



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements (Geel)  
**Standards for Food Bioscience**

JRC.D.5/SFB/CvH/PR/mds/Ares

## **European Union Reference Laboratory**

# **Evaluation Report on the Analytical Methods submitted in connection with the Application for Authorisation of a Feed Additive according to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003**

**Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> - Riboflavin**  
(*FAD-2010-0262; CRL/100202*)





## European Union Reference Laboratory

### **Evaluation Report on the Analytical Methods submitted in connection with the Application for Authorisation of a Feed Additive according to Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003**

Dossier related to: **FAD-2010-0262 - CRL/100202**

Name of Feed Additive: **Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>**

Active Substance(s): **Riboflavin**

Rapporteur Laboratory: **European Reference Laboratory for Feed Additives (EURL-FA)**

Report prepared by: **Rebeca Fernandez Orozco,  
Zigmas Ezerskis (EURL-FA)**

Report checked by: **Piotr Robouch (EURL-FA)**

Date: **26/02/2013**

Report approved by: **Christoph von Holst**

Date: **27/02/2013**

---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the current application authorisation is sought under articles 10(2) for *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin)* under the category/functional group 3(a) ‘nutritional additives’/‘vitamins, pro-vitamins and chemically well defined substances having similar effect’ according to Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003. Authorisation is sought for the use of the *feed additive* for all animal species and categories. *Riboflavin* is produced by fermentation using *Bacillus subtilis* strains. According to the Applicant the feed additive is a yellow to brown powder, containing at least 80 % of *Riboflavin*. The *feed additive* is intended to be incorporated in *feedingstuffs*, directly or through *premixtures*. The Applicant did not specify any maximum or minimum concentration of *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>* in *feedingstuffs*, however, typical inclusion levels range from 3 to 20 mg/kg *feedingstuffs*.

For the determination of *Riboflavin* in the *feed additives* the Applicant proposed the European Pharmacopoeia method. Identification is based on specific optical rotation, thin-layer chromatography and ultraviolet/visible spectrophotometry while quantification is based on spectrophotometry at 444 nm. Even though no performance characteristics are provided, the EURL recommends this method for official control to determine *Riboflavin* in the *feed additive*.

For the determination of *Riboflavin* in *premixtures* and *feedingstuffs* the Applicant submitted no experimental data and no analytical methods. However, the EURL evaluated already several analytical methods in the frame of the FAD-2010-0304 dossier and recommended for official control: - the VDLUFA Bd. III, 13.9.1 method, using ion pair reversed phase High-Performance Liquid Chromatography coupled to UV detector (HPLC-UV), to determine *Riboflavin* in *premixtures*; and - the EN 14152 method based on acidic hydrolysis and enzymatic dephosphorylation followed by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) with fluorescence detector, to determine *Riboflavin* (as total *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>*) in *feedingstuffs*.

Further testing or validation of the methods to be performed through the consortium of National Reference Laboratories as specified by Article 10 (Commission Regulation (EC) No 378/2005) is not considered necessary.

## KEYWORDS

Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>, Riboflavin, nutritional additives, vitamins, all animal species and categories

## 1. BACKGROUND

In the current application authorisation is sought under articles 10(2) (re-evaluation of the already authorised additives under provisions of Council Directive 70/524/EEC) for *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin)* under the category/functional group 3(a) ‘nutritional additives’/‘vitamins, pro-vitamins and chemically well defined substances having similar effect’ according to Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 [1,2]. Authorisation is sought for the use of the *feed additive* for all animal species and categories [1,2].

*Riboflavin* is produced by fermentation using *Bacillus subtilis* strains [3]. According to the Applicant the feed additive is a yellow to brown powder, containing at least 80 % of *Riboflavin* [3].

The *feed additive* is intended to be incorporated in *feedingstuffs*, directly or through *premixtures* [3]. The Applicant did not specify any maximum or minimum concentration of *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin)* in *feedingstuffs* [2], however, typical inclusion levels range from 3 to 20 mg/kg *feedingstuffs* [9].

The EURL has previously evaluated the methods of analysis for *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin and/or Riboflavin 5'-phosphate ester monosodium salt)* in the reports FAD-2010-0049 and FAD-2010-0304.

## 2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

In accordance with Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 378/2005, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 885/2009, on detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the duties and the tasks of the European Union Reference Laboratory concerning applications for authorisations of feed additives, the EURL is requested to submit a full evaluation report to the European Food Safety Authority for each application or group of applications. For this particular dossier, the methods of analysis submitted in connection with *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin)* and their suitability to be used for official controls in the frame of the authorisation were evaluated.

### 3. EVALUATION

#### *Identification /Characterisation of the feed additive*

##### *Qualitative and quantitative composition of impurities in the additive*

When required by EU legislation, analytical methods for official control of undesirable substances in the additive (e.g. arsenic, cadmium, lead, mercury, aflatoxins) are available from the respective European Union Reference Laboratories [4].

##### *Description of the analytical methods for the determination of the active substance in feed additive, premixtures, feedingstuffs and water*

For the determination of *Riboflavin* in the *feed additive* the Applicant proposed the European Pharmacopoeia method [5]. Identification is based on specific optical rotation, thin-layer chromatography and ultraviolet/visible spectrophotometry while quantification is based on spectrophotometry at 444 nm. Even though no performance characteristics are provided, the EURL recommends this method for official control to determine *Riboflavin* in the *feed additive*.

