Dear DSQAP participants,

Please find a copy of the report from Exercise C enclosed, we are happy to answer any questions you may have about the report and the exercise. We would like to thank the laboratories that sent additional method information; we are using the data to plan discussions for the next DSQAP workshop.

Do you have any suggestions for Exercise D? Based on the results from Exercise C, we would recommend repeating some water soluble vitamins, possibly the phytosterols and fatty acids. Do you see any problem areas in the report? Are there other analyte/matrix pairs that would help you? If so, please let us know in an e-mail to dsqap@nist.gov.

Best regards, DSQAP Team

Dietary Supplement Quality Assurance Program Exercise C Final Data Report

Your laboratory code for this exercise: NIST

This report consists of several parts:

- <u>Overview</u>: a general description of the statistical treatment of the data, and how to read the plots.
- **Data Table**:, a table with your laboratory's individual results, the community results, and the NIST results.
- **Graphs**: a section that includes graphical representation of the data for the analytes tested in this exercise, points to consider when examining the data, and when appropriate, recommendations from exercise C.

Arsenic Cadmium Calcium Phosphorus Sodium Zinc Retinol Niacin Vitamin B₆ Campesterol in Solution β-sitosterol in Solution Stigmasterol in Solution Campesterol in Serenoa repens Fruit β-sitosterol in *Serenoa repens* Fruit Stigmasterol in Serenoa repens Fruit Linoleic Acid α -Linolenic Acid γ-Linolenic Acid

As always, if you have any questions, please contact us.

OVERVIEW

STATISTICS:

Your individual data table and graphs contain information about your performance relative to the rest of the participants and relative to a target around the expected result.

INDIVIDUAL DATA TABLE

Section 1 of the data table contains your results, including your mean and standard deviation. Please check these and make sure that you agree with the data in the table.

Section 2 of the data table contains the community results, including the median value for each analyte, the MADe (a robust estimate of the standard deviation), and the minimum/maximum values reported for the analyte.

Section 3 of the data table contains the NIST results. In most cases, the value and the U95 confidence interval have been determined with two independent analytical methods. At least six samples have been tested with each of the methods and duplicate sample preparations from the sample package have been included allowing for the U95 to encompass homogeneity within and between packages.

GRAPHS

Two graphs are provided for each analyte in each sample, one which plots lab results for the sample vs. the participating labs (View 1), the second plots lab results for the sample vs. lab results for the control (View 2). Both views include the consensus values and the target values.

View 1

Individual laboratory data are plotted with the individual laboratory standard deviation. The black solid line represents the consensus median and the black dotted lines represent the consensus variability. The center of the region with the red hash marks represents our view of the "correct answer", it is bounded (+/-) two times the pooled standard deviation of the participants or two times the NIST uncertainty (whichever is larger), thus creating a target zone. With this view, it is relatively easy to determine if a laboratory falls within the target zone, it is also possible to compare where the target zone lies relative to the consensus values. In most cases, the target zone falls within the consensus values which is the expected result. One program goal is to bring the consensus values closer together and clustered around the target value.

View 2

In this view the results reported for the sample are plotted vs. the results for the control. The red box represents the target values for the control (x-axis) and the sample (y-axis) and the black dotted lines represent the analogous information for the consensus values.

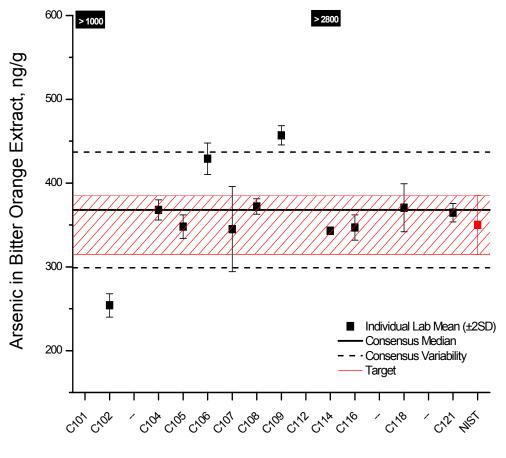
This view provides additional information to complement view 1. For example, if your values are low for both the control and sample (or high for both), you may have calibration issues. If your laboratory falls into this category, you may want to investigate how your calibrants are prepared as well as the purity of your calibrant material.

