

USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program
Testing for the Presence of Biotechnology Events in Corn and Soybeans
May 2008 Sample Distribution Results

Purpose of USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program

Through the USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program, USDA seeks to improve the overall performance of testing for biotechnology-derived grains and oil seeds. The USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program helps organizations identify areas of concern and take corrective actions to improve testing accuracy, capability and reliability.

Program Description

In this round of the USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program one set of samples was used for both qualitative and quantitative analyses. The samples were fortified with various combinations and concentrations of transgenic traits, and participants had the choice of providing qualitative and/or quantitative results. Scoring of the participant's qualitative results was done by computing the "percentage of correctly reported transgenic traits" in the samples (Tables 1 to 34, and Figure 1). The "percentage false positive" and "percentage false negative" were calculated by dividing the number of incorrectly reported results by the number of "provided negatives" or "provided positives" that were distributed to the participants. To assess accuracy of individual participant's submitted quantitative results for a tested transgenic event, z-scores (based on: reported value – fortification value / standard deviation) were computed for each reported quantification result (Tables 35 to 47). Prior to computing the z-scores, outliers in the distribution of values were eliminated by use of the Grubb's Test for Outliers. To evaluate the performance as a group (i.e., inter-laboratory variation), a summary table (Table 48) was prepared to show the accuracy and precision of the composite quantification results at each fortification level for the various transgenic events.

Sample Composition

The corn samples contained various combinations and concentrations of the following transgenic traits: T25, CBH351, MON810, GA21, E176, Bt11, NK603, Herculex, MON863, Herculex RW, and MIR 604; or, no events (i.e., negative corn sample). The various transgenic concentration levels were produced on a percentage weight-weight basis (%w/w). A calculated amount of ground transgenic corn was blended to homogeneity with a calculated amount of non-transgenic corn to produce concentrations from 0.1%w/w to 5.0%w/w of the event. The soybean samples were either non-transgenic soybeans, or fortified soybean samples containing 0.5%w/w or 2.5%w/w of the transgenic glyphosate-tolerant soybeans (RoundUp Ready®). Each participant received six corn and three soybean samples. Each sample contained approximately 20 grams of ground material.

Program Participants

Participants included organizations from Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and South America. Each participant received a study description and a data report form by electronic mail, and included with the samples. Participants submitted results by electronic mail, FAX, or regular mail. No analytical methodologies were specified, and organizations used both DNA- and protein-based testing technologies. Forty-seven organizations participated in the May 2008 round of proficiency testing.

- Seventeen participants submitted **qualitative** results only,
- Eighteen submitted **quantitative** results only, and
- Twenty-eight participants submitted a combination of **qualitative** and **quantitative** results.

In this report, participating organizations are identified by a confidential “Participant Identification Number.” Appendix I identifies those organizations who gave GIPSA permission to list them as participants in the USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program; some organizations participated but requested their identity to remain confidential.

Data Summary Results

Data submitted by the participants are summarized in this report primarily in tables and figures. Participants reported their results on a qualitative basis, quantitative basis, or a combination of both qualitative and quantitative bases. Qualitative results were reported as the presence or absence of a particular event in each sample. Quantitative results were reported as the concentration of a particular event in the sample. Due to the complexity of the data, this report summarizes the data as follows:

Qualitative Data Summaries. This section summarizes qualitative sample analysis data:

- Table 1: Qualitative results for corn fortified with 35S for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 2: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for 35S for all participants.
- Table 3: Qualitative results for corn fortified with NOS for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 4: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for NOS for all participants.
- Table 5: Qualitative results for corn fortified with T25 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 6: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for T25 for all participants.
- Table 7: Qualitative results for corn fortified CBH351 with for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 8: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for CBH351 for all participants.

- Table 9: Qualitative results for corn fortified with MON810 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 10: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for MON810 for all participants.
- Table 11: Qualitative results for corn fortified with GA21 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 12: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for GA21 for all participants.
- Table 13: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Bt176 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 14: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Bt176 for all participants.
- Table 15: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Bt11 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 16: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Bt11 for all participants.
- Table 17: Qualitative results for corn fortified with NK603 for all participants. (DNA-based assays).
- Table 18: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for NK603 for all participants.
- Table 19: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Herculex for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 20: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Herculex for all participants.
- Table 21: Qualitative results for corn fortified with MON863 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 22: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for MON863 for all participants.
- Table 23: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with Herculex RW for all participants (DNA-based assays).

- Table 24: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Herculex RW for all participants.
- Table 25: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with MIR604 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 26: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for MIR604 for all participants.
- Table 27: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4 EPSPS (Roundup Ready) for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 28: Composite percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for each transgenic event for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 29: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for each transgenic event for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Figure 1: Group average of percentage correct for Qualitative reports on each event (DNA-based assays).
- Table 30: Qualitative results for the detection of transgenic events in corn using Lateral Flow Strip (LFS) Testing (Protein-based testing) for Participant #1843 (only this participant submitted results).
- Table 31: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4EPSPS (RUR) for all participants using Lateral Flow Strip (LFS) Testing.
- Table 32: Percentage of correct results in qualitative reports for CP4EPSPS for all participants using Lateral Flow Strip (LFS) Testing.
- Table 33: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4EPSPS for all participants using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Protein-based testing).
- Table 34: Percentage of correct results in qualitative reports for CP4EPSPS for all participants using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Protein-based testing).

Quantitative Data Summaries. This section summarizes quantitative sample analysis data:

- Table 35: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with T25 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 36: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with CBH351 for all participants (DNA-based assays).

- Table 37: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with MON810 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 38: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with GA21 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 39: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Bt176 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 40: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Bt11 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 41: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with NK603 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 42: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Herculex for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 43: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with MON863 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 44: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Herculex RW for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 45: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with MIR604 for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 46: Quantitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4EPSPS (RUR) using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Protein-based testing) for Participant # 1754 (only this participant submitted results).
- Table 47: Quantitative results and z-scores for soybeans fortified with CP4 EPSPS for all participants (DNA-based assays).
- Table 48: Descriptive statistics for participants reported quantifications relative to GIPSA fortification levels using DNA-based assays.
- Appendix I: List of organizations who wished to be identified as a participant in the GIPSA May 2008 Proficiency Program.

Table 1: Qualitative results for corn fortified with 35S for all participants (DNA-based assays)
(N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

35S	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	N	P	P	P	P	P
1752	N	P	P	P	P	P
1754	N	P	P	P	P	P
1755	N	P	P	P	P	P
1764	N	P	P	P	P	P
1774	N	P	P	P	P	P
1778	N	P	P	P	P	P
1785	N	P	P	P	P	P
1844	N	P	P	P	P	P
1847	N	P	P	P	P	P
1858	N	P	P	P	P	P
1870	N	P	P	P	P	P
1891	N	P	P	P	P	P
1892	N	P	P	P	P	P
2032	N	P	P	P	P	P
2034	N	P	P	P	P	P
2044	N	P	P	P	P	P
2045	N	P	P	P	P	P
2057	N	P	P	P	P	P
2075	N	P	P	P	P	P
2076	P	N	P	P	P	P
2095	N	P	P	P	P	P
2100	N	P	P	P	P	P
2108	N	P	P	P	P	P
2112	N	P	P	P	P	P
2126	N	P	P	P	P	P
2132	N	P	P	P	P	P
2675	N	P	P	P	P	P
2691	N	P	P	P	P	P
2692	N	P	P	P	P	P
2694	N	P	P	P	P	P
2716	N	P	P	P	P	P
2717	N	P	P	P	P	P
2719	N	P	P	P	P	P
2720	P	P	P	P	P	N
2723	N	P	P	P	P	P
2724	N	P	P	P	P	P
2808	P	N	N	P	P	P
N, Results	37	37	37	37	37	37
# Negative	34	2	1	0	0	1
# Positive	3	35	36	37	37	36
% Correct	91.9%	94.6%	97.3%	100.0%	100.0%	97.3%
% Incorrect	8.1%	5.4%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%

Table 2: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for 35S for all participants.

