

GIPSA Verifies Performance Of Test Kit To Detect Herculex Tm Corn

WASHINGTON, DC (July 16, 2003) - The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration today announced it verified that the Strategic Diagnostics, Inc. Trait vTM Bt1F Corn Grain Test Kit #7000018 Qualitative Lateral Flow Strip Kit detects the presence of one kernel of Herculex TM corn in 600 kernels in 10 minutes (test strip development time).

This test was evaluated under GIPSA's Rapid Test Performance Evaluation Program.

GIPSA administrator Donna Reifschneider said that GIPSA'S evaluation of this test will help the U.S. grain market make more informed decisions about the grain being bought and sold. For information on GIPSA's Rapid Test Performance Evaluation Program and Proficiency Program, visit GIPSA's Biotechnology web page at <http://www.usda.gov/gipsa/biotech/biotech.htm>.

For technical information on test kit performance evaluation, contact Don Kendall, Biotechnology Program Manager, GIPSA Technical Services Division, 816-891-0463.

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