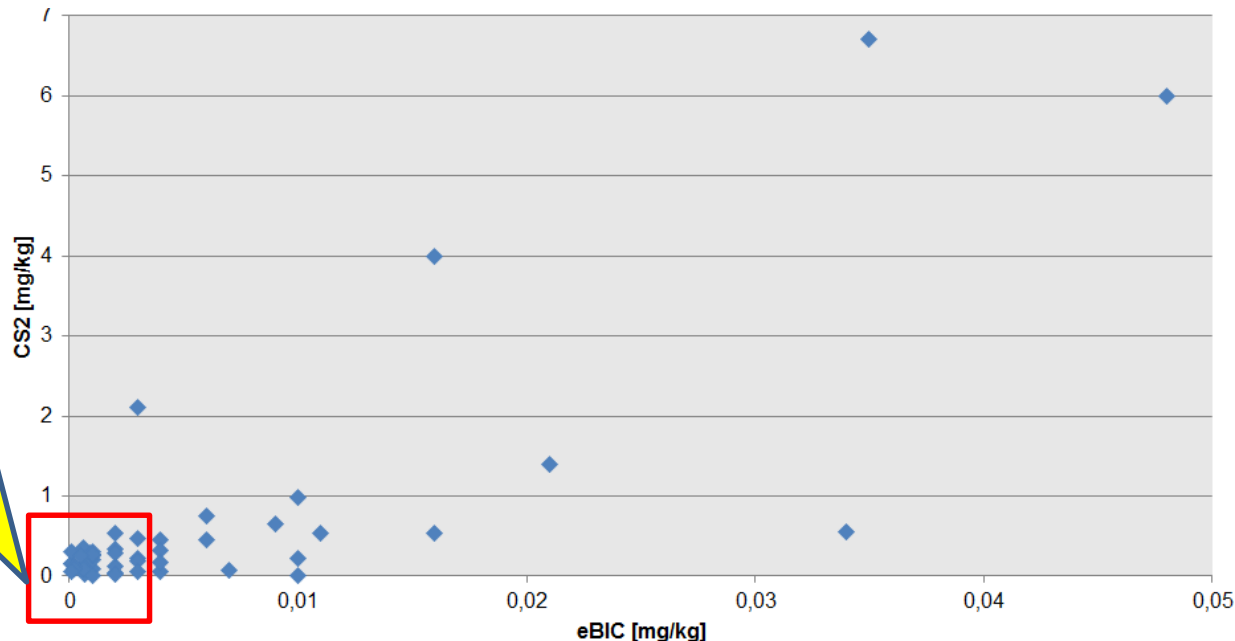
# BIC Screening | Achievements: more CS<sub>2</sub>-findings

- Good correlation of eBIC/ETU-positives and CS<sub>2</sub>-results (DTC-cleavage to CS<sub>2</sub>):

Matrix	# of samples screened	# of positive eBIC-findings		# of ETU-findings (QuPPE, LC-MS/MS)	CS <sub>2</sub> -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 CS<sub>2</sub> (GC-MS/MS): 0,01 mg/kg

- BUT: no correlation of eBIC- or pBIC-concentration and CS<sub>2</sub>-concentration



Samples were positive for CS<sub>2</sub> (chemical cleavage of DTCs), although eBIC-values were below SDL! CS<sub>2</sub>-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 <sub>2</sub> -Befund [mg/kg]	EU-HM CS <sub>2</sub> [mg/kg]
<b>&gt; MRL (non compliant)</b>			
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
<b>&gt; MRL, but compliant due to uncertainty interval</b>			
Basil	eBIC / ETU	6,0	5,0
Head lettuce	eBIC / ETU	5,6	5,0
Basil	eBIC / ETU	7,2	5,0