For the determination of *Riboflavin* in *premixtures* and *feedingstuffs* the Applicant submitted no experimental data and no analytical methods. However, the EURL evaluated already several analytical methods in the frame of the FAD-2010-0304 dossier and recommended the following methods for official control [6]:

- the VDLUFA Bd. III, 13.9.1 method [7], using ion pair reversed phase High-Performance Liquid Chromatography coupled to UV detector (HPLC-UV), to determine *Riboflavin* in *premixtures*; and
- the EN 14152 method [8] based on acidic hydrolysis and enzymatic dephosphorylation followed by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) with fluorescence detector, to determine *Riboflavin* (as total Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>) in *feedingstuffs*.

A detailed description of the methods mentioned above are provided in the report FAD-2010-0304 [6].

Further testing or validation of the methods to be performed through the consortium of National Reference Laboratories as specified by Article 10 (Commission Regulation (EC) No 378/2005) is not considered necessary.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In the frame of this authorisation the EURL recommends for official control:

- the European Pharmacopoeia monograph 0292, using spectrophotometry to determine *Riboflavin* in the *feed additives*;
- the VDLUFA Method Book Bd. III, 13.9.1 method, using ion pair reversed phase High-Performance Liquid Chromatography with UV detector (HPLC-UV), to determine *Riboflavin* in *premixtures*;
- the EN 14152 method based on acidic hydrolysis and enzymatic dephosphorylation followed by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) with fluorescence detector, to determine *Riboflavin* (as total *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>*) in *feedingstuffs*.

##### ***Recommended text for the register entry (analytical method)***

For the determination of *Riboflavin* in *feed additive*:

- Spectrophotometry – European Pharmacopoeia monograph 0292

For the determination of *Riboflavin* in *premixtures*:

- High-Performance Liquid Chromatography with UV detector (HPLC-UV) – VDLUFA Method Book, Vol. III, 13.9.1

For the determination of *Riboflavin* (as total *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>*) in *feedingstuffs*:

- High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) with fluorescence detector -EN 14152

#### 5. DOCUMENTATION AND SAMPLES PROVIDED TO EURL

In accordance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003, reference samples of *Vitamin B<sub>2</sub> (Riboflavin)* have been sent to the European Union Reference Laboratory for Feed Additives. The dossier has been made available to the EURL by EFSA.

#### 6. REFERENCES

- [1] \* Application, Reference SANCO/G/1 Forw. Appl. 1831/7136-2010
- [2] \* Application, Proposal for Register Entry – Annex A
- [3] \* Technical dossier, Section II – Identity, characterisation and conditions of use of the additive; Methods of analysis

- 
- [4] Commission Regulation (EC) No 776/2006 amending Annex VII to Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards to Community Reference Laboratories
- [5] European Pharmacopoeia method - Ph. Eur. 6.0, 01/2008:0292
- [6] EURL-FA report FAD-2010-0304 JRC.DG.D.6/CvH/ZE/mds/ARES(2011)1266605 [http://irmm.jrc.ec.europa.eu/EURLs/EURL\\_feed\\_additives/authorisation/evaluation\\_reports/](http://irmm.jrc.ec.europa.eu/EURLs/EURL_feed_additives/authorisation/evaluation_reports/)
- [7] VDLUFA Methodenbuch Bd.III, 13.9.1
- [8] EN 14152:2003 – Foodstuffs: Determination of vitamin B<sub>2</sub> by HPLC
- [9] N. Albers et al. "*Vitamins in Animal Nutrition*" Edited by the Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Wirkstoffe in der Tierernährung e.V. (AWT) ISBN 3-86037-167-3 ([www.agrimedia.com](http://www.agrimedia.com))

\* Refers to Dossier No. FAD-2010-0262

## **7. RAPPORTEUR LABORATORY & NATIONAL REFERENCE LABORATORIES**

The Rapporteur Laboratory for this evaluation was the European Union Reference Laboratory for Feed Additives, IRMM, Geel, Belgium. This report is in accordance with the opinion of the consortium of National Reference Laboratories as referred to in Article 6(2) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 378/2005, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 885/2009.

## **8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The following National Reference Laboratories contributed to this report:

- Fødevarestyrelsen, Ringsted (DK)
- Schwerpunktlabor Futtermittel des Bayerischen Landesamtes für Gesundheit und Lebensmittelsicherheit (LGL), Oberschleißheim (DE)
- Państwowy Instytut Weterynaryjny, Puławy (PL)
- Istituto Superiore di Sanita' - Dipartimento di Sanita' alimentare ed animale, Roma (IT)
- Laboratoire de Rennes, SCL L35, Service Commun des Laboratoires, Rennes (FR)
- Univerza v Ljubljani, Veterinarska fakulteta. Nacionalni veterinarski inštitut, Enota za patologijo prehrane in higieno okolja, Ljubljana (SI)
- Staatliche Betriebsgesellschaft für Umwelt und Landwirtschaft, Labore Landwirtschaft, Leipzig (DE)
- Thüringer Landesanstalt für Landwirtschaft (TLL), Abteilung Untersuchungswesen, Jena (DE)