

GIPSA VERIFIES PERFORMANCE OF TEST KIT TO DETECT DON (DEOXYNIVALENOL) IN WHEAT AND BARLEY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 03, 2007 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration today announced the verification of Neogen Corporation Agri-Screen® DON Screening Test kit, Product #8310 qualitative competitive direct enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (CD-ELISA) kit. The screening test kit detects the presence of DON (deoxynivalenol) at a threshold of 1 part per million in wheat and barley.

"Verification of this test will help the U.S. grain market make more informed decisions about the grain being bought and sold" said GIPSA Administrator James Link.

Deoxynivalenol, or DON, is a toxin produced by a mold and can be present in wheat, barley, corn and other grains. While the U.S. Government does not require testing, a DON test requirement is a common specification in domestic and international grain contracts.

For information on GIPSA's Rapid Test Performance Evaluation Program and Proficiency Program, visit GIPSA's Web page at archive.gipsa.usda.gov/reference-library/directives/9181-2.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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