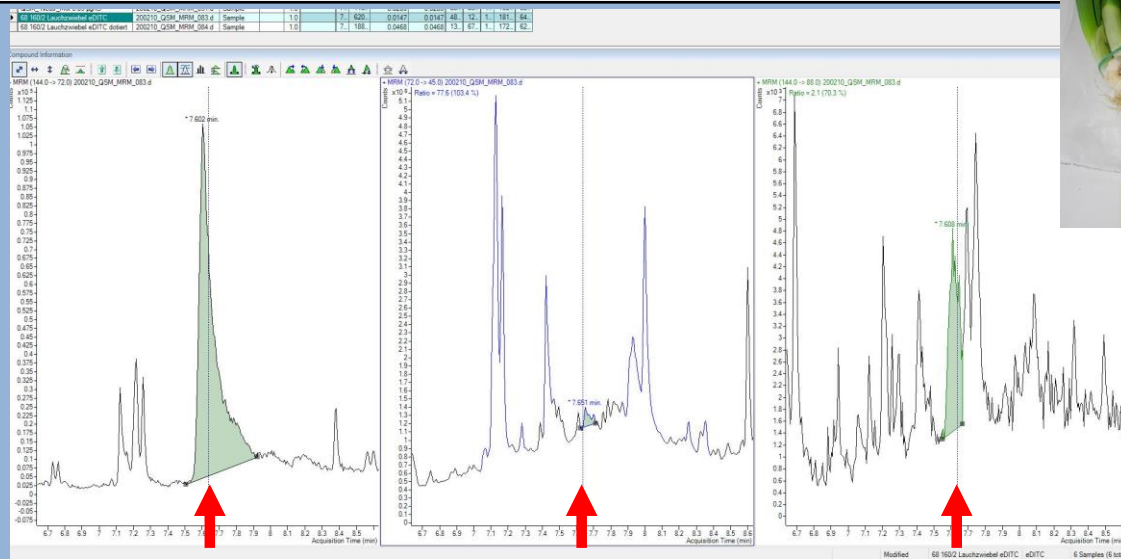
- Samples were analyzed for CS<sub>2</sub> by chemical cleavage of DTCs because of **positive BIC screening**.

# 1. Example | Spring onion: eBIC

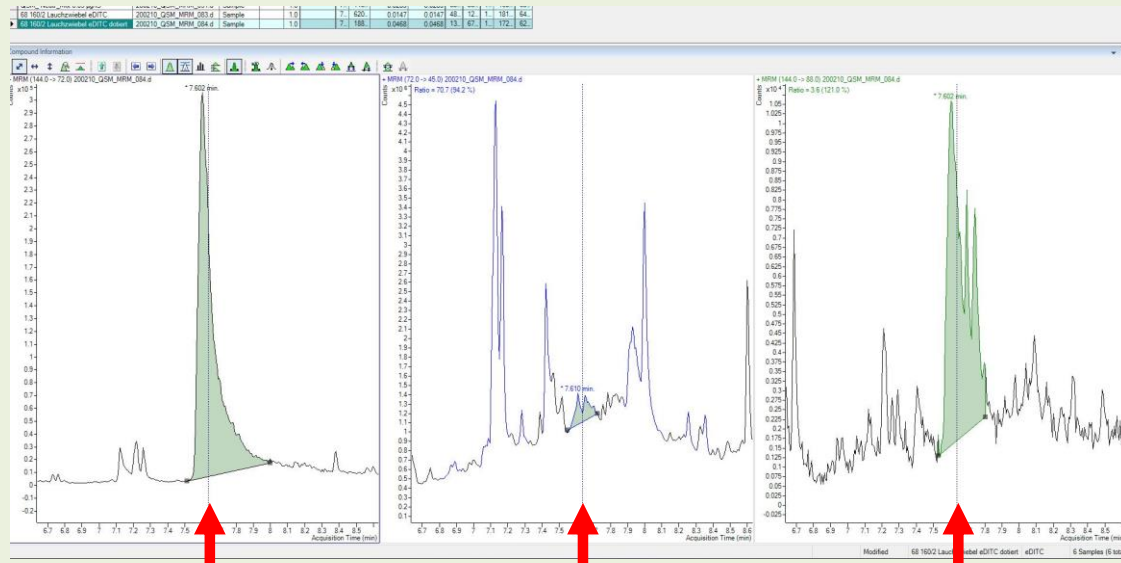
- QuEChERS extract; **GC-MS/MS** chromatogram:



eBIC  
(~0,016  
ppm)



