

Product Manual

AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX®

Part #: 10006316/10006317

Intended use

The AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® test kit is an immunochromatographic assay designed for the quantitative analysis of the presence of zearalenone in food and feed components.

Performance characteristics

Range of quantitation: 0 – 1650 ppb

Limit of detection (LOD): 25 ppb (corn)

Limit of quantitation (LOQ): 40 ppb (corn)

Assay time: approx. 4 minutes

AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® - 50 g Version

Approval: FGIS-2022/158

Part #: 10006317

About zearalenone

Zearalenone (ZEA) is an estrogenic, nonsteroidal mycotoxin produced by *Fusarium* species (*F. graminearum*, *F. cerealis*), which are distributed worldwide. ZEA is found in a variety of crops, including corn, barley, oats, wheat, rice, and sorghum. It is frequently implicated in reproductive disorders in farm animals and occasionally in hyperestrogenic syndromes in humans. The major effects of zearalenone are estrogenic, primarily affecting the urogenital system. Swine are the most susceptible animals, but cattle, poultry, and laboratory rodents are also affected. In young gilts, zearalenone can cause precocious mammary development and other estrogenic effects, as well as preputial enlargement in young barrows. Dietary concentrations of 1000 ppb or more of zearalenone can induce hyperestrogenism in pigs. When fed to sows during gestation, zearalenone has been linked to the birth of weak piglets and smaller litter sizes.

Product information

About AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX®

The AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® test is a quantitative, competitive immunochromatographic assay designed to determine the presence of zearalenone in a given sample. It is specifically tailored for testing grains, cereals, and other commodities.

Storage information

Upon receipt, promptly transfer the AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® strips and dilution buffer to a refrigerated storage, maintaining a storage temperature of 2 – 8 °C (35 – 46 °F) when not in use. Extraction buffer bags and consumables can be stored at room temperature, 15 – 25 °C (59 – 77 °F). Avoid freezing the components. Refrain from using the kit after the expiration date marked on the label.

Contents of the kit

The AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® test kit contains the following items:

- 1 can containing 40 AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® strips
- 1 bag of 40 AgraStrip® Pro Cartridges (10006165)
- 1 foil bag containing 40 AgraStrip® Pro WATEX® extraction buffer bags
- 1 bottle of 50 ml AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® dilution buffer
- 2 bags of 20 yellow or white pipette tips each
- 1 bag of 40 blue pipette tips
- 2 bags of 20 microcentrifuge tubes (dilution tubes) each
- 4 rolls of 10 pieces of Whirl-Pak® filter bags each
- 1 tube holder
- 1 QR code to be used with the AgraVision® Pro reader

Materials required but not included

Extraction procedure:

- Analytical balance with a weighing capacity up to 400 g
- Graduated cylinder (10002612) with a minimum capacity of 100 mL
- Distilled, de-ionized or bottled water for extraction
- Centrifuge

Assay procedure:

- 10006324: AgraVision™ Pro reader
- Single channel pipettes capable of pipetting up to 1000 µl or below fixed volume pipettes:
 - Fixed 100 µl pipette
 - Fixed 1000 µl pipette

AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® test – assay principle

The AgraStrip® Pro Zearalenone WATEX® test is a one-step lateral flow immuno-chromatographic assay designed for the quantitative screening of zearalenone (ZEA) in samples. It operates on a competition immunoassay principle. During the test, the sample extract migrates through the conjugate pad containing ZEA specific monoclonal antibodies conjugated to colloidal gold nanoparticles. If the sample contains zearalenone, these mycotoxins will bind to the nanoparticle-antibody complex (conjugate) and migrate to the detection zone.

In this competitive format, the test line consists of immobilized analyte molecules (in this case, ZEA) conjugated to a protein carrier. Any unbound ZEA antibody will be captured in the test zone forming a visible line. As the ZEA concentration in the sample increases, the ZEA mycotoxin will be captured by the antibody-gold particles and reduce the interaction of antibody-gold particle with the test zone analyte, resulting in a reduced signal at the test line. The color intensity of the line is therefore inversely proportional to the concentration of ZEA in the sample. The control line indicates proper flow through the strip and should always be visible in the control zone, irrespective of the presence/absence of ZEA. The test strips are measured using the AgraVision™ Pro reader, which quantifies the concentration of ZEA in the sample.

Protocol at a glance

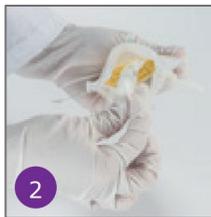
This section offers a brief overview of the AgraStrip® Pro test procedure utilizing the AgraVision™ Pro reader. It is essential to read the complete product manual thoroughly before initiating the assay.



Turn on the AgraVision™ Pro reader by plugging it in and follow the setup procedure according to the instructions.



Pipette 1000 µl assay dilution buffer into a microcentrifuge tube. Transfer 100 µl of sample extract supernatant from the filter bag to the microcentrifuge tube. Take the extract from the side opposite to where the sample was weighed.



Weigh in 10 ± 0.1 g of adequately ground representative sample and add one extraction buffer bag into a Whirl-Pak® filter bag, preferably on the same side as the sample.



