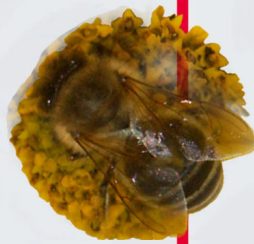


## **Antibiotics Residues in Honey: Regulations and Methods of Analysis Results, Conclusion and Outlook**

**Dr. Kurt-Peter Raezke**  
PHD in Chemistry and General Manager of  
APPLICA GmbH - Applied Analytical Chemistry  
Bremen, Germany

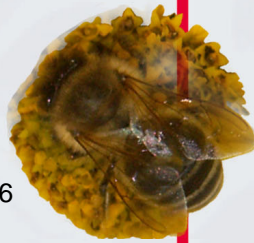
APPLICA GMBH  
Applied Analytical Chemistry  
Am Becketal 14  
D-28755 Bremen, Germany

Phone: ++49-421-65 72 71  
Fax: ++49-421-65 72 72 22  
E-mail: [info@applica-analytik.de](mailto:info@applica-analytik.de)  
Internet: [www.applica-analytik.de](http://www.applica-analytik.de)



## Contents

- Company Profile of APPLICA GmbH, Bremen, Germany
  - the laboratory for applied analytical chemistry specialised in honey and honey products
- Residues in Honey
  - Rules and Regulations
- Residues Analysis on the example of Nitrofurane Metabolites
  - History, Regulation, Method of Analysis, and Results
- Residues Analysis on the example of Tylosin
- Proposals, Key Issues, and Action to be Taken
- Conclusion and Outlook



## Company Profile of APPLICA

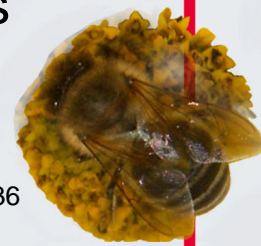
APPLICA is a highly specialised laboratory in the field of honey and honey products.

We are accredited as a testing laboratory in compliance with DIN EN ISO/IEC 17025, the internationally applied standard.

We operate worldwide on the basis of our innovative analytical methods, the latest technology and state-of-the-art equipment.

This has made us one of the world's leading laboratories for honey analyses.

And APPLICA is maintaining and expanding its position even further by developing new methods and refining existing ones, by training its staff according to market needs, as well as by its various activities in research and development.



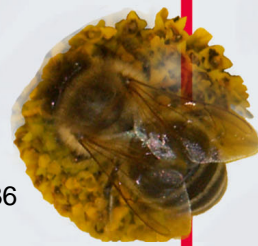
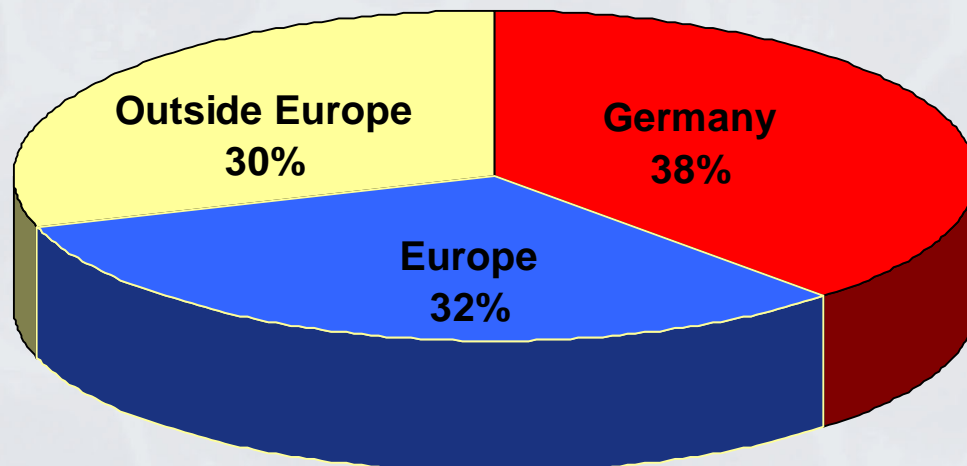
## Roaming the vast field of honey analyses

Honey as a natural product is subject to especially strict regulations and controls. Our special analytical methods enable us to prove e. g. which

- Production and site conditions were available;
- Substances are contained in the product in detail;
- Prohibited and undesirable substances are present;
- Veterinary drugs have been used.



APPLICA has customers all over the world:





## Residues in Honey

### Regulations

**2377/90/EC**

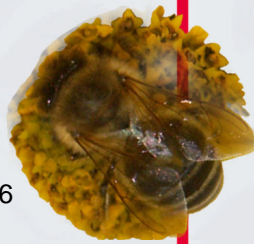
... laying down a Community procedure for the establishment of  
**Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs)**  
of veterinary medicinal products in foodstuffs of animal origin

**2002/657/EC**

... concerning the  
**performance of analytical methods and  
the interpretation of results**

**2003/181/EC**

... the setting of  
**Minimum Required Performance Limits (MRPLs)**  
for certain residues in food of animal origin



## Residues in Honey

**2377/90/EC**

... laying down a Community procedure for the establishment of  
**Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs)**  
 of veterinary medicinal products in foodstuffs of animal origin

### **Annex I**

List of pharmacologically active substances used in veterinary medicinal products in respect of which maximum residue limits have been established

### **Annex II**

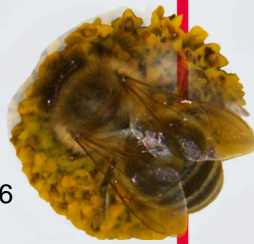
List of pharmacologically active substances used in veterinary medicinal products for which it is not necessary for the protection of public health to establish a maximum residue limit

### **Annex III**

List of pharmacologically active substances used in veterinary medicinal products in respect of which provisional maximum residue limits have been established

### **Annex IV**

List of pharmacologically active substances which shall be prohibited throughout the Community for use in food-producing animals



## Residues in Honey

**2002/657/EC**

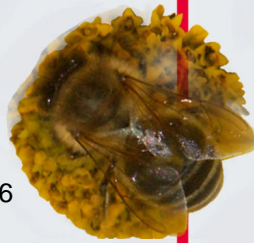
**... concerning the  
performance of analytical methods and  
the interpretation of results**

**It is necessary to ensure the quality and comparability of the analytical results generated by laboratories approved for official residue control.**

**This should be achieved by using quality assurance systems and specifically by applying of methods validated according to common procedures and performance criteria ...**

**It is necessary to determine common criteria for the interpretation of the test results ...**

**It is necessary to provide for the progressive establishment of Minimum Required Performance Limits (MRPLs) of analytical methods for substances for which no permitted limit has been established ...**



## Residues in Honey

**2003/181/EC**

... the setting of

**Minimum Required Performance Limits (MRPLs)**  
for certain residues in food of animal origin

**Chloramphenicol**

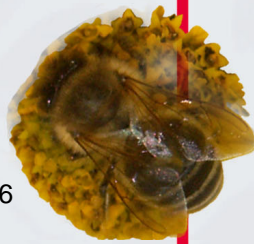
**Honey**

**0.3 µg/kg**

***Nitrofurane Metabolites***

***(Honey)***

**1.0 µg/kg**





## Residues in Honey

### Methods:

Reproducibility

Linearity

Limit of Quantification

Limit of Detection

Repeatability

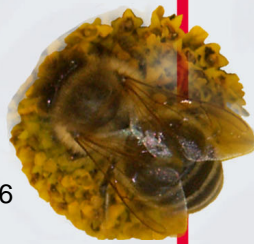
Sample Preparation  
System Performance

### Laboratories:

Competence and Experience

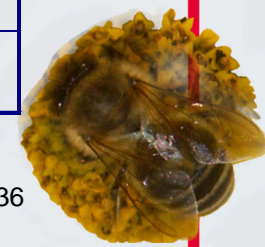
Quality Control

Technical Equipment



## Determination of Veterinary Drugs in Honey

Analyte/s	Method	Confirmation Method	MRL MRPL	Limit of Detection
Amitraze	GC-MS		200 µg/kg	10 µg/kg
<b>Chloramphenicol</b>	ELISA Charm II Biocore Q	LC-MS/MS GC-MS	<b>0.3 µg/kg</b>	0.1 µg/kg
Coumaphos	LC-MS/MS GC-MS		100 µg/kg	0.1 µg/kg
Erythromycin	LC-MS/MS GC-MS			1 µg/kg
Fluvalinates	LC-MS/MS GC-MS			2 µg/kg
<b>Nitrofurane Metabolites</b>	LC-MS/MS		<b>0.5 µg/kg</b>	0.2 µg/kg
Streptomycin	LC-FLD Charm II ELISA	LC-MS/MS		5 µg/kg
Sulfonamides	LC-UV/FLD Charm II Biocore Q	LC-MS/MS		5 µg/kg
Tetracyclines	LC-UV Charm II	LC-MS/MS		5 µg/kg
Tylosin	LC-MS/MS			1 µg/kg



