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Eurofins and Agroscience Services GmbH

Processing studies for plant prodectant accreditation - experience of a contract laboratory

Verarbeitungstudien im Rahmen der Pflanzenschutzmittelzulassung – Erfahrungen eines Auftragslabors

With the demands of EU, OECD, CEB and EPA guidelines in compliance to GLP and GEP standards becoming ever more stringent, there is now more emphasis than ever on processing studies. When residues are present in raw agricultural commodities it may be necessary to investigate the magnitude of residues in the processed commodities (GLP-studies) and to analyse the efficacy of these products (GEP-studies). In order to achieve these objectives under GLP two different types of processing studies are suggested: balance studies (MB) where all intermediate, waste and end products should be included and follow-up studies (FU) where only those intermediate and end products that are still relevant need to be tested. Both studies can be done in household and/or in industrial preparation to represent the potential usage of products. For example in wheat GLP-studies whole-meal flour, whole-grain-bread, middlings, total bran, flour including toppings and wheat germs have to be produced in order to EU guidelines. GEP studies determine possible effects or influences on the quality by use of plant protection products. At the processing department at Eurofins Agroscience Services GmbH quality analysis of different commodities (e.g. Falling number or Hectoliter weight) and taint tests (e.g. triangle testing) are used. To fulfill these requirements Eurofins Agroscience Services GmbH has developed in house expertise in this area. Investments were made in new personnel and food processing machinery to offer a GLP and GEP compliant processing laboratory following industrial techniques.