



Instruction Sheets

AFPS
Animal Feed Proficiency Testing
Scheme

lgcstandards.com/AXIO

Issue No: 13

Issued: 11 December 2023

Sample ID	Protocol	Page
General Information		3-4
PT-AF-01	FC-AF-NA	5
PT-AF-02	FC-AF-EL	6
PT-AF-05	FC-AF-CO	7
PT-AF-06AF	FM2V50M	11
PT-AF-06KB	FM2V50M	11
PT-AF-07AF	FM10M-A	9
PT-AF-07KB	FM1V10M	12
PT-AF-08	FC-AF-EL	6
PT-AF-09	FC-AF-NA	5
PT-AF-10	FM10M-A	9
PT-AF-11	FM25M-A	8
PT-AF-13	FC-AF-NA	5
PT-AF-14	FC-AF-NA	5
PT-AF-15	FM10M-A	9
PT-AF-18	FC-AF-QA	10
PT-AF-19	FC-AF-CO	7
PT-AF-20	FC-AF-CO	7

GENERAL INFORMATION

Receipt and Storage

Storage temperature	Samples		
Room temperature (20±5°C) in a dry, insect free storage area.	PT-AF-01 PT-AF-02 PT-AF-05	PT-AF-08 PT-AF-13	
Refrigerated (2 to 8°C)	PT-AF-06AF PT-AF-06KB PT-AF-07AF	PT-AF-07KB PT-AF-09 PT-AF-10	PT-AF-11 PT-AF-15 PT-AF-18
Frozen (<-20°C)	PT-AF-14	PT-AF-19	

The test material(s) should be analysed in accordance with the deadlines shown on the website: <https://portal.lgcstandards.com>

Choice of method or procedure

Participants are expected to use the test method, calibration, or measurement procedure of their choice. This method should be consistent with the participant's normal procedures, for example, duplicate analysis should only be performed if that is part of the routine analytical process. Some samples may require specific preparation or analysis, if so, this is indicated in this document.

Participants may submit results for some, or all the parameters requested.

Sample Details (Chemistry)

- The chemistry test materials provided represent commercially available animal feeds, which may or may not contain all the target analytes at quantifiable levels. All analytes will be provided at a quantifiable level during a 12-month period.
- Participants are expected to use the test method, calibration or measurement procedure of their choice. This method should be consistent with the participant's normal procedures, for example, duplicate analysis should only be performed if that is part of the routine analytical process. Some samples may require specific preparation or analysis, if so this is indicated in this document.
- Participants may submit results for some, or all of the parameters requested.
- All test materials are supplied in a ready-to-use format.
- Test materials may have settled during transit. Please ensure test materials are thoroughly mixed prior to any sub-sampling or any analysis is performed.

- Results should be corrected for recovery and blank, if appropriate, and if this is the normal practice in the laboratory. If the sample is diluted as part of the analytical process, such dilutions should be corrected for.

Sample Details (Microbiology)

- The test materials represent 'real' food samples, which may or may not contain the target organism(s), at a range of inoculum levels. Test materials may also contain background flora.
- Please consider all dilution factors when calculating the level of the target organisms in the original sample. Where relevant guidance is given in the instructions.
- The test materials should be treated in the same way as routine samples and should therefore be tested using your routine laboratory equipment, reagents and methods.
- Where the instruction mentions a resuscitate step, the lyophilised test material should be left at room temperature for between 15 to 45 minutes before proceeding with the test.
- Do not sub-divide samples prior to dilution unless stated in the instructions.
- Please treat the sample as contaminated material and use aseptic techniques throughout the test procedure.
- Please ensure samples are mixed well at all stages before proceeding with testing.
- Reconstitute the test material according to the appropriate instructions for each sample type.

Precautions

- Microbiological test materials contain viable micro-organisms and are supplied on the understanding that the purchaser has suitably competent and qualified personnel to handle them safely. Test materials must only be opened in a laboratory by qualified personnel.
- Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for information on the safe handling and disposal of the test materials



Reporting Results



- All results should be submitted using PORTAL
- Please go to <https://portal.lgcstandards.com>
- Login using your Lab ID, username, and password.
- A PORTAL user guide can be downloaded from the help section.

If you need any help at all, please do not hesitate to contact our support team using the details below or your local LGC representative.

