

Global Proficiency's NewsChek

Issue 26, October 2023

New: VeriTest® Probiotics Proficiency Programme

Global Proficiency is pleased to announce that we are introducing another new proficiency testing programme in 2024 due to industry requests.

Numerous studies on probiotics and probiotic-containing foods and beverages have indicated that improvements are needed in the areas of quality assurance and truth of labelling. Given the range of microorganisms that are used; whether they are offered singularly or as a blend, and the type of product or base they may be added to, means there are many challenges in selecting and developing test methods as well as ensuring testing consistency between laboratories. The VeriTest® Probiotics Proficiency Testing scheme has been developed to provide a system for laboratories to validate their testing capability, compare method performance and to benchmark their results among a network of other laboratories.

Initially, the programme will offer samples containing probiotics at a 'final product' level, in a dairy-based powder format in the months of March & September. Four samples will be provided; two will contain Bifidobacteria, and two will contain Lactobacillus species. Look out for this new programme in our soon-to-be-sent registration packs.

In future rounds, additional categories will be offered including probiotics at high levels representative of 'raw material' levels, and samples at low levels appropriate for carry-over testing. In addition, other microorganisms commonly used in probiotics can be introduced.



If you would like further information please email: enquiries@global-proficiency.com

New: AFM1 in Milk

We are introducing Aflatoxin M1 in milk to our suite of DairyChek contaminants. This 4-sample set of UHT milk will be presented twice a year (April and October) under category code DAF and will be available for registration in 2024.

For more information on our available contaminant tests refer to the programme guide available here: <https://www.global-proficiency.com/dairychek>

Upcoming Rounds

Please see below our upcoming rounds and QC despatches.

October

- DairyChek (Rd 10)
- LipidChek (Rd 10)
- VeriTest UHT Products (Rd 10)
- MilkChek (Rd 10)
- SieveCal (Rd 10)
- VeriTest AM (Rd 10)
- MWPF (Rd 10 & 11)
- BeverageChek (Rd 10)
- NurtureChek (Rd 11)
- SoilChek (Rd 11)
- WaterChem (Rd 11)
- VeriCal (1812)
- Raw Cream QC (14500)

November

- HoneyChek (Rd 11)
- DairyChek (Rd 11)
- MilkChek (Rd 11)
- VeriTest UHT Products (Rd 11)
- LipidChek (Rd 11)
- VeriTest Milk (Rd 11)
- VeriTest Cream (Rd 12)
- WaterChem (Rd 12)
- MWPF (Rd 12)

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Meet The Team



Lana Pears joined Global Proficiency in 2007 as the Chemistry Coordinator for DairyChek and she has had a range of roles in almost all our various ILCP programmes. The last two years she has been our Production and Logistics Operations Manager with a busy and dedicated team that has been involved in lots of process improvements resulting in increased efficiency with a focus on sustainability going forward.

Outside of work time is spent in maximum relaxation mode with yoga, puzzles and good coffee – at least as much as two school aged kids will allow.

WaterChek Chemistry Changes for 2024

For our WaterChek Chemistry programme, we are planning two new additions to current programmes, which include adding a new category to our Effluent Programme, and new tests to our Sea Water Trace Elements category.

Effluent Water: Global Proficiency currently offers 3 categories within the Effluent Water programme including Base, Trace Elements and Fat, Oil & Grease. In 2024 we will be offering a new category called: WEC - Effluent Chlorine. There will be two tests available:

- Total Chlorine (mg/L)
- Free Available Chlorine (mg/L)

Laboratories who register for this category will receive one vial of Chlorine Standard to add to a portion of the sample 1 Base solution.

Seawater: The Trace Elements category will see the inclusion of Bismuth, Gallium and Uranium to the suite of tests.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at: enquiries@global-proficiency.com

Annual Registrations for 2024

Our annual registration packs are due to be sent out in the coming weeks. Look out for these to register for 2024!

The process will be the same as previous years, with the information sent being tailored to your lab as follows:

- **Registration form** (excel file) - Registration form pre-populated with registrations from the previous year.
- **Price list** – Includes the programmes your laboratory has participated in during 2023.

Please send back the excel file regardless of whether you update your participation or not as this enables us to monitor response and avoids unnecessary follow up.

Note: Please **do not** PDF the excel file. The completed excel file will be uploaded directly into our system.

For any questions in regards to registrations please email: registrations@global-proficiency.com

Contact Us

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