



CUSTOMER ANNOUNCEMENT Regina - January 28th, 2019

New Gluten Testing Partnership with Neogen

Dear Valued Customer,

Effective **February 2019**, Avena Foods Purity Protocol facility in Regina will be switching to **Neogen's Veratox (AOAC-RI 061201)** for gluten testing of oat ingredients in place of R-Biopharm's Ridascreen. Both methods are comparable and are based on the **R5 antibody-based sandwich ELISA (Mendez)**. Please see the attached brochure for more information.

Avena Purity Protocol, of which gluten testing forms a key part, has been trusted for over 10 years. We continuously invest resources in our on-site laboratory to ensure that most products can be guaranteed to be **less than 5 ppm gluten**. Avena Foods will continue to provide the same high level of testing by reporting gluten results for **every tote produced**.

This change in gluten testing comes after extensive research. We visited Neogen's manufacturing operations to observe first-hand their commitment to quality control. We determined that Neogen will be a worthy partner in Avena's Purity Protocol.

Our collaboration with Neogen includes:

- Annual gluten proficiency program and third-party party validation.
- On-site training and recertification for all laboratory technicians.
- Regular technical appointments on-site.
- 24-hour technical support.
- A commitment to continuous improvement in testing protocols.

Please contact us if you have questions about Avena Purity Protocol and our gluten testing program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alexandra Fontaine".

Alexandra Fontaine, Director of Quality Assurance

