

An invitation from the Virginia Tech IPM CRSP West Africa Project to attend the

# Quechers Workshop

Including 1 day of formal meetings and 3 days of technical training

## Sponsors



## Invitation

The IPM CRSP (Integrated Pest Management Collaborative Research Support Program) invites chemists working in West Africa to a professional development workshop on the Quechers analytical method.

## Background

QuEChERS is a new multiresidue method for pesticide residue analysis of fruits, vegetables, and other foods; and is increasingly used by regulatory, industrial, and contract laboratories for testing food commodities intended for domestic and international consumption. The acronym Quechers (pronounced, "Catchers") stands for Quick, Easy, Cheap, Effective, and Safe which also explains the method's versatility in a wide range of laboratory situations including those in developing countries. For a recent review of this method refer to the LC/GC North America May 1, 2007 magazine article written by Ronald Majors titled, "QuEChERS – A New Sample Preparation Technique for Multiresidue Analysis of Pesticides in Foods and Agricultural Samples" and published online at the url: <http://tinyurl.com/25u94w> (as of 6/27/07).

The Quechers method was introduced by Anastassiasdes and others including Dr. Steven J. Lehotay who is currently Lead Scientist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Research Service (ARS) at Wyndmoor, PA. Dr. Lehotay will be leading a hands-on training workshop on the Quechers method for pesticide residue chemists working in West Africa.

## Workshop Organized By

Environmental Toxicology and Quality Control Laboratory (ETQCL)  
Laboratoire Central  
Vétérinaire  
BP 2295  
Km 8 Route de Koulikoro  
Bamako, Mali  
<http://www.labovetmali.org/>



## Overview

What: Technical Workshop  
Where: Bamako, Mali  
When: Aug 13-17, 2007  
Who: Chemists (20 total)  
Registration: Required

## Project

IPM CRSP West Africa  
Regional Consortium of IPM  
Excellence,

USAID Grant #LWA EPP-A-  
00-04-00016-00

## Objectives

- To provide hands-on training using the Quechers method for pesticide residue analysis of fruits and vegetables
- To create an opportunity for networking between pesticide chemists in the West Africa region
- To develop the necessary skills for interlaboratory validation of the Quechers method in West Africa

## Proposed Activities

- 1) Day 1: opening ceremony, presentations by USAID/IPM CRSP/USDA scientists, Malian representatives from food safety agencies, and by each chemist about their respective role/institution.
- 2) Days 2-4: Hands-on training in the Quechers method including sample preparation, instrument analysis, and calculations
- 3) Day 5: closing ceremony

## Who Should Participate?

Chemists from West Africa who work with pesticides in a formulation, residue, or research laboratory. This is a technical workshop specifically for chemists rather than administrators. Participants will receive a workshop-training notebook.

## Financial Assistance

Contact us if you are willing to provide financial assistance for a pesticide chemist in West Africa to attend the workshop. First priority will be given to chemists currently conducting residue analyses at government institutions in West Africa including Benin, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Cape Vert, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone. Estimated costs are \$1200-\$1500 per participant traveling by air to Bamako.

## Registration and Hotel Information

There is no registration fee. However, you must submit a registration form if you wish to attend the workshop. Space is limited and participants will be selected on a first come, first serve basis. You will be responsible for your own travel, lodging, and per diem expenses.

## Contact Information

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Please visit our web site for additional information:  
<http://www.wapp.biochem.vt.edu/>

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