

## **QA Workshop**

### **Workshop 2: Choosing an analytical laboratory**

#### **Scenario: The determination of pesticide residues in apples**

An apple grower is seeking to have some apples analysed to determine the levels of pesticide residues present. The analysis is required to ensure that residue levels do not exceed the current maximum permitted residue levels defined in legislation.

When choosing a laboratory to undertake the analysis, the grower will need assurance that the laboratory is capable of carrying out the analysis and producing results which meet the requirements of current legislation on pesticide analysis. The grower will require, from the laboratory, more than a declaration, “Yes of course we can do this work”.

Your workshop group will play the role of either the apple grower or the laboratory.

#### **Apple grower**

Discuss and list the questions the apple grower should ask the laboratory to establish that the laboratory is capable of carrying out the work to the required standard.

Consider the questions the laboratory might ask the apple grower before agreeing to take on the work.

#### **Laboratory**

Discuss and list the questions the laboratory should ask the apple grower before agreeing to take on the work.

Consider the questions the apple grower might ask the laboratory before agreeing to submit the work, and discuss how the laboratory can demonstrate to the apple grower that their results will be fit for purpose.

At the end of the discussion period there will be a ‘Question and Answer’ session between the apple grower and the laboratory.