

WORK PROGRAMME of EURL for
PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN
FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

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CONTACT DETAILS

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INTRODUCTION

EU Reference Laboratories (EURLs) aim to ensure high-quality, uniform testing in the EU and support Commission activities on risk management and risk assessment in the area of laboratory analysis.

Regulation (EC) No 625/2017 on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products, defines tasks and responsibilities for all the EURLs. Some of them are: to provide National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) with analytical methods and diagnostic techniques, and coordinate their application; to train staff from NRLs; to provide the Commission with scientific and technical expertise in relation to laboratory analysis and to collaborate with the competent laboratories in non-EU countries. Based on the aforementioned, some of the specific activities of the EURL for pesticide residues in fruits and vegetables are the organisation of proficiency tests, the coordination and edition of the Analytical Quality Control guidelines or the assistance to the Commission and EFSA for Art. 12 MRL reviews.

Every year the EURLs submit their work programmes demonstrating their contribution to the Commission's objectives and priorities and request annual EU funding to fulfil their tasks and functions to cover their operational costs.

Regulation (EU) 625/2017 Art 94(2):

European Union reference laboratories designated in accordance with Article 93(1) shall be responsible for the following tasks insofar as they are included in the reference laboratories' annual or multiannual work programmes that have been established in conformity with the objectives and priorities of the relevant work programmes adopted by the Commission in accordance with Article 36 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014:

(taking into account Art 147 of (EU) 625/2017)

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TO ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF HIGH QUALITY METHODS AND TO ENSURE HIGH QUALITY PERFORMANCE BY NRLs.

Please, provided activities related to Regulation (EU) 2017/625:
(Number of Sub-activity boxes can be adjusted by EURL)

- *Art. 94.2.a Providing national reference laboratories with details and guidance on the methods of laboratory analysis, testing or diagnosis, including reference methods.*
- *Art. 94.2.b Providing reference materials to national reference laboratories*
- *Art. 94.2.c Coordinating the application by the national reference laboratories and, if necessary, by other official laboratories of the methods referred to in point (a), in particular, by organising regular inter-laboratory comparative testing or proficiency tests and by ensuring appropriate follow-up of such comparative testing or proficiency tests in accordance, where available, with internationally accepted protocols, and informing the Commission and the Member States of the results and follow-up to the inter-laboratory comparative testing or proficiency tests.*
- *Art. 94.2.l Where relevant for their area of competence, cooperate among themselves and with the Commission, as appropriate, to develop methods of analysis, testing or diagnosis of high standards.*

Sub-activity 1.1 Updating the EURL website and the EURL DataPool

Objectives: To update and maintain the EURL-FV webpage, as well as contribute to the design and contents of the EURL DataPool (in cooperation with the other EURLs).

Description: The dedicated webpage "EURL for Fruits and Vegetables": <http://www.eurl-pesticides.eu/docs/public/home.asp?LabID=500&Lang=EN> located at the EURLs common website (<http://www.eurl-pesticides.eu>), designed to support dissemination of information and network activities, is continuously updated. It represents the main source of information exchange between the EURLs and the NRLs as well as with other official EU and third countries laboratories. The EURL-FV website holds information about the activities and events

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carried out by the EURL-FV as well as available published reports and scientific papers. It also holds forms, sheets and other documents ready to fill out on-line, thus facilitating management tasks and quality monitoring as well as direct links to other relevant websites. Constant collaboration between the EURL-FV and the EURL website management is necessary.

Furthermore, the website aids contacts (via specific links) between laboratory researchers and experts providing a valuable tool for dissemination. The website includes different sections, corresponding to the activities of the EURL: Proficiency Tests, Workshops, Services, The EURL-FV Network, AQC Panel and Library.

The e-learning platform will continue to give laboratories access to new analytical developments, new equipment, and new methods, but also to basic procedures within the analytical process, such as pipetting or estimation of uncertainty. The e-learning platform is certified in accordance with the ISO-9001:2015 standards.

