**PERFORM Working Group Conference Call**

March 27, 2019, 11:00 am – 12:22 pm
Dial-in number (US): (605) 468-8853
Access code: 812959#

**Attendees:** Victoria Siegel, Jon Wong, Jo Marie Cook

**Discussion:**

* PERFORM Method Equivalency proposal has been posed on the Working Group website and also on the Chemical Contaminants website pages.
* The need for method extensions was noted at the AOAC Mid-Year Meeting
* Vicki proposed that we begin with criteria to demonstrate performance for method extensions to glyphosate methods
* Jon suggested matrices such as cereals, milk, eggs…
* It was noted that there probably is no official glyphosate method
* Can we propose a process for demonstrating that multiple methods in different laboratories meet specific performance criteria?
* We need to write performance criteria, identify or request needed reference materials and write a document that describes best practices to demonstrate that a method in a given laboratory meets the performance criteria.
* The process should also demonstrate that the method is reproducible in other laboratories and rugged.
* Jo Marie asked if it would be possible to develop blind proficiency or round robin samples that could be provided to a laboratory to demonstrate the adequate performance of their method.
* Jon suggested that the process would need to include: 1. a qualification phase of one or two blind samples to demonstrate that the laboratory’s method works; 2. a documentation of acceptable single laboratory validation; 3. acceptable performance when testing multiple blind samples of specified concentration and matrix.
* Jon described a study he is conducting where the matrices and the reference standards are provided separately and the user adds a small amount of the standards to the matrix provided to make the blind samples. This prevents breakdown of the analytes in the matrix but does not provide incurred residue recovery data.
* Jo Marie suggested that a reference material provider could prepare blind samples for a specified range and number of matrices much like a collaborative study sample set. Perhaps they could have reference analytical standards that could be added at differing levels to standard matrices. As all labs would not be provided these samples at the same time, the provider would need to spike at differing levels to each laboratory at the time they were requested. Of course, the laboratory would pay a fee for this service. The successful completion of these samples could be verified by the provider and give the laboratory and their customers more confidence in the laboratory results.
* Vicky asked if these types of blind samples might be provided by LGC, USP, AOAC, NIST, FAPAS or others.
* Jo Marie suggested that there really needs to be a process to demonstrate incurred residue recovery.
* Jon described efforts to re-extract to show recovery of incurred residues and reminded us that the only way to assure extractability is with radiolabeled studies which are not readily available.
* Incurred residues might be obtained from Leah Riter at Monsanto
* Melissa Phillips is a good contact for NIST
* The Reference Material (Standards) Working Group should also be consulted in this process.

**Action Items:**

1. Vicky will draft a proposal to develop a process to demonstrate performance of glyphosate methods. This will include a proposal to providers for blind samples as part of this performance process.
2. Jo Marie and Jon and Joe will sequentially review and update the Glyphosate “PERFORM” proposal.
3. Vicky will invite all known interested parties to the next call on April 17 at 11:00 am E.S.T.
4. Vicky will break up the Glyphosate “PERFORM” Project into assignments for the April conference call