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Euroreference: Sharing and Promoting Reference activities in Animal and Plant Health, Food and Drinking Water safety

Bruno GARIN-BASTUJI¹, Gilles SALVAT², on behalf of Euroreference Editorial Board

¹ Euroreference Executive Editor,

² Euroreference Editor-in-Chief

French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety (ANSES), Maisons-Alfort, France

Euroreference is a European online journal (www.euroreference.eu), published twice a year, in English (UK) and dealing specifically with reference activities in the areas of animal & plant health and food & drinking water safety. It aims at facilitating information dissemination and sharing among all referencing stakeholders in the area.

The Euroreference magazine, created by ANSES in 2009, has been made available in 2016, after 13 issues coordinated by ANSES, in a new format produced jointly by a group of institutions from several European Union Member States as well as by EPPO*, making it a collective publication devoted to promoting the dissemination of knowledge at European and international levels. It offers scientific and technical articles of interest to health protection laboratories and institutions involved in reference activities throughout Europe. Euroreference is thus designed to help enhance efficiency across a range of European reference activities.

One of its challenges is to promote the exchange of tools and methods and to encourage closer relationships between reference laboratories in different regions and countries, as well as to publish specialist knowledge, with the aim of achieving a more robust and efficient animal, plant and food health protection system in Europe. By facilitating the sharing of experience and the development of scientific knowledge in the field of analytical reference work, Euroreference seeks to promote this dynamic approach at the European level.

EuroReference focuses on scientific knowledge and news and deals with numerous issues concerning reference lab activities: laboratory diagnostic and analytical methods, validation studies, standard and reference materials, reagent standardisation, inter-laboratory comparisons, scientific and technical results as well as European and international projects or networking in the area, regulations governing reference activities, standardisation and quality assurance, etc. It contains news, comments, letters, dispatches and scientific and technical original or review papers. As a common forum for the members of the networks of reference laboratories and all the players concerned, the targeted public includes scientists, engineers and technical staff of testing laboratories, reference laboratories in other Member States, national reference centres, relevant Ministries and other regulatory or standardisation bodies, as well as several operators such as animal health veterinarians, physicians or chemists involved in public health. All articles are peer-reviewed by experienced scientists, one of which belonging to a consortium institution member. However authors may come from any scientific institution throughout the world. Recently, a DOI number has been included on each article via Zenodo, the European Research data repository, with the aim of promoting the journal indexing in international library databases.

Our aim is to convert Euroreference to a truly European journal, thus strengthening the network of EU laboratories working in these sectors and consolidate EU efficiency.

* ANSES, France (Editor), AECOSAN, Spain; AGES, Austria; APHA, UK; BfR, Germany; EVIRA, Finland; FERA, UK; FLI, Germany; ISS, Italy; IZSLER, Italy; IZSAM, Italy; LCV-SA, Spain; NVWA, The Netherlands; OEPP/EPPO (*European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization*), France; PIWET Poland; RIKILT, The Netherlands; SCL, France; SCIENSANO, Belgium; SVA, Sweden; WBVR, The Netherlands.