



**INTERNATIONAL SEED TESTING ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE D'ESSAIS DE SEMENCES
INTERNATIONALE VEREINIGUNG FÜR SAATGUTPRÜFUNG**

Secretariat, Zürichstrasse 50, P.O. Box 308, 8303 Bassersdorf, CH-Switzerland
Phone: +41-44-838 60 00, Fax: +41-44-838 60 01, Email: ista.office@ista.ch, http://www.seedtest.org

To all participants
ISTA GMO Proficiency Test
PT08

Bassersdorf, July 23, 2007

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,
Proficiency Test Results and Rating

Please find enclosed all participants' test results and ratings for PT08.

Experimental Design

Samples were either negative, i.e. did not contain any transgenic events, or positive, i.e. contained the transgenic event GTS 40-3-2. When preparing the positive samples, defined numbers of seeds were mixed with non-GM seeds. The genetic purity was tested prior to the sample preparation.

Each participating laboratory received soybean samples containing approximately 3000 seeds (450 g) based on the 1000 seed weight and numbered from 1 to 14.

Each sample set comprised five negative samples and nine samples with spiking levels ranging from 4 to 69 GM seeds (c.f. Table 1). A graphical presentation of the spiking levels is given in figure1.

Table 1: Detailed information about the samples: spiking levels by number and by mass of seeds, the number and thousand seed weight of GM and non-GM seeds.

Spiking level	0%	0.13%	0.5%	1.0%	2.3%
Lot No	1 - 5	6 & 7	8 - 10	11 & 12	13 - 15
Number of samples	5	2	3	2	2
Number of non-GM seeds	3 000	2 996	2 985	2970	2 931
Number of GM seeds	0	4	15	30	69
TSW non-GM seeds	~152.7g				
TSW GM seeds	~ 150g				

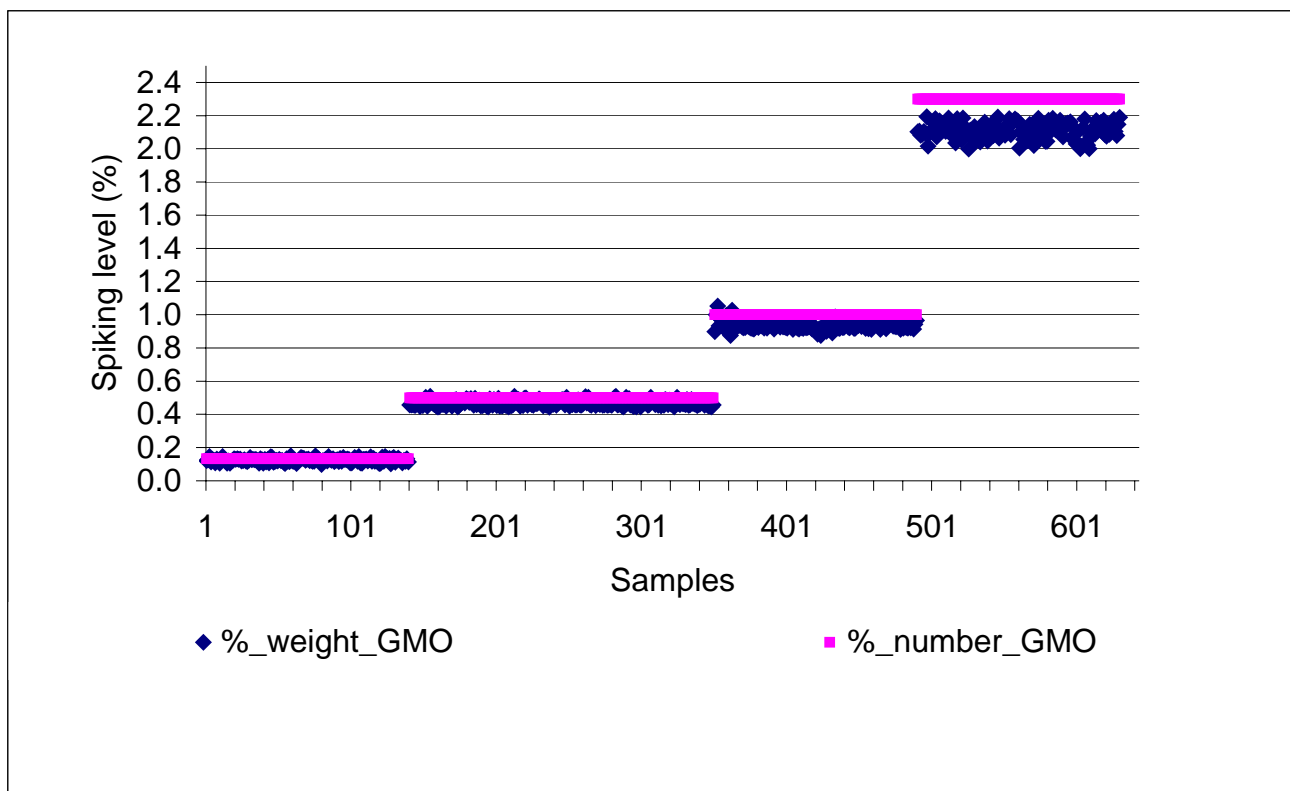


Figure 1: Spiking levels by number and by mass of seed for each sample.

Rating

Sample sets were sent to 56 laboratories. Fifty two participants submitted their results, two provided qualitative results only.

Qualitative rating:

The rating for the presence/absence (qualitative) results is based on a percentage of misclassified samples out of the total of 14 samples. Misclassification may either be a false positive or a false negative result. Missing results for individual samples are evaluated as misclassification.

rate	Misclassified samples	Misclassified samples absolute numbers	Number of laboratories
A	0% - 5%	0	47
B	>5% - 10%	1	1
C	>10% - 20%	2	0
BMP	>20%	>2	4

Quantitative rating

The quantitative rating is based on the quantification results for the nine positive samples and the reference value for the spiked samples. The reference value is either the number of GM seeds in the overall number of seeds, the percentage mass of the GM seeds in the overall mass of the sample or the median of the sample results reported by the participants. Which of the reference values is chosen is determined by the panel of experts appointed for each round, the guiding principle being:

Sub-sampling quantification: %number

results reported in %number: %number

results reported in %mass: %mass

results reported in any other unit, such as number DNA copies: median

rate	Number of laboratories
A	26
B	7
C	13
BMP	4

If you require a more comprehensive explanation of the rating system, please refer to Seed Testing International, The ISTA News Bulletin No 130 (quantitative rating) and No 128 (qualitative rating) or contact the ISTA Secretariat.

Sincerely yours,

Gerhard Schuon
TCOM Coordinator

Encls: mentioned