

**GIPSA Proficiency Program:  
Testing for the Presence of Biotechnology Events in Corn and Soybeans  
February 2002 Sample Distribution**

Participant Identification*	Percentage Correct for Each Biotech Event									Soybean Event CP4 EPSPS
	Corn Events									
	35S	NOS	T25	CBH351	MON810	GA21	E176	Bt11	NK603	
200202-1	NR**	NR	NR	NR	67%	NR	NR	100%	NR	NR
200202-2	100%	92%	83%	NR	83%	92%	100%	75%	NR	100%
200202-3	100%	100%	100%	100%	NR	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
200202-4	83%	83%	83%	100%	92%	NR	92%	83%	92%	100%
GeneScan USA, Inc.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Genetic ID NA, Inc.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
200202-7	83%	83%	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	67%
200202-9	ND	NR	NR	NR	67%	NR	NR	NR	NR	67%
Midwest Research Institute	100%	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	100%
200202-11	83%	83%	75%	45%	64%	17%	75%	83%	91%	100%
200202-13	58%	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	67%
200202-14	100%	100%	NR	NR	NR	NR	100%	100%	NR	100%
Eurofins Scientific	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
200202-16	100%	92%	100%	NR	100%	NR	100%	100%	NR	100%
200202-17	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
GeneScan Analytics GmBH, Bremen	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
200202-20	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sistemas Genomicos S.L.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

\*Organizations that gave GIPSA permission to include their name as participants; codes are used to identify those organizations that desired to remain anonymous

\*\*NR indicates No Result was reported by the participant.

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*Date of Report: April 24, 2002*

**Purpose of GIPSA Proficiency Program**

Through this program USDA seeks to improve the overall performance of testing for biotechnology-derived grains and oilseeds. The GIPSA Proficiency Program will help organizations testing for the presence of biotechnology-events in corn and soybeans to identify areas of concern and take corrective actions to improve testing capability and reliability.

**Program Description**

In February 2002 USDA/GIPSA's Technical Services Division mailed samples to twenty-two organizations that had agreed to participate in the GIPSA Proficiency Program. Participants included organizations in the U.S. and outside the U.S. Each participant received twelve ground corn samples and three ground soybean samples (approximately 20 g in each sample). The corn samples were either control samples containing no biotechnology events, or fortified samples containing any combination of the following events: T25, CBH351, MON810, GA21, E176, Bt11 and NK603. The soybean samples were either control samples containing no biotechnology event, or fortified samples containing the Roundup Ready® event. Each participant received a study description, a Chain of Custody form, and a data report form by regular mail and electronic mail. Participants submitted results by electronic mail, FAX, or regular mail. The participants were asked to provide qualitative results only; i.e., absence or presence of the specific biotechnology event. No methodologies were specified and organizations used DNA- and protein-based technologies.

**GIPSA Proficiency Program Summary Report**

The attached GIPSA Proficiency Program Summary Report summarizes the data submitted. The performance of the participant for each event for which data were provided is expressed as percent (%) correct. No distinction was made between false negatives or false positives. For example, the twelve corn samples either contained or did not contain T25. The number of correct results submitted by the participant was divided by twelve to obtain the percent correct. To maintain the anonymity of the organizations participating in the GIPSA Proficiency Program, a Participant Identification number is used in the Summary Report to identify participants. General conclusions from the GIPSA Proficiency Program follow.

1. Eighteen of the twenty-two participants submitted results by the deadline. The other four participants were unable to submit results for a variety of reasons.
2. Participants used various detection techniques including DNA-based testing (both conventional and real time PCR) and protein-based testing.
3. Participants submitted results for those events for which they had the capability, or reported results for those events where an existing agreement did not limit the organization's testing services:
  - Four participants submitted results for two events
  - One participant submitted results for three events
  - One participant submitted results for five events
  - One participant submitted results for seven events
  - One participants submitted results for eight events
  - Two participants submitted results for nine events
  - Eight participants submitted results for all events

4. Ten of the participants were 100 % correct in identifying the presence or absence of all events for which they reported results.

#### **May Sample Distribution**

The next distribution of samples is scheduled for May 2002. Contact Don Kendall by phone at 816-891-0463 or e-mail at [biotech-lab@usda.gov](mailto:biotech-lab@usda.gov) for information on participating in the GIPSA Proficiency Program.

**GIPSA Proficiency Program  
February 2002 Sample Distribution**

These organizations participated in the GIPSA Proficiency Program, February 2002 sample distribution.

**Organization**      **Applied Biosystems**  
Address              MS 404-1  
                            850 Lincoln Centre Drive  
                            Foster City, CA 94404  
Contact              Matthew Lorence  
Telephone          650-554-2482  
Fax                    650-638-6333  
E-mail                lorencmc@appliedbiosystems.com

**Organization**      **GeneScan USA, Inc.**  
Address              101 Woodland Highway  
                            Belle Chasse, LA 70037  
Contact              Frank Spiegelhalter  
Telephone          504-398-0940  
Fax                    504-398-0945  
E-mail                fspiegel@gmotesting.com

**Organization**      **Genetic ID NA, Inc.**  
Address              501 Dimick Drive  
                            Fairfield, Iowa 52557  
Contact              Jane Pappin  
Telephone          641-472-9979, ext 122  
Fax                    641-470-1504  
E-mail                jpappin@genetic-id.com

**Organization**      **Medallion Labs**  
Address              JFB Tech Center 8-101  
                            9000 Plymouth Avenue N.  
                            Minneapolis, MN 55427  
Contact              Alison Schmitz  
Telephone          763-764-6857  
Fax                    763-764-4398  
E-mail                alison.schmitz@genmills.com

**Organization**      **Midwest Research Institute**  
Address              425 Volker Boulevard  
                            Kansas City, MO 64110  
Contact              Robert Huebner  
Telephone          816-753-7600, ext 1876  
Fax                    816-753-1014  
E-mail                rhuebner@mrresearch.org

**Organization**      **Q Laboratories, Inc.**  
Address              1400 Harrison Avenue  
                            Cincinnati, Ohio 45214  
  
Contact                Dave Goins  
Telephone            513-471-1300  
Fax                      513-471-5600  
E-mail                 dgoins@qlaboratories.com

**Organization**      **Eurofins Scientific Woodson-Tenent Laboratories Division**  
Address              3507 Delaware  
                            Des Moines, IA 50313  
  
Contact                David Pinero  
Telephone            515-265-1461  
Fax                      515-266-5453  
E-mail                 davidpinero@eurofins.com

**Organization**      **GeneScan Analytics GmbH, Bremen**  
Address              Fahrenheitstrasse 1  
                            D-28359 Bremen  
                            Germany  
  
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Telephone            +49-(0)421-202466  
Fax                      +49-(0)421-2024689  
E-mail                 m.foth@genescan.com

**Organization**      **Sistemas Genomicos S. L.**  
Address              Valencia Technology Park  
                            Benjamin Franklin Avenue 12  
                            46980 Paterna (Valencia)  
                            Spain, Europe  
  
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