

Invitation to the IAG Proficiency Test 2024 for the determination of Processed Animal Proteins (PAPs) in feed

Gembloux, 8 January 2024

Dear Colleagues,

For years the IAG section Feed Microscopy is organising collaborative studies for the evaluation of composition and the detection of animal constituents in feed. It provides an independent proficiency assessment as required by accreditation bodies. This organisation is subcontracted to the CRA-W, Gembloux, Belgium.

On behalf of the IAG board we are delighted to invite you to the 2024 proficiency test for the detection of PAPs in feed by light microscopy.

Practical information as well as the planned time schedule are indicated on next page.

If your laboratory, company or institute is interested to participate to this proficiency test, your participation will be charged 380 € for the IAG members and 430 € for non-members. This price includes the preparation and sending of the samples, the analysis and report of the results. Certificates of participation will be delivered to the participants.

Due to a fixed maximum of sixty participants, we ask you to confirm your participation as soon as possible and before the **24 January 2024** by filling the online application form at the following link <https://forms.gle/fSGX4omgKrKkeo54A>. On the reception of your form, an invoice will be sent. Note that the sending of the samples will only occur upon full fees payment.

Looking forward to a future collaboration.



Dr Pascal Veys
Head of microscopy lab

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The use of processed animal by-products as ingredient for animal feedingstuffs within the European Union is regulated by the TSE Regulation (Regulation EC N°999/2001), as amended. In particular, Article 7 imposes a prohibition to use processed animal proteins in the feeding of farmed animals (extended feed ban). Commission implementing Regulation (EU) No 2022/893 amending Annex VI of Regulation (EC) No 152/2009, imposes the methods of analysis for the determination of constituents of animal origin for the official control of feed.

Objectives

The objective of the present proficiency test is to assess the performance of the participants to detect the presence of PAPs in feed by the reference method using light microscopy as stated in Regulation EC 152/2009 as amended by Commission implementing Regulation (EU) No 2022/893 and related SOPs.

The organizer team

The test will be coordinated by Walloon Agricultural Research Centre CRA-W.

Test material

Samples containing typical compound feed fortified with processed animal proteins (PAPs) will be prepared. The CRA-W will endorse the homogeneity of the samples. Nevertheless, each laboratory participating to the test is sole responsible to reach appropriate homogeneity for the sample sub-portions taken for analysis.

Each participant will receive 4 samples, each of about 40g. Each sample shall be analysed by light microscopy.

General outline of the exercise

- Parameters that will be assessed are: presence or absence of terrestrial vertebrates, terrestrial invertebrates and fish.
- The CRA-W will provide participants with an Excel file for reporting the results of the proficiency test analyses.
- Each participating laboratory will be assigned a unique code and only the organizer of the study knows the key to this code. After completing the test each laboratory will get a report including its results and lab code. The final report of the study will be published with anonymised results.

Time schedule

- Announcement of the study: **8 January 2024**
- Sending of the sample boxes and communication of the instructions by email: **26 February 2024**
- Deadline for returning of results to the organizer: **25 March 2024**
- Report publication: **end of May 2024**

Further information

- proficiency.testing@cra.wallonie.be
- Dr Pascal Veys, p.veys@cra.wallonie.be, ☎32 (0) 81 87 52 28