Expected Output:

- Forms and other information to conduct the 2023 and 2024 EUPTs will be uploaded onto EUPT-FV area.
- Videos and presentations of the e-platform organised in 2023 and 2024.
- Access to the AQC Panel topic in the main EURL website and in our specific area will allow laboratories to consult the "Analytical quality control and validation procedures for pesticide residues analysis in food and feed." (SANTE/11312/2021). The site will allow constant feedback from the laboratories, so it will be useful in collecting information or suggestions from laboratories on the future revisions of the document.
- The results of the scientific activities developed by the EURL-FV will be published as technical or scientific documents, and the most relevant will be disseminated in the EURL-FV website through the Library section making them available for NRLs, OfLs and members of the scientific community.

Duration: Throughout the year

Sub-activity 1.2 *Follow up on requests from NRLs for providing analytical standards*

Objectives: To supply analytical standards to the NRLs under request.

Description: In order to promote the enlargement of the NRLs' analytical scope and to offer them the possibility to verify their standard solutions, we will provide them with the analytical standards that they request.

With the publication of EUPT-FV25, FV26, EUPT-SC07 and SC08 target lists (mandatory and voluntary), requests are expected from NRLs to send them analytical standards of those pesticides newly included in the lists of possible pesticides. Furthermore, during the year, for example, with the publication of the coordinated multiannual control programme and the working documents on pesticides to be considered for inclusion in the national control programmes to ensure compliance with maximum residue levels of pesticides residues in and on food of plant and animal origin, we will provide them with the requested substances.

Expected Output: E-mails with requests.

Duration: Throughout the year

Sub-activity 1.3 *Organisation of proficiency tests and follow up on the results.*

Objectives: To organise proficiency tests simulating, as far as possible, the real sample conditions and to follow up on the results obtained by the NRLs and OfLs, emphasizing on unacceptable results.

Description: The European Proficiency Test on fruits and vegetables EUPT-FV25 and FV26, in accordance with previous schemes and statements, will be open to all OfLs, especially the NRLs of EU Member States. Additionally, laboratories from EFTA countries and other third countries will be invited to participate, so quality assurance can reach them on the basis of the proficiency test. These countries might be invited to take part after *Health and Food Audit and Analysis* recommendation and by request of DG SANTE.

These EUPTs will be carried out in a way which simulates, as far as possible, the real sample conditions that arrive at a laboratory in its routine work such as: the use of commercial formulations for pesticide treatment; homogeneity of intra-samples and the consideration of all classes/types of compounds.

The commodity used for the test material of EUPT-FV25 will be melon. The test material will contain incurred pesticides. The whole organisation of the EUPT will be very similar to that of previous EUPTs performed by the EURL-FV.

Additionally, other intercomparative studies using screening methods (EUPT-SM15 and SM16) will be organized in parallel to EUPT-FV25 and FV26, with the intention to promote the rapid screening of a large number of pesticide residues in the EU control laboratories over a very short period of time (72 h). In this way, the scope of the methods in screening mode could reach 500-700 compounds in a rapid inexpensive way. This information supports OfLs in checking their performance in these situations. It allows the EURL to identify the large scope laboratories ("scouting laboratories"). This activity is well accepted by OfLs as can be confirmed by the increasing participation (approx 60 EU OfLs) in previous rounds.

Participation in the screening PT remains on a voluntary basis; nevertheless, all NRLs and OfLs involved in the determination of pesticide residues in fruit and vegetables for the EU-coordinated monitoring programme, or for their own national programmes and third countries will be invited to take part.

A third type of proficiency test will be organised in order to offer the NRLs and OfLs the possibility to test their methods with special commodities such as baby food, herbs, spices, etc. and evaluate their performance with regard to those commodities (EUPT-SC07 and SC08). Participation in this PT remains on a voluntary basis.

These Proficiency Tests will be based on the Quality Control Norm ISO/IEC 17043: Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing.

Once a year, the EURL-FV will organise a meeting of the EUPT-Panel (EURLs + EUPTs Scientific Committee) to discuss the evaluation of the EUPT results and to decide about the following years' EUPTs.

