



28 OF SEPTEMBER 2014

CONCLUSION REMARKS AND FUTURE
WORK OF IHC WG PROPOLIS

INTER-LABORATORIAL TRIAL

OPATIJA 2014

IHC



Meeting of the IHC WG – Propolis in Opatija, September 2014

General information

The participants on the WG propolis decided, as a first stage for the development of International standards for propolis, to run an inter-laboratorial trial that will address the definition/optimization of methodologies for the evaluation of four quality parameters of propolis: (i) *Ashes*; (ii) *Total phenolics*; (iii) *Total Flavonoids*; and (iv) *Wax content*. The properties under evaluation were chosen based on the relevance for the propolis industry and considering the most universal parameters for analysis of this type of samples. Several other parameters can be considered in future trials.

Who can participate?

Any member of the Propolis WG can participate on the inter-laboratorial trial (the participation of members that were not present In the Opatja meeting are welcome). The maximum number of participant is limited to 10. There are however three conditions that the participants must fulfil:

- (i) They must provide one sample of propolis (approx. 1 kg) for the trial;
- (ii) The participant must be able to run the laboratorial tests;
- (iii) The participants must share their analytical methodologies before trial (see below).

Procedures:

The propolis sample of each participant (two samples maximum) must be sent to Hartmut Schreiter (Allwex), who will be responsible for sample homogenization and distribution. The participants must identify their sample with the propolis geographical origin and the full address to receive back the trial samples. Each individual sample, after homogenization, will be divided and sent to each participant. All the participants will receive several sections of propolis for test (the total number will depend on the number of participants).

At the same time, the participants must send the analytical protocols used on their laboratory for the analysis of the four parameters (ash, total phenolics, total flavonoids and wax content). All procedures must be described in detail and should be sent to me at mvboas@ipb.pt. Additionally, the extraction procedure for the phenolic compounds must also be sent (time, amount of propolis, temperature and solvent must be described in detail).

Once received, the procedures will be combined in a “Procedure document” and distributed to the participants. According to the observed differences, a discussion forum will be raised to define one (maximum two) analytical procedures to apply in all the laboratories.

The final protocols will be then distributed to all the participants, and applied to the propolis samples received.

Timetable:

1. Participants must state their interest to participate until **15 of November 2014** (email to mvboas@ipb.pt)
2. Propolis samples must be sent to Hartmut Schreiter until **30 December 2014** (see address below)
3. Analytical procedures must be sent until **15 December 2014** (email to mvboas@ipb.pt)
4. Methodology discussion will be carried out during **January 2015**
5. Protocols and samples will be distributed to all the participants until **February 2015**
6. Laboratory test should be performed until **June 2015**
7. Outputs of the inter-laboratorial trial must be discussed until **September 2015**.

Confidentiality:

All the samples provided by the participants are for the exclusive use of this inter-laboratory trial. The use of the samples for any other propose is forbidden without the consent of all the participants. Any publication of the results requires the agreement of all the participants and their acknowledgement.

Funding:

None.

Samples must be sent to:

**ALLWEX Food Trading GMBH
Hartmut Schreiter
Auf dem Sand 1
D-20457 Hamburg
Germany**