

# SENSIStrip Coconut 20 Tests

## Lateral-flow Device for the Determination of Coconut in Food and as Cleaning Control Monitoring (Cat.nr. HU0030114)

Sensitivity for food matrix	5 ppm
Sensitivity for swabbing	0.013 µg/cm <sup>2</sup>
Sensitivity for rinse water	0.33 mg/L

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Cocos palm (*Cocos nucifera*) belongs to the family of Areaceae. With about 3.3% the fraction of proteins in coconut is relatively low compared to other nuts. Some of these proteins are known for being allergenic. Compared to other nuts these proteins are still slightly characterized. Coconut allergies are relatively seldom, but can be very distinct in particular cases.

For coconut-allergic persons hidden coconut allergens in food are a critical problem. Already very low amounts of coconut can cause allergic reactions, which may lead to anaphylactic shock in severe cases. Because of this, coconut-allergic persons must strictly avoid the consumption of coconut containing food. Cross-contamination, mostly in consequence of the production process, is often noticed. This explains why in many cases the existence of coconut residues in food cannot be excluded. For this reason, sensitive detection systems for coconut residues in foodstuff are required.

The **Eurofins Technologies Coconut Lateral Flow Device** represents a sensitive detection system and is particularly capable to detect coconut residues in food matrices, rinse water and swabs.

### 2. PRINCIPLE OF THE TEST

The **Eurofins Technologies Coconut** test is based on the principle of immunoassay. Coconut containing sample is given into a reactions vial containing biotinylated antibody directed against coconut proteins. After 3 minutes incubation at room temperature a test strip is placed into the reaction vial. The sample migrates along the nitrocellulose membrane by capillary forces. Along its way it releases gold nanoparticles con-

jugated to streptavidin. An antibody-gold complex is formed. For positive samples a red line is formed when the liquid reaches the test line area. In case of negative samples, no line is formed. In any case, above the test line area a red control line appears, indicating the validity of the test. The test is evaluated after another 5 minutes.

### 3. PRECAUTIONS

Full compliance of the following good laboratory practices (GLP) will determine the reliability of the results:

- 1) Store the kit at 2-8°C.
- 2) Do not use the kit after its expiry date.
- 3) Prior to beginning the assay procedure, bring all samples and reagents to room temperature (20-25°C).
- 4) Extraction buffer should be mixed by gentle inversion or swirling prior to use. Do not induce foaming.
- 5) Once the assay has been started, all subsequent steps should be completed without interruption and within the recommended time limits.
- 6) Replace caps in all the reagents and samples immediately after use.
- 7) Use separate disposable consumables for each transfer of sample to the reaction vial in order to prevent cross-contamination.
- 8) Do not mix components from different batches.
- 9) Do not use reagents after expiration date.

**NOTE:** The swab sampling device included in this kit may be supplied as sterile with a sterility expiration date printed on the device. However, this kit does not require a sterile sampling device, therefore the swab sterility expiration date

does not affect the kit expiration date and can be disregarded.

#### 4. CONTENTS OF THE KIT

The kit contains components and reagents for 20 tests. They have to be stored at 2-8°C. Expiry data are printed on the labels of the reagent containers and the outer package.

- 1) Test strips, 20 pcs in tube with desiccant stopper
- 2) Reaction vials, 20 pcs
- 3) Extraction tubes with caps, 20 pcs
- 4) Extraction buffer, 60 mL, ready-to-use
- 5) Disposable pipettes, 0.3 mL, 20 pcs
- 6) Disposable pipette, 3 mL
- 7) Disposable spatulas, 20 pcs
- 8) Swab sticks, 20 pcs
- 9) Evaluation card
- 10) Tubes and vials racks
- 11) Instruction manual

#### 5. SAMPLE PREPARATION

Due to high risk of cross-contamination all applied instruments like applicator, mortar, vials etc. have to be **cleaned thoroughly** before and after each sample. Allergen proteins adhere very strongly to different surfaces. In certain cases, they can resist a common dishwasher cleaning. To identify possible cross-contamination caused by previous extractions it is strongly recommended to note the sequence of the extractions for pattern recognition.

Chocolate and other products with high polypeptide content tend to show reduced results. To overcome this effect a special extraction additive can be ordered separately (ILE-EXSCH2).

##### SOLID SAMPLES / LIQUID SAMPLES

- 1) Homogenize sample using appropriate methods depending on its specific nature (e.g. grind, crush, mix).

- 2) *Solid samples:* Transfer one spatula of sample to an extraction tube. Alternatively, in order to increase precision, weigh out 0.2 g of sample into an extraction tube.

*Liquid samples:* Transfer a half spatula of sample liquid to the extraction tube. Alternatively, in order to increase precision, pipette 0.2 mL of sample into an extraction.

- 3) Add 3 mL of ready-to-use extraction buffer to the sample by using the disposable 3 mL pipette.
- 4) Close extraction tube with cap and shake for 1 minute.
- 5) Let the solid remains sediment. Depending on nature of the samples this might take 1-2 minutes. Alternatively centrifuge at 2000 g or higher.
- 6) Remove cap and transfer 0.3 mL of sample supernatant into a reaction vial using a disposable 0.3 mL pipette.

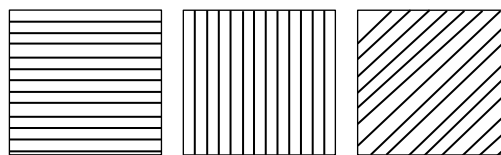
##### RINSE WATER

- 1) Adjust the pH of the sample to 7 (+/- 0.5).
- 2) Transfer 0.3 mL of sample into a reaction vial using a disposable 0.3 mL pipette.

