



Dear colleague,

RIKILT is accredited for the organization of proficiency studies in the field of residues in products of animal origin according to ISO 17043. Based on this accreditation RIKILT is planning to organize a proficiency test regarding **steroid esters in bovine hair**. The primary goal of this proficiency test is to give laboratories the opportunity to evaluate or demonstrate their performance regarding the screening and/or confirmatory quantitative analysis of the compounds in bovine hair. The number of participants is limited to 50. 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 bovine hair samples (800-1000 mg hair each) will be supplied for the analysis of estradiol benzoate and/or nortestosterone phenylpropionate.
- Samples will be sent in September/October 2016. The distribution of the samples will be announced by e-mail. The deadline for reporting will be six weeks after the shipment of the samples.
- The participant should arrange the necessary import permits for the sample materials (if necessary).

#### 2. Report

- A report of the proficiency test will be dispatched in February/March 2017.
- Results of the proficiency test will be presented anonymously.

#### 3. 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.

#### 4. Costs

- For the participation, we request a fee of € 500,- (ex. VAT) as a compensation for the preparation and transportation of the samples.
- For NRLs in the European network there is no fee involved.
- If an extra batch of samples is needed after the first shipping, the courier costs will be charged.

**DATE**

June 16, 2016

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Wageningen UR (Wageningen University and various research institutes) is specialised in the domain of healthy food and living environment.

RIKILT, part of Wageningen UR, carries out research into the safety, quality and health of food and feed and provides consultancy services to (inter)national governmental authorities. RIKILT is ISO 17025 and ISO 17043 accredited (the accredited tests are described on [www.rva.nl](http://www.rva.nl) (no. L014 and R013)).

DATE  
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PAGE  
2 of 2

If you would like to participate, please fill out the participation form (preferably digitally) and send it to me before July 5 2016 by e-mail (pt.rikilt@wur.nl).

Hoping to welcome you for this test,



Ingrid Elbers  
European Reference Laboratory for residues  
Wageningen  
Netherlands