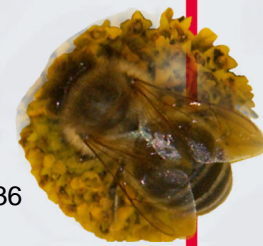
## **Determination of Nitrofurane Metabolites in Honey**

### **History, Regulation, Method of Analysis, and Results**

#### **Regulation**

##### **Annex IV**

**List of pharmacologically active substances which shall be prohibited throughout the Community for use in food-producing animals**



## History

**2002**

At first, „no information to the public“ was necessary on Nitrofuranes in food acc. to the German authorities

Later this statement was altered regarding chicken and shrimps to „imports have to be tested for nitrofurane residues“

Methods for determining Nitrofurane Metabolites in food are being developed as: **No tested methods or reference substances were available yet.**

**2003**

**Reference substances were found** and an LC-MS/MS method for honey was developed with the following limit values:

**Limit of Quantification:** 1.0 µg/kg

**Limit of Detection:** 0.5 µg/kg

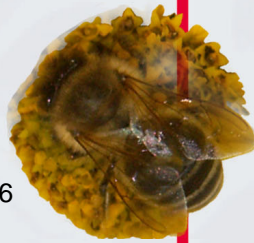
Nitrofurane Metabolites testing in honey then became routine. The analytical method was revalidated to:

**Limit of Quantification:** 0.5 µg/kg

**Limit of Detection:** 0.2 µg/kg

**2004**

Fine-tuning of the method based on the experience made with honeys of different origins.





## Method of Analysis

### Sample Preparation

**1.0 ( $\pm$  0.05) g of homogenised honey**

50  $\mu$ L Internal Standard (5  $\mu$ g/kg) d4-AOZ / d5-AMOZ

**5 mL of 0.1 M hydrochloric acid**

**0.1 mL of 2-nitrobenzaldehyde** (0.05 M in methanol)

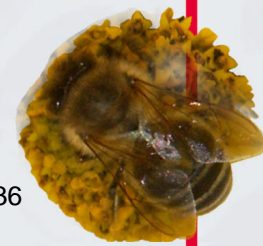
**Incubation overnight (16 h minimum) at 37 °C**

**Neutralization with 0.42 mL of 1 M sodium hydroxide**

**Extraction with 5 mL of ethyl acetate**

**Evaporation to dryness with a nitrogen stream**

**Reconstitution with 0.5 mL of water/methanol (9/1)**



## Method of Analysis

### System - Thermo Electron LC-MS/MS Quantum Discovery

Separation Column Phenomenex Synergi Polar-RP 125 x 2,0 mm ID; 4 µm  
 Eluent Gradient Water / Methanol (0.01 % H<sub>3</sub>C-COOH)

Inj. Volume:	20 µL	Flow:	0.2 mL/min
Run Time:	30 min		
Ionization mode:	ESI positive	Spray Voltage:	5000 V Nitrogen
Flow:	55 Arb	Capillary Temp.:	300 °C
Collision Energy:	15 V		

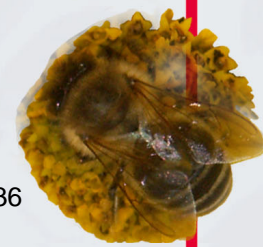
#### Mass (SRM)

#### TSQ

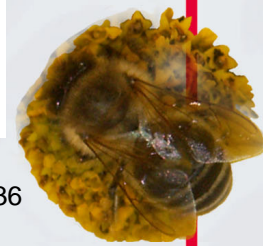
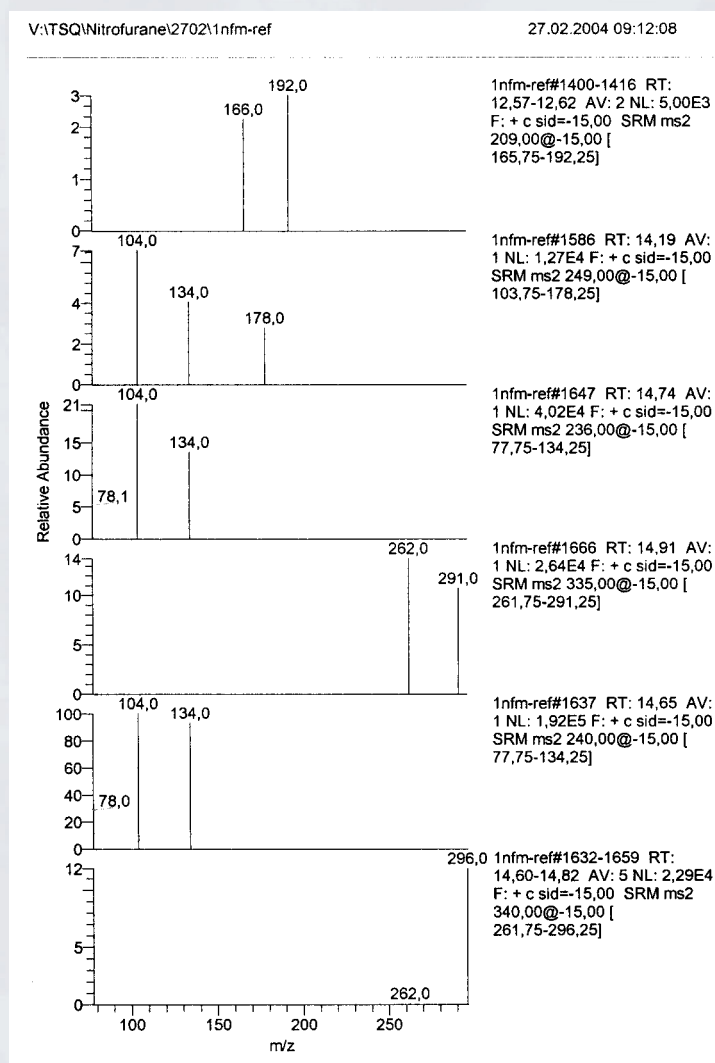
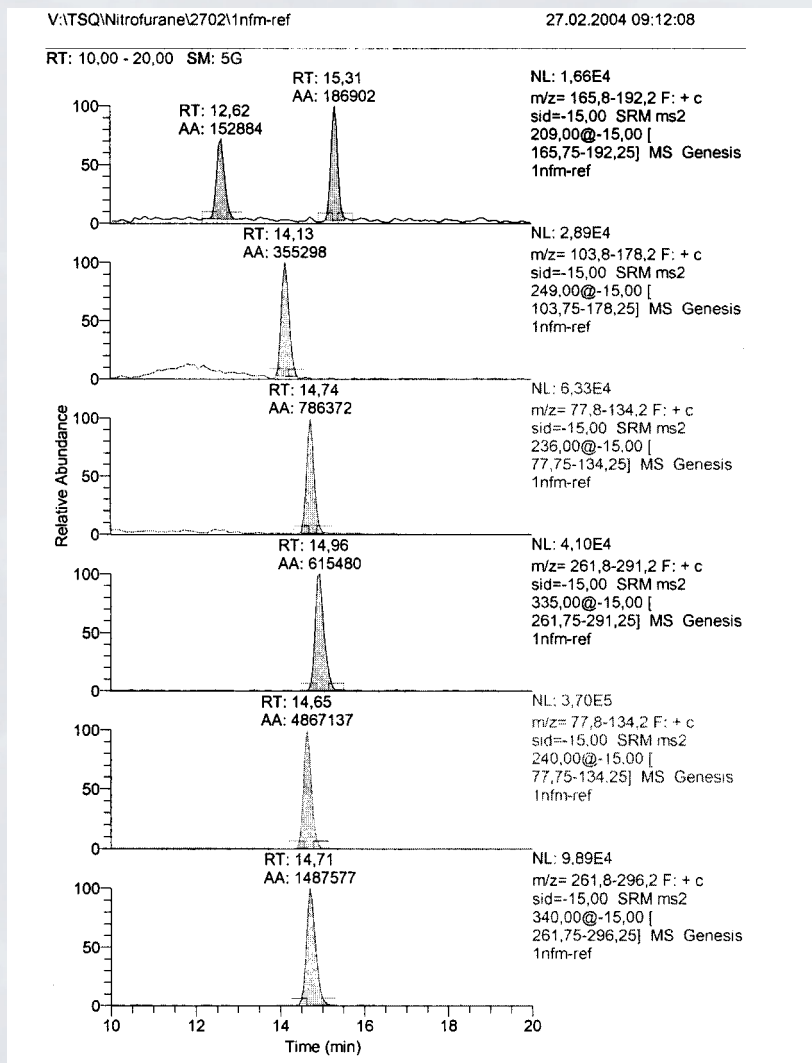
#### Parent