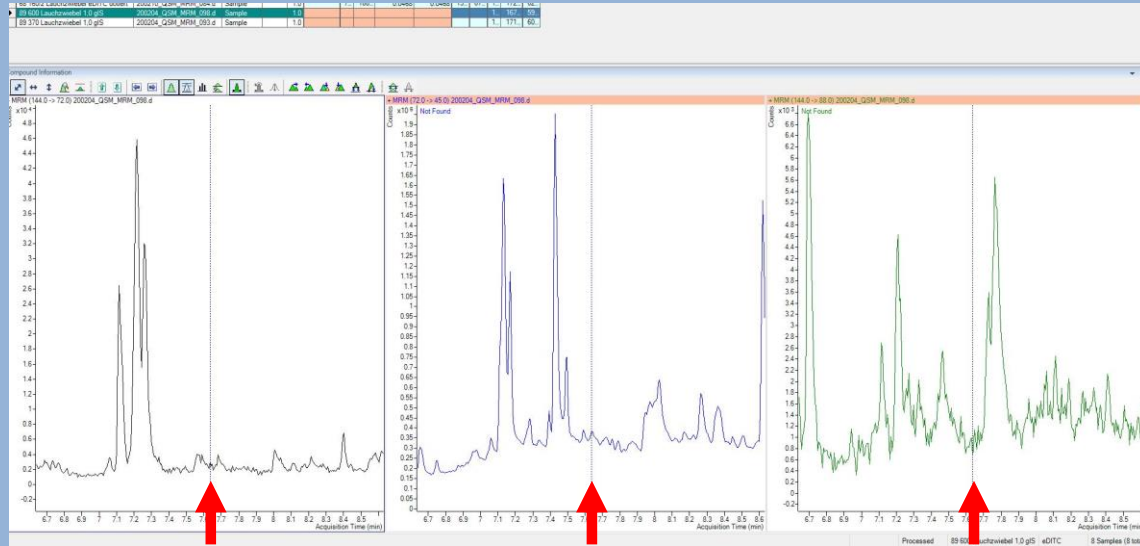
eBIC  
spiked



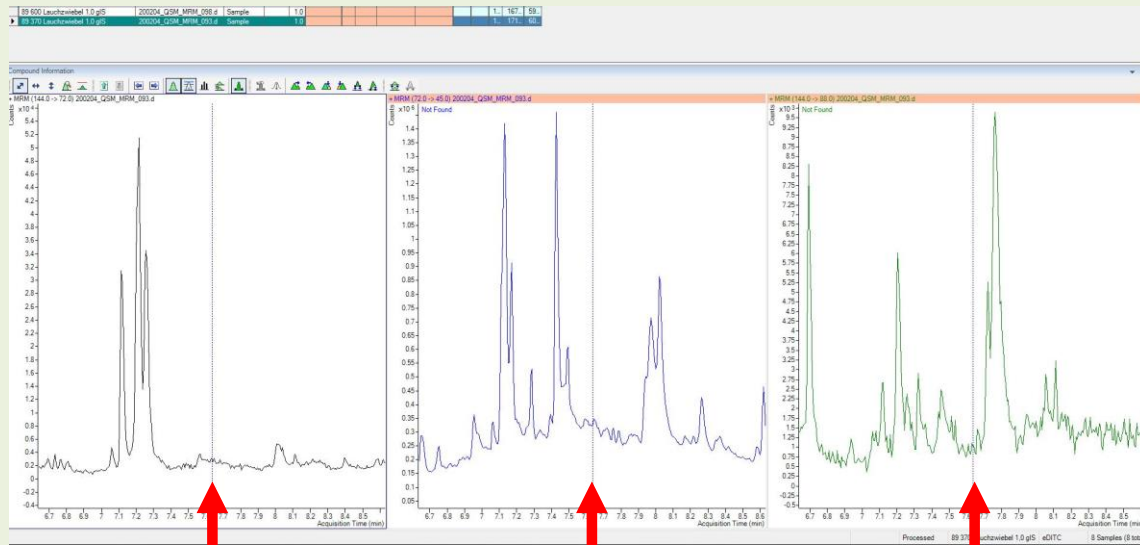
# 1. Example | Spring onion: control samples

