

Participants in the Fall 2019 Performance Graded Asphalt Binder Proficiency Sample Program,

The Fall 2019 Performance Graded Asphalt Binder Proficiency Samples 257 and 258 are currently being processed and packaged for shipping. Please take note of the following dates and deadlines associated with these samples:

Shipping Date: September 26th, 2019

Immediately after the shipping date, please log in to the AASHTO re:source website to track your packages. From the "My Laboratory Home", click "View Packages" at the left of the page, under the "Lab Account" heading.

Upon receipt of the samples, please open the box and ensure that all contents are included. If the samples are seriously damaged or missing a component, please notify us immediately and we will send replacements. If you do not, we cannot guarantee that samples will be available with enough time for testing to be completed.

The outside of the sample box is labeled samples 257(A) and 258(B). The cans inside the boxes are labeled only (A) or (B). The can labeled (A) is sample 257. The can labeled (B) is sample 258.

Datasheets, instructions, and SDSs will be available for this sample on our website beginning on September 26th, 2019. They can be found by using the following link:

<http://aashtoresource.org/psp/datasheets-and-instructions>

Non-Receipt Date: October 10th, 2019

If you have not received the samples by the non-receipt date or if the samples are seriously damaged, or missing a component please notify us immediately and we will send replacements.

Closing Date: November 14th, 2019

We encourage you to submit your results online, as soon as possible. This enables you to receive instant confirmation of data submitted and revise data if needed. Test results received after the closing date will not be included in the final report.

Final Report Date: November 29th, 2019

AASHTO re:source will provide a final report approximately two weeks after the closing date. Individual laboratory reports will be provided by logging on the AASHTO re:source website. Laboratories will be notified by email when the final report becomes available.

Of course, confidentiality of individual laboratory results will be maintained. However, general information regarding the round of testing, such as statistical summary tables and Youden scatter diagrams associated with the analysis of data, will be provided to the public on AASHTO re:source's website.

Testing Note

For each test performed please report the result of a single determination only, not the average of two or more, except in cases where an average is called for in the method or specification. The program is designed to obtain two independent test results, one for each numbered sample, for each test method that the laboratory chooses to perform.

To permit an estimate of single-operator precision, the same operator should conduct an individual test on both samples. It is not necessary that the same person conduct all of the tests.

Treat each sample as you would treat a typical “testing” sample. Any special handling or preparation needs will be included below or within the Sample Instructions Document.

Special Instructions/New Test Methods/Changes in Proficiency Scheme

Please note that reporting the individual values for each beam in the pair for the **Bending Beam Rheometer: T313/D6648 Estimated Stiffness and Estimated slope (m-value)**, have been removed. Please continue to test two beams for each sample, however, only report the average values for Sample 257 and for Sample 258.

A complete sample schedule is available online:

<http://aashtoresource.org/psp/schedule>

Please contact AASHTO re:source at psp@aashtoresource.org or call 240-436-4900 if there are questions.

Sincerely,
John J. Malusky
Program Manager, AASHTO re:source Proficiency Sample Program