Total # Reported results	222
# Incorrect	7
% Correct	96.8%
# Provided Positives (P)	185
# False Negative	4
% False Negative	2.2%
# Provided Negatives (N)	37
# False Positive	3
% False Positive	8.1%

Table 3: Qualitative results for corn fortified with NOS for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

NOS	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	N	P	P	P	P	P
1752	N	P	P	P	P	P
1754	N	P	P	P	P	P
1755	N	P	P	P	P	P
1764	N	P	P	P	P	P
1774	N	P	P	P	P	P
1778	N	P	P	P	P	P
1785	N	P	P	P	P	P
1844	N	P	P	P	P	P
1847	N	P	P	P	P	P
1858	N	P	P	P	P	P
1870	N	P	P	P	P	P
1891	N	P	P	P	P	P
1892	N	P	P	P	P	P
2032	N	P	P	P	P	P
2034	N	P	P	P	P	P
2044	N	P	P	P	P	P
2057	N	P	P	P	P	P
2095	N	P	P	P	P	P
2100	N	P	P	P	P	P
2108	N	P	P	P	P	P
2112	N	P	P	P	P	P
2126	N	P	P	P	P	P
2132	N	P	P	P	P	P
2675	N	P	P	P	P	P
2691	N	P	P	P	P	P
2692	N	P	P	P	P	P
2694	N	P	P	P	P	P
2716	N	P	P	P	P	P
2717	N	P	P	P	P	P
2719	N	P	P	P	P	P
2723	N	P	P	P	P	P
2724	N	P	P	P	P	P
2808	P	P	P	N	P	N
N, Results	33	33	33	33	33	33
# Negative	32	0	0	1	0	1
# Positive	1	33	33	32	33	32
% Correct	97.0%	100.0%	100.0%	97.0%	100.0%	97.0%
% Incorrect	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%

Table 4: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for NOS for all participants.

Total # Reported results	198
# Incorrect	3
% Correct	98.5%
# Provided Positives (P)	165
# False Negative	2
% False Negative	1.2%
# Provided Negatives (N)	33
# False Positive	1
% False Positive	3.0%

Table 5: Qualitative results for corn fortified with T25 for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

T25	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	1.5%	0.4%
1752	N	N	N	P	P	P
1773	N	N	N	P	P	P
1774	N	P	N	P	P	P
1785	N	N	N	P	P	P
1844	N	N	N	P	P	P
1859	N	N	N	P	P	P
1892	N	N	N	P	P	P
2032	N	P	N	P	P	P
2034	N	P	P	N	P	P
2060	N	P	N	N	P	P
2075	N	P	N	N	P	P
2126	N	N	N	N	N	P
2132	N	N	N	P	P	P
2692	N	N	N	P	P	P
2694	N	N	N	P	P	P
N, Results	15	15	15	15	15	15
# Negative	15	10	14	4	1	0
# Positive	0	5	1	11	14	15
% Correct	100.0%	66.7%	93.3%	73.3%	93.3%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	33.3%	6.7%	26.7%	6.7%	0.0%

Table 6: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for T25 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	90
# Incorrect	11
% Correct	87.8%
# Provided Positives	45
# False Negative	5
% False Negative	11.1%
# Provided Negatives	45
# False Positive	6
% False Positive	13.3%

Table 7: Qualitative results for corn fortified CBH351 with for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

CBH351	Sample 1	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5
Participant Number	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	0.5%
1752	N	P	N	P
1773	N	P	N	P
1774	N	P	N	P
1785	N	P	N	P
1844	N	P	N	P
1859	N	P	N	P
1891	N	P	N	P
1892	N	P	N	P
2032	N	P	N	P
2034	N	P	N	N
2675	N	P	N	P
2692	N	P	N	P
2692	N	P	N	P
N, Results				
	13	13	13	13
# Negative	13	0	0	1
# Positive	0	13	13	12
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	92.3%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%

Data from Sample 2 (0.4% fortification) and Sample 6 (0.4% fortification) have been eliminated from the table and from the analysis of data due to inconsistencies in the reported quantifications.

Table 8: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for CBH351 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	52
# Incorrect	1
% Correct	98.1%
# Provided Positives	26
# False Negative	1
% False Negative	3.8%
# Provided Negatives	26
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 9: Qualitative results for corn fortified with MON810 for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

MON810	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.0%	1.5%	5.0%	0.1%	0.4%
1752	N	N	P	P	P	P
1773	N	N	P	P	P	P
1774	N	N	P	P	P	P
1785	N	N	P	P	P	P
1844	N	N	P	P	P	P
1859	N	N	P	P	P	P
1862	N	N	P	P	N	P
1892	N	N	P	P	P	P
2032	N	N	P	P	N	P
2034	N	N	P	P	P	P
2060	N	N	P	P	P	P
2075	N	P	P	P	P	P
2126	N	N	P	P	P	P
2132	N	N	P	P	P	P
2675	N	N	P	P	P	P
2692	N	N	P	P	P	P
2724	N	N	P	P	P	P
2808	N	N	P	P	P	P
N, Results	18	18	18	18	18	18
# Negative	18	17	0	0	2	0
# Positive	0	1	18	18	16	18
% Correct	100.0%	94.4%	100.0%	100.0%	88.9%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	5.6%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%

Table 10: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for MON810 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	108
# Incorrect	3
% Correct	97.2%
# Provided Positives	72
# False Negative	2
% False Negative	2.8%
# Provided Negatives	36
# False Positive	1
% False Positive	2.8%

Table 11: Qualitative results for corn fortified with GA21 for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

GA21	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.8%	0.5%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%
1752	N	P	P	P	N	N
1773	N	P	P	P	N	P
1774	N	P	P	P	P	N
1785	N	P	P	P	N	N
1844	N	P	P	P	N	N
1859	N	P	P	P	N	N
1862	N	P	P	P	N	N
1892	N	P	P	P	N	N
2032	N	P	P	P	N	N
2034	N	P	P	P	N	N
2060	N	P	P	P	N	N
2075	N	P	P	P	N	N
2126	N	P	P	P	N	N
2675	N	P	P	P	N	N
2692	N	P	P	P	N	N
N, Results	15	15	15	15	15	15
# Negative	15	0	0	0	14	14
# Positive	0	15	15	15	1	1
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	93.3%	93.3%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%	6.7%

Table 12: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for GA21 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	90
# Incorrect	2
% Correct	97.8%
# Provided Positives	45
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0.0%
# Provided Negatives	45
# False Positive	2
% False Positive	4.4%

Table 13: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Bt176 for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

Bt176	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.8%	0.1%	0.5%	3.0%	0.4%
1752	N	P	P	P	P	P
1773	N	P	P	P	P	P
1774	N	P	P	P	P	P
1785	N	P	P	P	P	P
1844	N	P	P	P	P	P
1858	N	P	P	P	P	P
1859	N	P	P	P	P	P
1862	N	P	P	P	P	P
1892	N	P	P	P	P	P
2032	N	P	P	P	P	P
2034	N	P	P	P	P	P
2060	N	P	P	P	P	P
2126	N	P	P	P	P	P
2132	N	P	P	P	P	P
2692	N	P	P	P	P	P
2724	N	P	P	P	P	P
2808	N	N	N	P	P	P
N, Results	17	17	17	17	17	17
# Negative	17	1	1	0	0	0
# Positive	0	16	16	17	17	17
% Correct	100.0%	94.1%	94.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	5.9%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 14: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Bt176 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	102
# Incorrect	2
% Correct	98.0%
# Provided Positives	85
# False Negative	2
% False Negative	2.3%
# Provided Negatives	17
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 15: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Bt11 for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

