

GIPSA Verifies Performance of Test Kit to Detect Aflatoxin in Corn

WASHINGTON, DC (March 14, 2006) - The USDA Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration today announced it verified that the Charm Sciences, Inc. ROSA® Aflatoxin P/N Test, #LF-AFPN qualitative lateral flow strip kit detects the presence of aflatoxin at a threshold of 20 parts per billion in corn in 3 minutes (test strip development time) using either a 70 percent methanol or 50 percent ethanol extraction solvent.

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

GIPSA administrator James E. Link said that the agency's evaluation of this test will help the U.S. grain market make more informed decisions about 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://archive.gipsa.usda.gov/tech-servsup/metheqp/testkits.pdf>. For technical information on test kit performance evaluation, contact Lynn Polston, GIPSA Technical Services Division, 816-891-0444, or by e-mail at Lynn.A.Polston@usda.gov.

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GIPSA Release 26-06

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