

**The following questions and answers are regarding RFP 01R11-14-S025 for Analysis of Glyphosate and Aminomethylphosphonic Acid (AMPA) in Agricultural Soils in Western Canada.**

**QUESTION 1:**

What will the average soil sample size be that is received at the laboratory?

**ANSWER 1:**

50 to 100 grams.

**QUESTION 2:**

What storage conditions are required for the storage of the soil samples at the laboratory and the duration?

**ANSWER 2:**

Cool (<5 C) or Frozen.

**QUESTION 3:**

How will samples be submitted to the laboratory, I.e. All samples as one batch?, monthly submissions of 20 samples? Etc.

**ANSWER 3:**

Samples will be submitted from six locations but only once or twice a year. The majority of samples will be submitted in September.

**QUESTION 4:**

In this first year of the contract, will the the expected reporting date differ from subsequent years? If samples are received later in this fiscal year, i.e. late January/February 2014, the laboratory may need to make adjust resources in order to meet the March 31st deadline for reporting all sample results.

**ANSWER 4:**

Data must be received by March 31 each year.

**QUESTION 5:**

What is the expectation for sample preparation, i.e. Do samples require sieving or will they be received analysis-ready?

**ANSWER 5:**

Sieving may be required at your laboratory.

**QUESTION 6:**

It is typical with this analysis that %fat testing be performed in order to assist with data analysis, however this has not been requested in the RFP document. Please indicate if %fat testing is required on all samples.

**ANSWER 6:**

I don't think so but this may have to be discussed further when the contract is awarded.

**QUESTION 7:**

To assist in providing the most efficient approach to the analytical process, please provide

- a) a concentration range that these samples are expected to fall within for the compounds of interest.
- b) the prevalence of "positive detects" expected from this population of samples.

**ANSWER 7:**

We expect a high frequency of 'positive detects' in submitted samples. Expected concentration ranges are unknown.

**QUESTION 8:**

Is there any additional information required to be included in the final report beyond what has been described in Appendix B, Scope of Work point 2?

**ANSWER 8:**

No.

**QUESTION 9:**

Section GC26, 26.2. British Columbia HST was repealed on April 1, 2013 and the province reverted back to Provincial Sales Tax (PST). Does the Federal Government have an exemption for BC PST? If not, will BC PST be added to bids from BC during evaluation?

**ANSWER 9:**

There is no PST exemption number for British Columbia. PST will not be added to bids received from British Columbia.

Please note that bids submitted shall be exclusive of all applicable taxes, as per the revised Appendix F – Mandatory Compliance Checklist, M3 – Financial Proposal that has been posted with this solicitation.