

P.O. Box 230 | 6700 AE Wageningen | The Netherlands

## Dear colleague,

RIKILT is planning to organize a proficiency test regarding unknown antimicrobiologically active compounds in water. In this study we will supply two samples containing a substance that has antimicrobial activity. This could for instance be a synthetic antibiotic used in veterinary practice or in humans, but could also be a natural plant constituent or a detergent. It can be any antimicrobial compound registered in the Pubchem and Chemspider database. The challenge for participating laboratories is to identify this compound, NOT quantify. This proficiency test will contribute to testing and validating your procedures for identification of 'unknown' substances having an antimicrobial effect.

RIKILT is accredited for the organization of proficiency studies according to ISO 17043, but this test is not organised under this accreditation. Only if a sufficient number of participants subscribe, the proficiency test will proceed.

I would like to invite you to participate in this test. Please forward this invitation to other laboratories in your country or network that could be interested in participating. The following issues are important for participation in the proficiency test:

## 1. Samples

- Two water samples of approximately 10 ml will be supplied for detection of unknown anti-microbiologically active compounds.
- Samples will be sent in September/October 2018. The distribution of the samples will be announced by e-mail.
- The participant should arrange the necessary import permits for the sample materials.

## RIKILT

DATE

June 15, 2018

Proficiency test for unknown anti-microbiologically active compounds in water

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RIKILT, part of Wageningen University & Research, carries out research into the safety and reliability of food and feed. RIKILT is ISO 17025 and ISO 17043 accredited (the accredited tests are described on www.rva.nl (no. L014 and R013).

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- 2. Quantitative analysis
- The results have to be reported within 7 weeks after shipment of the samples
- 3. Report
- A report of the proficiency test will be dispatched in January/February 2019.
- Results of the proficiency test will be presented anonymously.
- 4. Additional information
- RIKILT is allowed to use the anonymous results of the proficiency test in presentations, seminars and publications.
- RIKILT will never inform third parties (e.g. accreditation bodies) on specific laboratory results without informing the laboratory first.

## 5. Costs

- For the participation, we request a fee of  $\in$  500,- (ex. VAT) as a compensation for the preparation and transportation of the samples.
- If an extra batch of samples is needed after the first shipping, the courier costs will be charged.

If you would like to participate, please fill out the participation form (preferably digitally) and send it to me before July 15 2018 by email (pt.rikilt@wur.nl). Please print the document, sign it and email a scan of the signed document.

Hoping to welcome you for this proficiency test,

Yours sincerely,

Iwelbers

Ingrid Elbers

Proficiency tests

RIKILT Wageningen University & Research

The Netherlands