#### MS/MS-Product

SEM	209 (M-H) <sup>+</sup>	166 / 192
AHD	249 (M-H) <sup>+</sup>	104 / 134 / 178
AOZ	236 (M-H) <sup>+</sup>	78 / 104 / 134
AMAZ	335 (M-H) <sup>+</sup>	262 / 291
AOZ-d4	240 (M-d4-H) <sup>+</sup>	78 / 104 / 134
AMAZ-d5	340 (M-d5-H) <sup>+</sup>	267 / 296



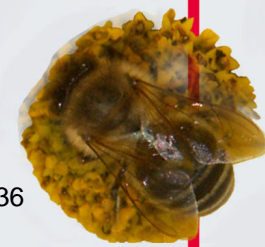
## Nitrofurane Metabolites in Honey



## Quantification of Nitrofurane Metabolites in Honey

Reference: 1 µg/kg each

	SEM		AHD		AOZ		AMAZ	
	TSQ	LCQ	TSQ	LCQ	TSQ	LCQ	TSQ	LCQ
Variation Coefficient	3.22 %	8.98 %	6.53 %	10.83 %	3.24 %	3.52 %	3.63 %	7.88 %
Repeatability	0.09 µg/kg	0.25 µg/kg	0.18 µg/kg	0.31 µg/kg	0.09 µg/kg	0.10 µg/kg	0.10 µg/kg	0.22 µg/kg
Confidence	0.03 µg/kg	0.09 µg/kg	0.07 µg/kg	0.11 µg/kg	0.03 µg/kg	0.04 µg/kg	0.04 µg/kg	0.08 µg/kg

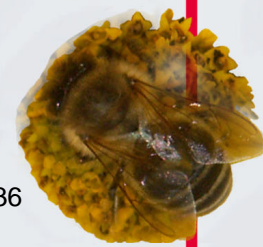




## Quantification of Nitrofurane Metabolites in Honey

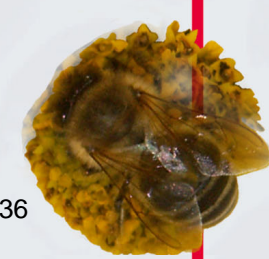
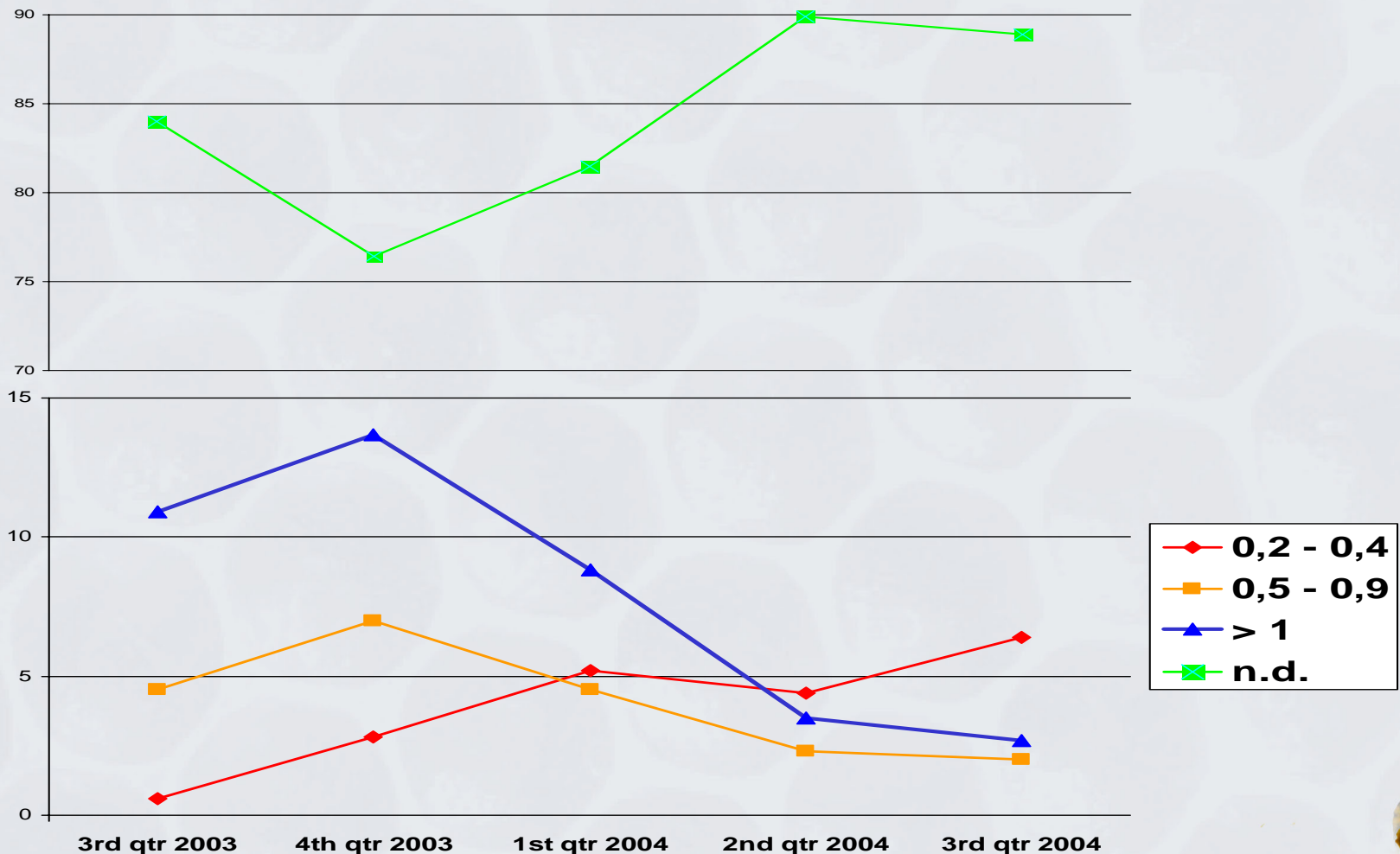
### Contaminated Honey Samples

	AOZ		AOZ	
	TSQ	LCQ	TSQ	LCQ
Concentration	0.54 µg/kg	0.47 µg/kg	1.51 µg/kg	1.39 µg/kg
Variation Coefficient	10.15 %	14.25 %	3.24 %	13.30 %
Repeatability	0.15 µg/kg	0.19 µg/kg	0.14 µg/kg	0.52 µg/kg
Confidence	0.06 µg/kg	0.07 µg/kg	0.05 µg/kg	0.19 µg/kg



