

In the event the laboratory that volunteered to prepare the samples for the test produced water but not soil samples. The preparing laboratory chose to use charcoal, Tenax, XAD-2 and cotton buds as matrices. One consequence of this was an increased number of samples over that originally envisaged.

Some of the samples were spiked with octyl methylphosphonofluoridate, which although a Schedule 1 chemical, is not (within public knowledge) a CW agent. This meant that many laboratories did not have the necessary reference material (authentic reference substance or data base information) to make a positive identification of the principal spiking substance. In the absence of a readily identifiable CW agent upon which to focus the participating laboratories applied varying degrees of effort in identifying as many compounds as possible to allow judgement whether they were scheduled chemicals.

Accordingly, to maximise the value of this second round-robin test for which an unanticipated number and type of samples were received, the objective of the test was modified to the analysis of samples (prepared to simulate inspection of a chemical industrial facility) for their content of any scheduled chemicals.

As previously, a separate round-robin file was created in the Finnish VERIFY database. Usernames and passwords were given to those laboratories for which direct contact information was available to enable them to add their results and experimental details to the database directly.

3. Sample preparation

Australia prepared the samples and analyzed one set of samples immediately after preparation and other sets three weeks and three months later. The following scenario was assumed: the samples were obtained during an inspection to a "Schedule-3" facility declared to consume more than 30 tonnes of trimethyl phosphite annually in the production of an organophosphorus insecticide.