Expected Output: Final reports of the six proficiency tests that will be organised during 2023 and 2024: EUPT-FV25, EUPT-FV26, EUPT-SM15, EUPT-SM16, EUPT-SC07 and EUPT-SC08.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 1.4 *Cooperation and meetings with other EURLs*

Objectives: To maintain a smooth channel of communication between the EURLs for pesticide residues.

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Description: Constant collaboration with the other pesticide residue EURLs will be maintained for general management activities, horizontal tasks, and other specific tasks. Additionally, during the year, the four EURLs will meet in order to discuss specific issues like the EURLs webpage, EUPTs, the CIRCA domain, EUPT submission webpage or joint workshops. Inter-EURL-meetings in some cases in presence of DG SANTE representatives will be carried out with the aim to discuss, plan, coordinate or evaluate EURL-activities such as the preparation of work programs, EUPTs or web-applications. In certain cases, online-meetings or tele-conferences will be carried out.

The four EURLs for pesticide residues will physically meet at least for the AQC expert meetings, the EUPT Panel meeting and the Joint EURL/NRLs Workshop, in 2023. In 2024 they will meet during the EUPT Panel meeting and at the EPRW 2024. Online meetings will be organised so that the four EURLs will meet every two months (considering also physical meetings).

Expected Output: Minutes of the meetings.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 1.5 Development and validation of analytical methods: Development of a GC-MS/MS pesticides multiresidue method using hydrogen as the carrier gas.

Objectives: To carry out the validation of a multi-residue GC-MS/MS method using hydrogen as carrier gas and to evaluate the main differences observed in comparison with already available gases.

Description: The unavailability of Helium has led to price hikes and supply chain disruptions. The use of hydrogen as an alternative to helium as the carrier gas in GC-MS/MS could be the solution to this matter. The properties of hydrogen are quite different of those from helium. For example, the inertness of hydrogen is lower compared to helium and the sensitivity tends to be lower in general. Therefore, a validation/optimization of a multiresidue method for pesticide residues and a further evaluation of the differences will be performed. This will be useful information for laboratories, as the helium shortage is affecting them considerably.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 1.6 Development and validation of analytical methods: Evaluation of different columns and chromatographic conditions for the analysis of early eluting compounds in MRM.

Objectives: To evaluate different columns and chromatographic conditions for the analysis of early eluting compounds in liquid chromatography.

Description: Direct injection of extracts onto traditional reversed phase columns often results in peak distortion for the early eluting compounds. Polar pesticides (for example cyromazine, pymetrozine, matrine, oxymatrine, formetanate) are weakly retained on this type of columns, and they can exhibit poor peak shape, wide peaks and/or peak splitting. All this leads to poor quantification. As a consequence of these problems, new and more effective columns for first eluting peaks have been developed and are commercially available. On this study, the EURL-FV will evaluate different columns (e.g., CORTECTS, KINETEKS) and chromatographic conditions to improve the analysis of these compounds.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2024

Sub-activity 1.7 Development and validation of analytical methods: Extraction efficiency of incurred pesticides

Objectives: To assess the extraction efficiency of the main MRM extraction method in incurred pesticides.

Description: Validation studies are often conducted with spiked blank samples. This has the disadvantage that it deviates from the actual way pesticides are applied in the field (in many cases, by irrigation or spraying). When incurred, pesticides are incorporated into the plant system and may therefore be more difficult to extract than if spiked. This study will clarify and evaluate the extraction efficiency of incurred pesticides when using the QuEChERS extraction method. Some of the parameters evaluated will be the effect of repeated extractions with acetonitrile, extractions at higher temperature, and/or extended extraction time. Test Items from EUPT-FV with incurred pesticides will be used for the study. The development of the study will be a collaboration between EURL-FV and EURL-CF.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2023

Sub-activity 1.8 Development and validation of analytical methods: Evaluation of the impact of the use of ascorbic acid during sample milling.

