



PRESS RELEASE

ISO 30024:2009, a standard method for determining phytase activity now published

Brussels, 29 September 2009 – In 2008, Members of the FEFANA Task Force on Phytase together with Gisèle Gizzi and Christophe von Holst of the European Commission's Community Reference Laboratory (CRL) proactively cooperated in an interlaboratory study on the determination of phytase activity in feed which was eventually issued in the *Journal of AOAC International* (Vol. 91, No. 2, 2008). Later on, this team of experts went on with successful participation in CEN (*European Committee for Standardisation*) and ISO (*International Organization for Standardization*) activities for the development of an international standard on the determination of phytase activity in animal feeding stuffs. The standard, known as **ISO 30024:2009**, has reached the publication stage this summer.

For several years, an interlaboratory study has been conducted to determine performance characteristics of a new method for the determination of phytase activity in feed samples. The method, developed by FEFANA experts, is based on the principle that inorganic phosphate is released from the substrate phytate under defined assay conditions, and it has been validated for its suitability to measure enzyme activity of various phytase products. Two different experimental designs of the study were applied, allowing for the estimation of the precision of the method under repeatability, intermediate precision and reproducibility conditions, respectively. The results of this study were compiled, summarized and finally published in the *Journal of AOAC International*.

After several months of hard work by the FEFANA representatives and through proactive participation in rewriting the study according to strict CEN and ISO editing rules, the international standard ISO 30024:2009 entitled *Animal feeding stuffs -- Determination of phytase activity* was finally published in July 2009. ISO 30024:2009, based on the study report previously issued in the *Journal of AOAC International*, specifies the determination of phytase activity in feed samples.

The ISO 30024:2009 method does not distinguish between phytase added as a feed additive and endogenous phytase already present in the feed materials. This standard cannot be used to evaluate or compare the *in vivo* efficacy of the phytase product. It is not a predictive method of the *in vivo* efficacy of phytases present on the market as they can develop different *in vivo* efficacy per unit of activity. The method is suitable and validated exclusively for the determination of phytase activity and exclusively in complete feeds.

English and French versions of this method are available in PDF format for the price of CHF 74.00 each via the official ISO web site: click [here](#) for more info.

The harmonized method which has been developed is a tool to quantify phytase products in feed samples, premixtures and for the additive *per se*. The method will allow the analysis of all currently EU authorized phytases in feed samples and other matrixes. The collaborative work with the CRL has undoubtedly been tremendous and crucial on this matter. FEFANA hopes that such a close cooperation will continue through other future projects.

Experts of the FEFANA Task Force on Phytase who participated in the study which led to the ISO standard are: Peter Thyregod (Novozymes), Gérard Bertin (Alltech), Kurt Vogel (DSM), Mai Faurschou- Isaksen (Danisco), Roland Betz (BASF), Richard Murphy (Alltech) and Betina Brandt Andersen (Novozymes).

About FEFANA

FEFANA is the EU Feed Additives and Premixtures Association. It was established on 13 October 2004 and is the new juridical form of the feed additives operators association which was originally founded in 1963. With more than 100 members from 28 countries, the association is the interface between the feed additives industry and the European Union authorities, including Member States authorities, in order to promote, safeguard and defend common and general interests of the industry (in several topics like guidelines, register, labelling and definitions, analysis, feed hygiene and food chain safety or non-feed use of additives). FEFANA's President is Dr. Frank Chmitelin of Adisseo.

For more information, please contact:

Didier Jans
Secretary General
FEFANA Asbl
Av. Louise 120 Box 13
B- 1050 Brussels
info@fefana.org
www.fefana.org
T + 322 639 66 60
F + 322 640 41 11