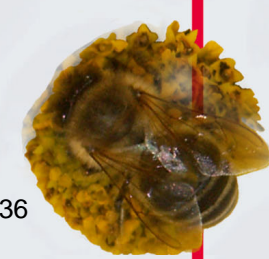
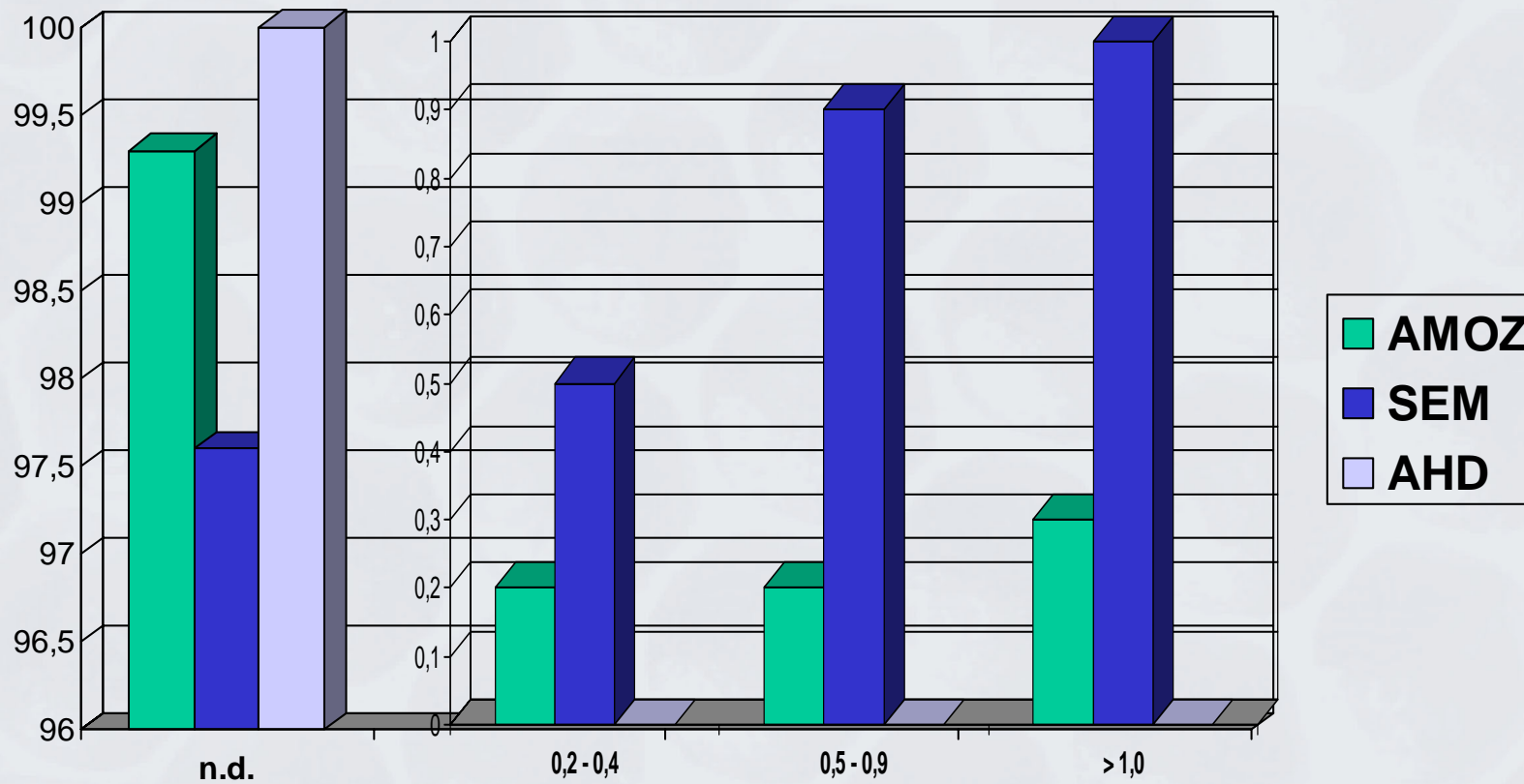
## Nitrofurane Metabolites in Honey - RESULTS

July 2003 to September 2004 - AOZ



## Nitrofurane Metabolites in Honey - RESULTS

July 2003 to September 2004 - AMOZ / SEM / AHD



## Migration of Semicarbazide

**2004/1/EC**

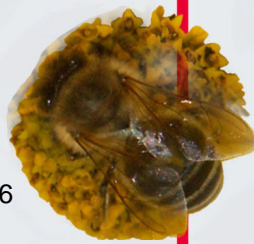
... as regards the suspension of the use of  
azodicarbonamide as blowing agent

**(2)**

Azodicarbonamide is used as blowing agent in the manufacture of plastic gaskets in metal lids used for the closure of glass jars. New findings have shown that azodicarbonamide decomposes into semicarbazide (SEM) when heated during production of the foamed gasket and during sterilisation of the sealed glass jar.

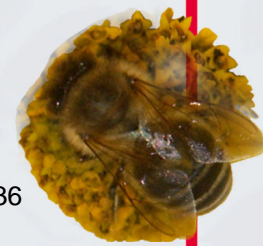
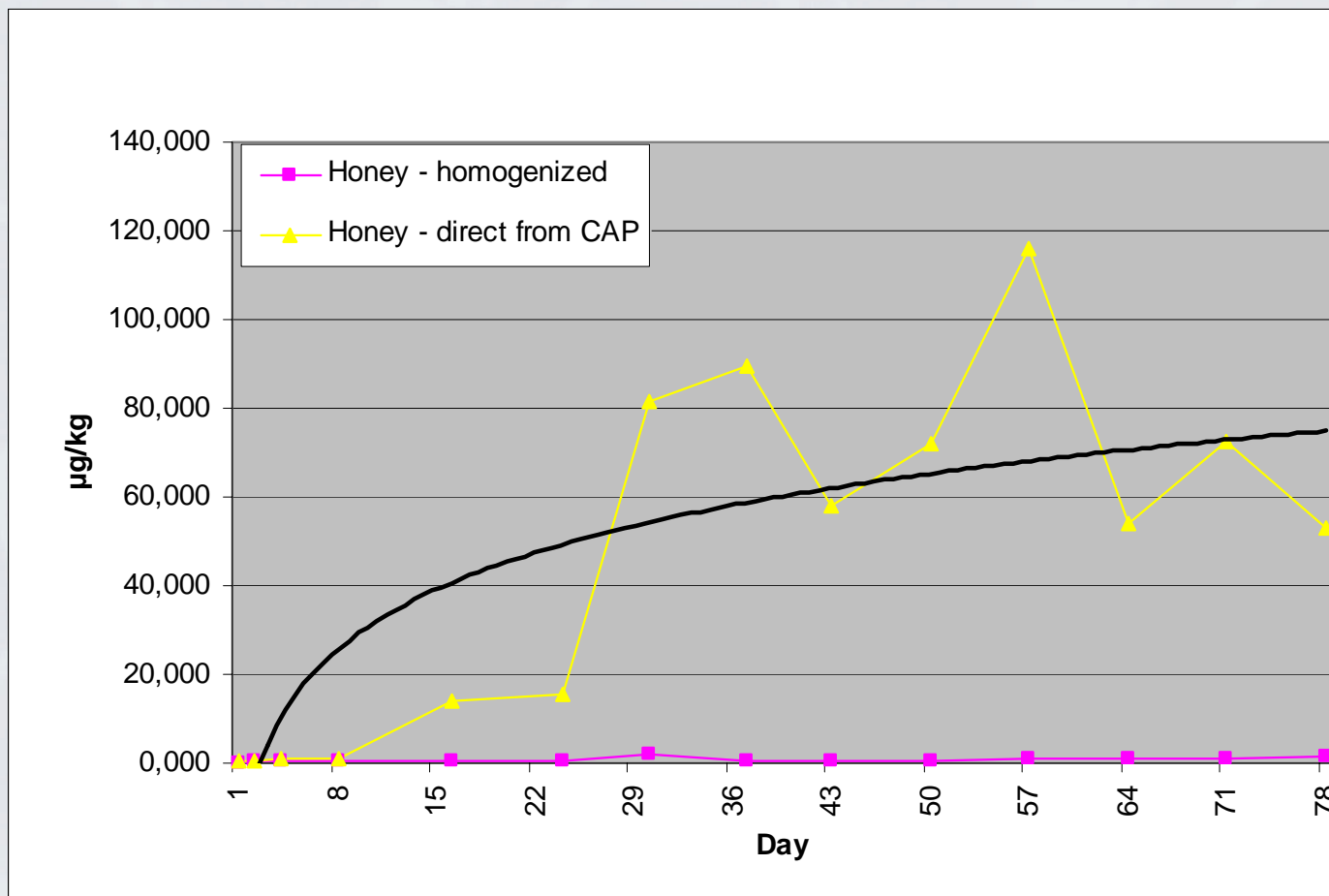
### **Article 1**