Objectives: To assess whether sample trituration with ascorbic acid affects the recovery/detection of any pesticides when extracted by the QuEChERS method.

Description: Some compounds are known to degrade (generally by oxidative processes) during the sample comminution step. In previous years, the EURL-FV evaluated these processes in certain pesticides and was able to determine that the addition of ascorbic acid as an antioxidant prevented the degradation of these compounds. In this way, the addition of acid could be of great advantage by preventing the degradation of certain compounds. However, the addition of ascorbic acid before milling could have a negative impact on the other compounds of the multiresidue method. In this activity, the EURL-FV will assess this impact by validating the MRM compounds included in the EU-MACP and in the working document. The extraction method used during the validation will be the QuEChERS method as it is used by more than 90% of the OfIs.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2023

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Sub-activity 1.9 *Development and validation of analytical methods: Automatisation of the QuEChERS extraction method.*

Objectives: To automate the QuEChERS extraction method (extraction module)

Description: The QuEChERS (Quick, Easy, Cheap, Effective, Rugged, and Safe) method is the most widely used by EU laboratories. It involves two steps: sample extraction, and clean-up of the extracts in order to remove undesired matrix compounds that may cause analytical interferences. So far, automatisation is being evaluated for the clean-up step, but today, few laboratories have automated the extraction part and so, there is not a clear evaluation of the advantages and difficulties by using them. The EURL-FV will develop a multiresidue method using an automated extraction system and will validate it on a representative commodity from each commodity group (relevant for fruits and vegetables, e.g., tomato, orange and avocado).

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2024

Sub-activity 1.10 *Development and validation of analytical methods: Automatisation of the clean-up step of multiresidue methods in LC-MS for high fat content commodities.*

Objectives: To evaluate the automatization of mini-SPE clean-up cartridges for high fat content commodities.

Description: The QuEChERS extraction method is efficient, but it also has some drawbacks related to the clean-up step. This can be solved by applying automated cleaning methods. Currently, many labs possess very sensitive instruments that allow them to skip the clean-up step in the case of LC-MS/MS analysis. However, in the case of matrices with a high fat content, the cleaning step is important to avoid too many maintenance activities and to extend the lifetime of the chromatographic columns. In the past years, the EURL-FV evaluated the use of an automated procedure for the clean-up step in GC-MS/MS which proved to be of considerable interest to routine laboratories in terms of time savings and improved quality of results. The same automated mini-SPE sample handling system will now be evaluated, but for the analyses of pesticide residues in high fat content commodities analysed by LC-MS/MS. The sorbents tested will be specific for fat removal, such as Enhanced Matrix Removal (EMR) or C18.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2024

Sub-activity 1.11 *Development and validation of analytical methods: Evaluation of the three main multiresidue methods for the validation of new substances of SANCO/12745/2013 and those with low analytical coverage.*

Objectives: To validate new compounds included in Working Document SANCO/12745/2013 and those with a low analytical coverage, by the three main multiresidue methods.

Description: The three main multiresidue extraction methods used in the EU (QuEChERS, new-Luke and SweEt) will be evaluated in three commodity groups (high water content, high water and acid

content and high fat content) at low concentration levels in order to support the EU NRLs/OfLs in the enlargement of their analytical scope, especially with those pesticides newly included in Chapter 4 of the working document SANCO/12745/2013, those with poor or medium analytical coverage, plus those included in the 2023 revision), and those MRM amenable included in Annex II of the working document. The new compounds will be validated at least at two concentration levels, being the lowest one at least 5 µg/kg. The validation report will include all the information about validation parameters, transitions, ion ratios, etc.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2023

Sub-activity 1.12 *Development and validation of analytical methods: Evaluation of potential improvements in LC-HRMS instruments with the implementation of longer chromatographic columns.*

Objectives: To evaluate whether the use of chromatographic columns larger than 100 mm in HRMS improves the identification of compounds.