Bt11	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	1.5%	1.5%	0.0%
1752	N	P	N	P	P	N
1773	N	P	N	P	P	N
1774	N	P	N	P	P	N
1785	N	P	N	P	P	N
1844	N	P	N	P	P	N
1858	N	P	N	P	P	N
1859	N	P	N	P	P	N
1862	N	N	N	P	N	N
1892	N	P	N	P	P	N
2032	N	N	N	N	P	N
2034	N	P	N	P	P	N
2060	N	P	N	P	P	N
2075	N	P	N	P	P	N
2132	N	P	N	P	P	N
2692	N	P	N	P	P	N
2724	N	P	N	P	P	N
2808	N	N	N	N	P	N
N, Results	17	17	17	17	17	17
# Negative	17	3	17	2	1	17
# Positive	0	14	0	15	16	0
% Correct	100.0%	82.4%	100.0%	88.2%	94.1%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	17.6%	0.0%	11.8%	5.9%	0.0%

Table 16: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Bt11 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	102
# Incorrect	6
% Correct	94.1%
# Provided Positives	51
# False Negative	6
% False Negative	11.8%
# Provided Negatives	51
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 17: Qualitative results for corn fortified with NK603 for all participants. (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive).

NK603	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.4%	3.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%
1752	N	P	P	P	P	N
1773	N	P	P	P	P	N
1774	N	P	P	P	P	N
1785	N	P	P	P	P	N
1788	N	P	P	P	P	N
1844	N	P	P	P	P	N
1859	N	P	P	P	P	N
1862	N	P	P	P	P	N
2032	N	P	P	P	P	N
2034	N	P	P	P	P	N
2060	N	P	P	P	P	N
2075	N	P	P	P	P	N
2126	N	P	P	P	P	N
2692	N	P	P	P	P	N
N, Results	14	14	14	14	14	14
# Negative	14	0	0	0	0	14
# Positive	0	14	14	14	14	0
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 18: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for NK603 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	84
# Incorrect	0
% Correct	100.0%
# Provided Positives	56
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0.0%
# Provided Negatives	28
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 19: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Herculex for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

Herculex	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
1752	N	N	N	N	N	P
1773	N	N	N	N	N	P
1774	N	N	N	N	N	P
1785	N	N	N	N	N	P
1844	N	N	N	N	N	P
1859	N	N	N	N	N	P
2032	N	N	N	N	N	P
2034	N	N	N	N	N	P
2060	N	N	N	N	N	P
2126	N	N	N	N	P	P
2675	N	N	N	N	N	P
2692	N	N	N	N	N	P
N, Results	12	12	12	12	12	12
# Negative	12	12	12	12	11	0
# Positive	0	0	0	0	1	12
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	91.7%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	0.0%

Table 20: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Herculex for all participants.

Total # Reported results	72
# Incorrect	1
% Correct	98.6%
# Provided Positives	12
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0
# Provided Negatives	60
# False Positive	1
% False Positive	1.7%

Table 21: Qualitative results for corn fortified with MON863 for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

MON863	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
1752	N	P	N	N	N	P
1773	N	P	N	N	N	P
1774	N	P	N	N	N	P
1785	N	P	N	N	N	P
1788	N	P	N	N	N	P
1844	N	P	N	N	N	P
1859	N	P	N	N	N	P
2032	N	P	N	N	N	P
2034	N	P	N	N	N	N
2060	N	P	N	N	N	P
2075	N	P	N	N	N	P
2112	N	P	N	N	N	P
2126	N	P	N	N	N	P
2675	N	P	N	N	N	P
2692	N	P	N	N	N	P
N, Results						
	15	15	15	15	15	15
# Negative	15	0	15	15	15	1
# Positive	0	15	0	0	0	14
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	93.3%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.7%

Table 22: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for MON863 for all participants.

Total # Reported results	90
# Incorrect	1
% Correct	98.9%
# Provided Positives	30
# False Negative	1
% False Negative	3.3%
# Provided Negatives	60
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 23: Qualitative results for corn fortified with Herculex RW for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive).

Herculex RW	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
1752	N	P	N	N	N	N
1773	N	P	N	N	N	N
1774	N	P	N	N	N	N
1785	N	P	N	N	N	N
1844	N	P	N	N	N	N
1859	N	P	N	N	N	N
2032	N	P	N	N	N	N
2034	N	P	N	N	N	N
2060	N	P	N	N	N	N
2112	N	P	N	N	N	N
2126	N	P	N	N	N	N
2716	N	P	N	N	N	N
N, Results	12	12	12	12	12	12
# Negative	12	0	12	12	12	12
# Positive	0	12	0	0	0	0
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 24: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for Herculex RW for all participants.

Total # Reported results	72
# Incorrect	0
% Correct	100.0%
# Provided Positives	12
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0.0%
# Provided Negatives	60
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 25: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with MIR604 for all participants (DNA-based assays).

MIR604	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3	Sample 4	Sample 5	Sample 6
Participant Number	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
1752	N	P	N	N	N	N
1773	N	P	N	N	N	N
1774	N	P	N	N	N	N
1785	N	P	N	N	N	N
1844	N	P	N	N	N	N
1859	N	P	N	N	N	N
2032	N	P	N	N	N	N
2034	N	P	N	N	N	N
2060	N	P	N	N	N	N
N, Results	9	9	9	9	9	9
# Negative	9	0	9	9	9	9
# Positive	0	9	0	0	0	0
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 26: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for MIR604 for all participants.

# Reported results	72
# Incorrect	0
% Correct	100.0%
# Provided Positives	9
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0.0%
# Provided Negatives	60
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 27: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4 EPSPS (Roundup Ready) for all participants (DNA-based assays) (N = negative; P = positive; Incorrect results are shown in boldface).

CP4 EPSPS	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
Participant Number	0.0%	2.5%	0.5%
1752	N	P	P
1774	N	P	P
1785	N	P	P
1788	N	P	P
1844	N	P	P
1858	N	P	P
1859	N	P	P
1892	N	P	P
2032	N	P	P
2034	N	P	P
2076	N	P	P
2100	P	P	P
2108	N	N	P
2675	P	P	P
2692	N	P	P
2717	N	P	P
N, Results	16	16	16
# Negative	14	1	0
# Positive	2	15	16
% Correct	87.5%	93.8%	100.0%
% Incorrect	12.5%	6.2%	0.0%

Table 28: Percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for CP4 EPSPS (Roundup Ready) for all participants.

Total # Reported results	48
# Incorrect	3
% Correct	93.8%
# Provided Positives	32
# False Negative	1
% False Negative	3.1%
# Provided Negatives	16
# False Positive	2
% False Positive	12.5%

Table 29: Composite percentages of correct results, false negatives, and false positives in qualitative reports for each transgenic event for all participants (DNA-based assays).

N = total number of results submitted for an event; %False Negative = [# False Negatives / # Provided Positives] x 100; %False Positives = [#False Positives / # Provided Negatives] x100.

