

Global Proficiency's NewsChek

Issue 25, August 2023

NurtureChek Programme Update

After quite a bit of work behind the scenes Global Proficiency is excited to announce that we are further expanding our NurtureChek service scope by offering two new proficiency testing programmes: **Lactoferrin** and **Microbiology**.

Lactoferrin NurtureChek Proficiency Programme

Routine analytical testing of raw material and finished products is an integral part of verification activities for Lactoferrin manufacturing and processing operations. They provide critical information supporting market access, compliance with operator and regulatory requirements, process controls, supplier assurance and process improvement. We are pleased to add Lactoferrin powder and infant formula to the current list of products offered in this programme, as follows.

LAF category: Contains samples of pure lactoferrin with each set containing 2 x 5-gram samples. The samples will contain 80 – 95 % lactoferrin. The test offered for this category is 'Lactoferrin Purity (%)'.

LAC category: Contains samples of infant formula that have been dry blended with lactoferrin. With each set contains 2 x 30-gram samples. The samples contain 0.5 – 2.0 mg/g of lactoferrin. The test offered for this category is 'Total Lactoferrin (g/100g)'.

Microbiology NurtureChek Proficiency Programme

Regular environmental and product testing for *Salmonella*, *Listeria* and *Cronobacter* species is required for manufacturers of infant formula to ensure an effective risk management programme. The NurtureChek Microbiology Proficiency Programme provides independent verification to laboratories and monitoring agencies, and ultimately to the consumer, that the testing is being carried out competently. We are pleased to expand the NurtureChek Programme to include two microbiology categories, as follows:

MIG Category - General Micro: Sample sets consist of 2 freeze-dried vials, each with an accompanying 70-gm sachet of irradiated infant formula.

MIP Category - Pathogens: Sample sets consist of 4 freeze-dried vials, each with an accompanying 70-gm sachet of irradiated infant formula.

For further information or to enrol, please contact us at enquiries@global-proficiency.com



Upcoming Rounds

Please see below our upcoming rounds and QC despatches for August and September:

August

- DairyChek (Rd 8)
- LipidChek (Rd 8)
- MilkChek (Rd 8)
- VT UHT Products (Rd 8)
- VT Cultured Products (Rd 8)
- VT AM (Rd 8)
- BeverageChek (Rd 9)
- NurtureChek (Rd 9)
- WaterChek Chem (Rd 9)
- VeriCal® (2310)
- Raw Cream QC (14498)

September

- DairyChek (Rd 9)
- MilkChek (Rd 9)
- VT UHT Products (Rd 9)
- MWPF (Rd 9)
- VT Milk (Rd 9)
- VT Cream (Rd 9)
- FertChek (Rd 10)
- NurtureChek (Rd 10)
- WaterChek Chem (Rd 10)
- Raw Cream QC (14499)

DataChek Case Study

Global Proficiency's DataChek programme has a variety of applications, including supporting laboratories to gain accreditation by providing samples and statistical analysis of results where no other method to ensure validity of results is available.

In a recent case, we provided milk samples blind-spiked with an organic compound and compared the laboratory's results against the expected results, applying their Uncertainty of Measurement to check results were within the expected range. With collaboration from the laboratory to provide guidance on how the matrix and compound would interact, we were able to provide accurately spiked samples which were stable and homogenous for testing.

Interested in our DataChek service? Please email our team at: enquiries@global-proficiency.com to see how we can assist you today.

Meet The Team



Eldho joined Global Proficiency in September 2022 as a casual Production & Despatch assistant. He started working as a full time Laboratory & Production Technician from May 2023. Eldho acquired his masters in chemistry back in India in 2008.

On his days off from work, he loves to spend time with his family. He is married and has two kids. He is a crazy cricket fan and enjoys traveling.

New Programme: AllerGens

Global Proficiency's new programme **AllerGens** is designed for laboratories routinely testing for allergens in food products. This programme is set to launch its pilot round for gluten testing in November 2023 and will offer a 4-sample set of food products that commonly declare absence of gluten allergens in their label claims. The levels of gluten present will vary between samples and will be aligned with methodology capabilities.

If interested in participating in our new programme, please email our team at: registrations@global-proficiency.com

New VP+ Customer Portal Feature

Following a request from our annual survey earlier this year, a new format for the client timetable has been created in our VP+ Customer Portal.

If you click 'View Registration Details' within the VP+ Customer Portal home page (as highlighted in red on image to the right), and then select the programmes you want to view, a grid will appear with each round, the categories/number of sets and dispatch/result due date. This feature can help your lab keep track of your ILCP schedule.

If you have any questions about his new feature please email our team at: enquiries@global-proficiency.com

The screenshot shows a vertical list of five dark blue buttons: 'Enter Results', 'View Registration Details' (highlighted with a red border), 'Change Password', 'Email Us', and 'Report a Problem'. To the right of these buttons is a list of five bullet points:

- Only registered contacts can enter results. If your name doesn't appear in the dropdown list, please contact GP
- Open up a grid view of programmes and rounds your lab has registered for. The number of sample sets requested is displayed in the round field
- Only primary contacts can update the password
- If you require any assistance, or have any questions or comments, please email us
- Please let our System Administrator know if you are having problems with VP+

Contact Us

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