**„For use only as blowing agent.  
Use prohibited as from 2 August 2005.‘**



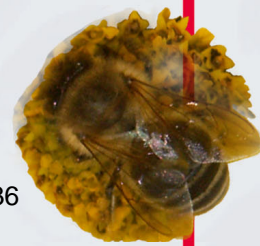
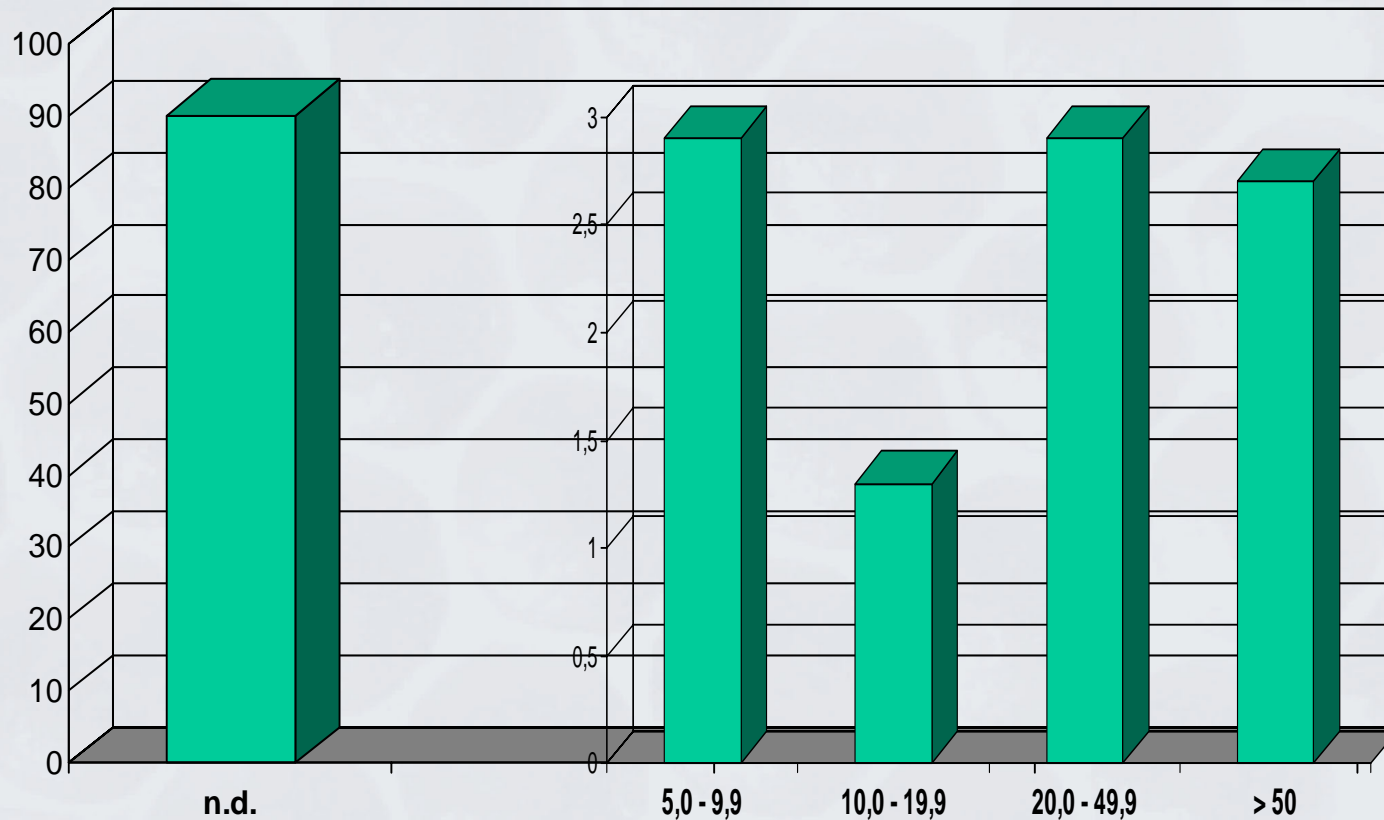


## Migration of Semicarbazide

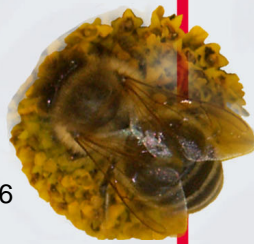


## Residues Analysis on the example of:

### Tylosin



## **Proposals, Key Issues, and Action to be Taken**



## Limits of Residues Analysis

**Not known, not listed or not defined**



**Zero Tolerance ?**

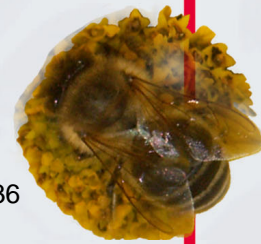


**Different countries - different methods - different limits**



**Regulations are necessary for the international market  
to reach**

**Harmonisation  
and  
Internationally Accepted Regulations**





## Cooperation between Laboratories: Sulfochloropyridazine

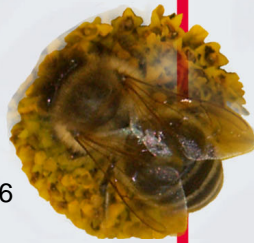
**Charm II - positive**



**Confirmation with LC  
for known sulfonamides - negative**



**Wrong positive ???**



## Sulfonamides - Comparison of HPLC and Charm II Results

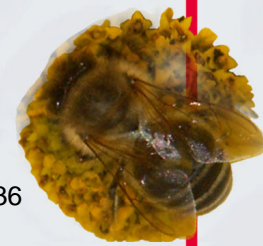
Sample	Origin	Sulfonamide (HPLC) [µg/kg]		Charm II [cpm] *	Controls (Charm II) **
1	Bulgaria	-	-	5704	(+) 1440
2	"	-	-	5331	(--) 5499
3	"	-	-	5687	
4	"	-	-	5368	
5	"	Sulfathiazole	26	2317	
6	"	Sulfathiazole	26	1726	
7	Argentina	Sulfamethazine	17	957	(+) 1675
8	"	Sulfamethazine	24	859	(--) 5146
9	"	Sulfamethazine	65	653	
10	"	-	-	3779	
11	"	-	-	5841	
12	"	-	-	6533	
13	"	-	-	5166	
14	Mexico	-	-	4002	(+) 1494
15	"	-	-	4779	(--) 4406
16	"	Sulfathiazole	6	5041	
17	"	Sulfamethazine	7	5540	

\* cpm = counts per minute

\*\* (+) = positive control: negative honey spiked at 10 µg/kg sulfamethazine (SMZ)

