SAMPLING AND LABORATORY TESTING

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2.0

Authored and managed by:
Halal Quality Control Headquarters, The Netherlands

Target Audience:
Applicable to **Halal Quality Control (HQC)**-certified or audited organizations, HQC auditors, laboratories, accreditation bodies, Halal authorities, and stakeholders where laboratory evidence may be required to verify Halal integrity, especially for materials, products, or sectors classified as High-Risk or Critical.

How to Use This Scheme
This document only shows the executive summary of the scheme.
The full version is available upon request.

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Executive Summary of this Scheme

Testing Methods and Parameters

Testing shall use validated methods suitable for the sample type, matrix, test objective, and applicable Halal requirement. Examples of analytical methods may include:

Testing Area	Typical Method	Common Use
Animal species detection	PCR, DNA testing, sequencing or other validated species methods	Detection of porcine DNA or other animal species in gelatin, meat products, supplements, cosmetics, flavor systems, or related materials.
Animal derivative detection	ELISA or other validated protein-based methods	Detection of animal-based proteins or derivatives where suitable for the sample matrix.
Alcohol analysis	GC-MS, GC-FID, HPLC, or other validated methods	Determination of methyl alcohol, ethyl alcohol, or other alcohols where relevant to Halal requirements.
Water permeability	Validated water exposure or permeability test	Assessment of cosmetic and personal care products where required by the Indonesian or Malaysian market, authority, or applicable standard.
Other parameters	Validated method accepted by HQC or required by an authority	Testing required for special product risks, complaint investigations, authority requirements, or destination market controls.

Examples of Testing Applications

Product or Risk Area	Possible Testing Focus	Reason for Testing
Gelatin, collagen, enzymes, meat derivatives	Species identification or animal origin	To verify animal species and detect prohibited or unexpected animal origin.
Flavors, extracts, beverages, fermented products	Ethyl alcohol and methyl alcohol concentration	To verify alcohol level and assess compliance with applicable Halal requirements.
Cosmetics and personal care products	Water permeability where required	To assess whether the product may affect water exposure requirements in certain markets.
Supplements and capsules	Animal species, gelatin source, alcohol-based extraction	To support verification of high-risk ingredients or capsule materials.
Complaint or investigation samples	Parameter determined by HQC or authority	To provide objective evidence during complaint handling or non-conformity follow-up.

What this document is

The HQC Sampling and Laboratory Testing Scheme defines the requirements for sampling, laboratory testing, laboratory selection, reporting, and follow-up of Halal-related test results under Halal Quality Control.

Why this Scheme exists

Sampling and laboratory testing support Halal certification where objective analytical evidence is needed. This may include verification of animal species, alcohol concentration, water permeability, contamination, authenticity, or other parameters relevant to Halal compliance.

What the Scheme covers

The Scheme covers risk-based testing requirements, sample collection, storage, transport, laboratory competence, ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation, accepted test methods, contracting arrangements, financial responsibilities, test reporting, result interpretation, and follow-up actions.

Core requirements

Sampling and testing may be required for products or materials classified as High-Risk or Critical, or where HQC, a Halal authority, an accreditation body, or a destination market requires additional verification. Laboratories shall be competent, suitably accredited, and able to provide clear and traceable reports.

Relation to other HQC documents

This Scheme shall be read together with the HQC Halal Certification Scheme, HQC HAP Scheme, HQC Service Providers Scheme, HQC Risk Classification Table, HQC Ethanol Usage Guideline, and applicable Special Export Guideline Schemes.

Conclusion

The HQC Sampling and Laboratory Testing Scheme provides a structured and practical framework for using laboratory evidence in a consistent, transparent, and verifiable manner. By applying this Scheme, HQC and certified clients can support Halal integrity with reliable sampling, validated methods, and competent laboratory reporting.

Need Help?

Your HQC contact or office partner can guide you through this scheme or answer any questions you have.

You may contact us by emailing **info@halalqualitycontrol.com** or by calling/messaging us at **+31 70 346 97 95** (WhatsApp available for multilingual communication).