

Co-ordination of an organochlorine pesticides in drinking water proficiency testing scheme in South(ern) Africa

D Prevoo-Franzen
8th Eurachem PT workshop, Berlin, Germany
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Your measure of excellence



NMISA

Our mandate:

- To maintain the SI units
- To ensure global measurement equivalence.
- Reference measurements, CRMs

Proficiency testing schemes

- Currently 4 accredited PT providers in South Africa
 - 3 - Medical/Clinical diagnostics
 - 1 - Water Chemistry



Typical accreditation schedules for PT providers

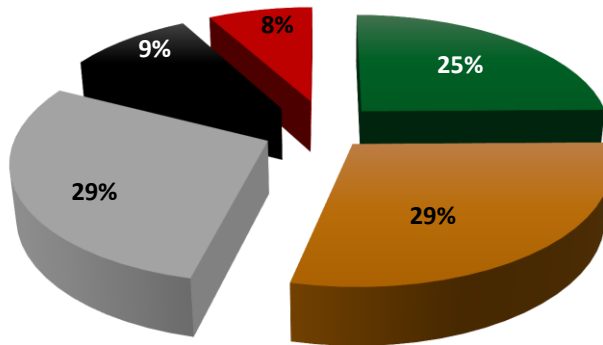
Materials Supplied	Title of Scheme	Tests Performed	
Water	Heavy Metals (Group 1)	Aluminium Barium Beryllium Boron Cadmium Chromium Cobalt Copper Iron Lead	Manganese Molybdenum Nickel Silicon Strontium Vanadium Zinc Mercury Arsenic Selenium
	Nutrient and Oxygen demand (Group 2)	Kjeldahl Nitrogen Nitrate Ammonia Total Phosphate Orthophosphate	Oxygen Absorbed Chemical Oxygen demand Total Organic Carbon Dissolved Organic Carbon
	Major Constituents (Group 3)	pH Conductivity Dissolved solids Calcium Magnesium Sodium Nitrate	Potassium Chloride Fluoride Sulfate Alkalinity Turbidity

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Water quality testing – ISO 17025 SANAS accredited facilities

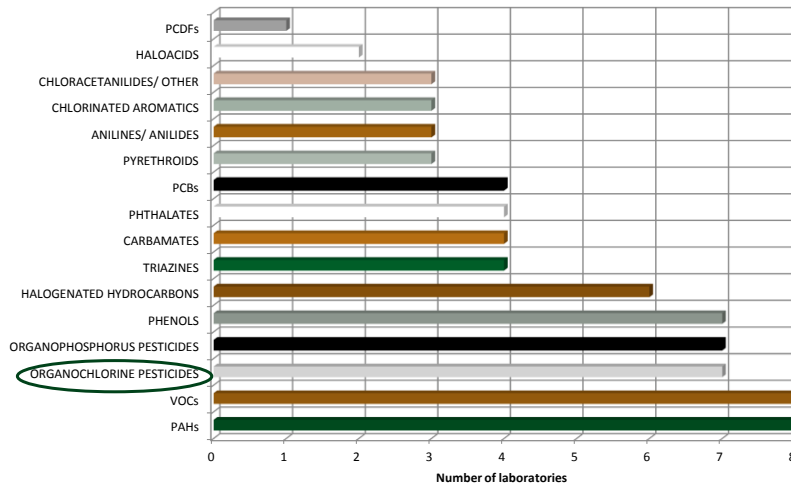
- Microbiology
- Inorganic
- Physical/ Other
- SANS 241 TOC/ phenols/ THMs/ odour
- Organics - VOCs, pesticides, other



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Water testing survey – organics



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Analyte	Concentration range (ng/ℓ)		NMISA-PT-ORG10 TRIAL: May 2012	NMISA-PT-ORG12 R1: Feb 2013	NMISA-PT-ORG12 R2: Aug 2013	NMISA-PT-ORG15 R1: Feb 2014
Aldrin	10	50	43.8		42.2	
cis-chlordane	10	50		35.3		
trans-chlordane	10	50				39.0
p,p'-DDT	20	120	66.5		107.7	
o,p'-DDT	20	120			104.9	
p,p'-DDE	20	120	69.5			97.5
p,p'-DDD	20	120		60.3		
Dieldrin	10	50				39.7
Endosulfan I	100	300		242.7		
Endosulfan II	100	300			135	
Endosulfan sulphate	100	300				242.2
Endrin	20	120		108.3		
Heptachlor	10	50		35.8		
Heptachlor epoxide	10	50				
Alpha HCH	20	120			87.0	
Beta HCH	20	120				
Delta HCH	20	120				98.8
Gamma HCH (Lindane)	20	120	132.1			