##### SWABBING SAMPLES

###### DRY SURFACES

- 1) Mark out 5x5 cm area or use swab directly on (e.g. uneven) area.
- 2) Transfer 1 mL of ready-to-use extraction solution into an extraction tube by using the disposable 3 mL pipette.
- 3) Moisten a swab by dipping into the tube.
- 4) Swab marked area by using crosshatch (1. horizontally, 2. vertically, 3. diagonally) technique while rotating the tip.



- 5) Place swab into the tube and break off the tip.
- 6) Close extraction tube with cap and shake for 1 minute to release the sample from the swab.

- Remove cap and transfer 0.3 mL of sample supernatant into a reaction vial using a disposable 0.3 mL pipette.

#### WET SURFACES

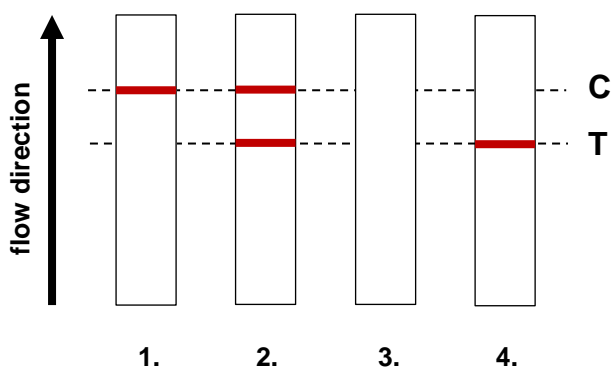
Apply same method as described for dry surfaces without prior need to moisten the swab.

## 6. PROCEDURE

- Prepare samples as described above.
- After transfer of the sample to the incubation vial add cap and shake for 15 seconds. Make sure that the biotinylated antibody is completely dissolved.
- Incubate for 3 minutes.
- Remove cap and place one strip into the vial. For proper strip orientation make sure that the arrows on the cover foil point downwards.
- Incubate for 5 minutes.
- Remove strip from the vial and evaluate immediately.

## 7. EVALUATION

SENSIStrip lateral-flow devices are evaluated according to the following scheme:



- Negative:** visible control (C) line, no test (T) line
- Positive:** visible control (C) and test (T) lines
- Invalid:** neither control (C) and test (T) lines visible
- Invalid:** no control (C) line and visible test (T) line

For a better distinguishing between negative, borderline and positive samples a colour card for

evaluation is provided with the kit. The intensity of the test line has to be compared with the different increments of the colour card. Results lower than increment 3 should be treated as negative. Results according increment 3 or higher should be treated as positive. Since the increments of the colour card are ranging up to 10 a semi-quantitative evaluation is also possible. This can be improved by taking into account the results stated in the validation report of the product.

## 8. PERFORMANCE

### Sensitivity

LOD (total coconut) of the SENSIStrip lateral-flow test is 5 ppm for food matrix, 0.33 mg/L for rinse water and 0.013 µg/cm<sup>2</sup> for swab samples applying the procedure above. The corresponding amounts of coconut protein can be calculated by anticipating a protein content of coconut of 3.3%.

Note: Sensitivity may vary depending on matrix and processing of a complex food mixture. For achieving reliable results each matrix should be validated prior to routine testing.

### Cross-reactivity

For the following foods not cross-reactivity could be detected:

Adzuki bean	Cumin	Oyster
Almond	Curcuma	Paprika
Apricot	Dill	Pea
Barley	Duck	Peach
Bean, white	Egg white	Peanut
Bovine	Egg yolk	Pepper
Bovine gelatine	Ewe's milk	Pine nut
Brazil nut	Fennel	Pistachio
Buckwheat	Fenugreek	Poppy seed
Caraway	Flaxseed	Pork
Cardamom	Garden cress	Potato
Carob bean	Garlic	Pumpkin seed
Carrot	Gladiin	Radish
Cashew	Goat's milk	Rice
Cayenne	Guar gum	Rye
Celery	Hazelnut	Sesame
Cherry	Horseradish	Shrimp
Chestnut	Kidney bean	Soy flour
Chia	Kiwi	Soy lecithin
Chicken	Lamb	Soy milk

Chickpea	Leek	Split peas
Chili	Lentil	Sucrose
Cinnamon	Lupin	Sunflower seed
Clove	Macadamia	Thyme
Cocoa	Milk powder	Tomato
Coconut	Mustard, yellow	Turkey
Cod	Nutmeg	Walnut
Corn	Oats	Wheat
Cow's milk	Onion	White cabbage

**High-dose-hook Effect**

Reduced or absent signals can occur in case of very high concentrations. The test gives valid results up to a concentration of 2500 ppm for food samples, according 6.7 µg/cm<sup>2</sup> for swabs and 165 mg/L for rinse water samples.

**Additional Performance Data**

Additional data can be found in the corresponding validation report of the product, which can be inquired at Eurofins Technologies.

**9. LIABILITY**

Samples evaluated as positive using the kit have to be re-tested with a confirmation method.

Eurofins Technologies Hungary shall not be liable for any damages to the customer caused by the improper use of the kit and for any action undertaken as a consequence of results.

Eurofins Technologies Hungary shall not be liable for the unsafe use of the kit out of the current European safety regulations.