

GIPSA Verifies Performance Of Test Kit To Detect Aflatoxin In Corn

WASHINGTON, DC (February 7, 2005) - The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration today announced it verified that the R-Biopharm Rhone Ltd. AFLACARD T20, Part # P57, a qualitative screening test kit for the detection of total aflatoxins. The screening test is a qualitative enzyme immunoassay that detects the presence of aflatoxin at a threshold of 20 parts per billion in corn in 5 minutes.

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

GIPSA deputy administrator David Shipman stated that GIPSA'S evaluation of test kits 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 Tim Norden, GIPSA Technical Services Division, 816-891-0470, or by e-mail at Tim.D.Norden@usda.gov.

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