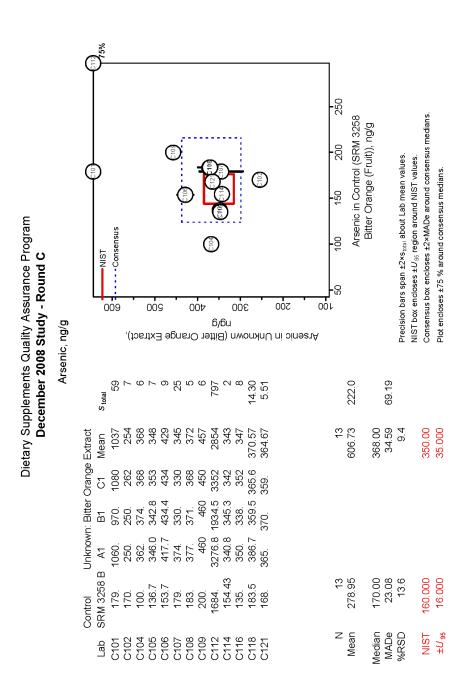
		1. Your F	 Your Results, Lab Code: 	b Code:		2. Comr	2. Community Results	tesults		3. NIST	ST
Analyte	Units	NIST	Mean	S total	z	Median	MADe	Min	Max	Value	U 95
Arsenic	6/bu c		350.00		13	368.000	34.594	254	2854	350.0	35.0
Cadmium			14.00		13	16.00	4.91	12.7	129.1	14.00	1.40
Calciun			0.490		1 0	0.498	0.018	0.5	0.6	0.4900	0.0130
Phosphorus '	s % mass fraction		0.378		10	0.392	0.016	0.3	2.4	0.378	0.004
Sodium	n mg/kg		4150		£	4154		3437	6167	4150	140
Zinc	s mg/kg		152.300		1 0	156.333		133.3	181.1	152.30	5.10
Retinol	-		16.10		10	15.39	1.70	5.6	22.4	16.10	1.30
Niacin	~		97.50		13	107.67	47.94	17.6	498.0	97.50	2.30
Vitamin B6	~		14.20		4	15.33	5.09	11.0	420.8	14.20	1.50
Campesterol			0.12		9	0.08	0.02	0.07	0.10	0.12	0.00
β-sitosterc			0.45		9	0.29	0.05	0.23	0.37	0.45	0.02
Stigmasterol	l mg/g		0.05		9	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.00
Campesterol (solution			0.31		9	0.22	0.06	0.10	0.29	0.31	0.03
β-sitosterol (solution			1.15		9	1.08	0.32	0.55	1.42	1.15	0.01
Stigmasterol (solution			0.13		9	0.13	0.02	0.09	0.15	0.13	0.00
Linoleic Acid			374.00		£	364.10	26.04	325.0	471.7	374.0	35.0
a-Linolenic Acid			3.45		6	2.02	0.24	1.00	3.40	3.45	0.63
γ-Linolenic Acid			251.00		;-	236.87	15.02	222.0	332.7	251.0	24.0
		Mean		Average of all your reported values		z		f quantita	Number of quantitative values reported	sported	
		S total	Overall standard deviation	ard deviation		Median	Median Median of the reported values	the repo	rted values		
						MADe	robust estii the mediar	mate of th า absolute	obust estimate of the standard devisi: the median absolute deviation (MAD)	MADe robust estimate of the standard deviation derived from the median absolute deviation (MAD)	from
						Min, Max Value	 Max Minimum and maximu Value NIST-assessed value 	and maxi essed val	Min, Max Minimum and maximum reported values Value NIST-assessed value	d values	
						$U_{_{95}}$	±95% con	fidence ir	iterval about	$U_{\rm B5}$ ±95% confidence interval about the assessed value	lue

