# Global Proficiency's NewsChek

### Issue 8, November 2020

# WaterChek Chemistry

The **WaterChek** Proficiency Programme is designed for laboratories routinely testing analytes in water samples collected from different sources.

We have recently received results for the final **Potable** round for 2020, and there were 51 participants who submitted results in the round! There are two WaterChek Chemistry rounds before the end of the year for **Basic Chem** and **Effluent**.

The programme is offered every month; multiple technicians and several methods can be used to submit results to allow ongoing monitoring of performance.

Registration packs to participate in the WaterChek Proficiency Programme in 2021 were sent a couple of weeks ago, and due to popularity and customer feedback we have introduced the following changes:

- Seawater (2nd round)
- Disinfection-by-product (restored)

For more information see our website  $\underline{here}$ .

If you are interested in further details, would like to provide suggestions or register for future rounds, please contact us at:

WaterChek@global-proficiency.com

# Fertiliser QCMs

We have **fertiliser** Quality Control Materials (QCM) available, which are supplied with a Data Summary Sheet of assigned values obtained from a FertChek round.

We offer a sample size of **125g** of fertiliser for QCM, with test lists covering most of the routine chemistry tests.

Currently we have **Phosphate Rock** and **Superphosphate** QCMs available. If you require QCMs for the other fertiliser types we offer, please enquire and we can check if we have enough stock to create a suitable QCM.

For a list of the current available RM and QCM, please visit our website:

https://www.globalproficiency.com/rms-and-qcms

## **Upcoming Rounds**

#### Round 11

- WaterChek (Basic Chem)
- NurtureChek
- DairyChek
- Soil Physical
- Meat, Water, Pathogen and Food
- MilkChek
- HoneyChek
- LipidChek (Oil)
- VeriTest<sup>®</sup> Milk
- VeriTest® UHT Products



\*New\* Training Videos

Another new training video is now available for **Report Statistics** – click <u>here</u>. To access all our available videos, login to our customer portal VP Plus using the 'Quick Links' section of our website. Links can be found on the 'Home' page as shown:

Hi Global Proficiency Ltd, welcome to VP Plus!

NZ Date and Time: 02/11/2020 02:10 pm

Virtual Proficiency Plus (VP+) is a web interface that enables you to enter data, uplo download relevant documents. PDF Training guides and offline data entry templates available to assist you via phone or email.

Have you seen our training videos? VP Plus Training: <u>Entering Results</u>, <u>Update Details</u>

Proficiency Testing: <u>Basic Statistics</u>, <u>Report Statistics</u>, <u>Interpreting ILCP Rep</u>

If you do not have a login for VP Plus, please contact us at <u>enquir-</u> <u>ies@global-proficiency.com</u> so we can address your needs directly.

# **Shipping Packaging**

The featured specialised packaging type for this month are **Vial Holders** and **Bio-pouches**.

Vial holders have been designed to fit the freeze dried vials (FDVs) used in a number of our microbiology programmes. Each set of vials will be packed into the appropriately sized holder, keeping them separated and reducing the risk of breakages. This can also be used in the laboratory to keep vials upright when preparing them for testing.

**Bio-pouches** may replace the use of bio-bottles. These are available in multiple sizes and have similar functionality, but in some instances can be more economical and allow more efficient packing of samples.

The vial holders are inserted into the bio-pouches, which go into the final transportation packaging with surrounding ice. This change ensures the transportation of these samples are fully compliant to IATA regulations for UN 3373 Category B substances.

#### Uses:

Vial holders – transportation of microbiology freeze dried vials

Bio-pouches – transportation of microbiology FDVs and liquid milk microbiology samples





## Meet The Team

Lisa Allen has been employed at Global Proficiency since March 2012 and her title is Logistics & Administration Team Leader. Her working career has been split doing either Administration or IT Roles.

She loves visiting the Pacific Islands especially Rarotonga. She has recently taken up crocheting, and is working on blankets for her 6 grandchildren (4 down 2 to go), most of her time is spent with them and her 2 children. She also loves watching a good movie, 'Love Actually' being in her top 10.



## VeriTest<sup>®</sup> UHT Micro

From 2021 we are introducing Microbiology to our existing **VeriTest® UHT Products** programme.

The new category is called UMS which is a 3-sample set consisting of freeze dried vials and UHT Milk bases.

The following tests will be available:

- Commercial Sterility 30-35°C (Pass/Fail)
- Commercial Sterility 55°C (Pass/ Fail)

From 2021 this category will be offered in 4 rounds per year.

More information can be found on our website <u>here</u>.

To discuss this or other development needs, please contact <u>ni-</u>cole.joe@global-proficiency.com



## **Annual Registrations**

Our annual registration packs were sent on Wednesday 14th October, and were due on Wednesday 28th October. The process was the same as previous years, with the email containing both a **registration form** and **price list** tailored to your lab. **Changes** in 2021 include:

Changes in 2021 include:

- NurtureChek categories/months
- Packaging and Freight pricing
- Documentation fees
- <u>VeriTest<sup>®</sup></u> <u>Cream</u>: General Chemistry, Titratable Acidity and General Microbiology (New)
- <u>VeriTest<sup>®</sup> UHT Products</u>: Commercial Sterility (New)
- <u>WaterChek Chemistry:</u> Inorganic Disinfection By-Products (Restored)

We are still waiting for responses from some of our customers, therefore if your laboratory has not yet returned your registration form, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us.

## Contact Us

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