

Certificate of measurement



4005

Processed meat – Proximates, chloride, hydroxyproline & metals

Certified Reference Material LGC7155

Certified values

Constituent ¹	Number of laboratories	Certified value ^{2,3} (g/100 g)	Uncertainty ⁴ (g/100 g)	Coverage factor, <i>k</i>
Moisture	18	55.13	0.43	2.03
Nitrogen	18	2.202	0.046	2.02
Total fat	13	24.23	0.59	2.06
Ash	17	3.229	0.059	2.08
Chloride	12	1.377	0.072	2.06
Hydroxyproline	10	0.359	0.025	2.20
	Number of laboratories	Certified value ^{2,3} (mg/100 g)	Uncertainty ⁴ (mg/100 g)	Coverage factor, <i>k</i>
Magnesium	9	11.02	0.73	2.14
Phosphorus	11	236	13	2.20
Potassium	9	187.4	8.3	2.23
Sodium	12	1110	63	2.13

Notes:

1. The values were assigned using the results of an inter-laboratory study.
2. Unweighted robust estimate of location, (for magnesium and potassium, the unweighted mean value) of the concentration obtained by participant laboratories. Each data set was obtained in a different laboratory.
3. The results are traceable to the SI.
4. The uncertainty quoted is the half-width of the expanded uncertainty interval calculated using the coverage factor (*k*) shown in the table, which gives a level of confidence of approximately 95 %.

Date of Issue: August 2019

Latest amendment: January 2023

Signed: _____

Gill Holcombe (Mrs)
for the Government Chemist



Indicative Values

Analyte	Unit	Value ¹
Calcium	mg/100 g	8
Iron	mg/100 g	0.6
Notes: 1. Median of inter-laboratory results. For calcium, occasional high values were obtained in the homogeneity study.		
Analyte	Unit	Range ²
Nitrate (as NO ₃)	mg/kg	0.6 to 25.1
Notes: 2. Range of inter-laboratory mean results reported		

Calculated value

Constituent	Unit	Calculated value ¹	Expanded uncertainty ²
Salt (NaCl) ¹	g/100 g	2.27	0.12
Notes: 1. Calculated from the chloride content. 2. The quoted uncertainty is the half-width of the expanded uncertainty interval.			

Material Preparation

The material was prepared using a commercial pork-based processed meat. After thorough mincing and mixing, it was sealed in sachets in 50 g portions and irradiated to sterilise using a dose of 18 KGy.

Homogeneity Assessment

The material was tested for between-sachet homogeneity by analysing randomly selected units from across the fill run. The homogeneity data for all analytes was examined and deemed fit-for-purpose, with the exception of calcium. The mass of the material taken for the homogeneity assessment of each analyte is shown in the following table and represents the minimum weight which should be taken for analysis.

Analyte	Moisture	Nitrogen	Total fat	Ash	Chloride	Hydroxyproline	Metals
Mass (g)	5	0.25	3	5	5	3	1

The uncertainty contribution from the homogeneity assessment was incorporated into the combined uncertainty figure.

Stability

The nature of the material is such that deterioration is not anticipated over its lifetime when stored under the recommended conditions. The uncertainty associated with long-term instability was considered to be negligible compared with the uncertainty contributions from characterisation and possible inhomogeneity, and was therefore assigned a value of zero. The material will be monitored at LGC and customers will be notified of any changes in the certified values.

Certification

This material has been certified by LGC using the results of an inter-laboratory characterisation study.

Units of the candidate material were distributed to laboratories that had previously agreed to participate in the study. Participant laboratories were given a free choice of methods, but asked to use those with which they were familiar. For the total fat determination, laboratories were asked to use a method which included an acid hydrolysis step.

The data from the inter-laboratory study were processed, after screening laboratories based on their performance in analysing a separate QC sample. Where ten or more acceptable sets of results were received, the certified value for each constituent was assigned as the robust estimate of location of the accepted laboratory data. Uncertainties were based on the robust estimate of dispersion (taking into account the number of laboratories and corrected for the efficiency of the estimator), and combined with the uncertainties related to homogeneity and stability. Where less than ten acceptable sets of results were received, the mean and standard deviation of results were used to calculate the equivalent parameters after review for statistical outliers.

The uncertainty associated with each certified value was calculated by combining the characterisation uncertainty from the inter-laboratory study with the uncertainty calculated from the homogeneity study. This combined uncertainty was then multiplied by a coverage factor (k), calculated separately for each analyte, according to the Welch-Satterthwaite equation, taking into account the effective degrees of freedom.

Methods used by Participating Laboratories

Techniques used in the characterisation of this material are summarised below:

Constituent	Techniques used
Moisture	Measured as loss on drying using a variety of conditions.
Nitrogen	There were two approaches used by participants. Some used a Kjeldahl method and others used instrumentation based on the Dumas principle.
Total fat	Laboratories used acid hydrolysis followed by solvent extraction (variety of solvents)
Ash	Measured by gravimetry after heating to temperatures between 510 °C and 600 °C.
Chloride	Laboratories employed a variety of methods. Some used a method based on a coulometric titration; others used titration with a colorimetric end point. The preparation procedures included ashing.
Hydroxyproline	Labs generally used spectrophotometric methods following acid hydrolysis.
Metals	Laboratories used a variety of methods including ICP-OES, ICP-MS, AAS following sample preparation, generally by microwave digestion.

Accreditation

Property values on this certificate are within LGC's scope of accreditation to ISO 17034 as a reference material producer.

Intended Use

This material is intended for use in the development, validation or quality control of analytical methods for the determination of major constituents and selected additional analytes in meat and meat products. The material may also be applicable to other matrices and procedures where suitable reference materials are not available.

Instructions for Use

Immediately prior to analysing the material, massage the sachet gently to mix the contents, paying particular attention to the corners, and then open carefully. Transfer the entire contents to a suitable mixer or blender and homogenise thoroughly. Store in an airtight jar.

Storage

The material should be stored at $(5 \pm 4) ^\circ\text{C}$ in its original sealed sachet. Once prepared, the material should be stored in a closed container in a fridge at $(5 \pm 4) ^\circ\text{C}$ and used within one week.

Shelf Life

If stored under the recommended conditions, the certified values will remain valid for 12 months from the date of shipment (see page 5 for shipment date).

Metrological Traceability

The certified values are considered to be traceable to the SI through the physical and chemical standards used by the participants in the interlaboratory study.

Certificate Revision

In January 2023, the UKAS symbol was updated.

Participants in the Inter-laboratory Study

The following laboratories took part in the inter-laboratory study for this material.

Aqualab	Ireland
Ashwood UK Ltd	UK
Control Foods	Poland
Czech Agricultur and Fodd Inspection Authority	Czech Republic
Edinburgh Scientific Services	UK
Foodtest Laboratories	UK
Ing. Josef Nemec, Laborator Pisek	Czech Republic
Lancashire County Scientific Services	UK
Maxxam Analytics	Canada
National Laboratory for Health, Environment and Food (Slovenia - Maribor)	Slovenia
National Laboratory for Health, Environment and Food (Slovenia – Novo Mesto)	Slovenia
Noon Products	UK
Salamon and Seaber Limited	UK
SGS – Ashby	UK
SGS Agri Food Lab – South Africa	South Africa
State Veterinary and Food Institute Bratislava	Slovakia
VestfolLAB A/S	Norway
Worcestershire Scientifc Services	UK

Unit Number

Date of Shipment

Legal Notice

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