USDA

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and Stockyards
Administration

Stop 3630
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-3630

January 9, 2012

Reference # 243 (Amended)

TO: FGIS POLICY BULLETIN BOARD

FROM: Robert Lijewski, Director
Field Management Division

SUBJECT: Removal of Expired Mycotoxin Test Methods

ORIGINATING OFFICE: Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch

1. PURPOSE

This memorandum provides instructions for the removal of several mycotoxin test methods from the GIPSA approved test methods list for Aflatoxin and DON (vomitoxin) testing due to expired Certificates of Conformance or Performance. Additionally this memorandum provides an updated list of approved test methods.

2. BACKGROUND

The Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration, Technology and Science Division (TSD) have established a rapid test evaluation program for verifying the performance of qualitative and quantitative rapid test kits. TSD recently implemented new performance verification specifications for accuracy of new or re-evaluated test methods. Test kit vendors were notified that all test methods submitted for evaluation must meet the new performance specifications for qualitative or quantitative test methods.

Test methods that conform to GIPSA's new performance verification specifications for accuracy are issued a Certificate of Conformance (quantitative test method) or Certificate of Performance (qualitative test method). The certificates expire three years from the issuance date. GIPSA's Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch, (PPMAB) will remove any test method that failed to meet performance specifications from the approved test methods list, and notify FGIS field offices and official agencies.

3. EXPIRED TEST METHODS

The following test methods are no longer valid for use in the official inspection system and cannot be used for official mycotoxin testing services.

Please remove the following mycotoxin chapter instructions from the Aflatoxin and DON Handbooks respectively. Also, remove Program Notice 10-06, dated 12/28/90.

Aflatoxin Handbook			
Handbook Location	**Test Method Name**	**Product Number**	**Vendor Name**
Chapter 6	Diachemix ® AflatoxinFPA test kit	61545	Diachemix
Chapter 13	QuickTox test kit	AS109BG	Envirologix
Chapter 23	Re√eal for Aflatoxin SQtest kit	8020	Neogen
Chapter 22	SDI Myco✓ test kit	7000127	Strategic Diagnostic
Chapter 10	Veratox Aflatoxin AST test kit	8041N	Neogen
Chapter 21	NeoColumn DR Aflatoxin test kit	8047	Neogen
Chapter 14	ROSA® Fast Aflatoxin AFQ test kit	LF-FAST-AFQ	Charm Sciences

DON (Vomitoxin) Handbook			
Handbook Location	**Test Method Name**	**Product Number**	**Vendor Name**
Chapter 16	Charm ROSA DONQ test kit	LF-DONQ	Charm Sciences
Chapter 20	Romer AgraQuant DON test kit	COKAQ4000	Romer Labs
Chapter 14	Diachemix®DON FPA test kit	61530	Diachemix
Chapter 15	EZ-Tox DON (Diagnostix) test kit	600120/600125	Diagnostix
Chapter 18	QuickTox EnviroLogix test kit	AS104BG/AS204 BG	Envirologix
Chapter 19	NeogenVeratox DON DST test kit	8333	Neogen
Chapter 8	AccuTox™ test kit	COKAD1014	Romer

Program Notice			
PN 10-06, dated 12/28/09	Ridascreen FAST DON test kit	R5901/R5902	R-Biopharm
PN 11-08 dated 8/8/11	Neogen Veratox DON DST	8333	Neogen

Official locations using any of the above expired test methods may continue to use kits on these lists for 45 days from the issuance date of this policy bulletin. Official locations are advised to select another approved test method for official mycotoxin testing services and are further advised against purchasing additional quantities of an expiring test kit.

This time frame will allow locations the opportunity to deplete current test kit supplies on hand and allow sufficient time for training and licensing of official personnel for new testing methods.

