NQAC
Nestlé Quality Assurance Center
Dublin

Nestlé

MATRIX VERIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION

Sample matrix (sample type) verification is an important part of data evaluation. Completion of verification activities provides insight into analytical performance characteristics including accuracy, precision, and measurement uncertainty. It provides scientific proof that the method works as intended and is fit for purpose.

To ensure awareness of matrix verification status, customers should refer to the individual method Technical Data Sheet (TDS). The TDS will note the validated matrices in the scope of application. If a matrix is not listed in this document, please note that reproducibility/accuracy of the results is considered a risk and the analysis is not accredited for that sample result.

Matrix classification is determined during sample preparation based on the sample description, special instructions, and/or physical appearance. In cases where this information is unclear, it can lead to delays, rework and/or additional costs. Clear sample descriptions are the best way to avoid these delays and/or unexpected cost.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR VERIFICATION (IF NEEDED)?

If verification is needed, please contact our Customer Service team to discuss options for verification of your specific sample type. We can design a plan that will provide you with insight into your specific matrix performance by determining accuracy, precision, and measurement uncertainty for your recipe.

Studies are dependent on complexity and can take as long as 1 week for a commodity check, or up to 3-6 months for a full verification study.

 An interim option during this process is to request your samples be replicated and/or spiked with routine analysis. This can provide some insight into performance and aid in future decisions. This request can be included in your online submissions by listing "Include Spike Recoveries" in the test instructions.

VERIFICATION VS CUSTOMER SPECIFIC METHOD (CSM)?

A second option for reporting a non-validated matrix is via a customer specific method. This reporting approach is beneficial for short term testing needs; results reported under the CSM process are not generally considered validated or accredited, however there are some rare exceptions.

Questions or interest in any of the above, please contact our Customer Service department at nqacdublincustomerservice@us.nestle.com for assistance.