Event	35S	NOS	T25	CBH351	MON810	GA21	Bt176
N, Results	222	198	90	52	108	90	102
Reported Incorrect	7	3	11	1	3	2	2
% Correct	96.8%	98.5%	87.7%	98.1%	97.2%	97.8%	98.0%
N, Provided Positives	185	165	45	26	72	45	85
N, False Negatives	4	2	5	1	2	0	2
% False Negative	2.1%	1.2%	11.1%	3.8%	2.8%	0.0%	2.3%
N, Provided Negatives	37	33	45	26	36	45	17
N, False Positives	3	1	6	0	1	2	0
% False Positives	8.1%	3.0%	13.3%	0.0%	2.8%	4.4%	0.0%
Event	Bt11	NK603	Herculex	MON863	HerculexRW	MIR604	RUR
N, Results	102	84	72	90	72	54	48
Reported Incorrect	6	0	1	1	0	0	3
% Correct	94.1%	100.0%	98.6%	98.8%	100.0%	100.0%	93.8%
N, Provided Positives	51	56	12	30	12	9	32
N, False Negatives	6	0	0	1	0	0	1
% False Negative	11.8%	0.0%	0	3.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.1%
N, Provided Negatives	51	28	60	60	60	45	16
N, False Positives	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
% False Positives	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%

Figure 1: Group average of percentage correct for Qualitative reports on each event (DNA-based assays). Embedded numbers represent the total number of reported results for that event. Data are shown on a composite basis (i.e., all participants results combined) extracted from the percentage correct scores in Table 29.

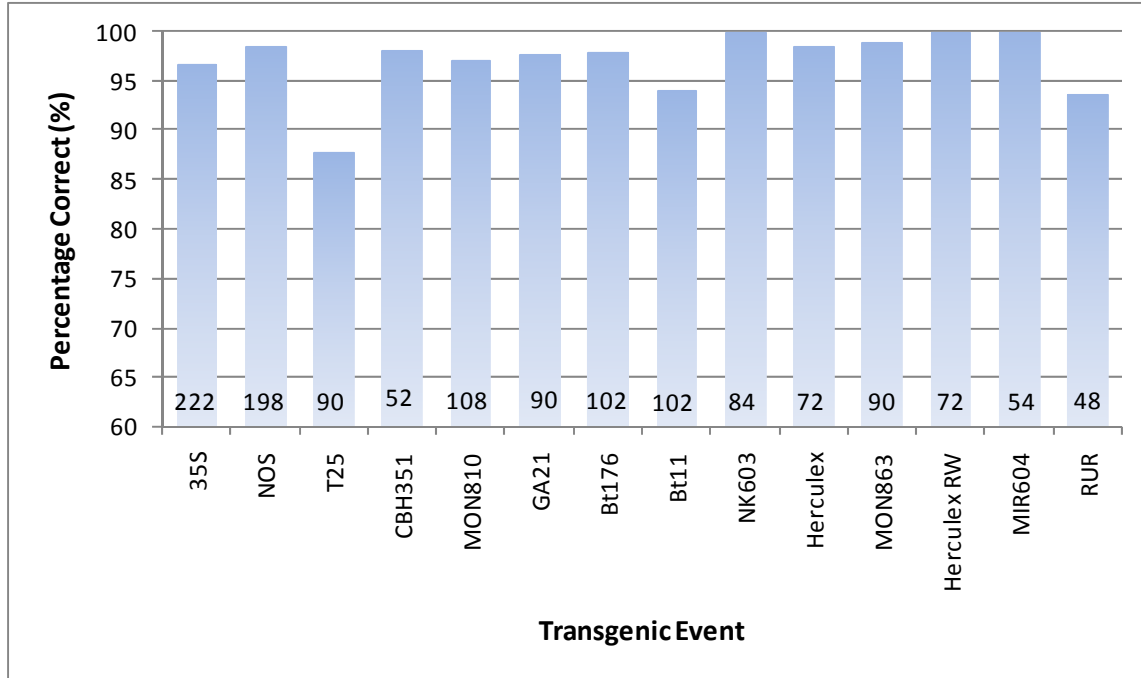


Table 30: Qualitative results for the detection of transgenic events in corn using Lateral Flow Strip (LFS) Testing (Protein-based testing) for Participant #1843 (only this participant submitted such results).

Participant Number 1843	Transgenic Event							
	Sample Number	T25	CBH351	NK603	Cry 1 Ab	Herculex	Mon863	Herculex RW
1	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
2	N	*N	P	N	N	P	P	P
3	N	P	P	**N	N	N	N	N
4	N	N	N	[†] N	N	N	N	N
5	P	P	P	N	N	N	N	N
6	N	P	N	N	[‡] N	P	N	N
Total # Reported results								6
# Incorrect								0
% Correct								100.0%
# Provided Positives								1
# False Negative								0
% False Negative								0.0%
# Provided Negatives								5
# False Positive								0
% False Positive								0.0%

*The Participant's stated MDL for **CBH351** was 0.125%, the unknown sample #2 was fortified with CBH351 at 0.4% which was greater than their MDL; therefore, the result was scored as incorrect.

The Participant's stated MDL for **Cry1Ab was 1%, the unknown sample #3 was fortified at 1.5% MON810 and 0% Bt11; result was not included in the performance analysis.

[†]The Participant's stated MDL for **Cry1Ab** was 1%, the unknown sample #4 was fortified at 5% MON810 and 1.5% Bt11; result was scored as incorrect.

[‡]The Participant's stated MDL for **Herculex** was 0.5%, the unknown sample #6 was fortified at 0.1% which was less than their MDL; therefore, the result was not included in the performance analysis.

Table 31: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4EPSPS (RUR) for all participants using Lateral Flow Strip (LFS) Testing (N = negative; P = positive).

CP4 EPSPS (RUR)	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
Participant Number	0.0%	2.5%	0.5%
1764	N	P	P
1843	N	P	P
2126	N	P	P
N, Results	3	3	3
# Negative	3	0	0
# Positive	0	3	3
% Correct	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
% Incorrect	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 32: Percentage of correct results in qualitative reports for CP4EPSPS for all participants using Lateral Flow Strip (LFS) Testing.

Total # Reported results	9
# Incorrect	0
% Correct	100.0%
# Provided Positives	6
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0.0%
# Provided Negatives	3
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 33: Qualitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4EPSPS for all participants using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Protein-based testing).

CP4 EPSPS (RUR)	Sample 1	Sample 2	Sample 3
Participant Number	0.0%	2.5%	0.5%
1754	N	P	P
2126	N	P	P
2817	N	P	P

Table 34: Percentage of correct results in qualitative reports for CP4EPSPS for all participants using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Protein-based testing).

Total # Reported results	9
# Incorrect	0
% Correct	100.0%
# Provided Positives	6
# False Negative	0
% False Negative	0.0%
# Provided Negatives	3
# False Positive	0
% False Positive	0.0%

Table 35: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with T25 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range, i.e., $z > 2$ and quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: T25												
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.1%		0.4%		1.5%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.4	-0.2
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.7	0.6	-1.9
1764	0.0	0.0	*0.6	-	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.7	1.0	-1.1
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.7	1.0	-1.1
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.11	1.3	0.63	1.7	1.5	0.1
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.08	-2.7	0.5	0.7	1.6	0.2
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.15	6.7	0.5	0.7	1.0	-1.1
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.7	1.0	-1.1
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	13.6	0.49	0.6	1.6	0.2
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.42	0.2	1.4	-0.2
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.49	0.6	1.0	-1.1
2719	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-2.2	0.0	-3.2

Table 36: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with CBH351 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: CBH351								
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.5%		3.0%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.4	1.8	-0.8
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.5	1.1	-1.3
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.5	3.1	0.1
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.5	1.9	-0.7
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.4	0.3	-1.8
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.52	0.1	4.7	1.1
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.57	0.3	3.0	0.0

Data from Sample 2 (0.4% fortification) and Sample 6 (0.4% fortification) have been eliminated from the table and from the analysis of data due to inconsistencies in the reported quantifications.