DATA TABLE

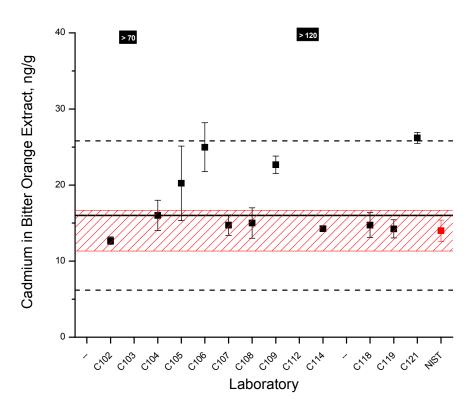
ARSENIC



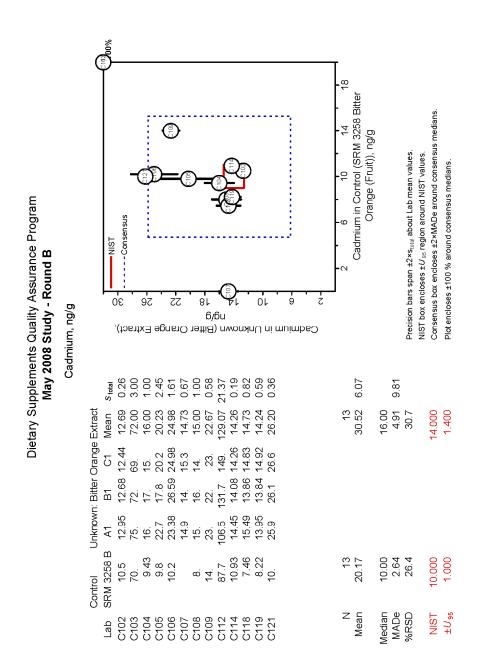




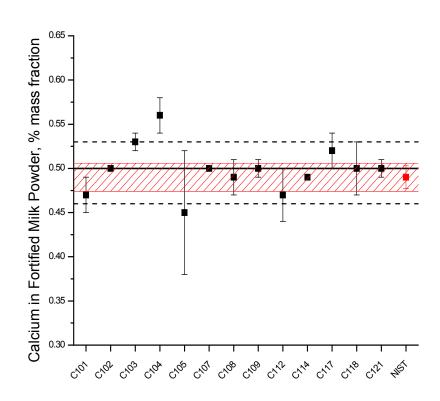
CADMIUM



Cadmium View 1

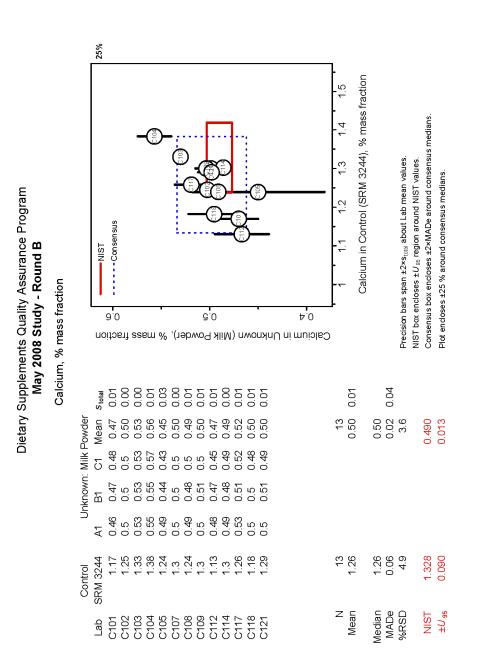


Return to Introduction CALCIUM

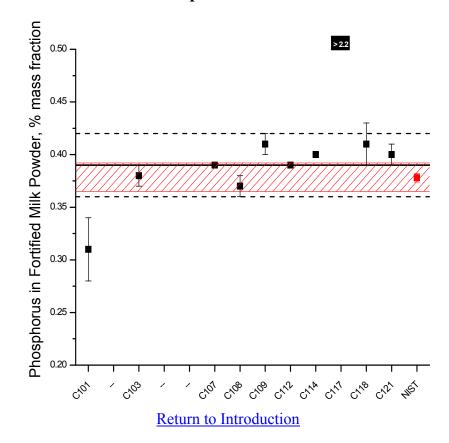


Calcium View 1



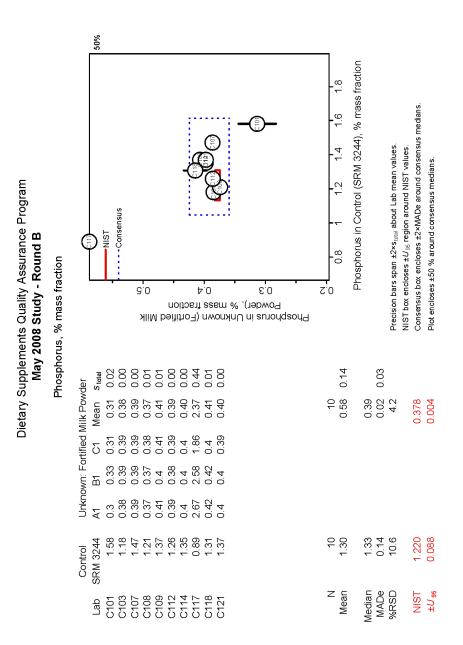


PHOSPHORUS



Phosphorus View 1

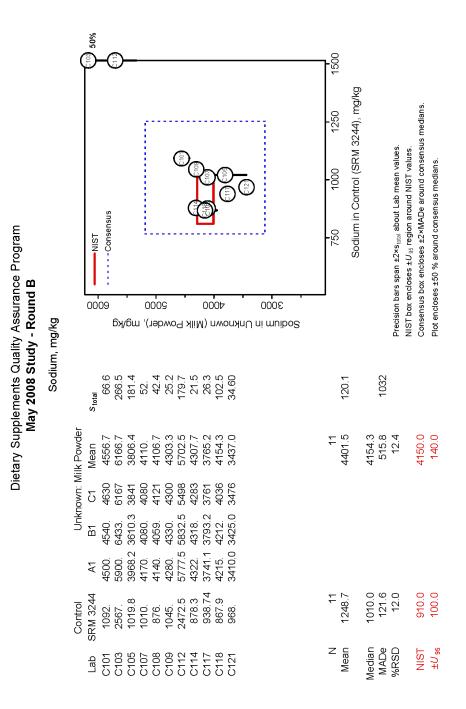


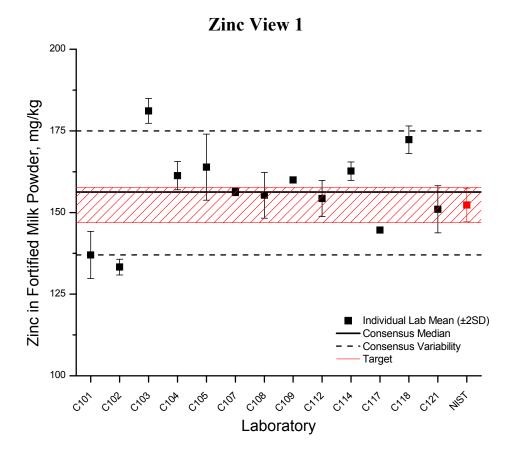


7000 Sodium in Fortified Milk Powder, mg/kg 6000 5000 4000 3000 2000 1000 ر درمه ۲ در⁰⁹ C11A c101 < c¹⁰³ c1¹⁷ c1¹⁸ c12¹ 5²² ~ c¹⁰⁵ c101 NIST Laboratory

Sodium View 1

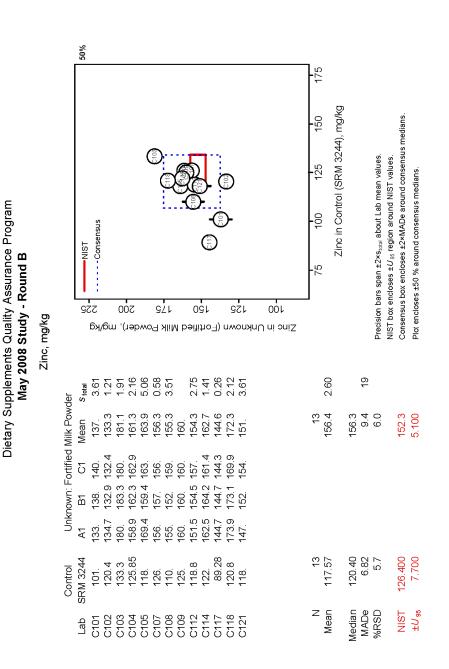
SODIUM





ZINC

Return to Introduction



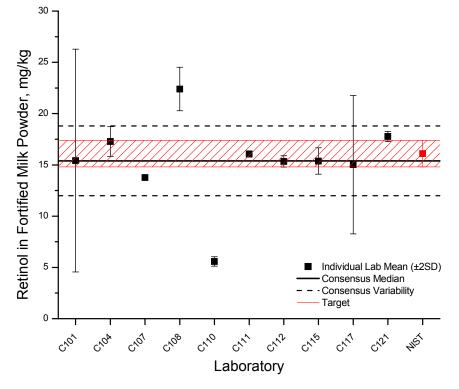
RETINOL

The fortified milk powders used for this exercise were fortified with fat-soluble vitamins, water soluble vitamins, elements, and fatty acids. The control and sample were related but not identical.

