

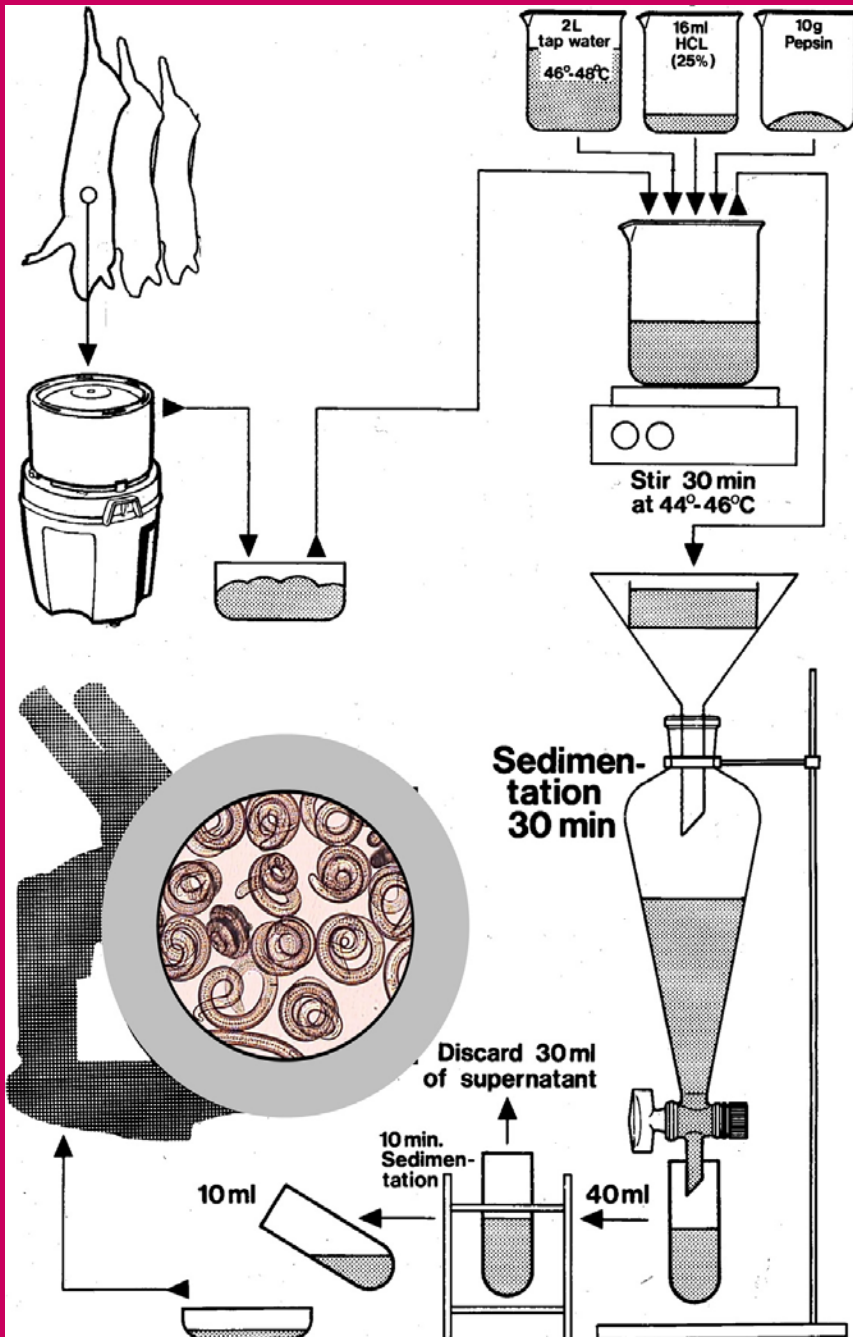


National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport

Quality control slaughterhouse labs *Trichinella*

EURL-P workshop 2025

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With input from 25 NRLs





Quality control slaughterhouse labs

Testing for *Trichinella* according to ISO18743/A1-2023 at slaughterhouse labs

- › Audits
- › PTs
- › Trainings
- › Other points for discussion

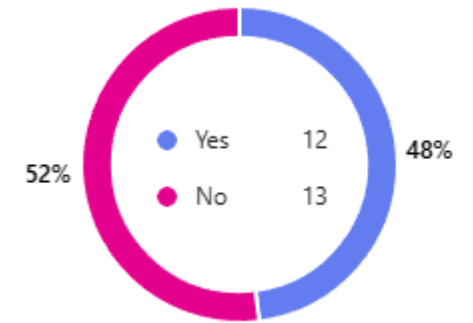
25 responses

How many labs?