Table 37: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with MON810 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: MON810													
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.1%		0.4%		1.5%		5.0%		
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	-1.4	0.6	-0.8	1.2	-3.2	
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.7	1.5	0.0	3.0	-1.7	
1764	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.6	0.1	4.4	-0.5	
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.7	0.8	-0.6	3.2	-1.5	
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.09	-0.1	0.39	-0.1	1.44	-0.1	4.6	-0.3	
1783	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.11	-2.1	0.26	-1.1	1.3	-3.2	
1847	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.02	-0.6	0.13	-1.9	0.63	-0.8	2.4	-2.2	
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.04	-0.4	0.25	-1.1	0.9	-0.5	2.7	-1.9	
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	-1.4	0.62	-0.8	2.1	-2.4	
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.8	0.0	-2.9	0.6	-0.8	1.0	-3.4	
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.22	-1.3	1.0	-0.4	3.3	-1.4	
2095	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.7	0.15	-1.8	0.5	-0.9	1.5	-2.9	
2112	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.05	-0.4	0.26	-1.1	0.58	-0.9	2.08	-2.5	
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.04	-0.4	0.3	-0.7	1.0	-0.4	3.1	-1.6	
2691	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.35	-0.3	0.73	-0.7	2.8	-1.8	
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.03	-0.5	0.19	-1.5	0.54	-0.9	1.9	-2.6	
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.3	-0.7	5.0	3.3	1.48	-3.0	
2719	0.0	0.0	*1.08	-	0.1	0.0	0.0	-2.9	0.42	-1.0	0.0	-4.2	
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.48	2.7	0.52	0.8	1.4	-0.1	2.6	-2.0	

Table 38: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with GA21 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: GA21													
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.5%		0.8%		1.5%		
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*0.1	-	0.8	1.3	1.2	0.8	1.9	0.8	
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.3	0.3	-1.0	0.8	-1.4	
1764	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.7	-0.2	1.5	0.0	
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.4	0.5	-0.6	1.2	-0.6	
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.47	-0.1	0.54	-0.5	1.34	-0.3	
1783	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.15	-1.5	0.38	-0.8	0.6	-1.8	
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.4	0.5	-0.6	1.0	-1.0	
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-0.8	0.5	-0.6	1.1	-0.8	
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4	1.4	1.2	2.0	1.0	
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-0.8	0.5	-0.6	1.2	-0.6	
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.36	-0.6	0.74	-0.1	1.1	-0.8	
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.33	-0.7	0.55	-0.5	0.87	-1.2	
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.48	-0.1	1.53	1.4	1.02	-0.9	
2719	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-1.7	0.12	-1.3	0.1	-2.8	
2720	0.0	0.0	*0.96	-	*1.12	-	0.15	-1.5	*4.53	7.5	0.48	-2.0	
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	1.7	1.8	2.0	1.6	0.2	

Table 39: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Bt176 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: Bt176												
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.1%		0.4%		0.5%		0.8%		3.0%	
Participant Number	Result	Z-score	Result	Z-score	Result	Z-score	Result	Z-score	Result	Z-score	Result	Z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	-1.6	0.2	-1.7	0.3	-2.6	1.3	-2.8
1755	0.0	0.0	0.00	-2.2	0.2	-1.6	0.2	-1.7	0.3	-2.6	1.3	-2.8
1764	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0	0.5	0.0	0.7	-0.5	3.4	0.6
1778	0.0	0.0	*0.4	6.6	0.3	-0.8	0.7	1.1	0.7	-0.5	1.8	-1.9
1780	0.0	0.0	0.1	0	0.55	1.2	0.44	-0.3	0.59	-1.1	2.5	-0.8
1870	0.0	0.0	0.07	-0.6	0.3	-0.8	0.4	-0.6	0.7	-0.5	3.0	0.0
1891	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.0	2.9	-0.1
2044	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	-1.1	0.3	-2.6	1.4	-2.6
2057	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.24	-1.2	0.3	-1.1	0.5	-1.6	1.8	-1.9
2128	0.0	0.0	0.11	0.2	0.35	-0.4	0.46	-0.2	NR	-	NR	-
2691	0.0	0.0	0.12	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.35	-0.9	0.49	-1.6	1.74	-2.1
2694	0.0	0.0	0.04	-1.3	0.41	0.1	0.28	-1.3	0.64	-0.8	1.92	-1.8
2716	0.0	0.0	0.11	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	*4.8	21.0	1.52	-2.4
2719	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.2	0.64	1.9	0.8	1.7	0.45	-1.8	2.5	-0.8
2723	0.0	0.0	0.16	1.3	0.46	0.4	0.46	-0.2	0.82	0.1	2.6	-0.6

Table 40: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Bt11 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: Bt11												
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.4%		1.5%		1.5%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-2.2	1.4	-2.4	1.6	0.2
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.5	0.7	-1.9	1.0	-1.0
1764	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.5	0.7	-1.9	0.8	-1.4
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.6	0.2	1.4	-0.2
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.32	-0.6	1.47	-0.1	1.5	0.0
1783	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.17	-1.7	0.53	-2.3	0.7	-1.6
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.25	-1.1	1.2	-0.7	1.3	-0.4
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-0.7	1.3	-0.4	1.1	-0.8
2044	0.0	0.0	*0.9	-	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.6	-2.1	2.0	1.0
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.5	0.8	-1.6	0.7	-1.6
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-0.7	1.09	-0.9	1.04	-0.9
2691	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.43	0.2	1.21	-0.7	1.62	0.2
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.28	-0.9	1.61	0.2	1.51	0.0
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*1.00	4.5	*3.05	3.7	1.47	-0.1
2719	0.0	0.0	*2.08	-	0.0	0.0	0.28	-0.9	0.32	-2.8	0.0	-3.1
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.65	1.8	1.3	-0.4	1.5	0.0

Table 41: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with NK603 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: NK603													
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.4%		0.5%		0.5%		3.0%		
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-2.0	0.3	-1.4	0.3	-0.9	2.1	-1.0	
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-2.0	0.3	-1.4	0.4	-0.4	1.9	-1.2	
1764	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	-0.7	0.5	0.0	4.7	1.8	
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	-0.7	0.4	-0.4	2.4	-0.6	
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.35	-0.5	0.56	0.4	0.69	0.8	3.0	0.0	
1783	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.16	-2.4	0.15	-2.4	0.2	-1.3	1.5	-1.6	
1847	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.15	-2.5	0.3	-1.4	0.32	-0.8	1.9	-1.2	
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-2.0	0.4	-0.7	0.3	-0.9	2.4	-0.6	
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-1.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.6	-0.4	
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-3.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	-0.4	2.0	-1.1	
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.26	-1.4	0.4	-0.7	0.36	-0.6	2.3	-0.7	
2095	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.13	-2.7	0.13	-2.6	0.14	-1.6	1.5	-1.6	
2112	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.19	-2.2	0.19	-2.2	0.2	-1.3	1.09	-2.1	
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.13	-2.7	0.18	-2.2	0.27	-1	1.71	-1.4	
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.23	-1.7	0.33	-1.2	0.41	-0.4	2.5	-0.5	
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*4.86	46.0	0.10	-2.8	0.1	-1.8	1.52	-1.6	
2719	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.17	-2.3	0.19	-2.2	0.12	-1.7	1.1	-2.1	
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*0.83	4.4	*1.1	4.2	1.0	2.2	3.8	0.8	

Table 42: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Herculex for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: Herculex													
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.1%		
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.2	
1847	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.05	-1.3	
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	5.2	
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.08	-0.5	
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.04	-1.5	
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	
2719	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.6	
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.6	

Table 43: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with MON863 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: MON863												
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.8%		1.5%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.5	2.1	1.2
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	-0.4	1.5	0.0
1764	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0	1.2	-0.6
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	-0.7	1.5	0.0
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.13	1.3	1.6	0.2
1783	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.58	-0.8	0.8	-1.4
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.8	0.6
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.4	1.5	0.0
2044	0.0	0.0	*0.2	-	0.0	0.0	*0.1	-	0.3	-1.9	0.7	-1.6
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-1.5	1.0	-0.9
2095	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	-1.1	1.0	-0.9
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.68	-0.4	1.56	0.1
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.86	0.2	1.34	-0.3
2716	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.51	-1.1	1.49	0.0
2719	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*1.46	-	0.0	0.0	0.74	-0.2	0.0	-2.9
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.54	-1.0	1.6	0.2

Table 44: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with Herculex RW for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: Herculex RW												
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.8%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.3
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	1.3
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	1.9
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.9
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.9
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	2.9
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.6
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	3.3
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.3
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	2.3

Table 45: Quantitative results and z-scores for corn fortified with MIR604 for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: MIR604												
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.0%		0.5%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
1755	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.4
1778	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.4
1780	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.38	-0.5
1870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.3
1891	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.3
2044	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*0.1	-	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.3
2057	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	*1.6	5.0
2128	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-0.9
2694	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.55	0.2
2723	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.3

Table 46: Quantitative results for soybeans fortified with CP4EPSPS (RUR) using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) (Protein-based testing) for Participant # 1754 (only this participant submitted results).