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

Control 1

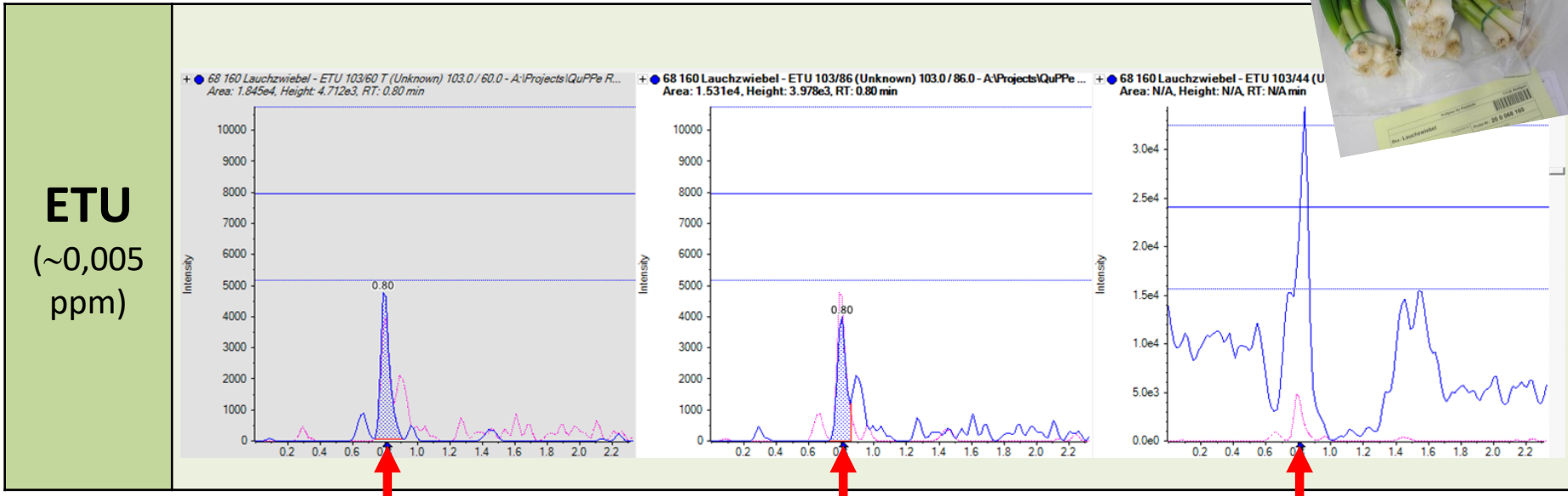


Control 2



# 1. Example | Spring onion: ETU

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



**ETU**  
(~0,005 ppm)

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

- Alliaceae naturally contain compounds (e.g. **mustard oil glycosides**) that can transform to intermediates (e.g. isothiocyanates) which can release CS<sub>2</sub> when applying the the acidic digestion/hydrolysis method => background CS<sub>2</sub>-levels