Sample description

500 ml or 1000 ml water sample

- ✗ Accommodation
- ✗ Bulk preparation
- ✗ Homogeneity
- ✗ Stability



€ 140



2 ml solvent sample

- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Bulk preparation
- ✓ Homogeneity
- ✓ Stability



€ 310

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Sample description

2 x 1000 mL diluted water sample previously spiked with OCPs

Results due within **3 weeks**



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Sample preparation - assigned value

5.2 Formulation

Purity and density-corrected gravimetric preparation value of the solutions;

The uncertainty associated with the PTS assigned values was determined using the following uncertainty contributors described in equation 1:

$$u_{AV} = \sqrt{u_{purity}^2 + u_{mass}^2 + u_{bottling}^2 + u_{homog}^2} \quad [1]$$

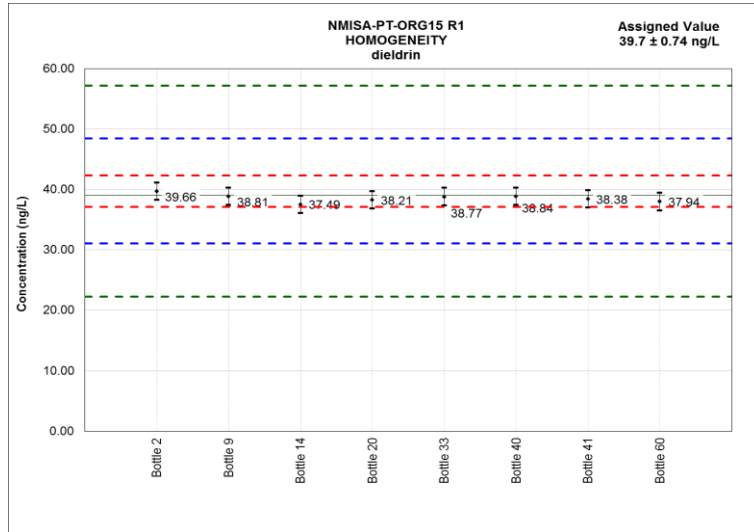


Homogeneity and stability assessment

- Extraction
 - 1 L extracted
 - Horizon SPE DEX C18 Disks
- Pre-concentration
 - Water removed (DryDisk)
 - Solvent dried down (N₂, 35°C)
 - Reconstituted in 100 µL
- Analysis
 - GC-TOFMS
- Quantification
 - Double isotope dilution mass spectrometry