Event: RUR			
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%	2.5%	0.5%
Participant Number	Result	Result	Result
1754	0.1	2.5	0.5

Table 47: Quantitative results and z-scores for soybeans fortified with CP4 EPSPS (RUR) for all participants (DNA-based assays). Values in **bold** indicate z-scores outside of satisfactory range i.e., $z > 2$, and, quantifications marked with asterisk (*) indicate values determined to be outliers by the Grubb's Test for Outliers.

Event: RUR						
%w/w Fortification Level	0.0%		0.5%		2.5%	
Participant Number	Result	z-score	Result	z-score	Result	z-score
1754	*0.1	-	0.5	0.0	2.5	0.0
1755	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.1	-0.3
1764	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	2.5	0.0
1773	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4	2.2	-0.2
1778	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.2	-1.2
1780	0.0	0.0	0.53	0.1	2.3	-0.1
1783	0.0	0.0	0.4	-0.4	1.58	-0.8
1847	0.0	0.0	0.68	0.7	2.63	0.1
1858	0.0	0.0	0.47	-0.1	2.24	-0.2
1858	0.0	0.0	0.47	-0.1	2.24	-0.2
1862	0.0	0.0	0.92	1.8	3.44	0.8
1870	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.2	-0.2
1891	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.8	2.5	0.0
2044	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	2.4	-0.1
2057	0.0	0.0	0.78	1.2	3.5	0.9
2060	0.0	0.0	0.49	0.0	2.24	-0.2
2075	0.0	0.0	0.63	0.5	1.33	-1.1
2095	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.5	-0.9
2128	0.0	0.0	0.16	-1.4	2.07	-0.4
2126	0.0	0.0	0.2	-1.2	1.14	-1.2
2132	0.0	0.0	*5.02	19.4	1.68	-0.7
2691	0.0	0.0	0.64	0.6	2.6	0.1
2692	0.0	0.0	1.0	2.1	2.16	-0.3
2694	0.0	0.0	0.64	0.6	1.65	-0.8
2716	0.0	0.0	0.44	-0.2	4.88	2.2
2719	0.0	0.0	1.02	2.2	3.59	1.0
2720	0.0	0.0	0.66	0.6	1.14	-1.2
2723	0.0	0.0	1.2	3.0	4.8	2.1
2808	*1.94	-	0.8	1.2	0.4	-1.9

Table 48: Descriptive statistics for participants reported quantifications relative to GIPSA fortification levels using DNA-based assays. % Relative reproducibility standard deviation ($\%RSD_R$) = [standard deviation/mean value x 100]; % Relative error = [reported value – fortified value/fortified value x 100]. Outliers were determined by the Grubb’s Test for Outliers and excluded from final results.

Transgenic Event	Reported Results (N)	Fortification (%w/w)	Reported Mean	Standard Deviation	% Relative Standard Deviation	% Relative Error	Range of Results
T25	12	0.1	0.11	0.03	29%	12%	0.08 – 0.2
T25	12	0.4	0.44	0.13	29%	11%	0.1 – 0.63
T25	12	1.5	1.09	0.46	42%	-27%	0.0 – 1.6
CBH351	7	0.5	0.33	0.20	62%	-35%	0.0 – 0.57
CBH351	7	3.0	2.27	1.46	64%	-24%	0.3 – 4.7
MON810	19	0.1	0.12	0.14	113%	22%	0.0 – 0.48
MON810	19	0.4	0.24	0.14	57%	-40%	0.0 – 0.52
MON810	19	1.5	1.06	1.10	100%	-29%	0.5 – 5.0
MON810	19	5.0	2.36	1.19	50%	-53%	0.0 – 4.6
GA21	16	0.5	0.41	0.23	56%	-18%	0.1 – 0.9
GA21	16	0.8	0.75	0.49	66%	-6%	0.12 – 4.53
GA21	16	1.5	1.11	0.50	45%	-26%	0.1 – 2.0
Bt176	15	0.1	0.09	0.04	52%	-14%	0.0 – 0.4
Bt176	15	0.4	0.38	0.12	33%	-4%	0.2 – 0.64
Bt176	15	0.5	0.43	0.17	39%	-15%	0.2 – 0.8
Bt176	14	0.8	0.56	0.18	31%	-30%	0.3 – 4.8
Bt176	14	3.0	2.12	0.69	32%	-29%	1.3 – 3.4
Bt11	16	0.4	0.3	0.13	45%	-25%	0.1 – 1.0
Bt11	32	1.5	1.13	0.45	45%	-25%	0.0 – 3.05
NK603	18	0.4	0.22	0.10	42%	-44%	0.1 – 4.86
NK603	36	0.5	0.34	0.19	54%	-32%	0.1 – 1.1
NK603	18	3.0	2.22	0.91	41%	-26%	1.11 – 4.7
Herculex	14	0.1	0.09	0.07	79%	-10	0.0 – 0.3
MON863	16	0.8	0.72	0.25	36%	-11%	0.3 – 1.2
MON863	16	1.5	1.29	0.5	36%	-14%	0.0 – 2.1
HerculexRW	10	0.8	1.29	0.3	23%	61%	0.9 – 1.8
MIR604	11	0.5	0.38	0.22	58%	-25%	0.0 – 1.6
RUR	29	0.5	0.62	0.23	37%	24%	0.16 – 5.02
RUR	29	2.5	2.30	1.00	44%	-8%	0.4 – 4.88

Summary of Findings

Qualitative Sample Analysis

DNA-based Testing. The method of DNA-based testing for the qualitative determination of events was the conventional polymerase chain reaction assay (PCR) which has a sensitivity of 0.01% w/w transgenic event. The lowest fortification level in this round of proficiency testing was 0.1%w/w; therefore, if the event was present it should be detectible by a given laboratory employing conventional PCR. As evidenced by the summary of performance scores (Table 29 and Figure 1), eleven of the fourteen transgenic events were detected with greater than or equal to 95% accuracy. This was a moderate improvement over the performance in the October 2007 round wherein nine of the fourteen events were detected with greater than or equal to 95% accuracy. Events that tested with less than 95% accuracy were T25, Bt11, and RUR. The occurrence of T25 in this category was similar to the trend observed in the October 2007 report. The failure of these events to test with less than 95% accuracy was due to a combination of false negative (non-detects) and false positives. In the case of T25, 13% of the reported results were false positives and 11% were false negatives; Bt11 was not detected 11.8% of the time in spite of the samples being fortified at 0.4% and 1.5% w/w, respectively. Finally, a false positive result was observed on RUR 12.5% of the time, this trend was not observed in the October 2007 round (www.usda.gov/biotechnology_proficiency_program).

