

Global Proficiency's NewsChek

Issue 27, December 2023

Happy Holidays

The Global Proficiency team would like to wish all our customers a safe holiday season and a happy New Year!

At this time of year Global Proficiency closes for the holiday period. **The dates for each of our offices** are as follows:

NZ (Hamilton)

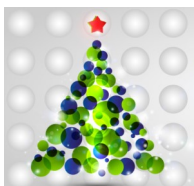
- **Final orders:** Monday 18 December 2023 (2pm)
- **Closing on:** Friday 22 December 2023
- **Reopen:** Monday 8 January 2024

Australia (Melbourne)

- **Final orders:** Tuesday 12 December 2023 (12pm)
- **Closing on:** Wednesday 20 December 2023
- **Reopen:** Monday 15 January 2024

We would like to thank all of our customers for your ongoing support, and to those taking some leave, we hope you have a safe and restful break.

We look forward to working with you in 2024!



BeverageChek

With the upcoming wine harvest season, winemakers will want to have confidence in their lab results when making important decisions for harvest and the upcoming fermentation.

The Grape Juice programme which is offered through our BeverageChek programme provides a once-a-year chance to check your **Brix** testing is accurate, and the **Yeast Assimilable Nitrogen (YAN)** or **Ammonia** levels are adequate for a successful fermentation.

Rather than using the shotgun approach, as the nitrogen concentration is known to have significant flavour (and ultimately economic) consequences in winemaking, accurately measuring the initial nitrogen concentration gives the winemaker the opportunity to adjust N addition – not only to achieve an adequate fermentation rate, but also to reliably guide the flavour profile and style of the wine.

If you would like to join our January 2024 Grape Juice Proficiency round, please contact our team at enquiries@Global-Proficiency.com



Upcoming Rounds

Please see below our upcoming despatches for December 2023 and January 2024.

December 2023

- MilkChek (Rd 12)
- VeriTest UHT Products (Rd 12)
- PlantChek (Rd 2 for 2024)
- SoilChek (Rd 3 for 2024)
- Raw Cream QC (14501)
- VeriCal (1202)

January 2024

- BeverageChek (Rd 1)
- DairyChek (Rd 1)
- MilkChek (Rd 1)
- MWPF (Rd 1)
- VeriTest UHT Products (Rd 1)
- Pathogens (Rd 2)
- VeriTest Food (Rd 2)
- FertChek (Rd 2)
- WaterChek Micro (Rd 2)
- WaterChek Chem (Rd 2)
- VeriCal (0104)

Registration Reminder for 2024

We would like to thank all of our customers who have confirmed registrations for 2024. If you have any questions or are yet to register please get in contact with us today so we can help organise this for you. Please email: registrations@global-proficiency.com



Farewell to Luke

The Team at Global Proficiency has mixed emotions in its announcement that Luke Rajan, Programme Leader for our MilkChek, VeriTest Milk & Antimicrobials programmes is retiring, effective from 27 November 2023. Luke started with the proficiency business back in 2006 when he joined the team as Data Analyst. Since then, he has had several role changes, including a term as Acting Technical Manager, and with the formation of Global Proficiency after a merger process back in 2013, Luke's role was changed to Programme Leader where he looked after the regulated Laboratory Approval PT Scheme (LAS – now known as RLP; the Recognised Laboratory Programme) and the Meat, Water, Pathogen & Food PT programmes. In 2016, Luke's role changed where he switched to running the NZ and Australian Milk programmes.



Luke has been a valued member of our team (front and centre in the picture above with our Hamilton team) and has been well known for his good rapport with our customers, great sense of humour and a person ready to offer his support wherever needed. We wish Luke all the very best for his retirement as he moves to spend more time with family; to enjoy travelling and well-earned time relaxing. The team will really miss him but hope to keep in touch.

From Monday 27 November, Stacey MacDonald will be looking after the MilkChek and VeriTest UHT Products programmes, and Thomas Kuhn will be looking after the VeriTest Milk, VT Antimicrobials, VT Cream, VT Cultured Products and VeriCal programmes.



Microbiological Inter-laboratory QC Materials (QCM)

Have you seen our Microbiological Quality Control Materials (QCM's)? We currently have materials suitable for the testing of dairy products, meat products, general food products and a range of waters including potable, effluent and sea waters.

These Microbiological Inter-laboratory QCM's are produced using data from a single Proficiency Testing round and are a good way to obtain samples to support your QC programme using the latest data available. The Data Summaries accompanying the QCM's provide the assigned value, which is the consensus mean (outliers removed) of n results, with an associated assigned range which is 2 standard deviations of n values. These materials may be used in several different ways for ongoing monitoring of your testing process including media evaluations, training, and method comparisons, for example.

Please refer to our website for our lists of available Micro QCM's: <https://www.global-proficiency.com/rms-and-qcms> If the QCM you are wanting is not listed, please contact us as we may be able to characterise one from a recent Inter-laboratory proficiency round.

Contact Us

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

