

Dear colleague,

RIKILT is planning to organize a proficiency test regarding polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in dried herbs/food supplements. This test will focus on the quantification of the detected compounds. This test will be organised according to ISO 17043 (General requirements for proficiency testing), but not under accreditation. The number of participants is limited to 30; if the number of participants is insufficient, the proficiency test cannot proceed. I would like to invite you to participate in this test.

Please forward this invitation to other laboratories in your country or other contacts that could be interested in participating. The following issues are important for participation in the proficiency test:

1. Samples

- Three naturally contaminated dried herbs/food supplement samples (approximately 20 grams) and one ampoule containing a standard solution will be supplied for the quantitative analysis of PAHs.
- The following analytes are of interest:
 - Benz(a)anthracene
 - Chrysene
 - Benzo(b)fluoranthene
 - Benzo(a)pyrene
 - Sum of 4 PAH (PAH4)
- The samples may contain one or more compounds.
- Samples will be sent in September/October. The distribution of the samples will be announced by e-mail.
- The participant should arrange the necessary import permits for the sample materials.

2. Quantitative analysis

RIKILT

DATE
August 22, 2017

SUBJECT
Proficiency test for PAHs in
dried herbs/food supplements

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- The results have to be reported within 6 weeks after shipment of the samples.
- Results for the individual analytes as well as the sum of 4 PAH should be reported.

3. Report

- A report of the proficiency test will be dispatched in January 2018.
- 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 € 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 enclosed participation form (preferably digitally) and send it to me before 15 September 2017 by e-mail (pt.rikilt@wur.nl).

Hoping to welcome you for this proficiency test,



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