

Minutes of the relana® meeting 2018 - Klosterneuburg, Austria

Date:

Monday 11.06.2018 and Tuesday 12.06.2018

Place: LVA GmbH

Magdeburggasse 10
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Participants:

Analytica Alimentaria, Espana

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Lach & Bruns

Ms **Silke** Bruns
Mr **Günter** Lach

Preparation of the minutes-protocol

Hamburg, 18th June 2018

Dr. Silke Bruns

Dr. Günter Lach

1. General

Welcome / Opening words / Agenda

2. Sample pre-preparation project

Discussion of open aspects:

- How to remove soil?
- Discard rotten and or wilted pieces?
- Applying the sector technique to downsize large food products?
- Specification of 2 mm related to particle size after homogenisation?
- Specific “organic” lines necessary in sample pre-preparation and homogenisation?

A final version of the Sample-Preparation-Project paper will be prepared to provide it to the relana[®] members for final discussion resp. release.

3. relana[®] method ring test “Acidic herbicides”

The preliminary results are presented. The main outcome at this stage of the method ring test is, that the applied conditions for hydrolyses are obviously not appropriate to convert all conjugates into the related free acids. As a consequence, it is questionable, whether the results of real samples reflect the “true” value of acidic herbicides as listed in the particular residue definitions. Therefore, it is necessary to continue with the method ring test taking into consideration the outcome of this first approach.

4. New / advanced instrumental techniques

- 4.1. *AP-GC/MS (atmospheric pressure GC/MSM): Experiences using this technique in routine*
- 4.2. *APCI-LC/MSMS: New approach to determine Phthalimid*
- 4.3. *Q-ToF: an alternative to Triple-Quads?*

Presentations provided by several relana[®] members.

5. Proficiency test criteria 70-120% versus z-score / Undercover samples criteria 70-120% versus 60-140%

A comprehensive discussion about the different approaches took place. Lach & Bruns take these aspects into consideration, depending on the kind of tests to be evaluated.

6. Future relana® method ring tests

The upcoming 2018/2019 relana® method ring tests are discussed.

7. relana® projects 2018/2019 – working groups

It is agreed to established several working groups within the relana® circle:

- Stock solution project sub-group
- Sample prep & homogenisation sub-group
- QuPPE approach sub-group.

8. relana® Position Papers

Several relana® position papers are in preparation resp. in discussion.

9. Residue definitions, results below Reporting Limits, Carbofuran/-sulfan

How to deal with residue definitions which include several components calculated as a sum?

The discussions resulted in a case by case evaluation. Only in case of an MRL would be exceeded or in case a client's specification is not met, then the analytical results have to be evaluated and interpreted case by case.

According to SANCO/12574/2014 rev. 5(1), laboratories are not able to report below their reporting limit of sum parameters.

Residue definition and analytical approaches related to Carbofuran/Carbosulfan

The approach to determine levels of carbofuran and the related metabolites and other substances listed in the residue definition are discussed, especially the application of acidic hydrolysis as an additional analytical step.

10. Rounding of Data

There are different approaches how to deal with the applications of measurement uncertainties. Outside Germany and Austria, the responsibility of applying the MU or not is shifted to enforcement laboratories.

11. How to communicate/report sub-10-ppb results

L&B was asked to work out a common approach.

In any case it was highlighted and agreed, that the client has to be informed (either on a test report or apart from the report) that the levels detected below the RL are neither validated nor accredited. Thus, the reliability of the reported levels is questionable and not safe.

12. How to deal with newly published EFSA statements

f.ex. EFSA opinion on Indoxacarb from 25 January 2018

New ARfD-levels require different handlings compared to new MRL levels. The application of MRLs is fixed with defined timelines. This does not apply to ARfD levels. Article 6 and 14 (8) of Regulation (EG) Nr. 178/2002: A reasonable suspicion can result in questioning the safety of a food product and thus require attention and perhaps also corresponding actions (precautionary principle). As a conclusion, having knowledge about new ARfD levels, it is up to the client of the lab whether to take this risk or not.

13. How to deal with “new” commodities listed in Annex 1 of Reg. (EC) no. 396/2005 (f.ex. leaves of radish, kohlrabi etc.?)

The complexity of evaluating cabbage turnip according to the requirements of Reg. 396/2005 (changes of Annex I) are presented. Due to the shift of the “valid date” for allocating MRLs also to the leaves to 1.1.2022, this topic was not discussed further.