

Participants in the Spring 2024 Performance Graded Asphalt Binder Proficiency Sample Program,

The Spring 2024 Performance Graded Asphalt Binder Proficiency Samples 275 and 276 are currently being processed and packaged for shipping. Please take note of the following dates and deadlines associated with these samples:

Shipping Date: March 21st, 2024

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 275(A) and 276(B). The cans inside the boxes are labeled only (A) or (B). The can labeled (A) is sample 275. The can labeled (B) is sample 276.

Datasheets, instructions, and SDSs will be available for this sample on our website beginning on April 6th, 2023. They can be found by using the following link:

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

Non-Receipt Date: April 4th, 2024

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: May 16th, 2024

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: May 30th, 2024

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 AMRL'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

Multiple Stress Creep Recovery of Asphalt Binder Using a Dynamic Shear Rheometer, AASHTO T350-19 or ASTM D7405-20:

When performing this test, please use a new RTFO conditioned sample. Do not use a specimen that had been previously tested for RTFO conditioned material for T315/D7175 testing.

No test methods have been added or removed from this sample round.

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