- Overall good results-only a few labs are outliers
- Several labs have higher standard deviations than expected (based on a pooled standard deviation)
- View 2 shows some evidence of calibration issues. Consider how the calibrants are made:
 - Are they traceable to a gravimetric number or a spectroscopic number?
 - Was the purity of the calibrant evaluated?
 - Did you see 13-*cis*-retinol and how was it factored in to your retinol calculation?

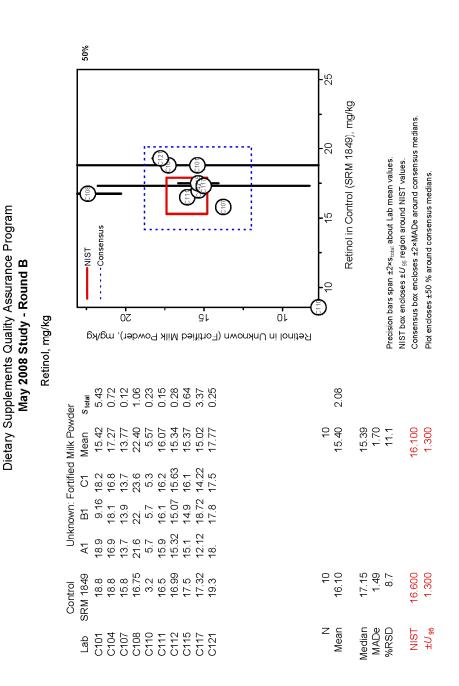
Recommendations:

- Check calibration method including traceability
- If your individual laboratory results had a large RSD, consider the addition of an internal standard
- Would you like to measure tocopherols in this material?



Retinol View 1

Return to Introduction



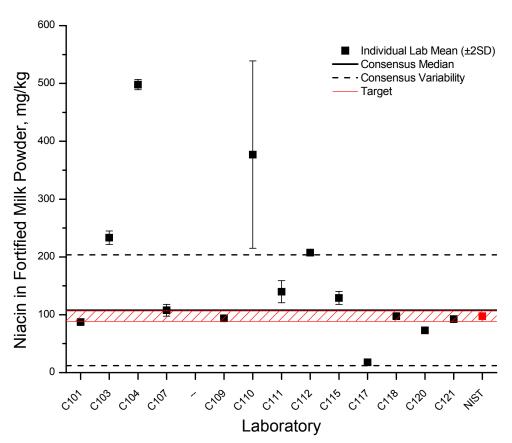
NIACIN AS NIACINAMIDE

The fortified milk powder used for this exercise was fortified with fat-soluble vitamins, water soluble vitamins, elements, and fatty acids. The control was SRM 3244 Ephedra Containing Protein Powder. The level of Niacinamide in the control is approximately 2.5 times the level of niacinamide in the fortified milk powder.

- The results are significantly more scattered than we had expected and the scatter appears to be random (not related to method)
- Please check to be certain that you reported niacinamide. If you did not and you would like to submit amended data we are happy to accept it.

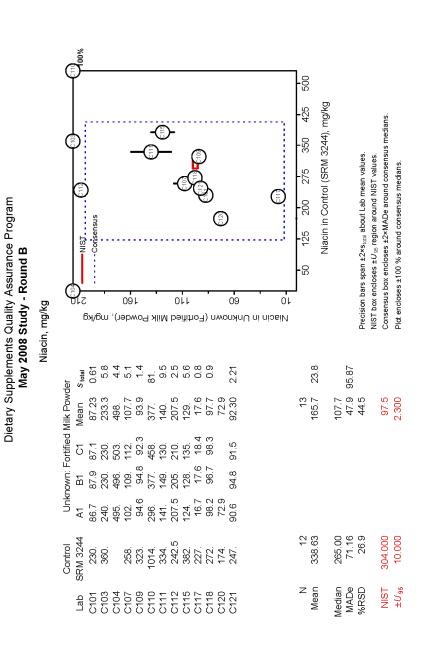
Recommendations:

- Check form of Niacin reported
- We suggest that we repeat this exercise with a more closely related control/unknown sample pair.



Niacin View 1

Return to Introduction



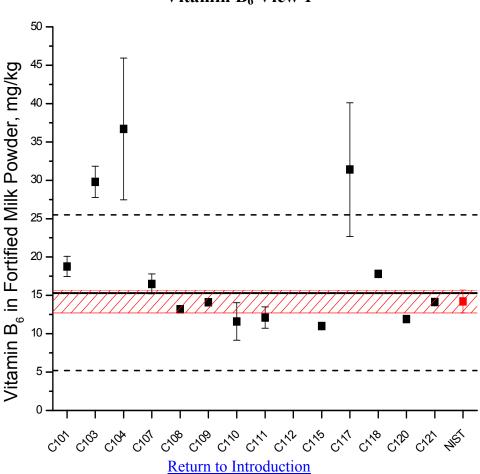
VITAMIN B6 AS PYRIDOXINE HCL

The fortified milk powder used for this exercise was fortified with fat-soluble vitamins, water soluble vitamins, elements, and fatty acids. The control was SRM 3244 Ephedra Containing Protein Powder. The level of Niacinamide in the control is approximately 2.5 times the level of niacinamide in the fortified milk powder.