Description: A common problem in the use of HRMS for multi-residue analysis is identification difficulties caused by the high number of analytes and matrix components overlapping, since multi-residue methods involve several dozens (even hundreds) of different analytes. To improve such identification problems, the use of chromatographic columns longer than 100 mm can overcome many of these problems. Therefore, a detailed comparison study of 100 and 150 mm columns will be developed and evaluated to provide laboratories with practical solutions to implement in LC-HRMS analysis.

Expected Output: 1 Technical report and/or scientific publication.

Duration: 2024

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TO PROVIDE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO NRLs

Please, provided activities related to Regulation (EU) 2017/625:
(Number of Sub-activity boxes can be adjusted by EURL)

- *Art. 94.2.d Coordinating practical arrangements necessary to apply new methods of laboratory analysis, testing or diagnosis, and informing national reference laboratories of advances in this field.*
- *Art. 94.2.e Conducting training courses for staff from national reference laboratories and, if needed, from other official laboratories, as well as of experts from third countries.*

- **Art. 94.2.g Providing information on relevant national, Union and international research activities to national reference laboratories.**

Sub-activity 2.1 Providing technical and scientific support to NRLs

Objectives: To support the NRLs in the development of their analytical methods and the enlargement of their scope of analysis.

Description: The results of the scientific activities developed by the EURL-FV will be published as technical or scientific documents, depending on the impact of the activities. They will be disseminated in the EURL-FV website (www.eurl-pesticides.eu), through the “Library” section, making them available for OfLs and members of the scientific community. The main EURL-FV contributions to international conferences will also be uploaded to the EURL-FV website.

Additional assistance to the NRLs will be supported by constant communication via e-mail, telephone or online meetings.

The e-learning platform will enable the NRLs to have full access to online resources of diverse complexity, which can be accessed using the internet anytime and anyplace. The more relevant scientific activities of the working programme will be included in the e-learning platform.

In 2023 and 2024 at least 10 new technical reports and/or scientific papers will be published on the website. At least four of the sub-activities 1.5 to 1.12 will be presented in a multimedia way in the e-learning platform.

Expected Output: Technical reports, scientific papers, videos.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 2.2 Organisation of workshops

Objectives: To organise a workshop with the NRLs to act as a platform for information exchange.

Description: In 2023, the annual EURL/NRLs-FV workshop will be celebrated together with the other EURLs for pesticide residues, in Stuttgart, Germany, and organised by EURL-SRM (October 2023). It will consist of technical and scientific communications. Extensive interaction with all NRLs that will attend will be the main objective. Attention will also be paid to the evaluation of the EUPT results and their relation with the various analytical methods applied by the NRLs and OfLs establishing actions for improvement.

NRLs representatives from all the EU Member States will participate in the workshops.

In Fall 2024, the EURL-FV will organise a similar workshop, where the network of NRLs-FV will be invited.

Expected Output: Workshop presentations on website, Evaluation forms (satisfaction rate of participants and their comments).

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 2.3 Organisation of training courses

Objectives: To organise a training course for staff from national reference laboratories in order to provide them with scientific and technical assistance.

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Description: The EURL-FV will support the NRLs with technical “lab activities”. This technical assistance will consist of the selection of a limited group of NRLs (approx. eight) for a 1-2 days technical training at the EURL-FV laboratory (Almería, Spain). NRLs could be selected on the basis of specific criteria, such as poor performance in EUPT tests or the use of specific instrumentation, but always making sure that all NRLs-FV have been invited in each 3 - 4 year period. The topic of the training courses will be decided at a later stage, in consultation with DG SANTE, if necessary. The trainings will be held once a year (once in 2023 and once in 2024).

Expected Output: Training material (presentations, excel files) on website, Evaluation forms (satisfaction rate of participants and their comments).

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 2.4 *Visits to NRLs*

Objectives: On-site visits to NRLs to provide them with technical and scientific support.

Description: Each year, the EURL-FV will visit one NRL with deficits in the areas of EUPT-performance, analytical scope or country network of OfLs. The NRLs to be visited will be selected on the basis of the results of the individual EUPTs-FV, and will be further specified in consultation with DG SANTE.

