



First MoniQA Food Allergen Quality Control Materials ready for testing!

Sign up now for your trial shipment and join us at the next Task Force Meeting ahead of the 5th MoniQA International Conference, Porto, Portugal, 16-18 September 2015

Dear Member of the MoniQA Allergen Reference Materials Task Force,

12 June 2015

In 2013 MoniQA initiated a Task Force on the development of reference materials for food allergen and gluten-free analysis. The Task Force is an international group comprised of several SDOs (Standardisation Organisations), industry representatives, policy makers, test kit providers and method developers, analytical companies, as well as representatives from various universities. This international group has been working towards consensus on the specific requirements and the design of globally acceptable reference/testing materials for allergen and gluten-free analysis. For this purpose MoniQA has liaised with the EU funded project iFAAM, the Prolamin Working Group, Health Canada, FARRP, Australia's Allergen Bureau (Vital), and others.

The aim of MoniQA's initiative is the publication of a Guidance Document on the special requirements and production of food allergen and gluten-free reference materials. MoniQA intends to provide well characterized commodity materials of milk, egg, peanut, hazelnut, soy, wheat/rye/barley, and incurred testing materials at validated concentration levels.

MoniQA's first food allergen QC material, dried skim milk powder, characterized for food allergen analysis, has recently become available. As part of the MoniQA Task Force and as an interested user of our QC materials, we would like **to invite you to participate in a first round of testing of the material**, followed by another round to test the incurred material in a few months. The first trial test materials will be provided to you **free of charge**. MoniQA members will also receive the incurred materials for trail testing for free, all others participating in the next testing round will get a 50 % discount on the regular sales price. However, all participants in this trial are requested to return a completed feedback form to moniqa@moniqa.org, which will be provided with the testing materials.

Furthermore, I would like to invite you to join us at the next Task Force Meeting ahead of the 5th MoniQA International Conference on 16 September 2015, 9:00-12:30 in Porto, Portugal, by registering at conference@moniqa.org and/or registration for the whole meeting – the 5th MoniQA International Conference "Food and Health - Risks and Benefits" on "Innovative Technologies for Food Quality and Safety Management" at <https://porto2015.moniqa.org/home>. Please mind that abstracts are still being accepted and that table tops and sponsorship packages are still available.

If you are interested to receive your free trial quantity of the **MoniQA Milk Allergen Quality Control Material** and participate in our application survey, please reply to roland.poms@moniqa.org and send your shipping details and the details for a contact person to receive the shipping **no later than 5 July 2015**.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon. With best regards

Dr. Roland Ernest Poms, Secretary General, MoniQA Association

International Association for Monitoring and Quality Assurance in the Food Supply Chain (MoniQA Association)

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