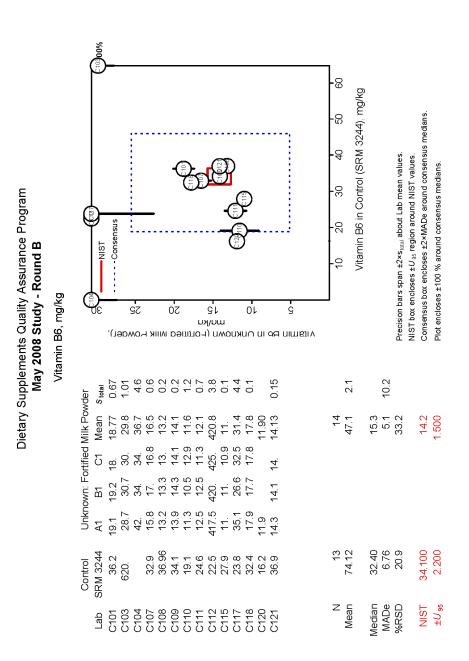
- The results are significantly scattered, as with the niacinamide, the scatter does not appear to be related to the analytical measurement technique.
- Please check to be certain that you reported pyridoxine HCl. If you did not and you would like to submit amended data we are happy to accept it.

Recommendations:

- Check form of Pyridoxine HCl reported
- We suggest that we repeat this exercise with a more closely related control/unknown sample pair.



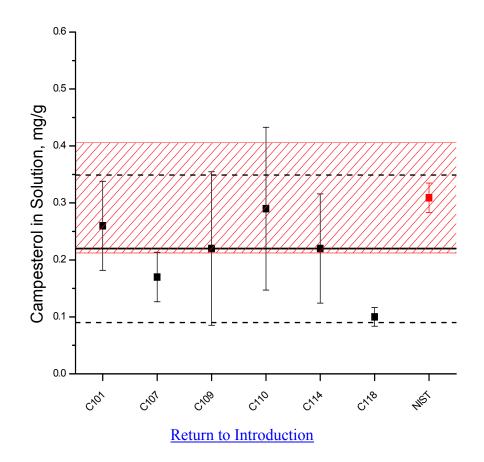
Vitamin B₆ View 1



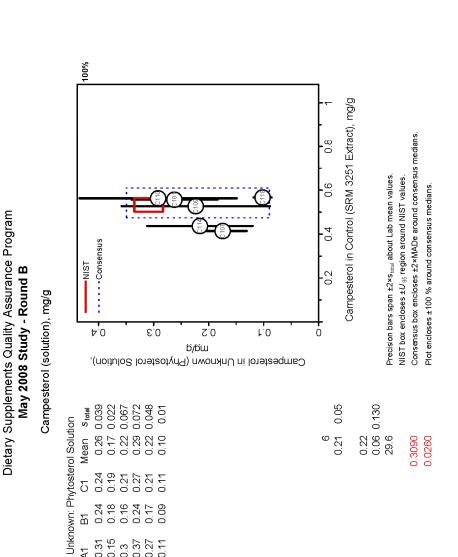
PHYTOSTEROL SOLUTIONS

The phytosterols solution was gravimetrically prepared mixture of campesterol, β sitosterol, and stigmasterol (plus some impurities) in chloroform. It was made at a concentration that would be appropriate for a calibrant and required only derivatization. The average measurements of the sterol solution appeared to be close to the expected value; however the standard deviations were larger than expected. Most laboratories "hydrolyzed" the solution; it appears that this step introduces uncertainty into the measurement. Most labs report adding an internal standard immediately prior to the sample derivatization step, adding the internal standard at the earliest opportunity (i.e. prior to extraction and hydrolysis) would almost likely reduce the uncertainty introduced with the extended sample handling. One lab mentioned problems weighing the solution reproducibly, did others experience this?

- Results for phytosterols berries are significantly low (view 1) indicating:
 - Incomplete extraction
 - Incomplete hydrolysis
- However, view 2 shows better results for the control indicating:
 - Hydrolysis is relatively complete
 - Extraction is the issue yielding significantly low results



Campesterol in Phytosterol Solution View 1



6 0.51

Mean

Z

0.54 0.03 6.3

Median MADe %RSD

0.533 0.031

±U 95

NIST

0.31 0.15 0.3 0.37 0.27 0.11

0.41 0.53 0.56 0.44 0.57

Lab C107 C107 C109 C110 C114 C118

A1

SRM 3251 E 0.56

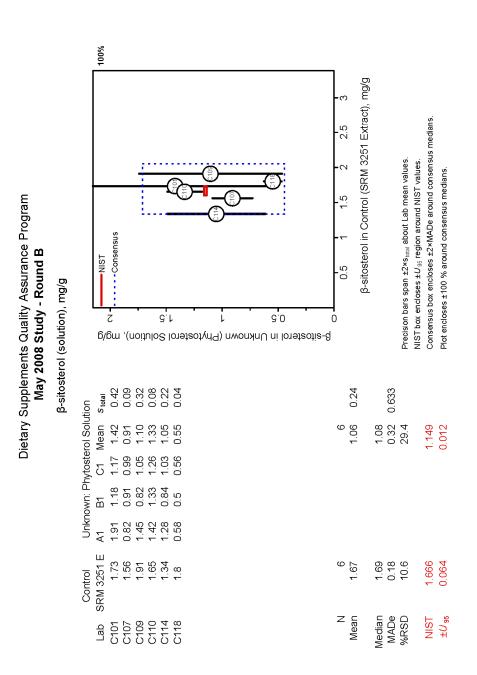
Control

β-SITOSTEROL IN SOLUTION

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of phytosterols in *Serenoa repens* extract and *Serenoa repens* fruit is included with the campesterol in solution graphs.

