


## Implementing ISO 17025 in Our Laboratory

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**Division of Food Safety**

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

- The Division of Food Safety Laboratories maintain A2LA accreditation to ISO 17025 for the specific tests listed in...

### ...A2LA Certificates

- 2534.01
  - Food Lab, Chemical (23 methods)
- 2534.02
  - Food Lab, Biological (23 methods)
- 2534.03
  - Chemical Residue Lab, Chemical (1 method)

### How did we do it?

- A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

### Important Events, leading to our accreditation

- ISO Guide 25 discussed at EPRW 1996, 1st European Pesticide Residue Workshop (Alkmaar, Netherlands)
- Pat Beckett attended

Note: ISO Guide 25 began in 1978; ISO 17025 replaced it in 1999

### Important Events, leading to our accreditation

- USDA Pesticide Data Program (PDP) coordinated ISO 17025 training, conducted by Ken Stoub, Aug 2001
- Note: The Quality Managers and Technical Managers from ALL of the PDP labs attended (Manassas, VA)

## Important Events, leading to our accreditation

- Progress reports
- Timelines

## Important Events, leading to our accreditation

- A Deadline!
- Announced at the September 2005 PDP meeting...
- All PDP labs must be accredited by October 1, 2007

## Important Events, leading to our accreditation

- October 2005
- A2LA 5-day course, "Assessment of Laboratory Competence"
- Taught by Ken Stoub

## Apply! Just do it!

- April 2006 – ordered checklist and application from A2LA

## Milestones

- August 31, 2006 submitted application

## Milestones

- Dec 4-7, 2006 on-site assessment
  - 28 Deficiencies
  - 15 Strong Recommendations
  - 3 Recommendations

## Formal Deficiency Responses

Date Submitted	Number of Deficiencies	Days since assessment
1/09/07	3	33
2/02/07	9	57
3/02/07	7	85
4/03/07	6	117
4/13/07	3	127
4/27/07	Supplemental	141

## Deficiency # 10

- ISO 17025, Section 4.11.2 requires the laboratory to determine the root cause of all problems (nonconforming work and departures).
- The root causes on Food Lab CARs (#125, 126, 133, 134 & 146) as well as CR Lab CARs (#20 & 22) were not identified during the laboratory's investigations.

## Finding Root Cause is Not Trivial

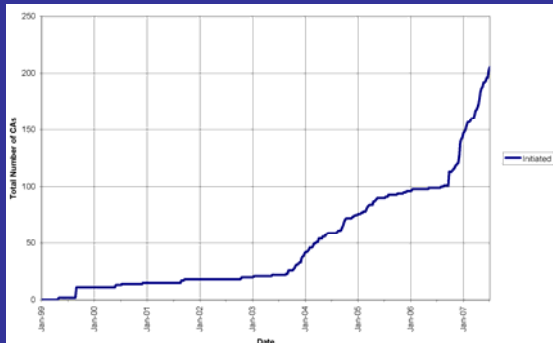


## Number of Corrective Actions

Year	Number
1999	11
2000	4
2001	3
2002	2
2003	21
2004	34
2005	21
2006	47
2007	63 (to date, July 13)

(These are in Chemical Residue Lab)

## Number of Corrective Actions



Chemical Residue Lab

## What SHOULD a functioning quality system do for us?

- increase productivity
- provide exceptional customer service
- dramatically reduce errors

We'll see...

Questions?