
BRITISH SUGAR CO-PRODUCTS TOPSOIL ANALYSIS

Laboratory Accreditation

British Sugar Co-Products TOPSOIL analysis is carried out using laboratories and methods that have the following accreditations: **UKAS**, **GLP** and **MCERTS**.

UKAS

The United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) is the sole accreditation body recognised by government to assess, against internationally recognised standards, organisations that provide certification, testing, inspection and calibration services. Accreditation by UKAS demonstrates the competence, impartiality and sustainable performance of these evaluators.

GLP

The principals of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) are specified in the United Kingdom Good Laboratory Practice Regulations 2004. These principals are in accordance with those of Organisation of Economic Co-Operation and Development Principals of Good Laboratory Practice OCDE/GD(92)32 are in conformity with, and implemented, the requirements of the European Communities, Council Directives 87/18/EEC and 88/320/EEC and Commission Directive 90/18/EC. Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) is concerned with the operational processes and the conditions under which laboratory studies are planned, performed, monitored, recorded and reported. GLP also includes routine analytical work carried out at a site which is claiming compliance with the UK principals of Good Laboratory Practice. Each method carried out will have a documented Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), which trained staff must follow. Hence Good Laboratory Practice is good science, formally documented as a set of principals.

MCERTS

Chemical test data from soils is used by the Environment Agency to support its regulatory activities under a number of regimes, such as Part IIA of EPA 1990, Pollution, Prevention and Control (England and Wales Regulations) 2000 and Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994. Quality, reliable data is dependent upon the proper use of suitable methods, standards, services and equipment, trained and qualified personnel, effective planning, quality assurance and quality control.

The Monitoring Certification Scheme (MCERTS) aims to improve the quality of monitoring data delivered by operators of regulated processes. MCERTS is used by the Environment Agency in order to provide assurance to all stakeholders (e.g. laboratories, Local Authorities, consultants, and members of the public) that the data from laboratory analyses are reliable.

The MCERTS performance standard for laboratories undertaking the chemical testing of soil provides an application of the European and international standard BS EN ISO/IEC 17025 (accredited by United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS)) specifically for the chemical testing of soil and covers:

- the selection and validation of methods;
- sampling pre-treatment and preparation;
- the estimation of measurement uncertainty;
- participation in proficiency testing schemes;
- the reporting of results and information.