Protein-based Testing. The principle methods of protein-based testing were lateral flow strips (LFS) and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA). The LFS test has a sensitivity of $\approx 0.8\%$ w/w for corn events and $\approx 0.1\%$ w/w for soybean event RUR (Strategic Diagnostics Inc., 2001 & 2003); ELISA has a sensitivity of $\approx 0.5\%$ to 1% w/w for corn and soy events (Ahmed, 2004). Some participants stated that their minimum detection limit (MDL) was 0.125% w/w thus; test samples that were fortified at 0.1% w/w were excluded from the statistical analysis in this report. Laboratories demonstrated good proficiency when using protein-based methods to detect the presence of biotechnology-derived traits in maize (Table 30). In the assessment of Cry1Ab, some laboratories stated that their MDL was greater than the fortification level of transgenic events that coded for the Cry1Ab protein; these samples were excluded from statistical analysis. Laboratories demonstrated good proficiency when using protein-based methods to detect the presence of the CP4EPSPS protein in samples fortified with the RoundUp Ready trait (Tables 31 to 34).

Quantitative Sample Analysis

DNA-based Testing. The method of DNA-based testing for the quantitative determination of transgenic events in was real-time quantitative PCR. This analytical method has a limit of detection (LOD) of 0.01 %w/w event and a limit of quantification (LOQ) of ≈ 0.1 %w/w event (Ahmed, 2004; Lipp et. al., 2005).

Composite Performance Assessment. These data combined the participants reported quantifications and evaluated the group's performance by considering the mean value of "reported results" for all participants (Table 48). Because test samples were fortified at ranges between 0.1% to 5% w/w of the event, it was expected that detection of an event should be

possible in all such samples. With regard to the detection sensitivity of PCR, a scattered number of non-detects in fortified samples were observed (Tables 36, 39, 42, 43, and 45), and this amounted to only 2.7% of the reported quantitative results; therefore, this expectation was supported by the data. Another expectation was that the *inter-laboratory variation* observed in reported quantifications (as measured by the %RSD_R) should be higher in the lower fortified samples (e.g., 0.1%w/w) as compared to the variation observed in higher fortified samples (e.g., 5%w/w) because at lower fortification levels there are fewer genome copies available for PCR amplification thereby challenging the reproducibility of PCR. With regard to this inverse relationship between variability (%RSD_R) in reported quantifications and fortification level, in four of the nine events for which multi-level fortifications were provided, this expectation proved valid (Table 48). This inverse relationship has been observed in the quantitative data from previous rounds of USDA/GIPSA proficiency sample distributions. Though similar trends in these characteristics of inter-laboratory variation were observed, the amount of this variation was for the most part greater than the acceptance criteria of $\leq 35\%$ as established by the Joint Research Council/ENGL (<http://gmo-crl.jrc.ec.eu>).

As established by the Joint Research Council/ENGL, the acceptance criterion for trueness is that the “percentage relative error” in the result should be $\leq 25\%$ in comparison to an accepted reference value—in this case the reference values were the %w/w fortifications of the samples. In this round of proficiency testing, there were twenty-nine trials of inter-laboratory quantifications (i.e., total number of transgenic events and fortification level combinations) and in eighteen of those trials the *inter-laboratory relative error* was observed to be $\leq 25\%$ (Table 48). Thus, approximately 62% of the quantification trials were concordant with the acceptance criterion for trueness. Furthermore, there was a tendency for the reported quantifications to be moderately under-estimated (low bias) as evidenced by the observation that approximately 83% of the quantification trials (twenty-four of twenty-nine) had “percentage relative error” values that were negatively signed (Table 48). This same trend of a low bias in the quantifications was observed in the quantitative data from previous rounds of our proficiency sample distributions.

Individual Performance Assessment. The performance of each participating laboratory for quantifying transgenic events in the proficiency samples can be observed by inspecting Tables 35 through 47. To assess the accuracy of their reported quantifications z-scores were computed. Laboratories with z-scores above +2 or below -2 were noted because their result was greater than two standard deviations from the expected value. Interpretation of z-scores assumes that the data have a normal distribution. Data from samples with lower fortification levels (e.g., 0.1%w/w) may not be normally distributed and caution should be used when interpreting their z-scores.

In summary, for the assessment of biological/chemical residue in crops, food, feed, and environmental samples it is recommended that an analytical method have a %RSD_R of less than 35% (Joint Research Council/ENGL). In this round of inter-laboratory proficiency testing the %RSD_R for several of the transgenic events was greater than 35% (Table 48). This was due to the wide range of quantifications reported by individual labs and numerous confounders could have contributed to this variability. Monitoring and improving the performance of laboratories that use PCR for the detection and/or quantification of transgenic events in grains will improve the reliability of testing methods and the marketing of this commodity. The USDA/GIPSA proficiency testing program should be a complement to other quality assurance measures that laboratories use to improve their analytical capabilities.

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Note: It is important to understand that there are no internationally recognized standard reference materials for all transgenic events. The transgenic seed or grain used to prepare these samples was made available to GIPSA by the Life Science Organizations. Care was taken to ensure the transgenic material was either essentially 100% positive for the event, or adjusted accordingly. The fortified samples were prepared using a process that has been verified to produce homogenous mixes, and representative samples were analyzed to ensure proper fortification and homogeneity.

To obtain additional information on the USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program, contact Luke Shokere, USDA/GIPSA Proficiency Program Manager, at US 816-891-0452, or by e-mail at Luke.A.Shokere@usda.gov.

Appendix I: List of organizations who wished to be identified as a participant in the GIPSA May 2008 Proficiency Program.

A. Bio. C – Molecular Biology Division

Route de Samadet
64410 ARZACQ
France
Attn: Dr. F. Bois
Phone: 33 5 59 04 49 20
Fax: 33 5 59 04 49 30
bio.moleculaire@labo-abioc.fr

Biolytix AG

Benkenstrasse 254
CH-4108 Witterswil
Switzerland
662-9510000 ext 99514-5
AATN: Peter Brodmann
peter.brodmann@biolytix.ch

Bolsa de Comercio de Rosario

Laboratorio De Genetica
Córdoba 1402- 2ºPiso
Rosario S2000AWV – Santa Fe
Argentina
Attn: Roberto Figueredo or Ariel Soso
Phone: 54-0341-4211000 int 2343
Fax: 54-0341-4241019
asoso@bcr.com.ar
LaboratorioGenetica@bcr.com.ar

Bureau of Food and Drug Analysis (BFDA), DOH, Taiwan

161-2, kunyang Street
Nangang District
Taipei, 115-61
Taiwan
Attn: Dr. Lih-Ching Chiueh
Phone 02-26531068
Fax: 02-26531268
clc1025@nlfd.gov.tw
1780

California Seed and Plant Lab

7877 Pleasant Grove Road
Elverta, CA 95626
Attn: Parm Randhawa
Phone: 916-655-1581
Fax: 916-655-1582
randhawa@calspl.com

Chemisches Landes- und Staatliches Veterinaruntersuchungsamt

von-Esmarch-Str.12
D-48147 Muenster
Germany
Attn: Claudia Bruenen-Nieweler, Ph.D.
Phone: 49-251-9821-186
Fax: 49-251-9821-250
nieweler@cvua.nrw.de

CNTA-Laboratorio del Ebro

Ctra N-134 km 50
31570 San Adrian
Navarra

Spain
Attn: Blanca Jauregui, Ph.D.
Phone: 34 948 670159
Fax: 34 948 696127
bjaregui@cnta.es

CONGEN Biotechnology GmbH

Robert Roessle Str. 10
13125 Berlin, Germany
Attn: Dr. Lutz Grohmann
Phone: +49-(0)30-9489 3506
Fax: +49-(0)30-9489 3510
l.grohmann@congen.de

Coordinadora de Calidad

Adolfo Alsina 1382
C1088AAJ
Capital Federal
Buenos Aires
Argentina
Attn: Mariana Astore
Phone: 5411- 4124 2124
Fax: 5411- 4124 2140
mariana.astore@sgs.com

2720

Eurofins GeneScan GmbH, Freiburg

Engesserstr. 4
79108 Freiburg i. Br.
Germany
Attn: Mrs. A. Moebes
Phone: +49-(0)761-5038
Fax: +49-(0)761-5038-111
gmoanalytics@genescan.com
a.moebes@genescan.com

GeneScan USA, Inc.

