

Terms of the proficiency test (PT)

DLA ptALS1 (2025) Allergen-Screening I - 4 Samples qualitative: Almond, Brazil Nuts, Cashew, Coconut, Hazelnut, Macadamia, Pecan, Pine Nuts, Pistachio, Walnut (New: test of Action Levels included)

Test material* :

There are **4 different samples** possibly containing the allergenic **parameters Almond, Brazil nuts, Cashew, Coconut, Hazelnut, Macadamia, Pecan, Pine nuts, Pistachio and Walnut** for qualitative determination. NEW: The allergens are contained in a simple food matrix (rice flour / maltodextrin) and all parameters are contained in 2 of 4 samples providing 2/3 and 1/6 of the new Action Levels (VITAL 4.0, 2024), respectively. The "action level" in mg/kg is calculated from the allergen protein reference dose per 100 g food portion. The positive detection of the 2/3 action level ensures that the action level can be detected safely even when the measurement uncertainty of the applied method is about 50%. While the 1/6 action level can proof the method performance at lower levels close to the LOQ.

Sample weight: 4 samples 20 g each.

* **Note:** Control of mixture homogeneity and qualitative testings are carried out by DLA. Any testing of the content, homogeneity and stability of PT parameters is subcontracted by DLA.

Methods + realisation time:

The analytical methods **ELISA (+ Lateral Flow), PCR (+ NGS) and LC/MS** can be applied for qualitative determinations. There is a 6 weeks period for performing the analysis. The results are transmitted online via our customer portal.

Evaluation report:

The **evaluation** is carried out **strictly qualitatively** (positive/negative) with indication of the obtained agreements with the consensus values of the participants and the spiking of samples 1-4. All gravimetrically spiked quantitative levels are given in the report. All results including quantitative results, limits of detection and/or quantification and remarks to the methods will be documented. DLA intends to finish the evaluation report within 6 weeks after deadline of results submission. Each participant receives an anonymized, complete evaluation report as a PDF-file, identifying the own results by indi-

vidual code in case payment was done and can object in writing to the evaluation within 6 weeks.

Registration :

The reliable order can be placed via our webshop at my DLA | participant's portal (<https://my.dla-pt.com/>) or by sending the PDF-form available on our website www.dla-lvu.de to DLA or our authorized sales partner.

Registration deadline is **March 2025-03-05**.

Shipment + number of participants:

Required minimum number of participants is 10. The samples will be sent to participants on **2025-03-12**, by parcel service with tracking (delivery time 2-5 days within Europe, 2-10 days worldwide).

Deadline of result submission:

Last date for submission of results **2025-04-25**.

Invoice + price :

Invoicing will be done by DLA along with the sample shipment or by our authorized partner in parallel to the sample shipment.

The price for the proficiency test is 390 € (participation with one method) and 460 € (participation with two or more methods) per participant plus shipping and tax.

Costs for **double sample material** € 90,00.

Please note: there can be a handling charge of approx. € 30,00 for payments from non-EU countries.

Shipping costs: within Germany € 12,50, EU-countries and Europe € 30,00, North America € 60,00 - 80,00, other countries approx. € 80,00 (e.g. South America, Asia), all shipping prices are provisional and subject to change. For cold shipping, additional costs of up to € 20,00 may be charged.

Our General Terms and Conditions GTC apply: www.dla-lvu.de/AGB.html

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