Homogeneity



$RV + 1x \sigma_p$

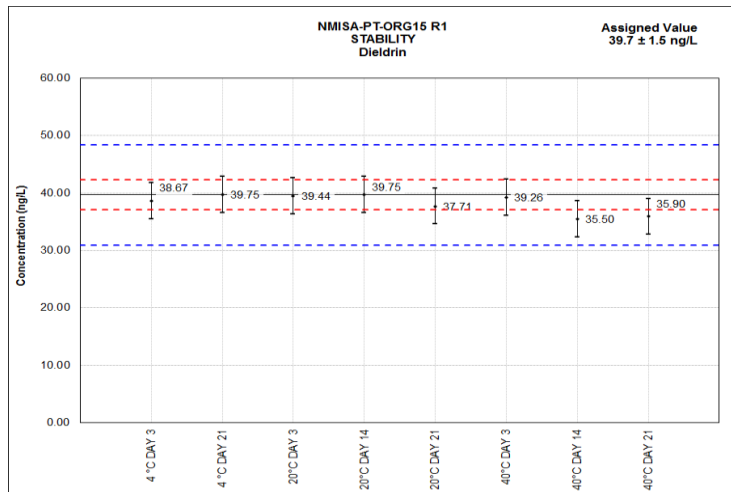
$0.3 x \sigma_p$

$RV + 2 x \sigma_p$

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Stability testing



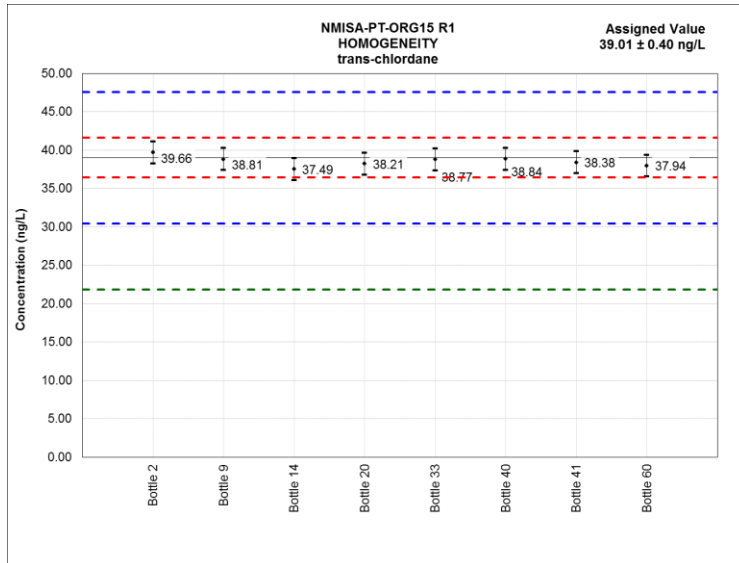
$RV + 1x \sigma_p$

$0.3 x \sigma_p$

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Homogeneity



$RV + 1x \sigma_p$

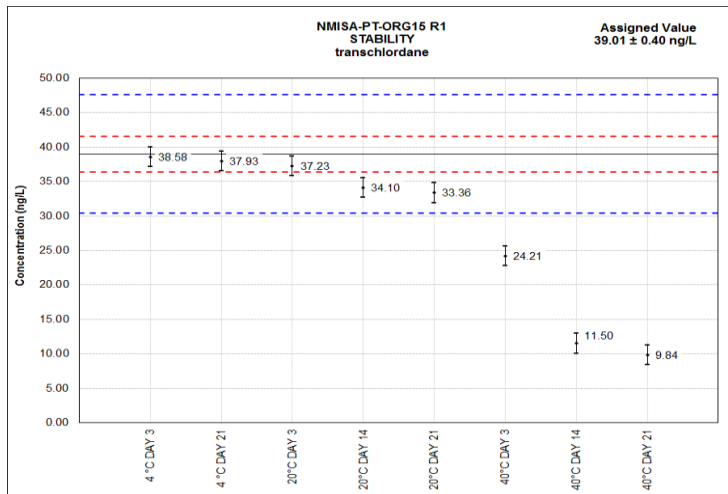
$0.3 x \sigma_p$

$RV + 2 x \sigma_p$

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Stability testing



$RV + 1x \sigma_p$

$0.3 x \sigma_p$

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Reporting results

- Measurement results (ng/L) incl. uncertainty of measurement
- Technical information
 - Extraction
 - Instrumental Analysis
 - Quantification
 - Recoveries
 - Purity
 - Traceability of calibration standards
 - Measurement equation
 - Uncertainty budget
- Other observations



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Standard deviation of proficiency assessment



- 7 local laboratories
- 7 countries (2 laboratories in Kenya)

6.2 Prescribed value

6.3 By perception

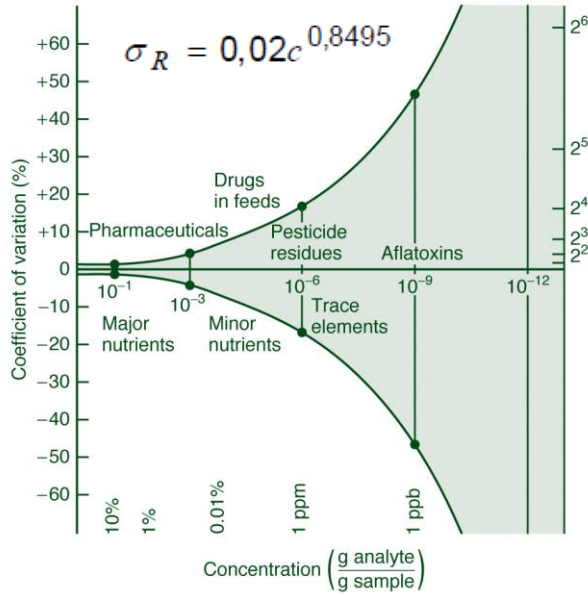
6.4 **From a general model** **HORWITZ**