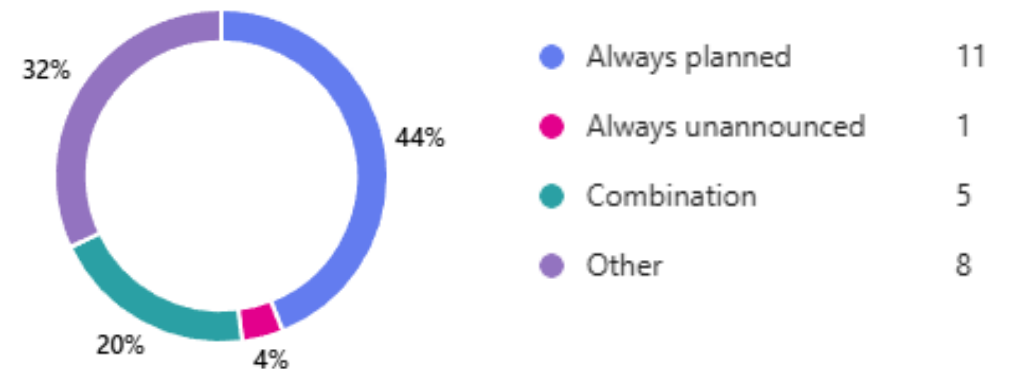




Audits



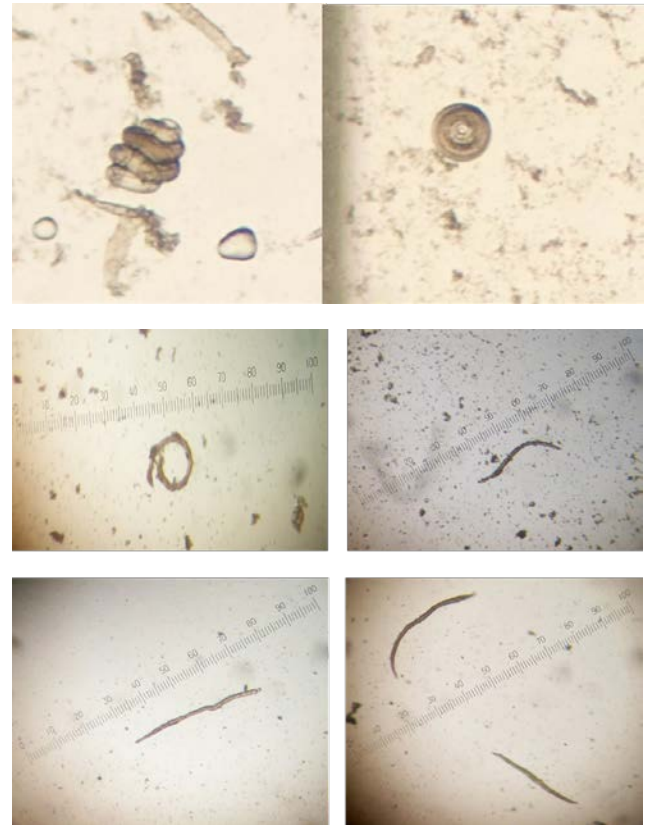
- › Not all NRLs (by other (regional) parties or only on request)
- › Separate accreditation and audit for equipment (ISO17025)
- › Difficulties
 - Sample weight, number of pigs in pool (NL)
 - Time for microscopy (NL)
 - Residue on the sieve (added)





Time for microscopy (≥ 5 mins)

- ❑ Observe (discretely)
- ❑ Ask
- ❑ Check presence of timer
- ❑ Logbook
- ❑ Not checked (training and PTs)
- ❑ Calculate based on daily number of samples

