



International Seed Testing Association

ISTA GMO Task Force Meeting

Activity Report 2004 - 2007

Norbert Leist



ISTA Position Paper 2001

„ISTA will focus its activity on developing a system targeting the uniformity in GMO testing results, not only by the uniformity in GMO testing methodology, but by a performance based approach.“

„In the performance based approach, the laboratories have to demonstrate that the **GMO detection, identification or quantification methods used for reporting results on the ISTA International Seed Lot Certificate fulfill requirements concerning **repeatability and reproducibility**. This can be done using certified reference materials and/or using results of proficiency tests.“**



Organisation of the ISTA GMO Task Force

- **Strategy Working Group** **Norbert Leist**
- **Rules Chapter Working Group** **Michael Kruse**
- **Proficiency Test Working Group** **Bettina Kahlert**
- **Exchange of Information Working Group** **Enrico Noli**
- **ECOM – Accreditation Working Group** **Joel Lechappe**



Leading Committee Members of the GMO Task Force

Chair: Norbert Leist Germany

Strategy Working Group

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Michael Kruse Germany

Enrico Noli Italy

Doris Dixon United States

Jean-Marie Debois OECD Secretariat

Bernard Le Buanec ISF Secretariat

Michael Muschick ISTA Secretariat

Bettina Kahlert ISTA Secretariat Meeting

Bangkok AM 2005: General considerations

Discussion on Proficiency Test Spiking



Rules Chapter Working Group

Chair:	Michael Kruse	Germany
	Sandy Ednie	Canada (until 2004)
	Michael Sussman	United States
	Harm Huttinga	Netherland
	Rainer Knoblauch	Germany
	Sofia Ben Tahar	France
	Sandra Seeman	United States

Activities finished 2005

Rules Chapter Proposal adopted at the Bangkok AM 2005

in place since 1. January 2006



Proficiency Test Working Group

Chair:	Bettina Kahlert	ISTA Secretariat
	Sylvain Gregoire	France
	Christoph Haldemann	Switzerland
	Kirk Remund	United States
	Jean-Louis Laffont	France
	Anja Matzk	Germany
	Quentin Schultz	United States
	Gé W. Van den Bovenkamp	Netherlands
	Don Cerwick	United States



Proficiency Tests

Date	Species	Sample preparation
03.06.2002	<i>Zea mays</i>	UNI Hohenheim, DE
28.02.2003	<i>Zea mays</i>	ISTA Secretariate, CH
22.12.2003	<i>Zea mays</i>	ISTA Secretariate, CH
26.10.2004	<i>Glycine max</i>	LUFA Augustenberg, DE
12.05.2005	<i>Glycine max</i>	LUFA Augustenberg, DE
06.12.2005	<i>Brassica napus</i>	LUFA Augustenberg, DE
14.06.2006	<i>Zea mays</i>	LUFA Augustenberg, DE
14.12.2006	<i>Glycine max</i>	LUFA Augustenberg, DE
2007	<i>Zea mays</i>	LTZ Augustenberg



Exchange of Information Working Group

Chair:	Enrico Noli	Italy
	Christoph Haldemann	Switzerland
	DaNell Jamieson	United States
	David Zhang	France
	Greta de Both	Belgium

Platform installed 2006:

Methods, literature, calculation, electronic references

Workshops, Seminars

Personal training



Timetable TCOM Meeting 06.05.2007 Iguassu Falls

Six reports about activities during the past year

Accreditation, status for GMO testing *Martina Rösch*

Design of the proficiency test rounds 2006:

Conclusions regarding all rounds *Gerhard Schuon*

Evaluation of the performance of laboratories in the
proficiency tests *Christoph Haldemann, Sylvain Grégoire*

Information platform:

methods, literature, electronic platform,

workshops, seminars *Enrico Noli, Christoph Haldemann*

Information on the GMO Seminar 2008 *Michael Muschick*

Future of the Task Force *Norbert Leist*



Activity of the Past Triennium

The GMO Task Force has fulfilled her task

There is a Strategy

There is a Rules Chapter

There is a Proficiency Test System

There is an Accreditation System

There is an Information Platform

! There are ISTA Accredited GMO Testing Laboratories !
The "Seed - World" is aware of ISTAs competence!



Activity of the ISTA Task Force

-- the basic work of the TASK FORCE is finalised --

**On decision of the Executive Committee
for consolidation of the running system
the Task Force is not dissolved
but gets four new aims from the ECOM:**

Run the Proficiency Test

Check and adapt the professional run of the
Accreditation System for GMO

Update regularly the Information Platform
in all their aspects

Serve as tool for questions, problems in GMO



Programme of the Proficiency Test Working Group

Besides this

**in 2007 the internal organisation of the
Proficiency Test System
shall be renewed at the ISTA Secretariat
based on the experience
gained from the last eight rounds.**



Activity of the ISTA Task Force

**To work on this consolidation the
ISTA GMO Task Force will be installt anew.**

**Those applying for membership shall be aware
that highest activity is expected.**

**All those of you which are prepared
to cooperate and to contribute in this work
please contact the incoming Chair.**



The work of the GMO Task Force has been done in close cooperation with the

- » **Bulking and Sampling Committee**
- » **Statistics Committee**
- » **Variety Committee**
- » **Rules Committee**
- » **Executive Committee**
- » **ISTA Secretariat**

**Only all their highly active and engaged work
brought ISTA straight forward in this
new and challenging area of seed testing.**

My very personal thanks go to all of you!



International Seed Testing Association

Herewith I hand over the lead

of the
ISTA GMO Task Force
to

Christoph Haldemann
Switzerland

Good luck, full success, happy work!

GMO TF Session, 28th ISTA Congress 2007, Iguacu Falls, Brasil 05.-11.05.2007



International Seed Testing Association

Thank you for your attention!



Activity of the Strategy Working Group



GMO TASK FORCE MEETING

Activities during the past triennium Presented as TCOM – Report 06.05.07

Working Groups

Accreditation, Status for GMO Testing

Proficiency Test Results of the Rounds 2004-2007

Evaluation of the performance of labs in PT 7, PT 8

The ISTA GMO information platform

Working Programme for the coming triennium

GMO Seminar 2008 in Bologna



Activities

- Finalisation of introduction of the performance based approach in the ISTA Rules chapter eight, which is valid since **February 2006**
- Development of the accreditation documents for the Performance Based Approach **“Principles and conditions for Laboratory Accreditation under the Performance Based Approach “**
- Development of the document **“Performance data evaluation for the presence of seed with specified traits in seed lots”**
- Development of the document **“Performance data for specified trait purity”**
- Execution of two rounds in the **GMO Proficiency test** per year
- Establishment for an **evaluation system** for performance data
- Establishment of the ISTA **information platform**
- **Workshops and Seminars**, two per year: 2006/07 USA, Turkey
- Proposal for the **future** of the GMO TF presented to the ECOM
- Presentation of the agenda