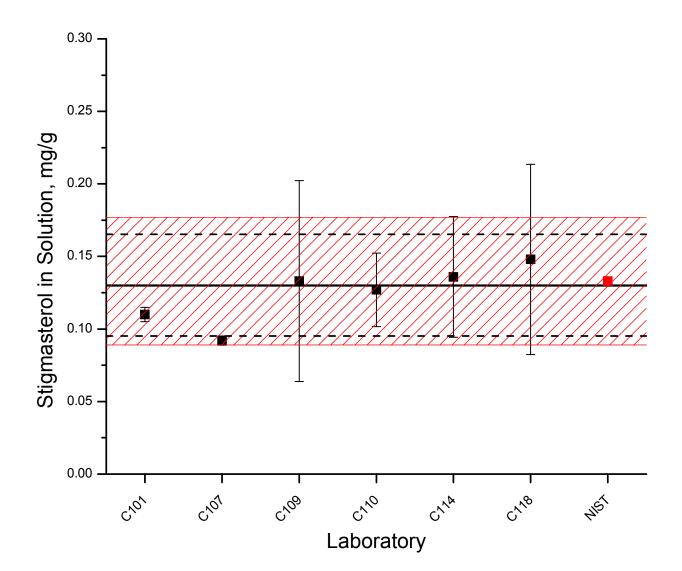
3.0 -2.5 β-sitosterol in Solution, mg/g 2.0 1.5 1.0 0.5 0.0 T Т c.¹⁰ C^{N®} C11A C109 c101 C101 NIST

β -sitosterol in Solution View 1



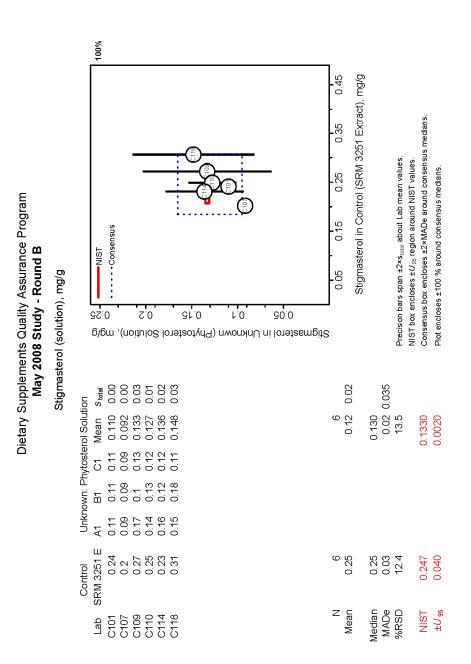
STIGMASTEROL IN SOLUTION

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of phytosterols in *Serenoa repens* extract and *Serenoa repens* fruit is included with the campesterol in solution graphs.



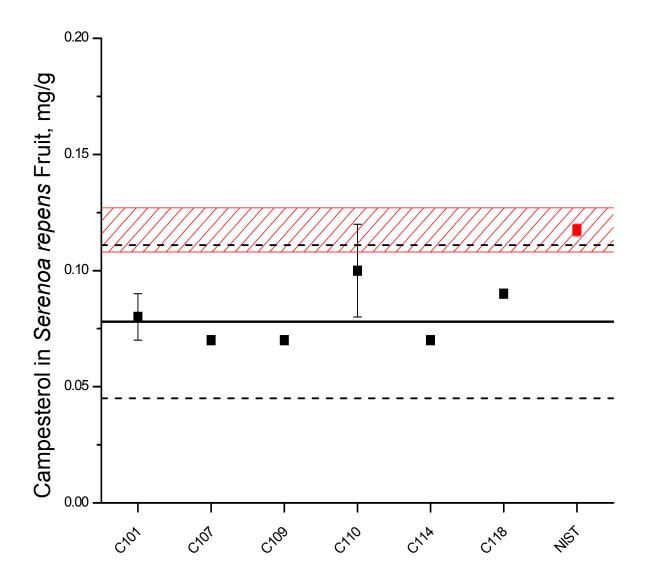
Stigmasterol in Solution View 1



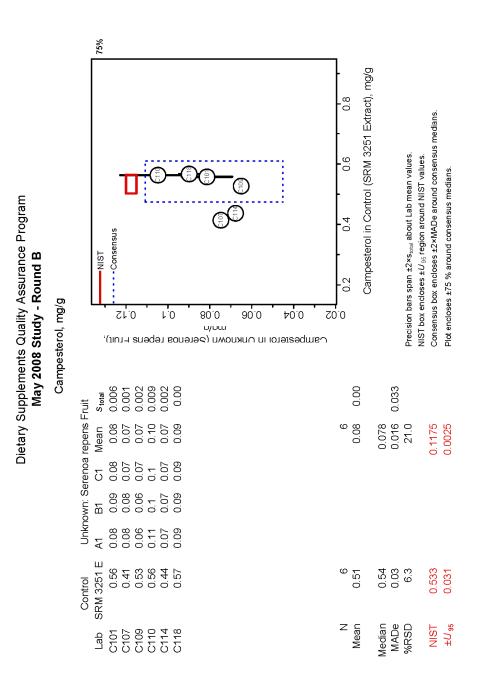


CAMPESTEROL IN SERENOA REPENS FRUIT

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of phytosterols in *Serenoa repens* extract and *Serenoa repens* fruit is included with the campesterol in solution graphs.

