

To: NRLs mycotoxins & plant toxins in food and feed
Mr. F. Verstraete (EC)

Dear colleagues of NRLs,

With this newsletter I would like to share with you a few updates.

Workshop 2025 dates. In the case you did not pencil this in your agenda, the EURL MP 2025 Workshop will be held on 7-8 Oct 2025. The location is the same as in 2024 – Van der Valk hotel Breukelen. Registrtrion form will soon follow..

The PTs for 2025.

- 1. Mycotoxins in complete feed and baby food.** Mandatory analytes will include aflatoxins, ochratoxin A, enniatins, beauvericin, Alternaria toxins, zearalenone, deoxynivalenol, T-2/HT-2 toxins and fumonisins. Optional analytes for reporting, if any, will be listed in the Invitation/Instruction letter for the PT. You can expect the samples to be shipped in June 2025.
- 2. Quinolizidine alkaloids in lupine and lupine derived foods.** For the first EURL MP PT on this topic we would request the most abundant QAs of interest as mandatory for this assessment. That would include lupanine, 13-HO-lupanine, albine, angustifoline, sparteine and gramine. Samples should be expected in July/August 2025. Other QAs would considered also, however as voluntary for this PT.
- 3. Glykoalkaloids in potato and potato products.** The analytes of interest would include alpha-chaconine, alpha-solanine, gamma-chaconine and solanidine. The samples should be expected in September/October 2025.
- 4. Gossypol in cotton seeds and products thereof.** We plan to support the EU member states' NRLs that handle cotton seeds and related products on their markets by organizing a comparative study or proficiency test (PT) for this analyte/matrix combination. Kindly note that free gossypol found in cotton seeds is subject to regulation, and every laboratory—regardless of its common feed market—should be able to analyze it. Because many complete-feed specifications omit the details on ingredients, we strongly recommend that member states and their NRLs establish the necessary method now, so they're ready if an urgent need arises. We will contact the laboratories that have already expressed interest in this test and provide them with the required analyte stock solution if needed. The projected timeline for this is end 2025/beginning 2026.

Reflection on 2025 new training format. According to the participants' evaluation, the training held from 17-21 March 2024 was a success. Thus, we will maintain this training format. Likely dates for following training edition will be in April 2026 - week 15 or 16.

I hope that I have informed you sufficiently.

Sincerely,

Josipa Grzetic Martens

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