
SPECIFIC GUIDELINE

NRL-Proficiency Test of Analysis on Pesticide Residues in Grape Homogenate (NRL/PT-FV/2020/Grape-1)



Conducted by
National Referral Laboratory



ICAR-National Research Centre for Grapes

भाकृअनुप-राष्ट्रीय अंगूर अनुसंधान केंद्र

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Introduction:

This proficiency test (PT) is directed to the laboratories belonging to the APEDA's network and other commercial food testing laboratories that are planning for APEDA/FSSAI/EIC recognition for testing of food commodities for domestic and export quality monitoring purposes.

The aim of the PT is to obtain information regarding the quality, accuracy and comparability of test results for pesticide residues in grape reported by the participating laboratories. The laboratories will be provided with an assessment of their analytical performance that they can use to demonstrate their analytical performance and compare themselves with other participating laboratories.

Registration for the proficiency test:

This PT is mandatory for all the APEDA recognized laboratories that are intended to analyse the samples of grape under the residue monitoring program (RMP) for export to the EU countries under GrapeNet for the ongoing season. The other food testing laboratories who cover the minimum 70% of the target analytes in the scope of the laboratory can also voluntarily participate.

To participate, each laboratory must complete the registration form in the prescribed format and return to the E-mail communicated (apedanrlpt@gmail.com) before the deadline of the registration. The registration fee per laboratory is as follows:

Registration fee/ Lab = Rs. 10,000/- + GST (18%)

= Rs. 11,800/- (Eleven thousand eight hundred only)

The registration form should clearly indicate the delivery address of the Test Item. The organizer of the PT/ the courier agent will not be responsible for the non-delivery of the Test Item in case a wrong delivery address is provided by any laboratory.

On successful registration, the laboratory will receive a confirmation mail from the organizer regarding the registration fee and delivery address. The registration fee does not include the courier charges which will be communicated separately to the participants on actual basis and should be paid to the official courier agent as cash on delivery.

Test item:

This proficiency test is based on the analysis of a grape homogenate having incurred residues/spiked with pesticide analytical standards. The test item will be homogenised and sub-sampled into coded bottles. Ten of those bottles containing the test item will be chosen randomly and analysed in duplicates to check for homogeneity. The test item will be stored frozen ($-20 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$) prior to shipment to participants. Three bottles, again chosen randomly, will be analysed by the organiser over a period of time to confirm the stability of the pesticides in the test item (firstly, when the test items are shipped, then few days after the deadline for receiving the participants' results).

Amount of Test Item: The participants will receive **approximately 150 g of grape homogenate**.

Shipment of the Test Item:

The sample will be shipped to the participating laboratory on the scheduled date through the official courier agent identified by the organizer and on the same day the laboratory will receive the Courier details, the tracking number and the invoice (on actual basis) in the name of the laboratory for the shipment through E-mail.

The laboratories must make their own arrangements for the receipt of the Test Item and payment of courier charges. The laboratories should make the necessary arrangements for receiving the shipment even if the laboratory is closed during the period. The organizer will not be responsible for any return of the shipment item.

Test item Receipt by the laboratory:

The test item will be delivered to the participant laboratories on/or before the scheduled date.

The shipment charge as per the invoice communicated should be paid by the laboratory to the courier agent at the time of delivery. Any failure on payment of shipment charge to the courier agent will disqualify the laboratory from the PT and no registration fee will be refunded.

Once the laboratory receives the test item, its arrival must be reported to the PT organizer in the prescribed format on the same day by E-mail. If the laboratory does not respond by this date, the organizer will assume that the test item has been received and accepted by the laboratory.

If any laboratory has not received the test item by the deadline specified, they must inform the organiser immediately by E-mail (apedanrlpt@gmail.com).

Advice on test item handling:

Once received, the test item should be stored deeply frozen ($-20 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ or lower) prior to analysis to avoid any possible deterioration/spoilage. The test item should be thawed and mixed thoroughly before taking the analytical portion(s). All participants should use their own routine standard operating procedures for extraction, clean-up and analytical measurement and their own reference standards for identification followed by quantification.

Submission of results:

Once the laboratory has analyzed the test item and is ready to submit their test results, they must enter their results in the format provided by the organizer and send it to the following E-mail address: apedanrlpt@gmail.com. All analyte concentrations must be expressed in **mg/kg** together with the associated recovery expressed as percentage (%). The number of significant figures should be based on the guidelines provided in SANTE 12682/2019. Additional significant figures may be recorded for the purpose of statistical analysis. Please bear this in mind when reporting data:

- Residue levels ≥ 0.010 mg/kg; to be expressed by three significant figures, e.g. 0.0145, 0.156, 1.64, 10.3 mg/kg.

Results should not be reported where a pesticide was not detected or was detected below the laboratory's LOQ. In both cases, this will be considered as 'ND' (Not Detected) or <LOQ. If a pesticide was not sought, it will be considered as 'NA' (Not Analysed). The actual results/residue levels measured must be reported as numbers.

Announcement of the PT result:

The organiser will evaluate the results at the end of the proficiency test, once the deadline for the receipt of results has passed. The organiser will communicate the electronic version of the preliminary report to the individual participants through E-mail within the time schedule. The hard copy of the final report will be hosted on ICAR-NRCG website and individual laboratory can download the final report from NRCG website. This report will include information regarding the design of the test, the homogeneity and stability results, a statistical evaluation of the participant's results as well as graphical displays of the results and any conclusions. Further relevant information considered to be of value may also be included.

ACTIVITY AND DEAD LINE:

Activity	Dead line
Opening Registration period	10 th September, 2020
Deadline for Registration	20 th September, 2020
Shipment of the Test Item	25 th September, 2020 to 30 th September, 2020
Deadline for receiving Test Item by the laboratory	30 th September, 2020
Deadline for receiving the Result from the laboratory	12 th October, 2020
Preliminary Report	20 th October, 2020
Final Report	5 th November, 2020

Organiser and Committee: NRL/PT-FV/2020/Grape

The Organiser:

National Referral Laboratory

ICAR-National Research Centre for Grapes, Manjri Farm, Pune- 412307, India

Organising Team:

Program Director: Dr. R.G. Somkuwar, Director, ICAR-NRC for Grapes, Pune

Program Coordinators:

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Dr. Cherukuri Sreenivasa Rao, Professor, ANGR Agricultural University,
Andhra Pradesh

Dr. Eldho Vargheese, Scientist, ICAR-CMFRI, Cochin, Kerala

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