(--) = negative control: negative honey

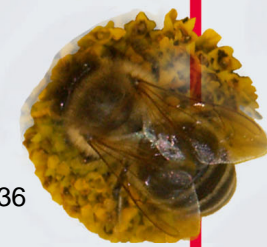
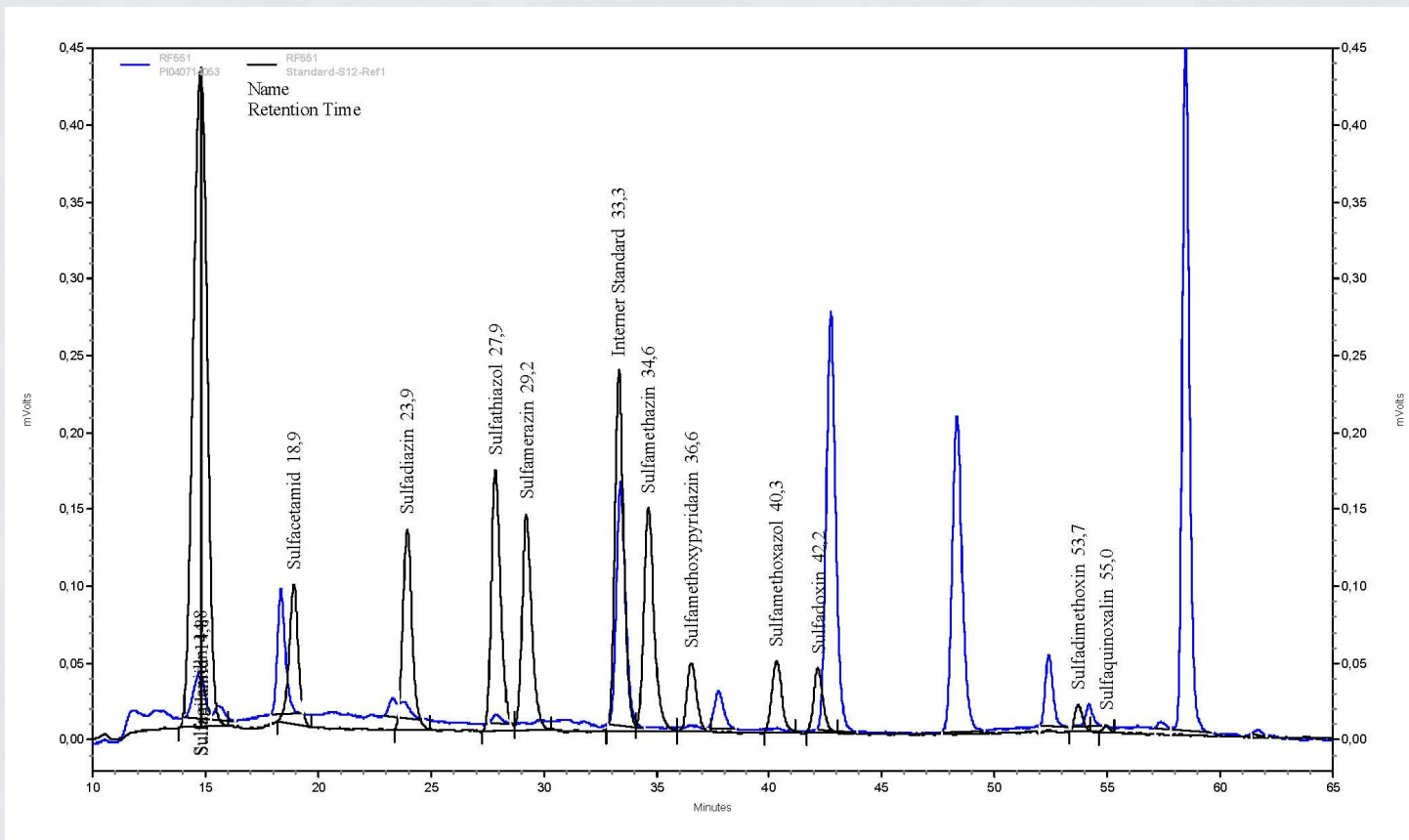
Control point: 2806 cpm → value > 2806 cpm = negative Charm II result  
 → value < 2806 cpm = positive Charm II result



## Sulfonamides in Honey

blue: Sample No. 294

black: Standard, 12 Sulfonamides 50 µg/kg



## Cooperation between Laboratories: Sulfochloropyridazine

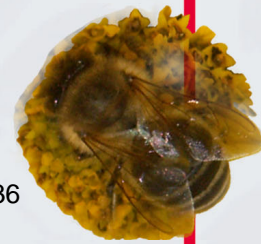
**Charm II - suspicion of sulfochloropyridazine**



**Confirmation with LC-MS/MS - positive**

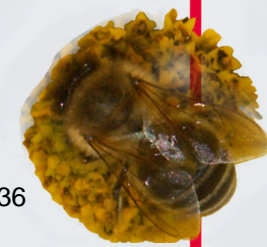
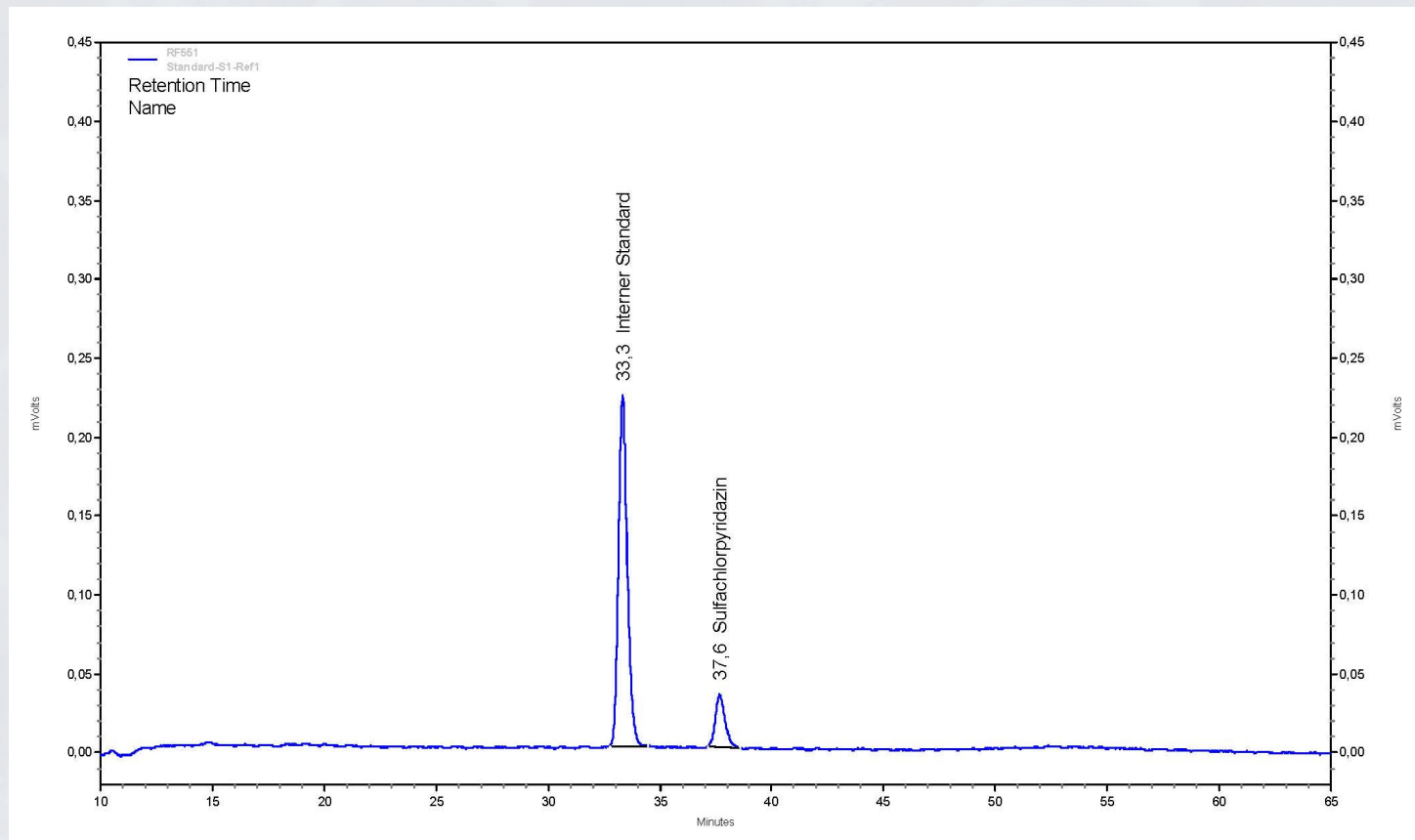


