Neogen responds to cumin and spice blend contamination involving peanut

In response to recent recalls of products containing cumin found to be contaminated with peanuts and almonds, Neogen announced that its comprehensive line of food allergen tests includes quantitative and screening test kits that can quickly and accurately detect peanut and almond allergens in cumin and spice blends. Currently, India produces about 70% of the global output of cumin.

Neogen’s AOAC-approved Veratox® for Peanut Allergen has been validated to detect and fully quantify peanut residues in cumin in about 30 minutes, with minimal training and equipment. Neogen also offers its Alert® for Peanut Allergen, which screens samples at 5 parts per million (ppm), and is based on the same technology of its Veratox test. The company offers the same options to test samples for the presence of almonds. In addition, the Reveal® for Peanut Allergen test kit is an effective screening tool for the presence of peanut residues in these sample types.

For companies that prefer not to do their own on-site testing, Neogen also offers a rapid laboratory testing service at its locations in Lansing, Mich., and Ayr, Scotland.

“Both food allergic consumers and food producers rely on the accurate labeling of food products to protect themselves from the consequences of the accidental ingestion of food allergens,” said Tony Lupo, Neogen’s Director of Technical Services. “Testing that we have done with numerous raw ingredient and finished product samples containing cumin have detected the presence of peanuts, in high levels in some cases. Tests can protect businesses in the food value chain—and their consumers.”

Neogen launches ANSR® for *Listeria monocytogenes*

Neogen has developed the quickest and easiest test to definitively detect *Listeria monocytogenes*. ANSR® for *Listeria monocytogenes* is the third test available for Neogen’s innovative ANSR pathogen detection system, and will provide results after only 10 minutes of reaction time following enrichment. The new test joins Neogen’s line of ANSR products, which also includes AOAC Research Institute-validated ANSR for *Listeria* and ANSR for *Salmonella*.
“The well-received and validated ANSR system provides the food industry definitive test results, and much easier and quicker methodology,” said Ed Bradley, Neogen’s vice president of Food Safety. “This introduction of ANSR for *Listeria monocytogenes* will allow the testing for *Listeria monocytogenes* and *Listeria* species from a single enriched sample.”

Combined with ANSR’s single-step enrichment, Neogen’s new pathogen detection method for *L. monocytogenes* can provide definitive results in as little as 25 hours from the time the sample is taken. The new test also utilizes Neogen’s LESS Plus Medium, which can be autoclaved—allowing for larger batches of media to be prepared prior to use.

Neogen’s ANSR is an isothermal amplification reaction test method that exponentially amplifies the DNA of any bacteria present in samples to detectable levels in only minutes. The ANSR system was designed to combine molecular-level accuracy with a scalable low-cost instrument and a methodology that can be easily incorporated into any testing laboratory’s existing workflow. The system’s small benchtop footprint and extremely simple procedure make it an easy fit in any laboratory setting.

Neogen offers an unmatched industry-specific range of microorganism testing products, experience and expertise—from lateral flow immunocassays to fully automated pathogen and spoilage organism platforms, to a comprehensive catalog of high quality dehydrated culture media, to DNA genotyping technology through its NeoSEEK genomic profiling and serotyping service.

### Neogen’s Soleris® and Neogen’s BioLumix® — when to use which system

As the need for rapid microbiological testing in various industries continues to grow, Neogen’s recent acquisition of BioLumix helps provide new resources to an already successful rapid microbiological testing product. Specifically in the nutraceutical, dietary supplement, cosmetic and pharmaceutical markets, the BioLumix system serves customers with a system supported by validation datasets, ready-to-use microbial tests, and Neogen’s excellent customer service. In fact, the value of the system from the perspective of some of our customers can be found in their testimonials and feedback.

Along with great customer service, some of the key aspects that customers are able to take advantage of include 48-hour certificate of analysis and ready-to-use assays.