Tel: +44(0)161 762 2500

Email: axiopt@lgcgroup.com



Protocol FC-AF-NA	Sample codes:				Description:	 OR 
	PT-AF-01	PT-AF-09	PT-AF-13	PT-AF-14	125g matrix in a foil bag or a pot	

Step 1 Test materials may have settled during transit. Please ensure test materials are thoroughly mixed prior to any sub-sampling or any analysis is performed		Step 2 Analyse with the routine methods used by your laboratory	
---	---	---	--

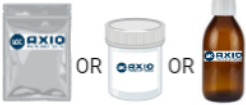
Analyte	Samples	Additional information
Protein (crude)	PT-AF-01 PT-AF-13 PT-AF-09 PT-AF-14	Nitrogen x 6.25
PPD (Pepsin Protein Digestibility)	PT-AF-01	As soluble protein as a % of the total protein.



[Back to sample list](#)

Protocol FC-AF-EL	<p>Sample codes: PT-AF-02 PT-AF-08</p>	<p>Description: 125g matrix in a foil bag or a pot</p>	
------------------------------	---	--	--


<p>Step 1 Test materials may have settled during transit. Please ensure test materials are thoroughly mixed prior to any sub-sampling or any analysis is performed</p>		<p>Step 2 Analyse with the routine methods used by your laboratory</p>	
---	---	---	--





[Back to sample list](#)

<p>Protocol FC-AF-CO</p>	<p>Sample codes: PT-AF-05 PT-AF-19 PT-AF-20</p>	<p>Description: 50 to125g matrix in a foil bag, a pot or a bottle</p>	
-------------------------------------	--	---	--

<p>Step 1 Test materials may have settled during transit. Please ensure test materials are thoroughly mixed prior to any sub-sampling or any analysis is performed</p>		<p>Step 2 Analyse with the routine methods used by your laboratory</p>	
---	---	---	--





[Back to sample list](#)

Protocol FM25M-A	<p>Sample codes: PT-AF-11</p>	<p>Description: 25g feed matrix</p>	
-----------------------------	-----------------------------------	---	---

<p>Step 1 Prepare suitable microbiological diluent (typically 225ml)</p>		<p>Step 2 Add to the 25g sample</p>	
<p>Step 3 Mix the diluted test material thoroughly and allow to resuscitate before testing</p>		<p>Step 4 Proceed with your routine testing</p>	



[Back to sample list](#)

Protocol FM10M-A	Sample codes:		Description: 10g feed or kibble matrix	
	PT-AF-07AF PT-AF-15	PT-AF-10		









<p>Step 1 Prepare suitable microbiological diluent (typically 90ml)</p>	 90ml	<p>Step 2 Add to the 10g sample</p>	
<p>Step 3 Mix the diluted test material thoroughly and allow to resuscitate before testing</p>	 This step represents 1 in 10 dilution	<p>Step 4 Proceed with your routine testing</p>	

[Back to sample list](#)

Protocol FC-AF-QA	Sample codes: PT-AF-18	Description: 50g of oil in a glass bottle	
------------------------------	---------------------------	--	--







<p>Step 1 Test materials may have settled during transit. Please ensure test materials are thoroughly mixed prior to any sub-sampling or any analysis is performed</p>		<p>Step 2 Analyse with the routine methods used by your laboratory</p>	
---	---	---	--

[Back to sample list](#)

<p>Protocol FM2V50M</p>	<p>Sample codes: PT-AF-06AF PT-AF-06KB</p>	<p>Description: 2 x vial + 50g food matrix</p>	
<p>Step 1 For each vial (A and B), weigh out 25g of matrix</p>		<p>Step 2 Prepare 2 x 225ml of suitable microbiological diluent</p>	
<p>Step 3 For each vial, take 10ml of the diluent and add it to the vial after aseptically removing cap and rubber stopper</p>		<p>Step 4 Replace the stopper and shake to dissolve, and leave the test material to resuscitate</p>	
<p>Step 5 Reconstitute the 25g matrix with the remaining amount of diluent prepared in step 2</p>		<p>Step 6 After resuscitation, add the vial contents (step 4) to the matrix preparation (step 5). Back wash 2 or 3 times to ensure all freeze-dried material is recovered from the vial</p>	
<p>Step 7 Proceed with your routine testing</p>			

[Back to sample list](#)

Protocol FM1V10M	Sample codes:	Description:	
	PT-AF-07KB	1 vial + 10g food matrix	

<p>Step 1 Prepare suitable microbiological diluent (typically 90ml)</p>		<p>Step 2 Remove 10ml of diluent and add to the vial</p>	
<p>Step 3 Replace the vial stopper and shake gently to dissolve. Allow to resuscitate before proceeding</p>		<p>Step 4 Reconstitute the 10g matrix with the remaining amount of diluent prepared in step 1</p>	
<p>Step 5 After resuscitation, add the vial content prepared in step 3 to the matrix preparation from step 4. Back-wash 2 or 3 times to ensure all the freeze-dried material is recovered from the vial</p>		<p>Step 6 Proceed with your routine testing</p>	

[Back to sample list](#)