4. APPROVED TEST METHODS

The following pages contain the updated list of approved test kits for Aflatoxin and DON (vomitoxin) for use at field offices and official agency testing locations. Each of the approved test methods has been certified to provide results accurate up to the conformance test level at which they were approved. Any test results that are above the conformance limits are reported as exceeding the established limit unless a supplemental analysis is performed. See each individual test method instruction for TSD approved supplemental analysis test procedures.

a. Aflatoxin.

Qualitative test kits provide analysis of corn, cracked corn, and popcorn only. Quantitative test kits provide analysis of various approved grains and commodities and can also be used to provide qualitative results.

Method and Test Kit	Product Number	Approved for		Test Kit Range
		Qualitative	Quantitative	
AgraStrip – (Romer)	COKAS1200	X		10 ppb
	COKAS1000			20 ppb
AgriScreen - (Neogen)	8010	X		20 ppb
QuickTox-(2006) test kit	AS101BG	X		20 ppb
Re√eal for Aflatoxin (Neogen)	8015	X		20 ppb
ROSA® Aflatoxin P/N (Charm Sciences, Inc.)	LF-AFPN	X		10 or 20 ppb
Aflatest – (Vicam)	12022	X	X	5 - 100 ppb
Fluoroquant FQ-AFLA (Romer)	COKFA1010	X	X	5 - 100 ppb
RIDASCREEN Fast Aflatoxin SC(R-Biopharm)	R9002	X	X	5 - 100 ppb
ROSA® Aflatoxin Quantitative (Charm Sciences, Inc.)	LF-AFQ	X	X	5 – 100 ppb
RIDASCREEN RIDA QUICK Test (R-Biopharm)	R503C	X		20 ppb
Flouroquant IAC-AFLA (Romer)	COKFA4010	X	X	5 – 100 ppb
Veratox Aflatoxin Quantitative (Neogen)*	8330	X	X	5 -50 ppb

b. DON (vomitoxin).

Each of the approved test methods have been certified to provide results accurate up to the conformance test level at which they were approved.

Method and Test Kit	Product Number	Approved for		Conformance Limit(s)
		Qualitative	Quantitative	
ROSA P/N DON (Charm Sciences)	LF-DONPN	X		0.5, 1. 2, 5 ppm
AgriScreen DON Neogen	8310/8311	X		1 ppm
Veratox DON 5/5 Neogen	8331	X	X	0.5 – 5 ppm
RIDASCREEN® FAST DON SC	R5905	X	X	0.5 – 5 ppm
ROSA® FAST5 DONQ (Charm Sciences)*	LF-DONQ FAST5	X	X	0.5 – 5 ppm
Veratox DON 2/3 (Neogen)*	8335	X	X	0.5 – 5 ppm

*TSD recently approved these DON test methods for official use. Official locations interested in using these test methods for official testing must contact the Policies Procedures and Market Analysis Branch for more information.

The Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch will update this list as needed to keep the official system informed of deletions or additions. For a list of all test kits that have a current Certificate of Conformance or Certificate of Performance, please visit GIPSA's website at http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/tech-servsup/metheqp/testkits.pdf

NOTE: Not all test kits with a certificate of conformance or performance (as seen on GIPSA's website) are approved for use by official testing locations. Only those kits listed in this memorandum or in the Aflatoxin and DON handbooks are approved for official use.

5. FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Retain a copy of this memo with the Aflatoxin and DON Handbooks until the handbook is revised.

Please forward a copy of this memo to the official agencies operating within your circuit.

6. QUESTIONS

Direct any questions concerning this policy to Patrick McCluskey, GIPSA's Policies and Procedures Branch, at 816-659-8403, or email at patrick.j.mccluskey@usda.gov, or Carl Jackson, Policies, Procedures, and Market Analysis Branch at 202-720-8286 or email carl.jackson@usda.gov.

Direct any technical questions regarding test kits to Greg Giese, Commodity Testing and Reference Laboratory, at 816-891-0460, or email at: gregory.j.giese@usda.gov.