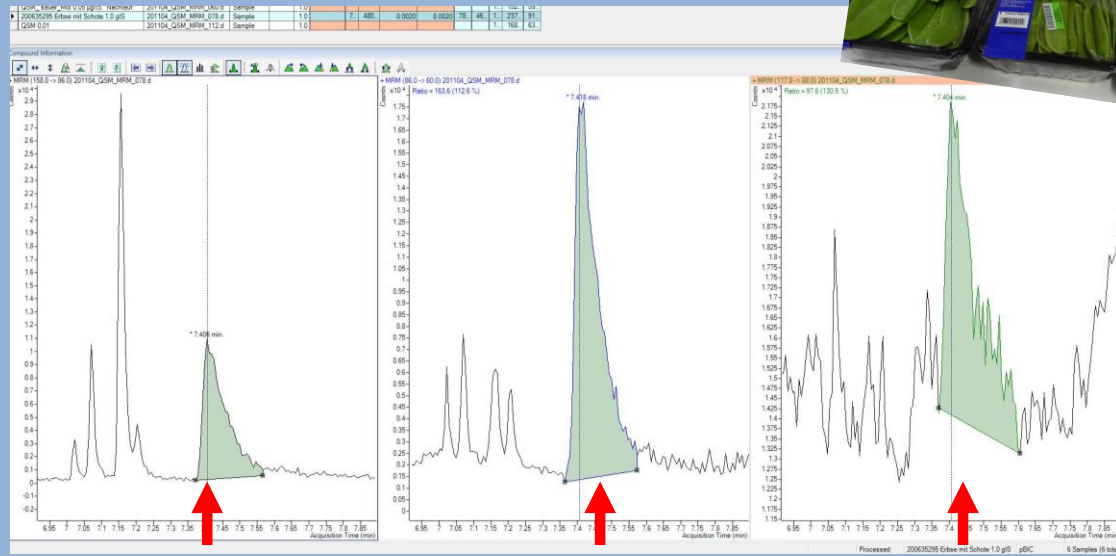


# 2. Example | Sugar peas (Kenya): pBIC, eBIC

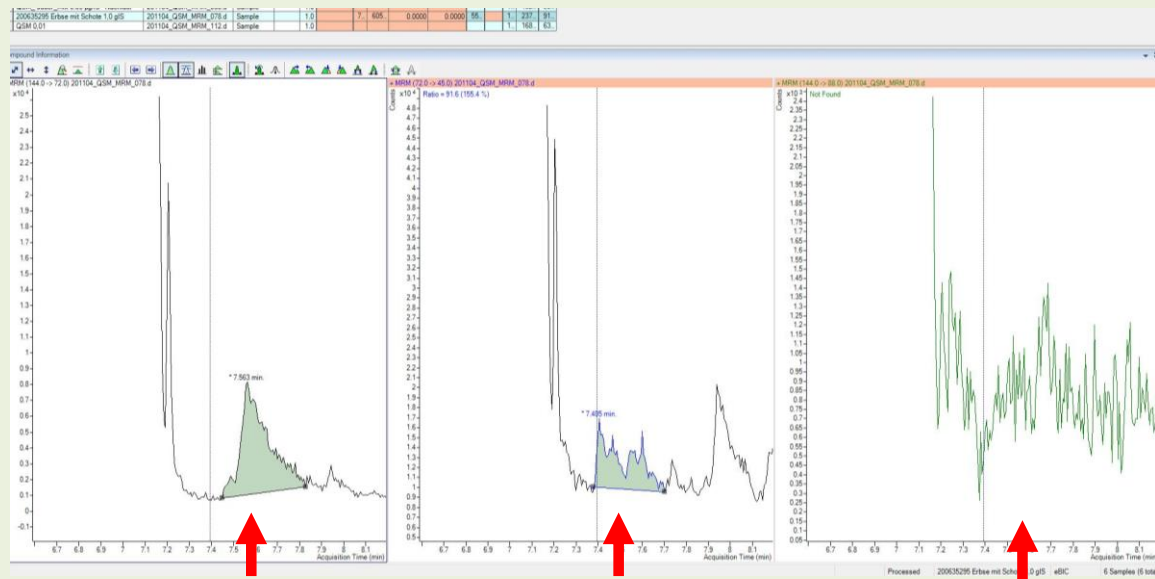
- QuEChERS extract; **GC-MS/MS** Chromatogram:



**pBIC**  
(~0,002 ppm)



**eBIC**  
(~0,001 ppm)

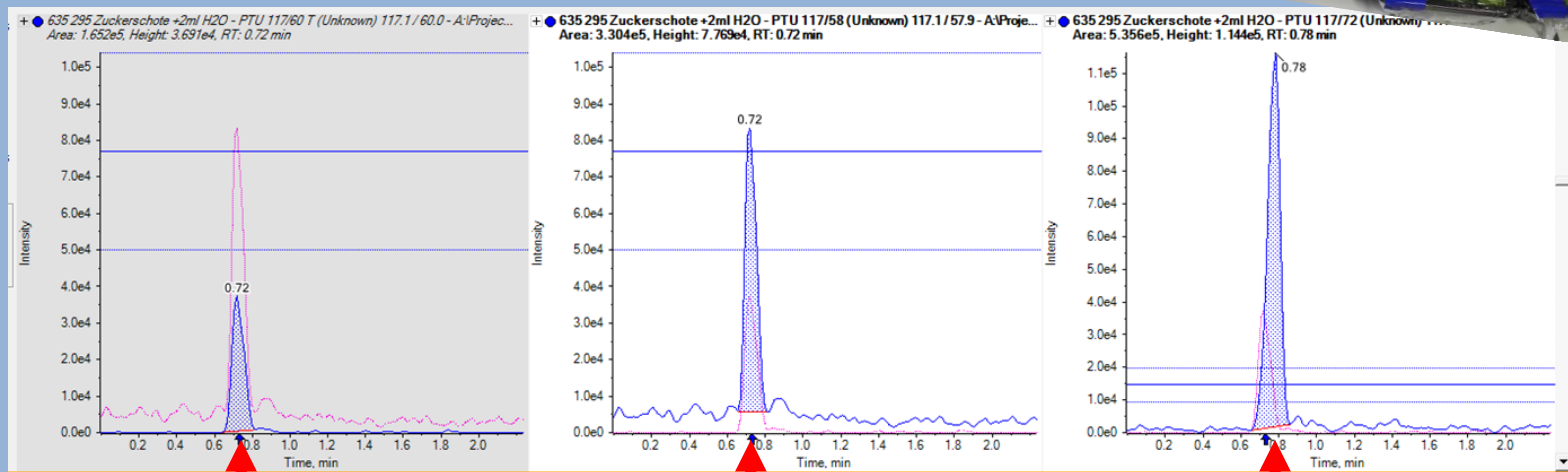


# 2. Example | Sugar peas (Kenya): PTU, ETU

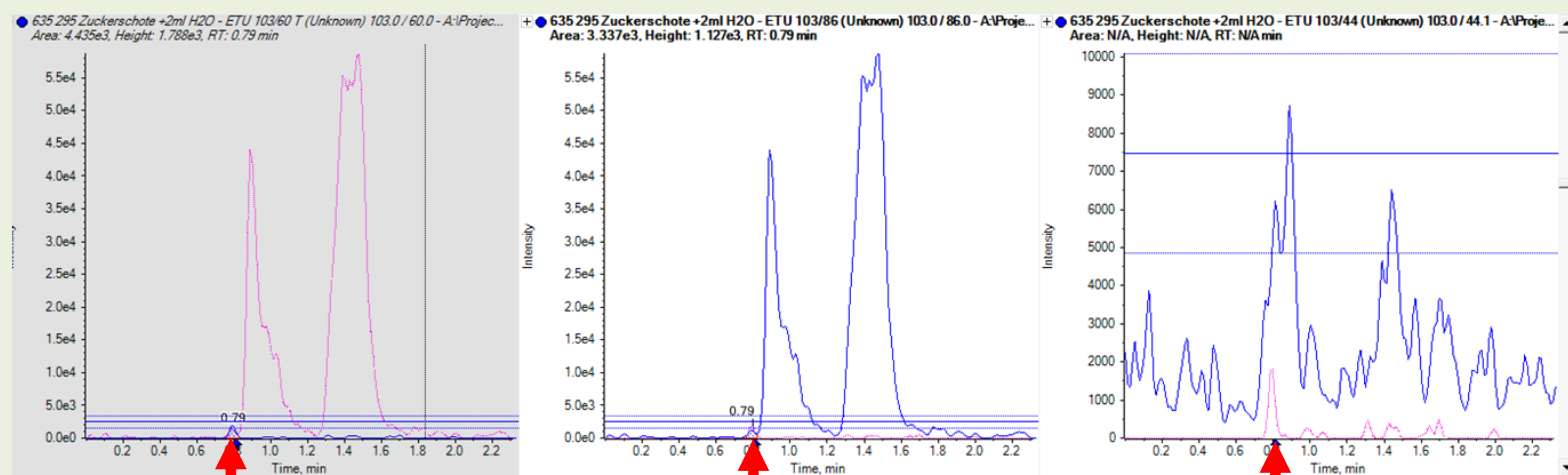
- QuPPE extract; **LC-MS/MS** Chromatogram:



**PTU**  
(~0,005 ppm)



**ETU**  
(~0,0008 ppm)



## 2. Example | Sugar peas (Kenya)



- **EU MRL residue definitions for propineb:**
  - Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates **expressed as CS<sub>2</sub>**, 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)

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

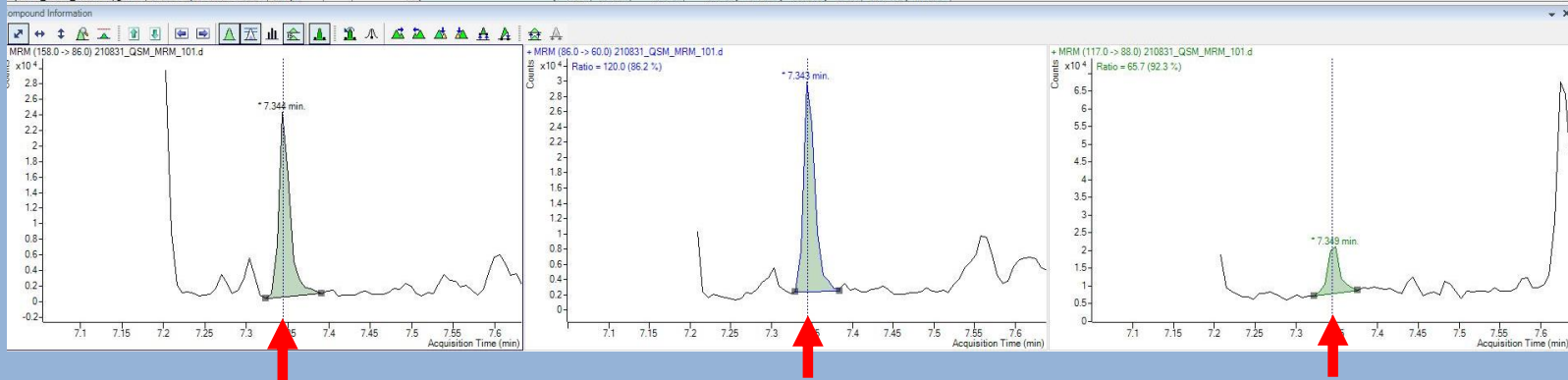
\*theoretical CS<sub>2</sub>-result (calculated on basis of propineb-finding)