Expected Output: Mission Reports 2023+2024 and follow-up reports.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 2.5 *Updating and publication of the list of NRLs*

Objectives: To update the network of NRLs and OfLs.

Description: The network of NRLs and OfLs is constantly changing, and for this reason it is necessary to keep it updated. Every year before the participation in EUPT-FV, the EURL-FV contacts the NRLs in order to obtain the detailed list of OfLs. In parallel, the EURL DataPool also gathers information about possible changes in the list.

Expected Output: Updated list of NRLs published in the EURL-FV website.

Duration: 2023-2024

3

TO PROVIDE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Please, provided activities related to Regulation (EU) 2017/625:
(Number of Sub-activity boxes can be adjusted by EURL)

- *Art. 94.2.f Providing scientific and technical assistance to the Commission within the scope of their mission.*
- *Art. 94.2.h Collaborating within the scope of their mission with laboratories in third countries and with the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).*
- *Art. 94.2.i Assisting actively in the diagnosis of outbreaks in Member States of foodborne, zoonotic or animal diseases, or of pests of plants, by carrying out confirmatory diagnosis, characterisation and taxonomic or epizootic studies on pathogen isolates or pest specimens.*

Sub-activity 3.1 Information on LOQs, residue definitions and standards for Art. 12 MRL reviews, new active substances and other substances, when requested by COM

Objectives: To give technical and scientific support to the Commission when requested.

Description: This horizontal task with the four EURLs and coordinated by EURL-SRM and EURL-CF will give scientific support to the Commission as regards complex residue definitions or other analytical parameters such as LOQs for Art. 12 of Regulation (EC) No 396/2005 proposals, new substances and other substances.

In 2023 and 2024 this activity will continue as in previous years.

Expected Output: E-mails to the Commission.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.2 Assistance to COM for the EU MACP and the monitoring working document

Objectives: To give technical and scientific support to the Commission in the drafting of the EU MACP.

Description: Assistance to the European Commission will continue regarding the selection of the number of analyses, commodities and pesticide lists to be monitored by the Member States in the coordinated multiannual control programmes (MACP) of the Union. This assistance will also be related to the update of the list of pesticides included in the monitoring working document.

Expected Output: New versions of the MACP and monitoring working documents.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.3 *Contribution to the revision of the analytical quality control guidelines*

Objectives: Update and edition of EU Guidelines on Quality Control Procedures.

Description: In order to continue the process of achieving complete harmonisation measures for pesticide residue analysis within the EU, the SANTE document “Analytical quality control and method validation procedures for pesticide residues analysis in food and feed” (SANTE/11312/2021) needs to be revised and updated on continuous basis.

Therefore, the aim is to carry on with the specific forum (AQC Panel) on the EURL-FV website to facilitate the discussion and to point out difficulties and improvements on the EU AQC Guidelines. This network will provide interaction among EURLs-NRLs-OfLs. The outcome of the discussion in this specific forum will improve and facilitate further updated revisions of the EU AQC Guidelines, to be presented in the joint workshop every two years.

The AQC Scientific Committee together with the four EURLs for pesticide residues will meet three times in 2023 in order to discuss about the possible changes and modifications to the SANTE Guidelines. The first two meetings will be organised by EURL-FV (the second one will be in combination with the EUPTs Scientific Committee expert meeting). The third AQC meeting of 2023 will take place in Stuttgart, Germany, prior to the Joint workshop, where the draft document will be prepared for the final vote of the NRLs. If successful, after the Commission approval and endorsement by Member States, the new version of the document will be edited by the end of 2023.

In 2024, the AQC meeting will be organised in combination with the EUPTs Scientific Committee expert meeting.

Expected Output: Updated SANTE Document.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.4 *General technical support to the Commission*

Objectives: To provide technical and scientific support to the Commission when requested

Description: Technical and scientific support to the Commission will be provided when requested. Constant communication will be established via e-mail, telephone calls or meetings. Where necessary, technical advice will be provided to DG SANTE upon request.

