

Food Virology

Course Description

This course provides training in principles and practices of food virology, focussing on the recently developed standardised methods to detect hepatitis A virus and Norovirus.

The course which offers a balanced combination of classroom and in-lab training includes:

- A full overview of the food-borne viruses;
- Comprehensive information on the transmission, symptoms, monitoring, detection, and control of the viruses of main concern;
- Critical overviews of sample preparation, virus extraction and nucleic acid amplification procedures, including a thorough exposition of controls;
- Practical demonstrations of the virus extraction procedures specified in the ISO Technical Specifications for the detection of hepatitis A virus and Norovirus*, with demonstrations of virus detection using the prescribed assays, and also commercial kit (CEERAM)-based assays.

Lecture-based critical overviews of the complete ISO protocols, and other suitable virus detection procedures, will also be provided.

Candidates are required to have working knowledge of Real Time PCR to gain maximum benefit from the course.

Course Lecturers

This course is taught by Fera's internationally-recognised food and environmental virologists. The team undertakes research, surveillance, and commercial analysis of established and emerging food-borne viruses in a range of food types and environmental matrices.

Venue

The course is delivered using dedicated facilities at Fera's world-class laboratory complex located on the Sand Hutton National Agri-Food Innovation Campus near York, UK.

How to register interest

Please e-mail your details, the name of the course you would like to attend and the number of people from your organisation who would like to attend the course to: traininglabs@fera.co.uk

You will also find useful information about the venue, details of how to find us, and advice on accommodation and visas on our web site.

*ISO/TS 15216-1: Microbiology of food and animal feed -- Horizontal method for determination of hepatitis A virus and norovirus in food using real-time RT-PCR -- Part 1: Method for quantification. International Organization for Standardization.

ISO/TS 15216-2: Microbiology of food and animal feed -- Horizontal method for determination of hepatitis A virus and norovirus in food using real-time RT-PCR -- Part 1: Method for qualitative detection. International Organization for Standardization.