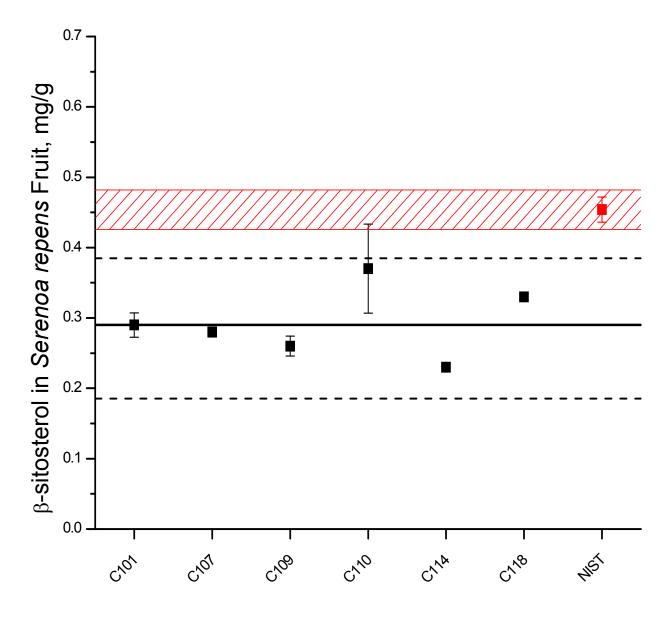


Campesterol in Serenoa repens Fruit View 1

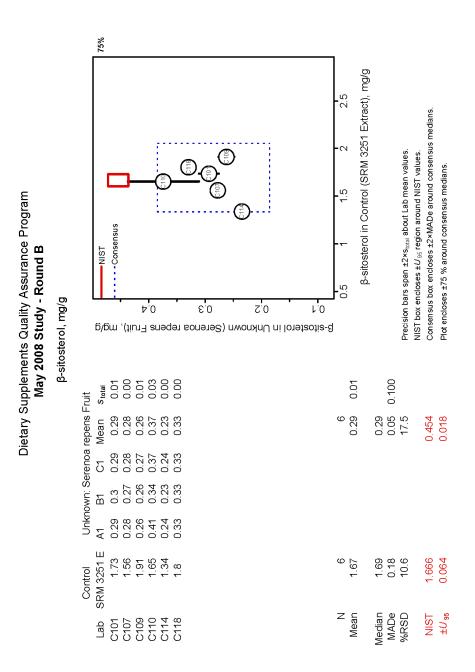


β-SITOSTEROL IN SERENOA REPENS FRUIT

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of phytosterols in *Serenoa repens* extract and *Serenoa repens* fruit is included with the campesterol in solution graphs.



β-sitosterol in Serenoa repens Fruit View 1



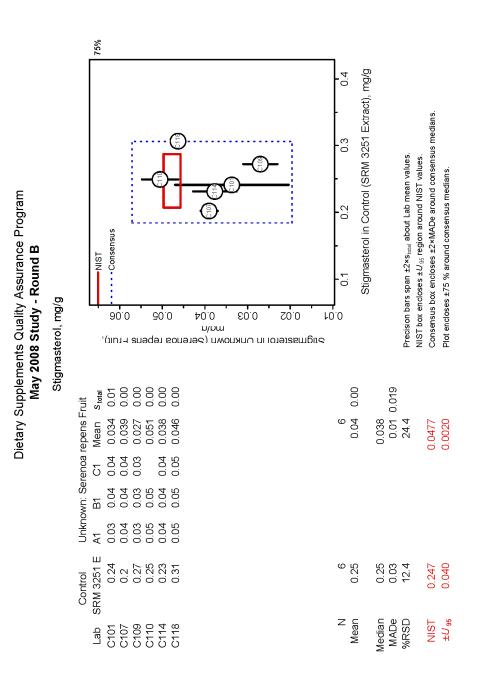
STIGMASTEROL IN SERENOA REPENS FRUIT

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of phytosterols in *Serenoa repens* extract and *Serenoa repens* fruit is included with the campesterol in solution graphs.

0.07 Stigmasterol in Serenoa repens Fruit, mg/g 0.06 0.05 0.04 0.03 0.02 Individual Lab Mean (±2SD) 0.01 Consensus Median - Consensus Variability Target 0.00 c¹⁰⁹ C'NA C1,100 c¹⁰¹ c707 c110 NIST Laboratory

Stigmasterol in Serenoa repens Fruit View 1

Stigmasterol in Serenoa repens Fruit View 2



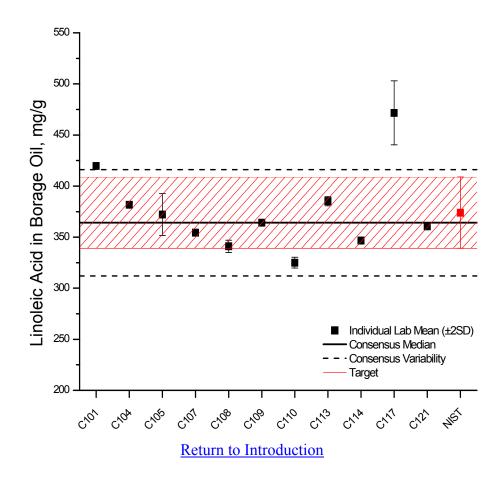
OMEGA-3 AND OMEGA-6 FATTY ACIDS IN BORAGE OIL