# 3. Example | Tamarillo (Colombia): Propineb



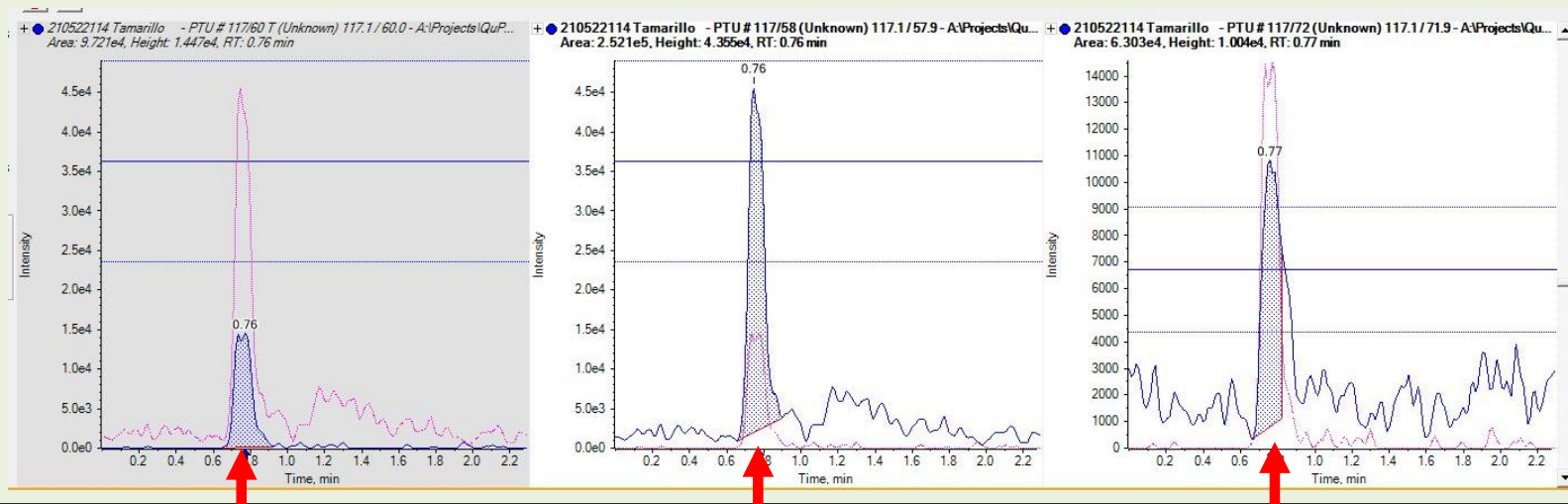
## QuEChERS; GC-MS/MS Chromatogramm:

Sample	Area	Height	RT	Ratio
210522113 Apfel 1.0gIS	210831_QSM_MRM_100.d	Sample	1.0	
210522114 Tamarillo 1.0gIS	210831_QSM_MRM_101.d	Sample	1.0	7.344
QSM_Neutr_Mix 0.05 µgIS	210831_QSM_MRM_102.d	Sample	1.0	7.347



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	<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Papayas	<i>Other products names or synonyms:</i> Akee apples Feijoas/pineapple guavas Langsats/lanzones/longkongs Mangosteens Naranjillas/lulos Paw paws <span style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 2px;">Tamarillos</span>

Dithiocarbamates (dithiocarbamates expressed as CS <sub>2</sub> , 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

- CS<sub>2</sub>-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 CS<sub>2</sub>-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

