

To Laboratory Managers

Subject: ARPAE PT Program 2026 - Rounds available

Dear all,

Following the inspection held in October 2025, PTP-RA successfully completed the accreditation process as a Proficiency Testing Provider (PTP). Therefore, the schemes offered this year are conducted in compliance with the UNI CEI EN ISO/IEC 17043:2024 standard.

Herewith we submit the instructions for participating in the two sessions of the ARPAE 2026 Proficiency Testing - Ecotoxicological test battery.

#### REGISTRATION FOR THE PROFICIENCY TEST:

Participation in the sessions requires formal confirmation: participating laboratories must complete the file in Annex 3 - Registration form and send it to the email address:

[interconfronto-ra@arpae.it](mailto:interconfronto-ra@arpae.it)

- by 31/03/2026 for session 1SE26 PT ECOTOX
- by 20/07/2026 for session 2SE26 PT PHYTOTOXOCITY TEST

as provided in Annex 1 - 2026 Proficiency testing program.

#### SAMPLES

Participating laboratories will receive samples for the execution of the assays consistent with the chosen tests: it is not mandatory to participate in all proposed tests.

The samples sent will be:

##### 1SE26 PT ECOTOX

- n. 1 1000 ml bottle, highlighted by **code 1S-E26-EC50**, for the following assays:
  - *Daphnia magna*: determination of the %EC50 value at 24h and 48h
  - *Allivibrio fischeri*: determination of the %EC50 value at 30'
  - *Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata*: determination of the %ErC50 value at 72h
- n. 1 500 ml bottle, highlighted by **code 1S-E26-%imm**, for the following assay:
  - *Daphnia magna*: determination of % immobilization

##### 2SE26 PT PHYTOTOXICITY TEST

- n. 1 1000 ml bottle, highlighted by **code 2S-E26-Fito EC50**, for the following assay:
  - Seed germination and root elongation inhibition test: determination of the %EC50 at 72h with *Lepidium sativum*

To perform the phytotoxicity test, participants may refer to the UNI 11537-2010 standard or other equivalent methods. Further procedural details regarding the phytotoxicity test with *Lepidium sativum* will be provided upon sample shipment.

Information regarding sample shipment follows:

- Sample shipment schedules are reported in Annex 1 - 2026 Proficiency testing program.
- The test shipment to laboratories takes place via courier at ambient temperature.
- The list of substances potentially subject to testing is reported in Annex 4 - list of used substances.
- Other information regarding PT characteristics is contained in Annex 5 - Proficiency testing Guidelines - Ecotoxicological test battery 2026.

#### TEST METHOD

Tests may be performed following the method in use at the laboratory; the method used must be indicated in the Data Return Sheet.

#### DATA RETURN

The mandatory deadline for sending results is reported in Annex 1 - 2026 Proficiency testing program. The transmission of results for each test takes place through the use of Data Return Sheets which will be sent to each laboratory after adherence to the PT. Each Data Return Sheet must be completed in all its parts and accompanied by the laboratory identification code (Lab. ID): the identification code is assigned randomly and delivered to each participant via email upon registration for the tests. Modification of each laboratory's identification code is performed at least once a year.

#### FINAL REPORT

At the end of the processing of received results, a Report containing data relating to the performance of each laboratory will be sent. Each laboratory will be identified only with its own Lab. ID. The expected date of sending the Final Report is reported in Annex 1 - 2026 Proficiency testing program.

#### COSTS

The cost of participation in the ARPAE 2026 PT is reported in Annex 2 - 2026 Proficiency testing costs, where shipping costs to be borne by each laboratory are also reported. Shipping costs are currently to be defined as the tender for the service is still in progress.

#### DEADLINES

Deadlines relating to each PT activity are reported in Annex 1 - 2026 Proficiency testing program.

#### COMPLAINTS AND CONTACTS

Communications and/or any complaints must be sent via email to the address:

[interconfronto-ra@arpae.it](mailto:interconfronto-ra@arpae.it)

For further information the following contacts are available:

- Dr. Fabrizio Bandini ph. +39 331 4010951
- Dr. Elena Morandi ph. +39 331 4000380
- Dr. Michela Del Pasqua ph. +39 331 4009011

Available for information and clarifications, we take this opportunity to extend our best regards.

Ravenna, February 3, 2026

The Head of Ravenna-Ferrara Laboratory

Dr. Stefano Forti