Upon reviewing both the BioLumix system and Soleris, it is apparent that both of these systems offer advantages over other methods and products. These include:

- **Expedited results**: most results in 12–18 hours; yeast and mold assay in 48 hours
- **Automation and connectivity** allows faster product release
- **Streamlined testing** increases laboratory efficiencies
- **Paperless laboratory**: centralized test data automatically stored and protected
- **Ready-to-use test vials**
- **Excellent customer support**

The differences lie in the application and validation information supporting both systems. For example, the BioLumix system has submitted a DMF to help aid companies on technical and regulatory information on approvals for prescription drugs. The BioLumix system has an established protocol for preservative efficacy testing, adhering to USP Chapter 51. Neogen also has the capability to provide services on the BioLumix system, such as suitability testing, USP Chapter 61. The BioLumix system comes with uniquely designed validation books for nutraceutical and dietary supplements, cosmetics and toiletry, and for over-the-counter medication.

Similarly, the Soleris system is used for various food matrices. For example, Soleris has been validated for use in aseptically packed UHT products, dressings and sauces, and many other matrices as supported by the AOAC approvals. Because of the focus over the last few years of Soleris in food matrices, Neogen has developed various tests and applications specifically for food. For example, the 48 hours direct lactic acid vial for dressings and sauces, the orange serum broth vial for low pH and beverage applications, and the *Alicyclobacillus* vial for beverages.

Validation strategies for both systems also varied because of market requirements. For example, in the food industry, companies seeking certain SQF level certifications require an AOAC approval on all methods used. Meaning that food testing validations were done according to the outlines and recommendations provided by AOAC International.

In addition, Neogen’s industry leading customer and technical service are now supported by the microbiological excellence of the staff from BioLumix. Both systems come with packages and programs for installation qualification, operational qualification and performance qualification. Furthermore, both systems have packages available to maintain the system through preventative maintenance programs.

Which system is right for you? It depends on the type of products manufactured, and the requirements. Neogen would be happy to help you understand the advantages of both systems and provide more information that can help you make the correct decision.
Neogen disinfectants registered by EPA as effective against PEDv

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has registered two of Neogen’s agri-cultural disinfectants as being effective against the deadly porcine epidemic diarrhea virus (PEDv).

As part of the EPA’s registration process, the agency evaluates each product’s efficacy to make sure the public health label claims are accurate.

The registration allows Neogen to add a label claim of effectiveness against PEDv to its DC&R® Disinfectant and BioSentry BioPhene™ Disinfectant products. An earlier study demonstrated the products’ “complete inactivation” of the PEDv organism when tested in accordance with current Good Laboratory Practice protocols commonly used to evaluate disinfectants.

Neogen’s disinfectants shown to be effective against PEDv:

- DC&R Disinfectant, EPA Reg. No. 61282-59, is a unique vapor phase disinfectant with a neutral pH, and is non-corrosive.
- BioSentry BioPhene Disinfectant, EPA Reg. No. 61282-53, is a phenolic derivative disinfectant that is effective on hard surfaces, and other areas where organic load may be an issue in and around farm premises.

PEDv can devastate a population of nursing pigs, with mortality approaching 100%, and can significantly impact the performance of adult pigs. The virus is not transmissible to humans and does not affect food safety.

The virus was first reported in the United Kingdom in 1971, and has since been found in the several other countries in Europe and Asia. The first confirmed case of PEDv in Canada was reported in January 2014. Pigs infected with PEDv, which is transmitted through a fecal-oral route or via fomites in the pigs’ environment (e.g., boots, brushes, buckets, etc.), may show varying symptoms, including diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration. Recovery, when possible, can take a week to 10 days.

For more information, contact Neogen’s Animal Safety Division at 859/254-1221.

Welcome Leslie Fernandez

The customer service department is pleased to announce Leslie Fernandez as the International Customer Service Representative for the Pacific Rim, Latin America and Caribbean accounts. She will be replacing Fanny Catey who accepted a position in Neogen’s Corporate Communications department.

Leslie brings to Neogen 4 years experience in Customer Service as an International Export Specialist. Her previous experience includes providing customer service for producers, providers and carriers in the health insurance industry as well as expertise in handling call center duties, filling sales orders, answering billing questions and translating materials and documents in order to help answer customers’ questions.

In her spare time, Leslie enjoys spending time with her two boys, staying fit and working towards her degree in psychology.

Please join us in welcoming Leslie to the Neogen family, we are happy to have her as part of the customer service team!

@neogencorp

on Instagram!

Neogen Corporation is on Instagram, featuring the latest and greatest images from around the company. You can also follow Neogen on Facebook and Twitter.

www.facebook.com/NeogenCorp
twitter.com/NeogenCorp