



**Title: Notice to Industry regarding a planned Request for Multiple National Individual Standing Offers for Chemical Residue Testing in and on Food Products for Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)**

CFIA intends to solicit bids in the future for the anticipated requirements.

This Request for Information (RFI) is not a tender and shall not result in responses containing prices and delivery information.

**Objective(s):**

The CFIA is providing notice to allow industry sufficient time to properly undergo method validation and accreditation. Because the length of the accreditation process for laboratory tests relevant to the above-mentioned requirement cannot be easily predicted, this notice advises how interested bidders for the upcoming Request For Standing Offer (RFSO) can identify both the list of Method Description Requirements carried over from the current Standing Offers (SO's) and also the list of the new tests that are not included under the current SO's but will be under the upcoming one.

**Background:**

The National Chemical Residue Monitoring Program (NCRMP) has operated annually since 1978. Under this program, foods of plant and animal origin are sampled and tested for a wide variety of chemical residues and contaminants. The NCRMP sampling plans are developed in accordance with internationally accepted Codex Alimentarius principles and guidelines. The results obtained through the NCRMP enable the CFIA to identify non-compliance with Canadian regulations and take appropriate follow-up action. This information also allows the CFIA to identify trends in the prevalence of residues and contaminants in the Canadian food supply, and develop strategic plans to minimize potential health risks to Canadians. The NCRMP data are routinely provided to Health Canada and used in health risk assessments of various chemical residues and contaminants in food. These data are also used to demonstrate the equivalence of Canada's residue control system to its trading partners and support the export of Canadian products.

Since the testing impacts directly on the health and safety of consumers and has significant impact on international trade, it is essential that strict adherence to all quality assurance criteria is continuously maintained by each Offeror.

**Scope:**

CFIA is providing a table of the tests (Appendix I) by Method Reference, Test Commodity (of which the method must be validated in), required analytes and required detection limits, for potential Bidders to have on their scope of accreditation. This will provide useful information for consideration of potential responders in the development of their analytical methods and standard operating procedures (SOP). While every effort has been made to create a comprehensive list, the dynamic nature of the CFIA residue program could potentially necessitate changes which may result in modifications



(deletions and/or additions) to this list in the upcoming RFSO. The denoted required detection limits are minimums and CFIA may preferentially rate those with more desirable detection limits during the evaluation process of the future RFSO process. Please note that additions of methods/ analytes/ matrices have been highlighted in red to denote items that are considered new requirements.

**Constraints:**

1. **THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY.**
2. THIS IS NOT A SOLICITATION.
3. ANY OF YOUR REQUESTS FOR THE CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY'S "METHOD DESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS" WILL NOT BE EVALUATED NOR WILL THEY BE CONSIDERED AS FORMING PART OF ANY FUTURE BID UNDER THE PLANNED RFSO.

**CFIA Support:**

CFIA subject matter experts will be available to answer questions with respect to the methods and equipment required.

Enquiries received after the posting date of the RFI will not be addressed.

**Response to CFIA:**

Please submit responses by: April 30<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 13:00 est.

And to:

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Responses received after this date will not be addressed.

Additional enquiries can be made to the following e-mail address: [Roohneet.sandhu@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:Roohneet.sandhu@inspection.gc.ca)

The Crown retains the right to negotiate with suppliers on any procurement.

Documents may be submitted in either official language of Canada.