

Terms of the proficiency test (PT)

DLA ptAL03 (2026) Allergens III: Gluten (Spelt Wheat, *Triticum spelta*) and Milk (β -Lactoglobulin, Casein) in Infant Food (Soy Formula) [Samples A + B] and "Spiking Level Sample" [SP]

Test material*:

There are **two different samples A and B** possibly containing the allergenic parameters **Gluten (Spelt Wheat, *Triticum spelta*) and Milk (β -Lactoglobulin, Casein)** in the range of mg/kg in the **matrix Infant Food (Soy Formula)**. One of these samples and the additional "**spiking level sample**" were prepared adding the allergenic ingredients. The "spiking level sample" contains the allergens in a **simple matrix** (potato powder) in similar amounts without further processing.

Sample weight: Sample A and B 25 g each, and spiking level sample 15 g.

* Note: Qualitative tests and testing of the content, homogeneity and stability of PT parameters are carried out by DLA. Additional tests can be subcontracted by DLA.

Methods + realisation time:

Analytical methods for qualitative and quantitative determinations are optional (e.g. ELISA, LFD, PCR and LC-MS).

There is a 6 weeks period for performing the analysis. The results are transmitted online via our customer portal.

Evaluation report:

The **evaluation** is carried out **qualitatively** (positive/negative) and from a total of 5 results on **quantitatively**. It includes kernel density estimation, outlier tests, robust mean, robust standard deviation and z-scores. The assigned value is the robust mean of participants results. For information a **recovery rate** of the "positive" sample and the "spiking level sample" is calculated including z-scores. Results, limits of detection and/or quantification and remarks to the methods will be documented. DLA intends to finish the evaluation report within 6 weeks after deadline of results submission. Each participant receives an anonymized, complete evaluation report as a PDF-file, identifying the own results by individual code in case payment was done and can object in writing to the evaluation within 6 weeks.

Individual participant data will only be shared with third parties with the participant's prior consent or due to legal requirements. When sharing or publishing PT data or evaluations for scientific, educational or promotional purposes, all information will be anonymized to ensure the participant's confidentiality.

Registration:

The reliable order can be placed via our webshop at my DLA | participant's portal (<https://my.dla-pt.com/>) or by sending the PDF-form available on our website www.dla-lvu.de to DLA or our authorized sales partner.

Registration deadline is **March 2026-03-04**.

Shipment + number of participants:

Required minimum number of participants is 10. The samples will be sent to participants on **2026-03-11** by parcel service with tracking (delivery time 2-5 days within Europe, 2-10 days worldwide).

Deadline of result submission:

Last date for submission of results **2026-04-24**.

Invoice + price:

Invoicing will be done by DLA along with the sample shipment or by our authorized partner in parallel to the sample shipment.

The price of the proficiency test is 360,- € per participant plus shipping and possible tax.

Costs for **double sample material** € 90,00.

Please note: there can be a handling charge of approx. € 35,00 for payments from non-EU countries.

Shipping costs: within Germany € 12,50, EU-countries and Europe € 30,00, North America € 60,00 - 80,00, other countries approx. € 80,00 (e.g. South America, Asia), all shipping prices are provisional and subject to change. For cold shipping, additional costs of up to € 20,00 may be charged.

Our General Terms and Conditions GTC apply: www.dla-lvu.de/AGB.html

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