



Algal Toxin Proficiency Testing Programs Assess Your Lab's Performance

Gold Standard Diagnostics' trusted Algal Toxin Proficiency Testing Program satisfies the increasing international demand for conformity assessment in the field of cyanotoxin analysis and provides an independent assessment of your laboratory's performance, giving you confidence in your lab's ability to deliver quality results to your customers.

Our algal toxin proficiency testing program, with options for both ELISA and instrumental analysis, is offered at various times throughout the year. Testing programs for finished drinking water and raw fresh water/recreational water are available for the following algal toxins, in addition to a marine water program for Saxitoxin:

- Microcystins
- Anatoxin-a
- Cylindrospermopsin
- Saxitoxin

Algal Toxin Proficiency Testing Programs

A general timeline for the annual algal toxin proficiency testing program is indicated in the table below:

| Sample Matrix | Analyte | Technique | Program # | Registration Close | Samples Sent | Results Due Back | Final Report Distributed |
|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Finished Drinking Water | Microcystins | Instrumental (HPLC) | 520080-01A | Late January | Late February | Late March | Mid May |
| | | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-01B | Late January | Late February | Late March | Mid May |
| | Anatoxin-a/ Cylindrospermopsin | Instrumental (HPLC) | 520080-02A | Late January | Late February | Late March | Mid May |
| | | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-02B | Late January | Late February | Late March | Mid May |
| | Saxitoxin | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-05B | Late January | Late February | Late March | Mid May |
| Raw Fresh Water (Source/ Recreational) | Microcystins | Instrumental (HPLC) | 520080-03A | Late May | Late June | Late July | Mid September |
| | | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-03B | Late May | Late June | Late July | Mid September |
| | Anatoxin-a/ Cylindrospermopsin | Instrumental (HPLC) | 520080-04A | Late May | Late June | Late July | Mid September |
| | | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-04B | Late May | Late June | Late July | Mid September |
| | Saxitoxin | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-06B | Late May | Late June | Late July | Mid September |
| | Marine Water | Saxitoxin | ELISA/PPIA | 520080-07B | Late May | Late June | Late July |

How the Proficiency Testing Program Works

- Each participant laboratory receives a **unique code** to maintain confidentiality.
- Gold Standard Diagnostics produces and distributes **water samples** that have been spiked with known toxin congeners and concentrations.
- **Participant labs test the samples**, using their own equipment, methods and personnel, and return the test results to Gold Standard Diagnostics.
- Gold Standard Diagnostics prepares a **comprehensive program report** including laboratory reported results, methods used, and a statistical evaluation comparing results to other laboratories performing the same analysis.

NOTE: Kits and/or testing materials are not included in the program price and must be purchased separately.

For more information and to register please visit our *Proficiency Testing* page in the *Services* section on our website at www.abraxiskits.com



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