



Invitation
Date: 10 October 2016

8th Deposition and soil solution Working Ring Test 2016/2017

Dear Colleagues,

I'm glad to invite all laboratories that perform deposition and soil solution analyses in ICP-Forests programme to participate in the 8th Working Ring Test in order to assess the quality of the deposition and soil solution data collected in the ICP Programme on the Intensive Monitoring of Forest Ecosystems (EC-UN/ECE ICP Forests).

- To improve the communication between the laboratories, it was decided to open the laboratory codes within the group of the laboratories, ICP-Forests and the QA/QC working group;
- Pre-set tolerable limits will be applied on the ring test results. For each variables, at least 50% of the results should fall between the tolerance limits. You may consult the list of tolerable limits for deposition and soil solution ring test in Quality Assurance and Control in the Laboratories - Part XVI of the ICP-Forests Manual (http://www.icp-forests.org/pdf/FINAL_QualLabs.pdf) and <http://bfw.ac.at/600/pdf/depo.pdf>. The evaluation will be done in an automatic way based on the median of all values (excluded only values higher than the max. accept. LOQs) reported by the labs.
- After the ring test, the laboratories can download their automatically generated qualification report (http://www.bfw.ac.at/depo/ring_depo.login). In case the laboratory failed for a certain parameter, or did not determine it, it needs to requalify. The information on qualification and requalification will be stored in the central ICP-Forests database to assure an actual link with the reported survey results.
- The registration to the Deposition and Soil Solution Working Ring Test will be done on-line, using following link http://www.bfw.ac.at/depo/ring_depo.login. To register, laboratory needs the unique ID and password. In case the laboratory participates in working ring test for the first time and/or does not have its ID nor password, please contact me (A.Kowalska@ibles.waw.pl).
- **The registration is open till October 28th 2016.** In case of any problems, please contact me by e-mail. Also the data submission will be on-line, using following link http://www.bfw.ac.at/depo/ring_depo.login.
- **Submission of results will be possible till January 22nd 2017. Requalification process is foreseen for February 2017.**

- **After 29th November 2016** the lab will receive six samples: Samples 1-5 are natural water samples (open field, throughfall, stemflow, and soil solution), sample 6 SYN is synthetic sample. **The following parameters** have to be analysed and reported:
on Samples 1–5 (irrespective of whether they are stated as “mandatory” or “optional” in the relevant sub-manuals): pH, conductivity, alkalinity, DOC, Total Nitrogen, Sodium, Potassium, Calcium, Magnesium, Ammonium-N, Chloride, Nitrate-N, Sulphate-S, Phosphate-P, Iron, Manganese, Aluminium;
on Sample 6 SYN: Alkalinity.
Two bottles will be sent for each sample. One is intended for the exercise, and the second for the requalification procedure.
Before submitting the results, please perform the data checks as outlined in the Quality Assurance and Control in the Laboratories - Part XVI of the ICP-Forests Manual (http://www.icp-forests.org/pdf/FINAL_QualLabs.pdf).
- **Participation fee is max 360 € per participant.** Please, fill the billing information on the registration page carefully. Also special requirements for the invoice can be added there or sent by email (A.Kowalska@ibles.waw.pl). The payment of the participation fee is possible to do in December 2016 or latest before submission of the ring test results on **January 22th 2017.**

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me (A.Kowalska@ibles.waw.pl), tel. +48 22 71 50 534. **Please, mention your lab ID in all communication.**

I wish you a successful ring test,

Best wishes,



Anna Kowalska

tel.: +48 22 7150534

E-mail: A.Kowalska@ibles.waw.pl