**Addition of sulfochloropyridazine  
to the group of sulfonamides  
for routine analysis by LC !**



## Sulfonamides in Honey

blue: Standard, Sulfachloropyridazine 50 µg/kg



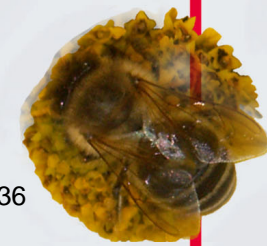
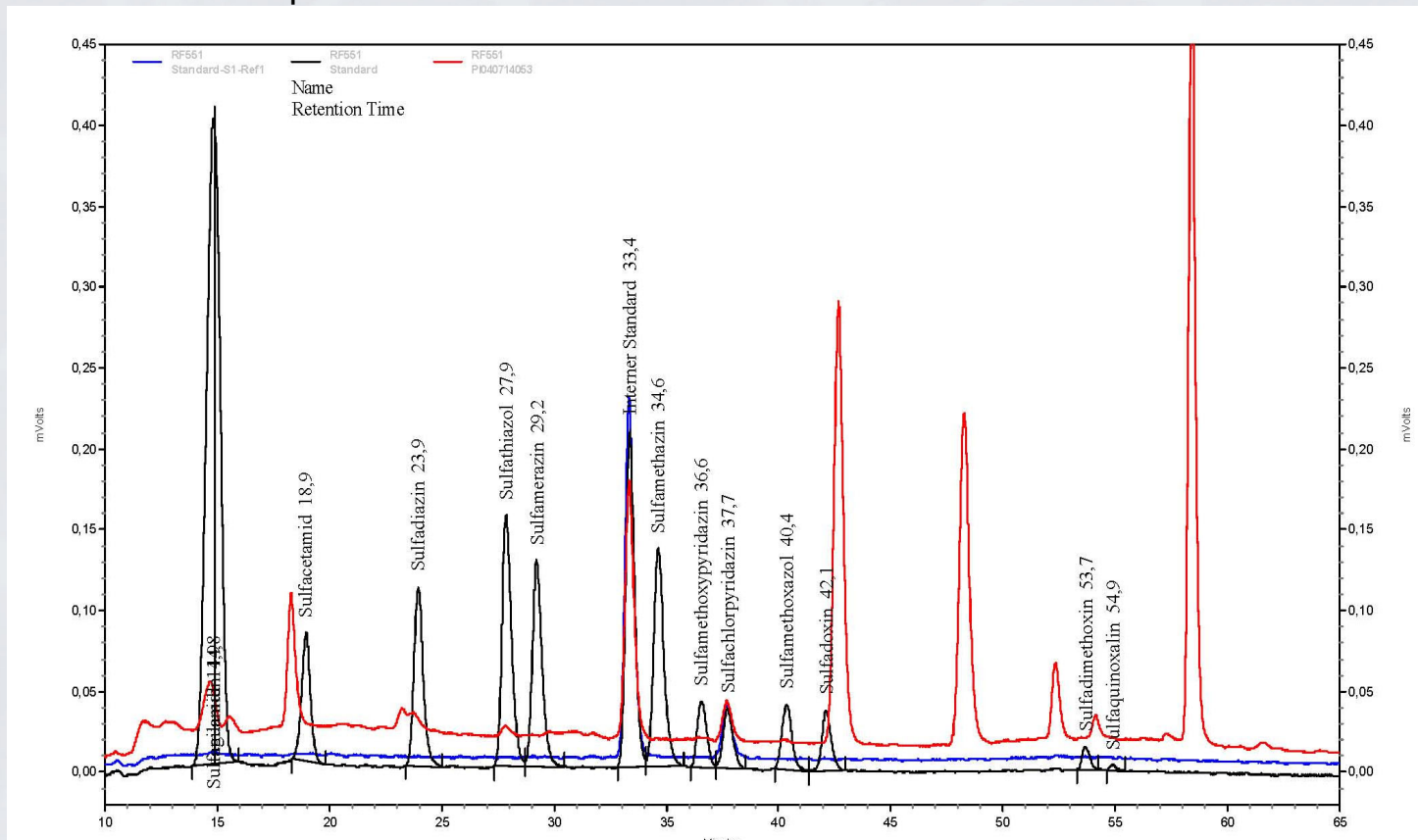


## Sulfonamides in Honey

blue: Standard, Sulfochloropyridazine 50 µg/kg

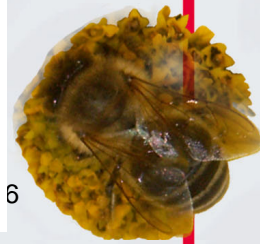
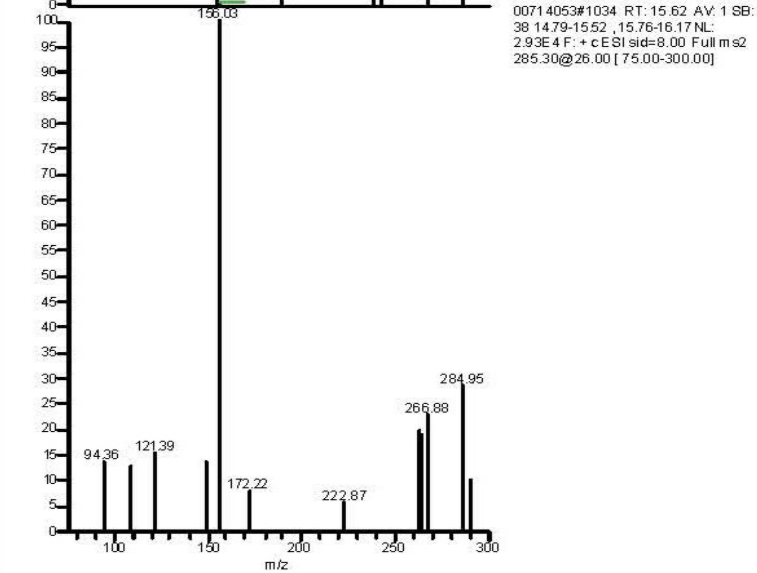
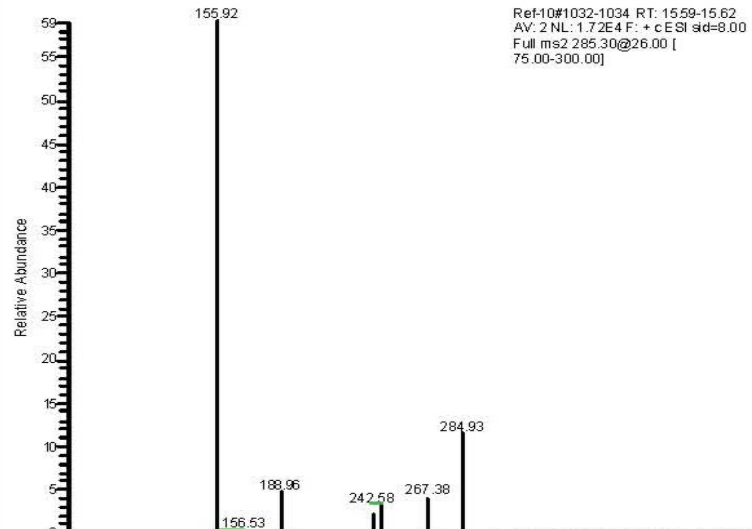
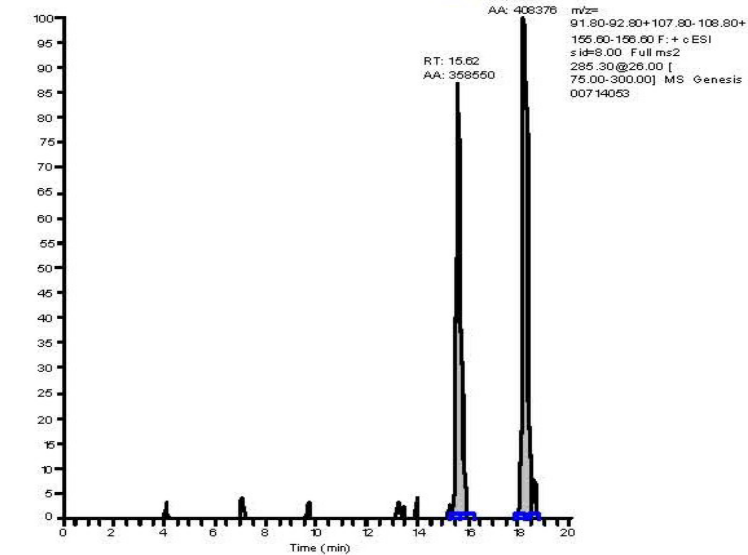
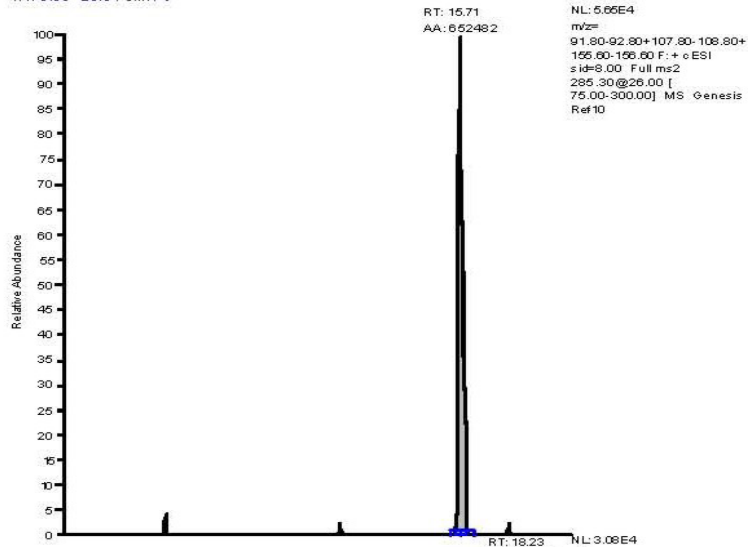
black: Standard, 13 Sulfonamides