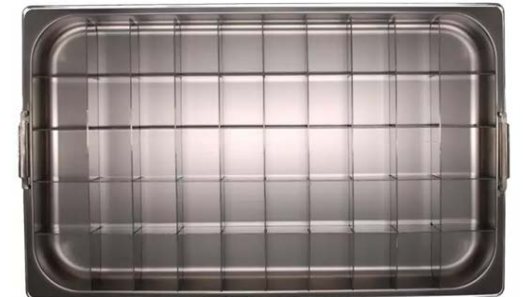




Samples in the pool (1-1.15g, max. 100 pieces)

All samples or spot check

- ❑ Individual pieces weighed
- ❑ Total weight
- ❑ Count pieces/tray with grid
- ❑ Pigs identifiable per pool
- ❑ Maintenance of scale and sampling material
- ❑ Responsibility CA at the slaughterline vs. entry control ISO17025

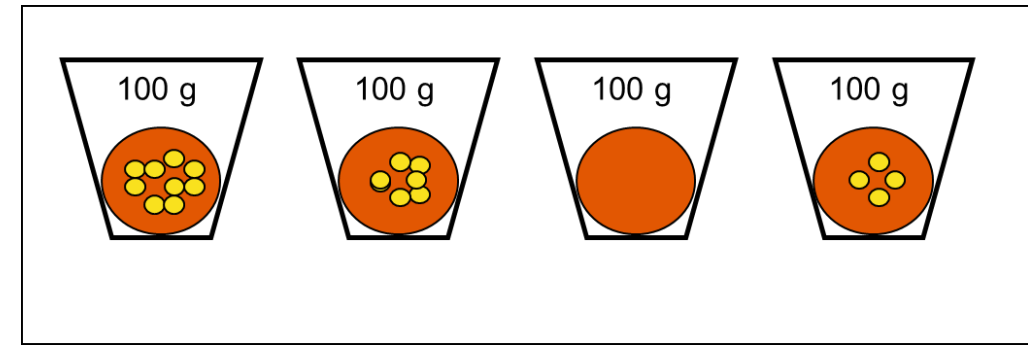




Residue after digestion

- ❑ Observed during audit vs. result noted
- ❑ Weigh (all or spot check)
- ❑ Visual inspection
- ❑ Ask
- ❑ Not audited (training and PT)
- ❑ In case of $>5\%$?





PTs

Frequency: between 2x/year and 1x per 4 years, most once per year

Samples: 3-6 samples, mainly low spikes (3-5), some include a high spike

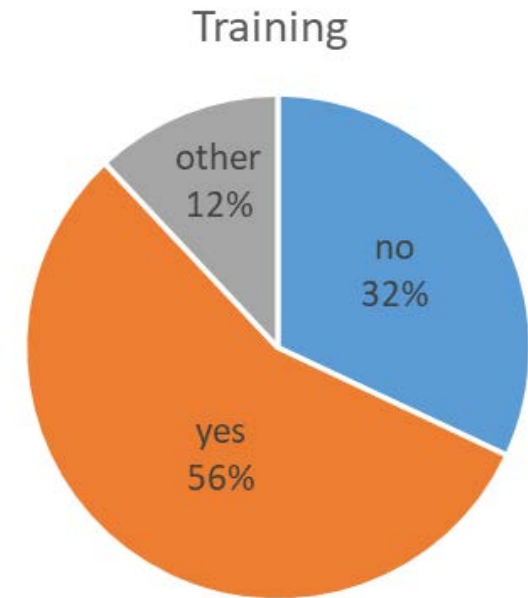
Consequence: re-test, CA, corrective actions, suspension

- › Lab versus individual technician, especially in case of large lab
- › What is considered a failure?
 - positive spike (recovery % or only positive identification)
 - negative control (false positive)
- › Who covers the costs?
 - Pig producer, slaughterhouse, lab, NRL-P, CA



Trainings

- › On location/online
- › Theoretical/practical
- › Fixed frequency/on request
- › Exam/PT





Other remarks

- › Retention of staff
- › What should be send in as a suspected larva
- › Responsibility equipment in case non-accredited lab
- › Quality control in case of alternative methods

Conclusion: Norm is clear, but guidance and harmonization with regards to practical implementation in QC would be helpful