6.5 From the results of a precision experiment

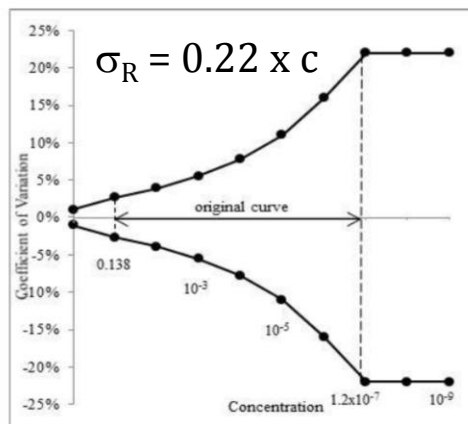
6.6 From data obtained in a round of a proficiency testing scheme

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Horwitz model



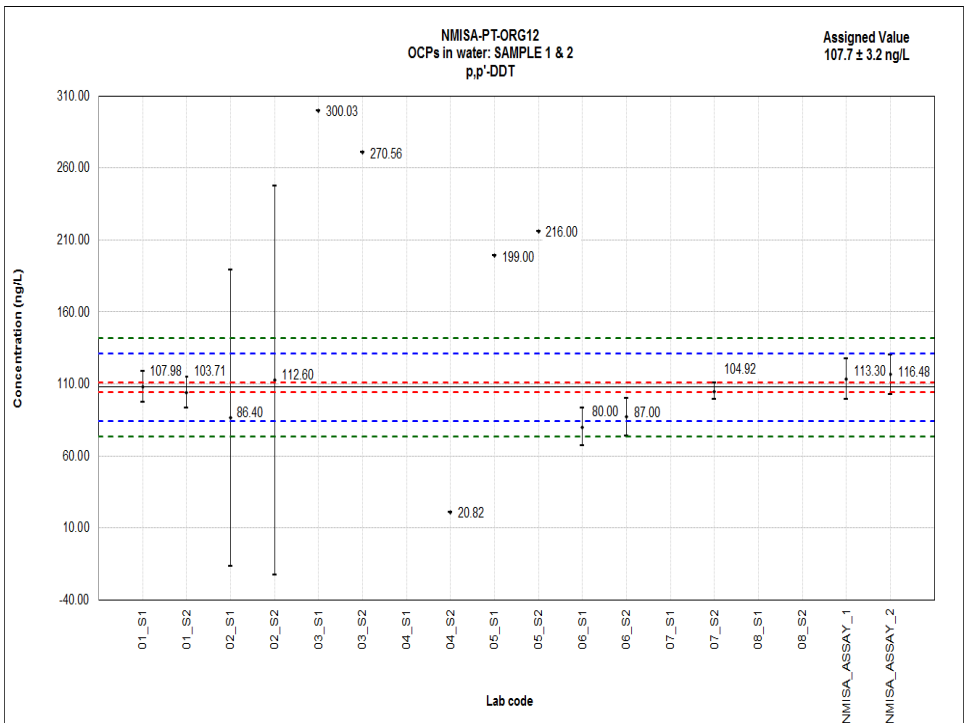
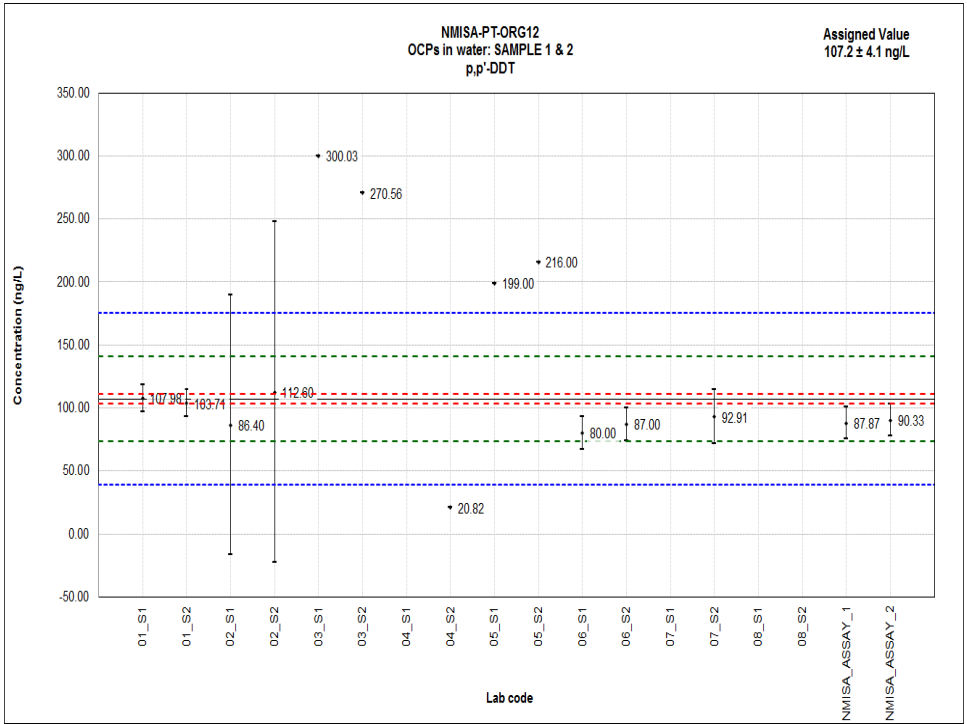
Adjusted Horwitz model