Centrifuge the diluted sample extract for 30 ± 5 seconds. Take the supernatant for further testing.



Add 50 ml of distilled, deionized or bottled water to the Whirl-Pak® filter bag.



Insert an AgraStrip® Pro test strip into the AgraVision™ Pro cartridge. Transfer the cartridge containing the test strip into the port of the reader.



Seal the bag tightly and shake vigorously for 2 minutes \pm 10 seconds. Open the Whirl-Pak® filter bag and place the filter on the same side as the sample.



Enter sample ID and select matrix and quantitation range.



Allow sample to settle for 1 minute \pm 10 seconds.



Add 200 µl sample to the AgraVision™ Pro cartridge.

AgraStrip® Pro WATEX® test procedure

Before starting

Procedural guidelines:

- Make sure you have everything you need ready before starting the test.
- All reagents and kit components must be allowed to reach room temperature before use.
- Do not return unused reagents into their original bottles.

Precautions:

- Store AgraStrip® Pro WATEX® test strips and dilution buffer at 2 – 8 °C (35 – 46 °F) when not in use, and do not use beyond the expiration date.
- Test strips must be kept inside their original tubes.
- Adhere to the instructions of the test procedures.
- Do not re-use test strips.
- Do not re-use AgraVision™ Pro cartridges.
- Treat all materials, containers, and devices that are exposed to the sample or standards as if they were contaminated with toxin.
- The components in this test kit have been quality control tested as a standard batch unit. Do not mix components from different lot numbers.
- Dispose all single-use materials, containers and devices appropriately after use.

Sample preparation

The sample extraction is applicable to all AgraStrip® Pro WATEX® products (One for All WATEX®)

1. Obtain a representative sample of the specimen you want to analyze and grind it so that 95% will pass through a 20-mesh sieve (sieve opening 0.84 mm), then thoroughly mix the subsample portion.
2. Weigh out 10 ± 0.1 g of ground sample into one side of a Whirl-Pak® filter bag.
3. Take one extraction buffer bag from the foil pouch and place it on the same side of the Whirl-Pak® filter bag as the sample. The extraction buffer bag will dissolve completely during the extraction process.
4. Add 50 ml of distilled, deionized, or bottled water and close the WhirlPak® filter bag.
5. Vigorously shake for 2 minutes \pm 10 seconds.
6. Open the Whirl-Pak® filter bag and place the filter on the same side as the sample.
7. Allow sample to settle for 1 minute \pm 10 seconds.

Note: The 10006316 kit is designed for testing 10 g samples. If testing a 50 g sample as per USDA-FGIS guidelines, please use the kit 10006317 which contains larger Filter Whirl-Pak® bags and larger extraction buffer bags. A 50 g sample will also require 250 mL of water for the extraction.

AgraVision™ Pro reader setup

Turn the AgraVision™ Pro reader on prior to the test run. Choose the appropriate testing target (mycotoxins). The instrument will automatically heat up to the temperature needed to run the specific test.

Note: Do not insert the AgraStrip® Pro test strip until the instrument prompts you to do so.

Prior to the test run, insert the QR card, which contains information specific to the test kit's lot, into the reader (the slot is centrally located in the port system). After clicking the save icon, the QR code information will be stored. Each QR code only needs to be scanned once per lot.

Note: We recommend screening and saving all QR cards for new test kit lots prior to running the test.

Note: For detailed instructions see the AgraVision™ Pro user manual.

Extract dilution

1. Add 1000 µL dilution buffer using a blue pipette tip, and then, using a yellow or white pipette tip, add 100 µL sample extract into the microcentrifuge tube and mix well. This represents a 1:11 dilution. Extract should be pipetted from the side of filter bag opposite the ground sample. If the sample has a large foam head, tilt the bag for easier access to the supernatant below.

Note: Diluted samples must be used within one hour, otherwise they are no longer effective.

Note: Make sure the pipette tip has been completely emptied.

2. The diluted sample must be centrifuged for 30 ± 5 seconds at 2000 g using an appropriate device, such as a microcentrifuge. Then, carefully take the supernatant for further testing.

Assay: quantitation range 0 – 1650 ppb

1. Insert an AgraStrip® Pro test strip into an AgraVision™ Pro cartridge.
2. Insert the AgraVision™ Pro cartridge containing the test strip into any empty port/slot within the AgraVision™ Pro reader.
3. The reader automatically detects the type of test and the lot ID from the data matrix code on the test strip.
4. Enter a sample ID and choose the quantitation range and sample matrix then press enter (tick mark). Wait until a flashing drop prompts you to add the sample. Add 200 µL of the diluted centrifuged extract into the back of the AgraVision™ Pro cartridge. The AgraVision™ Pro reader detects the fluid in the cartridge and will automatically start the timer for the incubation. Additional samples can be tested using the other available 3 slots of the system in parallel.
5. The test results will be automatically displayed on the relevant slot of the AgraVision™ Pro reader.

Limit of detection (LOD): 25 ppb

Limit of quantitation (LOQ): 40 ppb

Range of quantitation: 0 – 1650 ppb

Technical support

Uncertain if the test is compatible with your specific samples or matrices? Benefit from our extensive experience in mycotoxin testing. Reach out to the technical sales representative in your region for more information.

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