



Application Note AN-RS-026

Trace Detection of Diphenylamine in Baby Food

Protecting consumer safety with Misa

Diphenylamine (DPA) is used as a dye fixative and antioxidant in industrial applications and as a produce preservative in agricultural operations. Despite its low toxicity to humans and the environment, there is controversy about its application on fruits and vegetables post-harvest to ensure long-term storage. Food safety advocates are concerned that daily ingestion of DPA, particularly in foods meant for babies, could have negative effects on children's health. To mitigate potentially toxic effects of DPA, both

the US and EU stipulate a maximum residue limit (MRL) of 5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ for whole pears and a stringent MRL of 10 ng/g for all processed baby foods.

Misa (Metrohm Instant SERS Analyzer) provides a user-friendly and cost-effective alternative to traditional analytical methods used for detecting DPA in foods, such as GC-MS and GC-NPD. With Misa, trace level detection of DPA in infant food is achieved quickly and easily in a format that is easily adapted to diverse sample matrices.

INTRODUCTION

This application note describes a simulated test procedure for detecting DPA in pureed pears marketed as food for infants. The assay is based

on the acquisition of SERS-specific spectra for diphenylamine in chloroform extracts using Misa and gold nanoparticles (Au NPs).

REFERENCE MATERIAL AND LIBRARY CREATION

To establish a reference spectrum, a pure DPA standard (100 $\mu\text{g/g}$ in ethanol) was analyzed using Au NPs. The unique SERS spectrum shown

in **Figure 1** can be used to create a library entry for DPA.

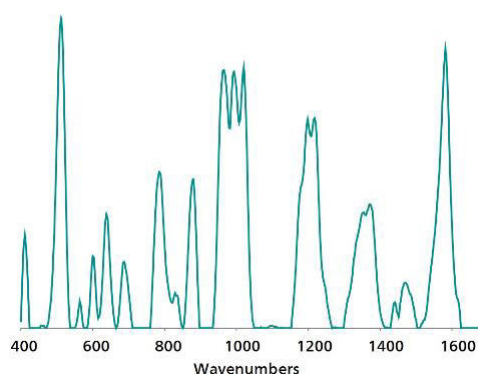


Figure 1. Standard gold nanoparticle SERS reference spectrum of diphenylamine.

EXPERIMENT

Serial dilutions of a stock solution of DPA in ethanol were spiked into purchased pureed pears sold as baby food to provide a range of test samples: 100, 50, 25, 10, 5, 2.5, and 1 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Samples were mixed with a vortex, then 0.5 mL chloroform was added, and samples were mixed again for 1 minute. After allowing phase separation for 10 minutes, 100 μL of the bottom chloroform layer was siphoned with a pipette and transferred to a glass vial for evaporative heating. The extract residue was suspended in 450 μL of Au NPs and 50 μL of 0.5 mol/L NaCl. Each vial was vigorously shaken and immediately placed into the vial attachment on Misa for measurement.



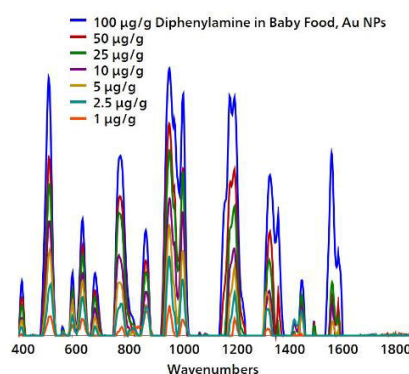
Table 1. Experimental parameters

Instrument		Acquisition	
Firmware	0.9.33	Laser Power	5
Software	Misa Cal V1.0.15	Int. Time	5 s
Misa Vial Attachment	6.07505.040	Averages	10
ID Kit - Au NP	6.07506.440	Raster	ON

RESULTS

Overlaid of baseline-corrected spectra acquired for each tested concentration shows high-

resolution DPA detection down to 1 µg/g (Figure 2).

**Figure 2.** Gold NP SERS spectral profile for diphenylamine in pureed pears, demonstrating detection down to 1 µg/g.

FIELD TEST PROTOCOL

Detection of diphenylamine in the field

Add baby food to glass vial until approximately 1/4 full. Using a pipette, add chloroform to the same vial until halfway full. Shake mixture vigorously for 1 minute, and then rest for 10 minutes to permit separation. Using a pipette, carefully remove half of the *bottom layer*, avoiding the top layer. Transfer this solution into

a *clean glass vial* and heat until dry on a hotplate (5 minutes). Using clean pipettes, add Au NPs to vial until halfway full, then add 2 drops of NaCl solution. Cap vial and shake to mix, then allow to rest for 5 minutes before inserting into the vial attachment on Misa for testing.

Table 2. Requirements for field test protocol

ID Kit - Au NP	6.07506.440
includes:	Gold nanoparticles (Au NP)
	Scoop
	Disposable pipettes
	2 mL glass vials
Reagents	
Chloroform	
NaCl solution	3 g NaCl in 100 mL water
Test settings	Use ID Kit OP on MISA

CONCLUSION

With successful, sensitive detection of diphenylamine in baby food, Misa is demonstrated to be a reliable QC tool for monitoring food safety, especially safeguarding the health of children. Misa is a portable and fully contained system, ideal for on-site testing and uniquely tailored for operation in a wide

range of different environments.

Additionally, operators in postharvest produce treatment facilities who are at risk of high-level occupational exposure, for instance, would benefit greatly from a mobile monitoring system for such chemical hazards.

CONTACT

メトロームジャパン株式会社
143-0006 東京都大田区平和島6-1-1
null 東京流通センター アネックス9階

metrohm.jp@metrohm.jp

CONFIGURATION



MISA Advanced

Metrohm Instant SERS Analyzer (MISA) は、微量レベルでの違法物質、食品添加物、および食品汚染物質の迅速な検出 / 同定のための高性能な携帯可能分析システムです。MISAは、Metrohm 独自の軌道ラスタスキャン技術 (Orbital Raster Scan Technologie, ORS) を備えた高効率の分光器を有しています。これは省スペースで、より長いバッテリー寿命を持ち、現場やラボでの移動式用途にも完璧に適しています。MISA ではフレキシブルなサンプル採取を可能にする、レーザークラス1の様々なアタッチメントをご利用いただけます。アナライザーはBluetoothまたはUSBコネクタを介して操作可能です。

MISA Advanced パッケージは、ユーザーに Metrohmのナノ粒子溶液とP-SERSストリップを用いたSERS分析を可能にするコンプリートパッケージです。

MISA Advanced パッケージには、MISAバイアルアタッチメント、P-SERSアタッチメント、ASTM校正標準、USBミニケーブル、USB電源装置、ならびにMISA装置を操作するためのMISA Calソフトウェアが含まれます。装置と付属品を安全に保管するための頑丈な保護ケースも同梱されています。



ID - Au NP

IDキット - Au NPには、Mira/Misaユーザーが金コロイド溶液でSERS分析を行うのに必要なコンポーネントが含まれています。このキットには、使い捨てのへら、滴下ピペット、サンプルボトル、および金コロイド入りのボトルが含まれています。