

3.4 Results

A total of 280 human blood samples, including 8 fortified and 2 blank samples, were received by the analytical laboratory. 267 urine samples were also received, of which 10 were fortified and 1 was blank. Results relating to the control samples and to positive field samples are presented in this section.

It took approximately eight months to develop a method for analysis of HT-2 and T-2 in blood, sensitive to the desired level, which was a considerably longer time period than had been anticipated. This was due to the need for a second clean-up for the field samples. All of the 280 blood samples were then analysed over a period of approximately one month.

By that time, it was considered that the additional work and expense that would be involved in the analysis of all the urine samples were not warranted. Six months later, however, 16 urine samples were analysed corresponding to the 11 urine control samples and the 5 urine samples matching the 5 positive blood samples from Thailand. This was done in an attempt to obtain confirmation of the presence of the trichothecenes found in the blood. All urine samples gave a negative result.