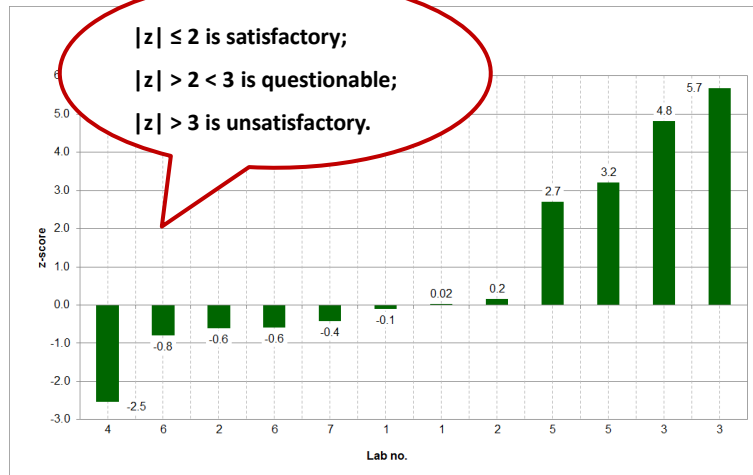
Images sourced from: "Horwitz equation as quality benchmark in ISO/IEC 17025 testing laboratory" (14)

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Reporting - Performance statistics



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Reporting – E_n number

$|E_n| \leq 1$ is satisfactory;
 $|E_n| > 1$ is unsatisfactory.

SAMPLE 1&2					
Lab Code	Analyte	Concentration (ng/L)	Coverage Factor (k)	Expanded Uncertainty (ng/L)	E_n
1	p,p'-DDT	107.98	1.96	10.74	0.1
	p,p'-DDT	103.71	1.96	10.74	-0.3
2	p,p' DDT	86.4	2	103	-0.2
	p,p' DDT	112.6	2	135	0.04
6	p,p'-DDT	87	2	13	-1.5
	p,p'-DDT	80	2	13	-2.0
7	p'p-DDT	92.91	1.96	21.53	-0.7
(AV)	p,p'-DDT	107.2	2	4.1	RV

