

NEOGEN NEWS Bites

The latest scoop for the pet food industry from a leader in food safety solutions



Neogen's tests for *Salmonella* in pet food meet FDA draft guidance

Neogen's rapid tests for *Salmonella* meet the guidance for *Salmonella* in animal feed being considered by the FDA.

Also: Reveal® 2.0 for *Salmonella* receives AOAC approval

See page 2 for more information.

The FDA's proposed guidance for *Salmonella* in animal feed seeks to lessen the number of human illnesses linked to

contact with animal feed and pet food products, to reduce the risk to the animals themselves, and to prevent vertical transmission to human food. To do so, the FDA is proposing the testing of "direct human contact animal feed" (e.g., pet food and treats, and other feeds intended to be handled by humans) for the presence of any *Salmonella*, and other measures.

"Advancements in the ability to definitively trace a pathogenic outbreak to its root cause have solidified the link between animal feed and pet food contaminated with *Salmonella* and human and animal illness," said Ed Bradley, Neogen's vice president of Food Safety. "As we've proven by working with numerous worldwide food and feed industries over the years, we offer the animal feed industry not only exceptional rapid testing options, but also the expertise and experience to put the tests to their best use."

Neogen offers the industry several testing platforms to meet varied customer needs.

Frequently asked questions about natural toxin testing

With the Veratox® kits, why do I have to test a set of controls with every run?

The Veratox test method is a fully quantitative test that requires the user to test a series of controls to create a standard curve for every run. Using a microwell reader, the optical density (OD) of the controls are read, and the OD of each samples is compared to the curve created by the controls to determine the exact concentration of toxin in the sample.

Aside from a shorter total incubation time, are there any other steps in the Veratox for DON 2/3 test that are different from the Veratox for DON 5/5 test?

The only procedural change occurs during the shaking step at the beginning of the DON 2/3 incubation periods. At the start of both incubation steps, the wells should be shaken for 30 seconds by sliding the well holder back and forth on a flat surface. The extra shake time and the test's slightly different reagent mixture allow adequate color development to occur more rapidly, giving the operator accurate results faster.

There are 36 wells available on the carrier of my Stat Fax reader. How many samples can I run at one time?

Although the Stat Fax reader can hold three strips of 12 wells each, Neogen recommends that you follow each test kit's recommended maximum of samples per test run. For example, Veratox for Aflatoxin recommends using no more than 2 strips (24 wells) on a single run, with four of the wells for your controls, for a maximum of 20 samples per test run.

To read two rows of wells using the curve created by controls only in the first row, read the first row of wells as you normally would. To use the curve created by the first row a second time, indicate you have a second row of samples by answering "yes" when the reader asks if you want to accept the curve. Move the carrier so the second row of wells is lined up in position A. This allows the reader to reference the curve that was created by the first row when reading the next row of samples.

If don't have a full strip of 12 samples to run, is there a way to select just the number of wells to be read?

If there is not a full strip of 12 wells in any of the rows you can select the number of wells by pressing the 9 button and Enter after the reader prompts: "Set carrier to A." The reader will then ask you to enter the number of wells to be read in that row. Enter the correct number, press Enter twice and run the test.



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Introducing Reveal® 2.0 for *Salmonella*

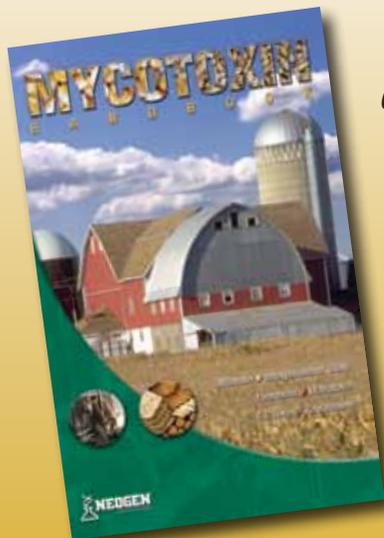
Reveal 2.0 for *Salmonella* is the first AOAC-approved kit in a new line of enhanced lateral flow pathogen test kits designed to simplify pathogen testing protocol without compromising results.



It provides for the rapid recovery of *Salmonella* in dry pet food, swabs from stainless steel surfaces and common pet food and treat ingredients like raw ground beef, raw poultry, raw seafood, vegetables and peanut butter. The test allows detection and presumptive identification of *Salmonella* in as little as 24 hours, with times varying based on enrichment needs.

Features include:

- Only 15 minutes of test development time following enrichment
- Single enrichment protocol for select food types, eliminating hands-on time of multiple enrichments without compromising sensitivity or specificity
- AOAC approval validates the accuracy of Reveal 2.0 for *Salmonella* when testing food, rinse water and environmental samples
- Test can be read visually or with the AccuScan III reader—an easy way to objectively read, store and analyze lateral flow test results
- Available in bulk or as unitized pre-measured and irradiated media, which eliminates the need for autoclaving
- Requires minimal equipment and low capital expense to begin testing



Our **Mycotoxin Handbook** is available free of charge. Please contact us today and receive regular updates as close and convenient as your inbox: foodsafety@neogen.com or **800/234-5333**



Analyst Proficiency Program is now available

The Analyst Proficiency Program (APP) provides an easy way to gauge your proficiency in running Neogen's mycotoxin assays.

The APP includes:

- Enough naturally-contaminated ground corn and ground wheat samples to verify 10 analysts when testing for aflatoxin and DON, respectively
- Instructions on how to electronically submit your results

After we receive your results, they will be compared to an acceptable range for that sample and analysts will be given pass/fail results. You will receive a one-page lab report, along with certificates for each analyst who passed the check.

Please contact a Pet Food Team member to order by calling **800/234-5333**.

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