Fatty Acids

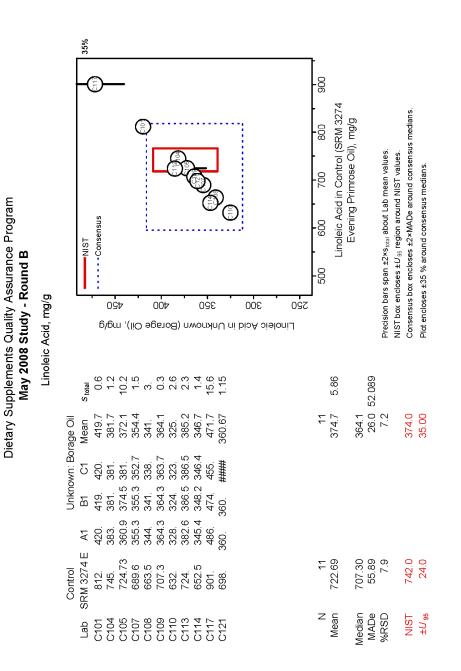
- View 1 indicates that in general the results for linoleic acid and γ-linoleic acid agree well with each other and the target
- View 1 indicates that the participants agree well on α-linoleic acid and are significantly different than the target values-this is under further investigation (we suspect that there is a stability issue).
- View 2 shows a correlation between results for the control and the unknown sample-in this case this cannot be definitively diagnosed as calibration issues; it could also be due to the derivatization of the sample. Would you like to investigate this further?

Recommendation:

- Measure Omega-3 and Omega-6 fatty acids in oils with more dissimilar ratios than the pair used in exercise C
- Perhaps include a solution to determine if the correlation between the control and unknown sample results are due to the sample preparation or calibration.

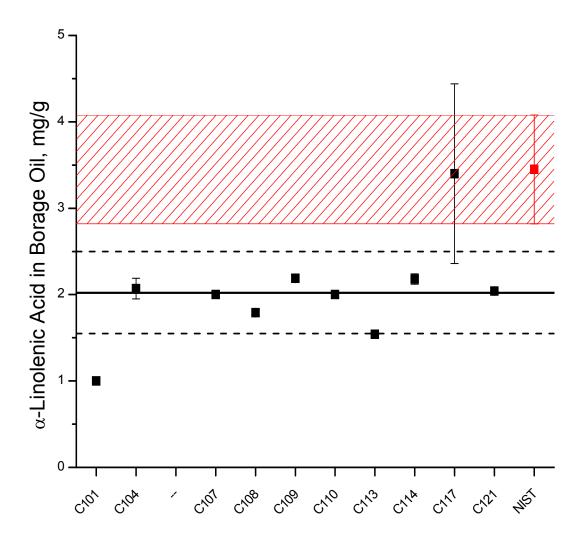


Linoleic Acid in Borage Oil View 1

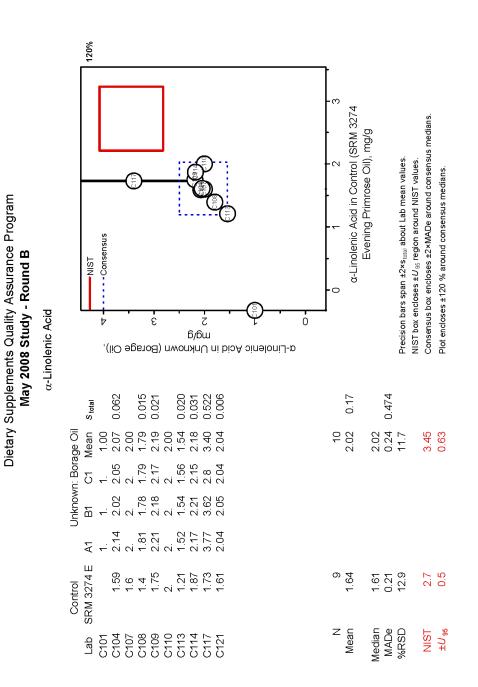


a-LINOLENIC ACID

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids in botanical oils is included with the graphs of linoleic acid.

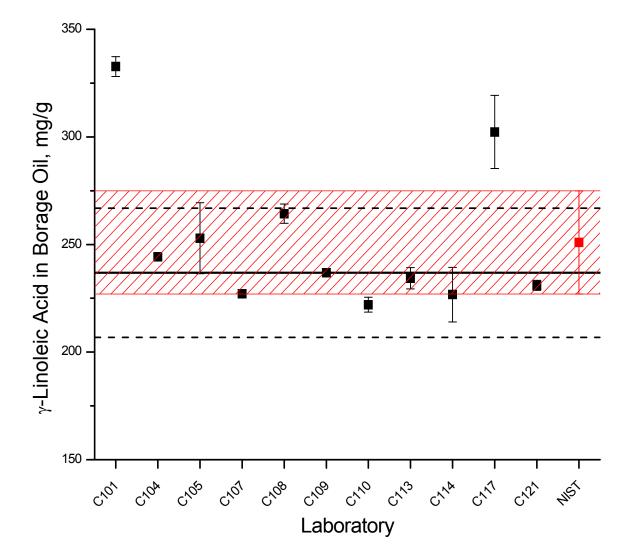


α-Linolenic Acid in Borage Oil View 1



γ-LINOLENIC ACID

<u>A discussion</u> of the measurement of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids in botanical oils is included with the graphs of linoleic acid.



γ-Linolenic Acid in Borage Oil View 1

Return to Introduction