2315 N. Causeway Blvd.
Metairie, LA 70001
Attn: Dr. Frank Spiegelhalter
Tel: 504-398-0940
Fax: 504-398-0945
fspiegel@gmotesting.com
gregoryditta@eurofinsus.com
1754

Laboratoire National de la Protection des vegetaux

93 rue de Curembourg, 45 404 Fleury-les-Aubrais
National Laboratory of Crop Protection
Fleury-les-Aubrais
France
Attn: Frederic VEY, Head of lab
Phone:
Fax:
frederic.vey@agriculture.gouv.fr

Laboratorio COOP ITALIA

Via del Lavoro 6/8
40033 Casalecchio di Reno
Bologna, Italy
Attn: Dr. Martino Barbanera/ Dr. Sonia Scaramagli
Phone: 0039-051-596172
Fax: 0039-051596170
martino.barbanera@coopitalia.coop.it/sonia.scaramagli@coopitalia.coopit

Laboratorio CHMICO CCIAA TORINO
Via Vettimiglia 165, 10127
Torino, Italy

Europe

Attn: Filippo Odasso

Phne: 390116700219

FAX: 390116700100

filippo.odasso@lab-to.camcom.it/laura.bersani@lab-to.camcom.it

Laborzentrum Ettlingen-Karlsruhe

Landesuntersuchungsanstalt für das Gesundheits-und Veterinarwesen Sachsen

Sitz Dresden

Amtliche Lebensmittelüberwachung

Fachgebiet 6.6

Jägerstraße 10

D – 01099 Dresden

Germany

Attn: Mrs. Gerda Hempel

Phone: +49-0351-8144-149

Fax: +49-0351-8144-227

gerda.hempel@lua.sms.sachsen.de

LAV Sachsen-Anhalt

Freiimfelder Str. 66/68

D-061112 Halle

Germany

Attn: Dr. Dietrich Maede

Phone: +49 345 4780 174

Fax: +49 345 4780 173

dietrich.maede@hal.lav.ms.lsa-net.de

1870

LUFASpeyer

Obere Langgasse 40

Speyer D-67346

Germany

Attn: Hormisch, Diana

Phone: 49 6232 136 291

FAX: 49 6232 136 110

hormisch@lufa-speyer.de

Microbac Laboratories, Inc

Knoxville Division

505 E. Broadway Ave.

Maryville, TN 37804

Attn: Robert Brooks

Phone: 865-977-1200

Fax: 865-984-8616

rbrooks@microbac.com

Monsanto-SAS France

40305 Peyrehorade cedex

France

Europe

Attn: Bruno Zaccomer

Phone: +33 558 73 60 99

bruno.zaccomer@monsanto.com

National Research Institute of Animal Production

National Feed Lab branch in Szczecin, ul. Zubrow 1.

ul.ZWIRKI I WIGURY 73

71-617 Szczecin

Poland

Attn: Dorota Piskurewicz

Phone: 0048 91 422 38 50

Fax: +48 056 652 82 28

info@lab.szczecin.pl / clpp.eko@inet.pl

2808

Pioneer Hi-Bred

10700 Justin Drive

Urbandale, IA 50322

Attn: Dr. Beni Kaufman.

Phone: 515-334-6478

Fax: 515-334-6431

benjamin.kaufman@pioneer.com

PLANTON GmbH

D-24106 KIEL

Am Kiel-Kiel Kanal 44

KIEL

Germany Europe

Attn: Dr. Karsten Hofmann-Peiker

Phone: +49 431 380150

FAX: 0049 431-380 15 11

Analytik@planton.de/hofman@planton.de/weigel@planton.de

Reading Scientific Services Ltd.

The Lord Zuckerman Research Centre
Whiteknights Campus
Pepper Lane
Reading RG1 2TG
United Kingdom

Attn: Barbara Hirst & Steven E. Reiley

Phone: +44 (0)118 986 8541

Fax: +44 (0)118 986 8932

barbara.j.hirst@rssl.com or steven.e.reilly@rssl.com

1788

SGS

1019 Harbor Avenue
Memphis, TN 38113
USA

Attn: Chong Singsit

Phone: 901 775-1660

chong.singsit@sgs.com

SGS Argentina S.A.(City:Ciudad Autonoma de Buenos

Adolfo Alsina 1382

Argentina, South America C1088AAJ,

Attn: Mariana Astore, Coordinadora de Calidad

Phone: 1154 4124 2110

mariana.astore@sgs.com

2720

SGS do Brazil

Avenida. Vereador Alfredo das Neves, 480

Brazil South America

55 13 3295-9558

mariana_saldanha@sgs.com

1783

SGS Bulgaria Ltd - Laboratory Varna

Floor 7, 1 William Froude Str.,9003

Varna, Bulgaria

Europe

Attn: Lab Manager

Pone: +359(52)370988

bg_varna_laboratory@sgs.com

SGS MULTILAB

ZI. ST. Guenault

Weidenbaumsweg

7, Rue, Jean Mermoz

91031 Evry Courcouronnes

France

Attn: Karine Lacotte-Botelho

Phone: 00 33 1 69 36 68 71

Fax: 00 33 1 69 36 51 88

karine.lacotte@sgs.com

2719

SGS India Private Limited

201, Sumel II, S. G. Highway

Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380054

India

Attn: Dr. Joseph Lopez,(Purvi Shah), Laboratory Manager

Phone: + 91(79) 2685 4360

Fax: + 91(79) 2685 4380

joseph.lopez@sgs.com

2717

Sistemas Genomicos S. L.

Valencia Technology Parck,
C/Ronda G. Marconi 6
E-46980 Paterna Valencia
Spain

Attn: Dr. Carlos Ruiz Lafora or *Angela Pérez Pérez
Phone: 34 902 364 669
Fax: 34 902 364 670

carlos.ruiz@sistemasgenomicos.com www.sistemasgenomicos.com

1785

State Veterinary Medicine and Diagnostic Center

Lejupes str. 3; Riga
Latvia 1076

sanita.puspure@vmdc.gov.lv

linda.kluga@ndc.gov.lv

2132

Superinspect LTDA

Rua do Comercio, 83
11010-141 Centro
Santos-Sao Paulo, Brazil
South America

Attn: Dr. Carolina Fernandes Ribas

Phone: 55 13 3219 4000

Fax: 55 13 3219 1108

labgmo.sts@superinspect.com.br,

pnm@superinspect.com.br

TECAM

Rua Fabia, 59

Sao Paulo – SP – CEP: 05051-030

Brazil

Attn: Dr. Janete Moura or Renata do Val

Phone: 55 11 3873 2553

Fax: 55 11 3862 8954

janete.moura@tecam.com.br microbiol@tecam.com.br

Thionville Surveying

5440 Pepsi Street

Harahan, LA 70123

Attn: Boyce Butler

Phone: 504-733-9603

Fax: 504-733-6457

Attn: Shani Jolly, Tim Dodson, Paul Thionville

lab@thionvillenola.com

1764

Veterinary Public Health Center

Dr. Wang Zang Ming, Molecular Biology Branch
Food & Veterinary Administration Department,
Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority, 10 Perahu Road
Singapore, Republic of Singapore, 718837

Attn: Dr. Wang Zang Ming

Phone: 65-67952884

Fax: 65-68619491

wang_zheng_ming@ava.gov.sg

2692