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སྲི་ཞུ་དང་ཞུགས་ཚལ་ལྷན་ཁག
འབྲུག་སྲི་ཞུ་དང་ཟུང་ཆས་ཁྲིམས་དོན་དབང་འཛིན་།

ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

Ministry of Agriculture and Forests

Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory Authority (BAFRA)

Tashichodzong, Thimphu: Bhutan



BAFRA/MoAF/1-115/1322

December 25, 2017

**CBD Notification 2017-141 - Detection and identification of living modified organisms:
submission of information and nomination of experts**

National Food Testing Laboratory under Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory, MoAF, is the only lab in the Country which is designated to carry out detection and identification of LMOs as per the biosafety regulatory framework. Laboratory with basic infrastructure including qPCR and manuals was established through National Biosafety Framework Project and as of now we have all the required infrastructures in place. Some of the activities carried out by National Food Testing Laboratory are as below;

- Perform laboratory analysis of food and agricultural products for quality and safety of microbiological, chemical and GMO in food and agricultural products.
- Work in close coordination with other divisions of BAFRA to compliment the regulatory activities.
- Provide technical backstopping to BAFRA field offices in sampling and analysis.
- Liaise with other relevant International, Regional and National level laboratories and organizations to improve laboratory services.


We have at least two people trained (not professionally) in detection and identification of LMOs using qPCR and to begin with recently we have carried out screening of GM element in food and feed samples. Recently we also got accredited (ISO17025) to carryout detection of tNOS and P35s elements in food and feed samples.

However, to implement the Biosafety Act of Bhutan 2015 and other related issues, further training is required in the field of identification and quantification including sampling, estimation of Measurement Uncertainty (MU), application of MU for compliance with regulation, acceptance criteria for PCR Analysis (check controls, inhibitions, calibration curves, repeatability) etc. Comprehensive Training is also required in identification and quantification of stacked events.

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