red: Sample No. 294



## LC/MS of Sulfochlorpyridazine - Sample No. 294

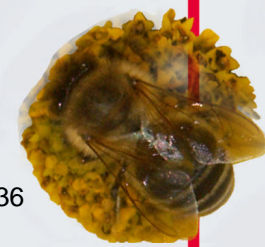
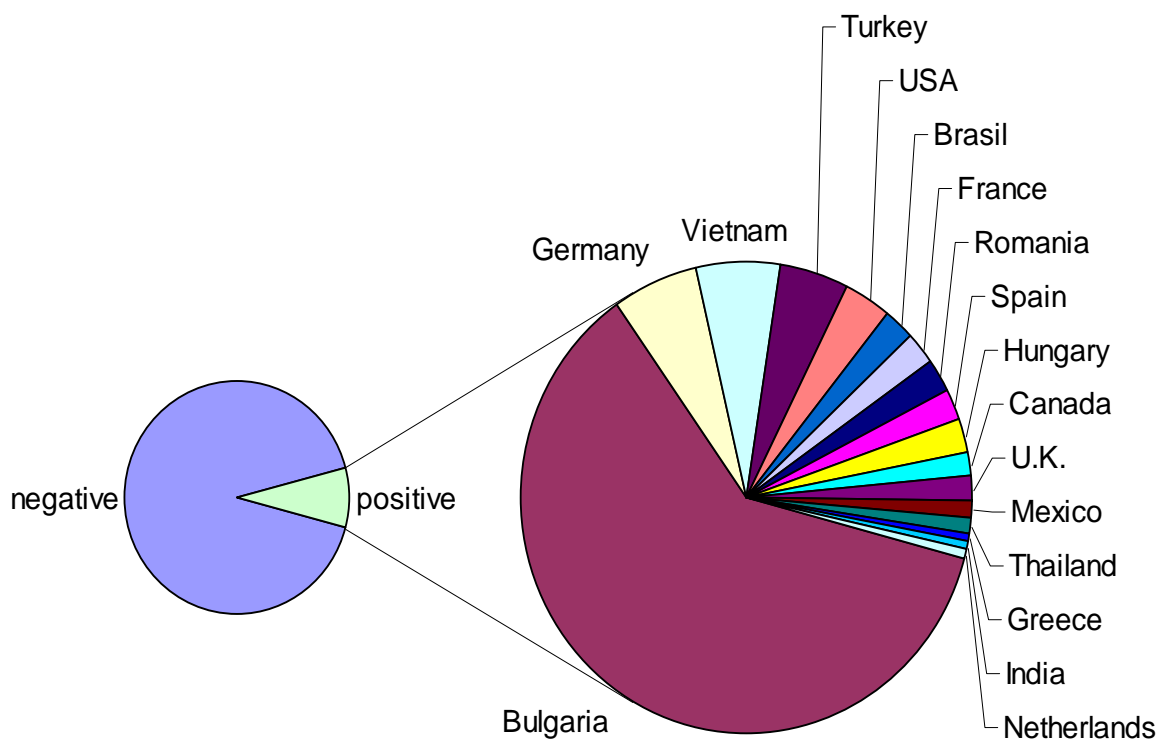
RT: 0.00 - 20.01 SM: 7.9



## Cooperation between Customers and Laboratories: Creation of a MAP for Residues in Honey

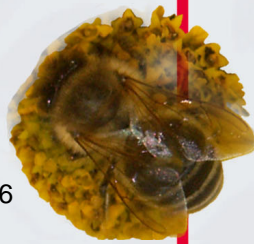
### C4- Sugar in Honey with $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ -IRMS

as of: January 2004 to September 2004



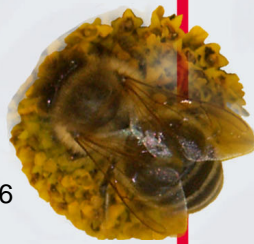
## Cross-sectoral Cooperation: How to ensure quality

- Quality as the primary target for reliable analytics
- Producing reproducible results by proper sample preparation
- Using state-of-the-art technical equipment for testing
- Determining officially accepted methods and limit values
- Ensuring cross-border comparability of results
- Precondition for competent and experienced laboratories to get accredited by official bodies and institutes
- Harmonising different legislations in different countries and fixing internationally acceptable quality standards
- Setting action levels and evolving flexible quick-action strategies and procedures for covering new demands in the vast field of honey analytics in an ever changing environment
- Establishing a Rapid Alert System (RAS) for new and important findings



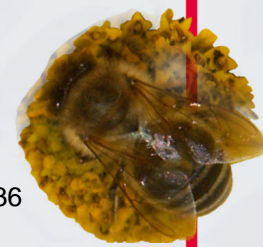
## Cross-sectoral Cooperation: How to enhance enforcement

- Preparing the ground for creating a keen sense of importance of food safety in the official corridors of power on a local, state, national and international level
- Participating in a brisk and open-minded exchange of relevant news, views and ideas between industry, laboratories and authorities
- Giving Public Relations a more prominent role to ensure that not only problems but also achievements are communicated in public, thus strengthening our interests from the outside
- Speeding up solutions, agreeing on interpretation of results and making them internationally accepted by all parties involved
- Keeping a closer eye on quality control and adherence to rules and regulations, codes and standards to restore confidence in the product honey





## Conclusion and Outlook



## ***My thanks go to:***

- ***You, as the audience, for your attention and your interest shown in my lecture***
- ***The APPLICA cooperation partners and customers***
- ***All my staff members who participated in the elaboration of the analytical results:***