Attendance to the Standing Committee (PAFF) meetings at request of the DG SANTE and assistance to the audit team of the department *Health and Food Audits and Analysis* if they so request it, by accompanying the inspectors in the audit visits giving technical support as a “national expert”.

Expected Output: E-mails, minutes of the meetings, Audit Reports.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.5 *Collaboration with European and international organisations (EFSA, CEN, ISO, ...)* *Comments to EFSA on LOQs, standards and methods at the stage of the draft reasoned opinion.*

Objectives: To provide scientific support to EFSA.

Description: Involvement in the EFSA residue evaluation process by giving opinions and advice, especially regarding residue definition and post registration analytical methods. In the case of new

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substances, it is estimated to carry out experimental analytical work if requested by the DG SANTE. This is a horizontal task with the four EURLs and coordinated by EURL-SRM and EURL-CF. In 2023 and 2024 this activity will continue as in previous years.

Expected Output: E-mails, minutes of the meetings.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.6 Collaboration with European and international organisations (EFSA, CEN, ISO, ...) Participation in the EFSA networking group on pesticides residues monitoring

Objectives: To provide technical and scientific support to EFSA in the Network of Chemical Monitoring Data Collection.

Description: The EURL-FV yearly collaborates with EFSA with the attendance to the meetings of the Network of Chemical Monitoring Data Collection, with presence of the Member States, the EFTA countries, the European Commission and EFSA. The technical and scientific assistance includes all matters related to pesticide residues monitoring covered by Regulation (EC) No 396/2005, including the preparation of the EFSA Annual Reports on Pesticide Residues and the review of the EFSA standardised data model for reporting the monitoring results.

In 2023 and 2024, one representative from the EURL-FV will attend the meeting of the networking group.

Expected Output: Minutes of the meeting.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.7 Collaboration with European and international organisations (EFSA, CEN, ISO, ...) Participation in the meetings of the CEN/TC 275/WG 3 Working group Pesticides.

Objectives: To participate in the development of standardised methods (CEN methods)

Description: Since 2015, the EURL-FV participates in the Working group 3 (Pesticides, CEN/TC 275/WG 3) dedicated to the standardization of methods for the determination of pesticide residues in food. Furthermore, the EURL-FV is directly involved in the modular QuEChERS, being the project leader of that CEN method.

In 2023 and 2024, Carmen Ferrer will attend the working group meetings organised by the German institute for standardization, DIN (Berlin, Germany).

Expected Output: Minutes of the meetings.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.8 *Collaboration with Third Countries.*

Objectives: To promote the international networking and dissemination of information and activities from the EURL-FV, especially in countries with intensive European export-import relationships.

Description: This assistance will be supported by, at least, constant communication via e-mail and telephone. Selected third countries will be invited to participate in the workshops and training courses as well as to visit the laboratories in relevant cases. Important information for selection of laboratories to participate in EUPT will come from the *Health and Food Audits and Analysis* section as a consequence of their inspections.

Laboratories from EFTA countries and other third countries will be invited to participate in the EUPTs-FV. These countries might be invited to take part after *Health and Food Audit and Analysis* recommendation and by request of DG SANTE.

Expected Output: E-mails, participation of non-EU laboratories in EUPTs-FV and workshop.

Duration: 2023-2024

Sub-activity 3.9 *(Participation in symposiums, workshops and seminars for the dissemination of scientific information.*

Objectives: To disseminate the EURL-FV activities to the scientific community.

Description: The most relevant results of the scientific activities developed by the EURL-FV will be presented as posters and/or oral presentations in international workshops.

Expected Output: Oral presentations by the EURL-FV of the scientific activities developed in the laboratory will be presented in 2023 in the Latin American Pesticide Residue Workshop (LAPRW 2023), in the European Pesticide Residue Workshop (EPRW 2024) or in RAFA (Recent Advances in Food Analysis 2024), among others.

Duration: 2023-2024