



INTERNATIONAL SEED TESTING ASSOCIATION (ISTA)

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To all participants
ISTA GMO Proficiency Test
PT12

Bassersdorf, 19 November 2009

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

Proficiency Test Results and Rating

Please find enclosed your laboratory's test results and ratings for PT12.

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

Samples were either negative, i.e. did not contain any transgenic events, or positive, i.e. contained transgenic events Bt11, TC1507, or T25, alone or in combination as noted below. 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 12 numbered maize seed samples, containing approximately 2000 seeds (600g) based on the 1000 seed weight. Each sample set comprised two negative samples and ten samples with spiking levels of between 8 and 32 GM seeds (c.f. table below).

PT12 sample details

Spiking level	0%	0.4%	0.5%	1.0%	1.2%	1.6%
Event	None	T25	TC1507	Bt11	Bt11 + T25	Bt11 + TC1507
Lot No	1,2	3,4	5,6	7,8	9,10	11,12
Number of samples	2	2	2	2	2	2
Number of non-GM seeds	2,000	1,992	1,990	1,980	1,976	1,968
Number of GM seeds	0	8	10	20	16 + 8	12 + 20

QUALITATIVE RATING:

The rating for the presence/absence (qualitative) results is based on a percentage of misclassified samples out of the total of 12 samples. Misclassification may either be a false positive or a false negative result. Missing results for individual samples are evaluated as misclassification.

Rating	Misclassified samples	Misclassified samples absolute numbers	Number of laboratories
A	0% - 5%	0	50
B	>5% - 10%	1	2
C	>10% - 20%	2	3
BMP	>20%	>2	1

QUANTITATIVE RATING

The quantitative rating is based on the quantification results for the ten positive samples and their reference value. The reference value is either the number of GM seeds in percent, the mass of the GM seeds in percent or the median of the results reported by the participants in the unit '%DNA copies'. 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

The ratings awarded in this round were as follows:

Rating	Number of laboratories
A	8
B	0
C	32
BMP	3

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,

Ronald Don

TCOM Coordinator

Encls: mentioned