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Reporting

Lab Code	Sample volume (mL)	Sample preparation	Analysis	Calibration	Analytical standards	Recovery% and correction applied
1	1000	Samples were extracted using automated SPE with a C18 disk. Prior to extraction samples were spiked with labelled isotopes. A labelled isotope was added for each analyte that could be present at the median of the expected concentration range. After extracts were filtered using a hydrophobic membrane filter to remove trace amounts of water, evaporated to dryness at 35°C under a gentle stream of nitrogen. The extracts were then reconstituted in 50 µl of iso-octane and proceeded to instrumental analysis.	LECO Pegasus III GC-TOFMS	A seven point matrix-matched calibration was used	Carbon labelled internal standards were used and the standards were added prior to extraction	Due to the use of labelled isotopes no recovery corrections were applied to these results
			Rxi-XLB (30 meter, 0.25 mmID, 0.25 µm df)	IDMS	All standards purchased from ISO34 Accredited supplier	
2	250	Measure 250 ml of the water using measuring cylinder in a separating funnel. Add 5 g of anhydrous sodium sulphate and extract it with 50ml of dichloromethane. Dry the DCM layer with anhydrous sodium sulphate. Rota evaporate at 45°C. Solvent exchange with acetone/nitrite for LC/MS/MS (azaphosphors methyl) or isooctane for GC/MS (chloropyrrolones). Transfer 2ml in GC or LC/MS/MS vial for analysis. Inject 2µl for GC and 5µl for LC/MS/MS analysis.	GC-MS (GC-7890ALS, MS-5975), LC/MS/MS (6430)	external calibration used	Dr Erhenstophor Germany, purity 99±0.5%	N/A
			GC/MS (DB5MS- 30 m x 0.1 µm x 0.25 µl), LC/MS/MS (Zorbax Eclipse plus C18 rapid resolution HD, 2.1x50 mm x 1.8 µm)	5 calibration points used for all the above analytes (0.01-1mg/l)		
			GC-MS- 60°C to 165°C hold 1 min, 165°C to 280°C hold for 5 minutes. LC/MS/MS- mobile phase composition acetone/nitrite: water (5mM formic acid): time 0 gradient 100% water time 15 minutes 100% acetone/nitrite flow rate 0.5			

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Reporting

Lab Code	Estimation of uncertainty
1	For each analyte, the purity of the standard used for quantification, the recovery and reproducibility of the measurement and the error on the calibration curve were considered in the uncertainty
2	Reference Technical Report No. 1/2007 March 2007 on Measurement uncertainty revisited: Alternative approaches to uncertainty evaluation pg 54 estimation of uncertainty based on relative standard deviation of recoveries
3	UoM reported with major contributors from precision and recovery.
4	UoM was done according to the GUM method to obtain UoM.
5	Estimated UoM provided - no details
6	UoM estimated, uncertainty contributors incl. standards purity, absorbance, recovery, volume and mass.
7	None determined
8	For each analyte, the purity of the standard used for quantification, the recovery and reproducibility of the measurement and the error on the calibration curve were considered in the uncertainty
NMISA	UoM estimated using bracketing IDMS equation.

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Reporting

	classical approach	limited sample vol. extracted	large vol. inj.	reduced recon. vol.	pre-concentr. & thermal desorption
lowest expected OCP conc. (ng/ℓ)	10	10	10	10	10
sample volume used (ℓ)	1	0.2	1	1	0.02
*expected OCP mass in extract (ng)	10	2	10	10	0.2
after drying down, reconstit. vol (mℓ)	1	1	1	0.1	n/a
conc. in GC vial (ng/μℓ)	0.01	0.002	0.01	0.1	n/a
splitless GC inj vol (μℓ)	1	1	5	1	#
mass on GC column (pg)	10	2	50	100	200
		"ND"			

* assuming 100% recovery

assuming 100% recovery and desorption

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Summary - participant challenges

- Appropriate use of traceable calibration standards
- external/ internal standards
- appropriate use of uncertainty
- Cost (courier fees)
- analysis delays (sample stability)/limited time frame
- appropriate sample preparation/ pre-concentration



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Summary - co-ordinator challenges

- Courier/customs challenges
- Sample stability
- Financial Feasibility
 - Labour intensive
 - CRMs
 - Limited number of participants



Workshop/meetings planned

- Re-evaluate participant needs
- Technical training
- Consider courier options

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Acknowledgements



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- **laboratories** that participated in the various rounds of the PTS
- **Co-authors**
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