



**PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAMME ON
ORGANOCHLORINE PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN GINSENG ROOT
(APLAC T059)**

**INSTRUCTIONS
(FOR PARTICIPATING LABORATORIES)**

1. ORGANIZATION

The PT programme on “Organochlorine Pesticide Residues in Ginseng Root (APLAC T059)” is organized by the Hong Kong Government Laboratory (HKGL) in collaboration with Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS) under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC). The main objective of the programme is to evaluate the performance of participating laboratories on the concerned tests through inter-laboratory comparison.

2. SAMPLE

- (a) Participating laboratories will independently receive an amber sample bottle that containing about 30 g of dried ginseng root powder from their respective accreditation bodies (AB).
- (b) Upon receipt of the sample, participating laboratories should carefully inspect the sample for any physical damages and defects.
- (c) Participating laboratories shall promptly acknowledge receipt of the sample by returning the “Receipt Form (for Participating Laboratories)” electronically to the HKGL to T59@govtlab.gov.hk. New sample will be re-sent by the HKGL for any damaged claims.
- (d) Intact sample is recommended to store in a secure environment at room temperature (around 25°C) before use. Sample should be immediately capped after used and be kept in a dry box when not in use.

3. ANALYSIS

- (a) Participating laboratories are required to determine the concentration (in mg/kg) of α -, β -, γ - and δ -BHC (α -, β -, γ - and δ -hexachlorocyclohexane); HCB (hexachlorobenzene); PNCB (pentachloronitrobenzene) and o-DDE (o-dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene) in the sample. Determination should be conducted in TRIPLICATE.
- (b) Participating laboratories should use their preferable test methods (could be accredited, in-house, modified, ad hoc methods, etc.) which are normally used to test their customer samples. Please record the method used on the results sheet.

4. RESULTS

- (a) Report all the triplicate data and the arithmetic mean in Part I of the “Results Proforma”.
- (b) Estimate and report the expanded uncertainty ($\pm \mu\text{g/kg}$) for individual analyte.
- (c) Fill in the information of your performed analytical method in Part II of the “Results Proforma”.
- (d) Submit the results electronically to the HKGL **on or before 3 March 2008** to T59@govtlab.gov.hk using the soft copy of the “Results Proforma” provided. (Notes: 1. Unless with special reasons, results submitted after the deadline might be rejected by the organizers. 2. To avoid poor transmission quality, results by fax are not accepted.)

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT LABORATORY

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5. ENQUIRIES

Please contact the representative of the HKGL for further enquiries concerning the programme:

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(for the Secretary of the PT Advisory Board)
Hong Kong Government Laboratory
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