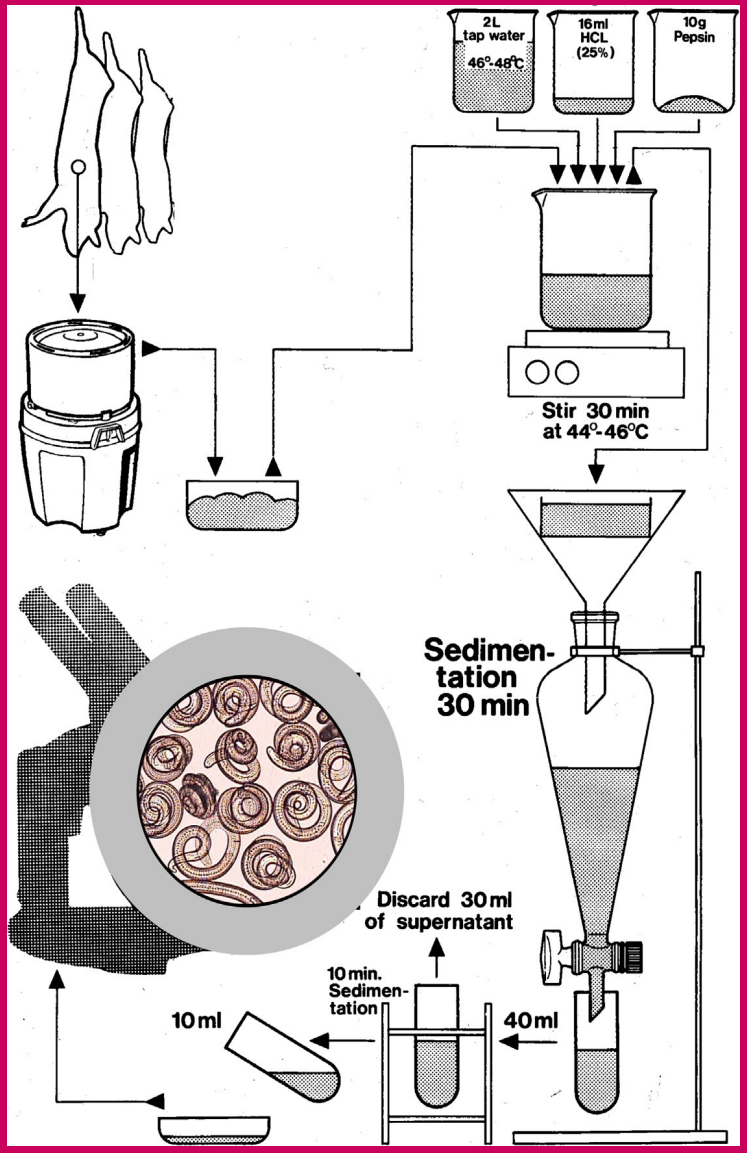



https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fawpar.2019.e00059

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

# One year later: Quality control slaughterhouse labs Trichinella

EURL-P workshop 2026

Marieke Opsteegh & **Denise Hoek** NRL-P NL
Gianluca Marucci & Adriano Casulli EURL-P
With input from 25 NRLs

## National Institute for Public Health and the Environment



**Parasitology and Livestock**

NRL-P :

Marieke Opsteegh – Lead

Denise Hoek – Coördinator



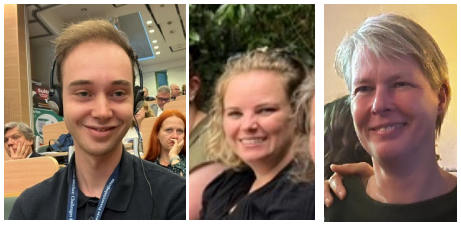
Molecular Biologist:

Kees van der Ark



Technicians:

Cecile Dam-Deisz
Wesley Mocking
Chesley van Buuren



Phd Candidates:

Laura Derks
Hester Bloem
Nimrod de Wit



# Survey 2025:
# What did we do?

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

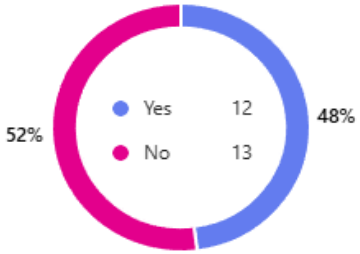
- Audits
- Trainings
- PTs

- Other points for discussion
  - E.g Samples in the pool

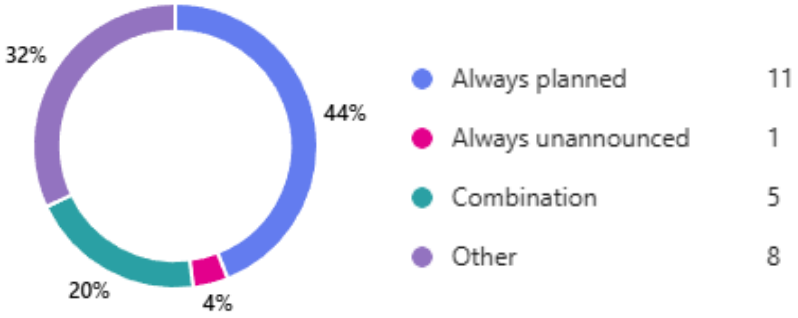
25 responses



# Audits




- Not all NRLs
- Separate accreditation and audit for equipment (ISO17025)
- Difficulties
  - Sample weight, number of pigs in pool (NL)
  - Time for microscopy >5 min. (NL)
  - Residue on the sieve (added)

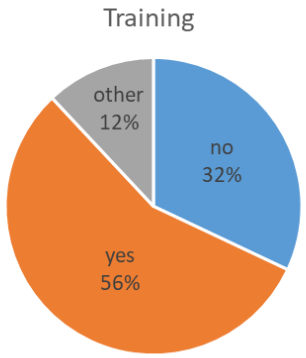



# Samples in the pool (1-1.15g, max. 100 pieces)

- ❑ All samples or spot check
- ❑ Individual pieces weighed vs 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



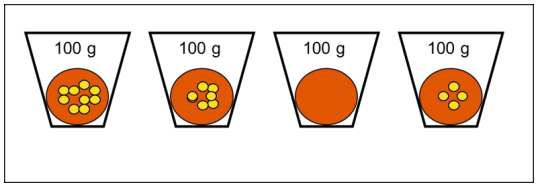
# › Trainings




Differences:

- Location/online
- Theoretical/practical
- Fixed frequency/on request
- Exam/PT

# PTs




- ❑ Frequency: Most once per year
- ❑ Samples: 3-6, mainly low spikes
- ❑ Consequences: re-test, corrective actions, suspension

- ❑ Lab versus individual
- ❑ What is considered a failure?
- ❑ Positive/negative spike: % or only correct identification
- ❑ Cost covering

# Conclusion Survey 2025:




- All the NRLs are unique
- Uniformity impossible
  - Audits
  - Trainings
  - PTs

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

## Update 2026:

- How did we implement this in our work at NRL-P/NL
  - ISO working group:
    ISO/TC 34/SC 9/WG 6 "Food-borne parasites"
  - Counting pieces in a pooled sample during audits
  - Possibility for online training and other types of training samples
  - Increase in suspected larvae  (Toxocara, topic Isabelle Villena)

# Questions:

- What did it bring you?
- Are there important new or remaining issues to be discussed?



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

