EUVEPRO

Position Paper

Testing Soya beans and White Flakes for GM

Background

Whilst polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing is a validated method for testing ingredients and finished soya products for their GM content, the highly specialised nature of these tests, coupled with the time the tests typically take to accurately perform renders them impractical for manufacturers to use as a control check for raw materials.

A quick "strip-test" method has been validated as a useful Quality Assurance tool for rapidly measuring GM content of consignments of whole soya beans and processed fractions thereof, including de-oiled flakes (white flakes). Subsequent modifications to this test have made further improvements to accuracy of results

The Method

A commercial kit is available that determines the probability that a consignment of soya beans is below the specified threshold level (currently 0.9%) with stated statistical confidence (1). This ELISA test kit determines the concentration of CP4 EPSPS protein as above or below the specified level and was validated by the Joint Research Centre of the European Union following a ring test which involved 38 laboratories throughout Europe (2).

Euvepro Position

Euvepro members recognise the importance and value of strip tests as a rapid means to monitor the GM content of consignments of raw materials.

References

(1) Traitcheck GR, P/N 70000005, Strategic Diagnostics Inc., Newark, DE. USA.
(2) Lipp,M. Anklam,E. & Stave, J.W. (2000) J. AOAC Int. 83, 919-927

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EUVEPRO European Vegetable Protein Federation

Boulevard St Michel 77-79
B-1040 Brussels
VAT number BE 878.357.269
ING 310-1805807-44

Tel: +32 2 740 29 64
Fax: +32 2 732 51 02
euvepro@agep.eu
http://www.euvepro.eu