



## Order #: COKAL1310AS

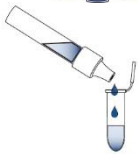
The **Cashew** tree (*Anacardium occidentale*) belongs to the family *Anacardiaceae*. With about 18% the fraction of proteins in cashew seed is very high. Some of these proteins, like the vicilin Ana o 1, the legumin Ana o 2 and the albumin Ana o 3 are known to elicit an allergenic response. Many of the proteins are heat resistant making them stable to different production processes. For this reason cashew represents an important food allergen.

**Pistachio** (*Pistacia vera*) belongs to the family of *Anacardiaceae*. At approximately 21%, the protein fraction in pistachio seed is very high. Some of these proteins, for example the 2S albumin Pis v 1, the 11S globulin Pis v 2 or the 7S vicillin Pis v 3 are known to be allergenic. Many of the proteins are heat stable making them resistant to different production processes. For this reason pistachio represents an important food allergen.

## Short instructions



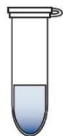
Perform extraction for finished product, rinse water or swab.



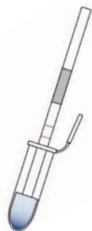
Transfer **12 drops** of extract to incubation vial.



Shake incubation vial vigorously by hand for **15 seconds**.



Incubate for **5 minutes** at room temperature.



Insert test strip into the solution and incubate for **5 minutes**.  
**Read result immediately.**

## Performance Characteristics:

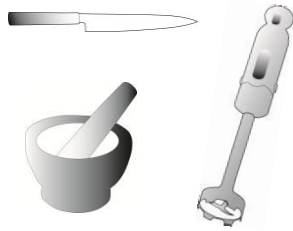
LOD: 2 ppm Cashew/Pistachio\* (Finished product & rinse water testing)  
2 µg/25cm<sup>2</sup> Cashew/Pistachio \*\* (Swab testing)

\* LOD was determined in extraction solution

\*\* LOD was calculated

## Sample preparation – Finished Products and Rinse Water

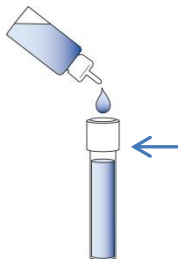
**1. Homogenize** the sample (i.e. blend, crush, grind)



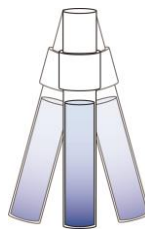
**2. Add 0.2 mL** Rinse water or **0.2g** of sample (weigh with Balance or estimate by filling up one of the extraction tube caps) to the sample extraction tube



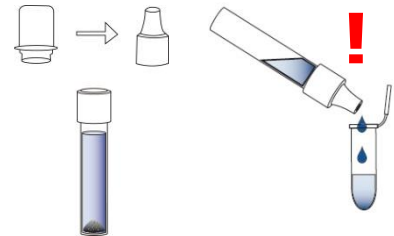
**3. Fill Extraction Tube with Extraction Buffer** to level shown below (blue arrow)



**4. Close tube with tube cap, and shake vigorously by hand for 1 minute.**



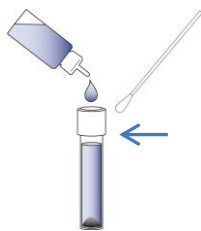
**5. Remove cap from the Extraction Tube and replace with dropper tip. And transfer 12 drops (400µl) to an incubation vial.**



**Proceed to the Assay Section (page 3) to complete your test**

## Sample preparation – Swab Testing

**1. Fill extraction tube with Extraction Buffer** to level shown below (blue arrow), take a swab and wet the end by dipping into the buffer



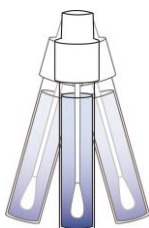
**2. Wipe an area of 5cmx5cm** using side to side movements, rotating the swab tip as you go (we recommend the “cross-hatch” swabbing technique indicated below)



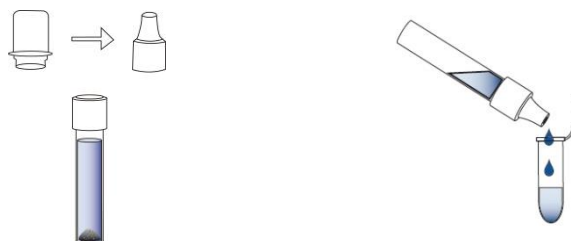
**3. Place the swab into the extraction tube. Carefully break off the end at the pre-scored point.**



**4. Close the tube with a cap and shake vigorously for 1 minute**



**5. Remove cap from the Extraction Tube and replace with dropper tip. And transfer 12 drops (400µl) to an incubation vial.**

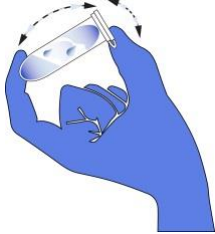


**Proceed to the Assay Section (page 3) to complete your test**

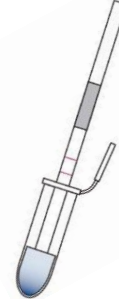
## Assay Procedure in detail

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**1.** Shake Incubation Vial vigorously by hand for **15 seconds** (ensuring liquid comes in contact with the lid of the vial) then leave to stand at room temperature for **5 minutes**.



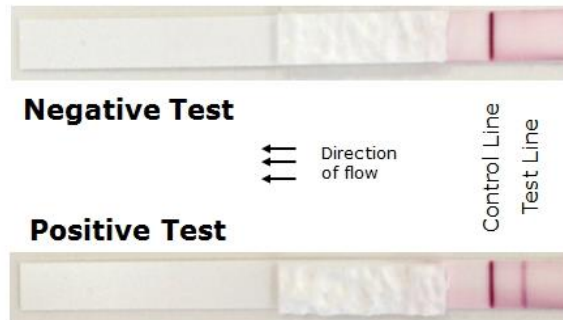
**2.** Open the container of AgraStrips<sup>®</sup>, remove the necessary number of strips and close the tube. Open the Incubation Vial and insert the bottom end of test strip into the vial.



**3.** Remove the test strip from the Incubation Vial **after 5 minutes** and read the result immediately.

## Interpretation of Results

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**One single purple line in the central part of the test** = negative result

**Two purple lines in the result zone** = positive result. The sample contains allergen higher than the cut-off level and further investigations should be performed

**No control line appears** = invalid result, regardless of whether the test line appears. In the case of an invalid result, please repeat the procedure with a new strip. If the problem persists, please contact Romer Labs<sup>®</sup> before continuing further.

### **Important advice for the proper execution of the test:**

- It is important to **read the results immediately after the 5 minute incubate step** since the AgraStrip<sup>®</sup> test system has been validated extensively and shows reliable results after that exact time. Longer incubation times can lead to the development of false positive results.
- The AgraStrip<sup>®</sup> Allergen lateral flow tests are for the **detection of trace amounts of allergens** in a low ppm range. If the sample contains more than 1% (10000ppm) allergen, the test will come up negative.

## Performance Characteristics in Detail

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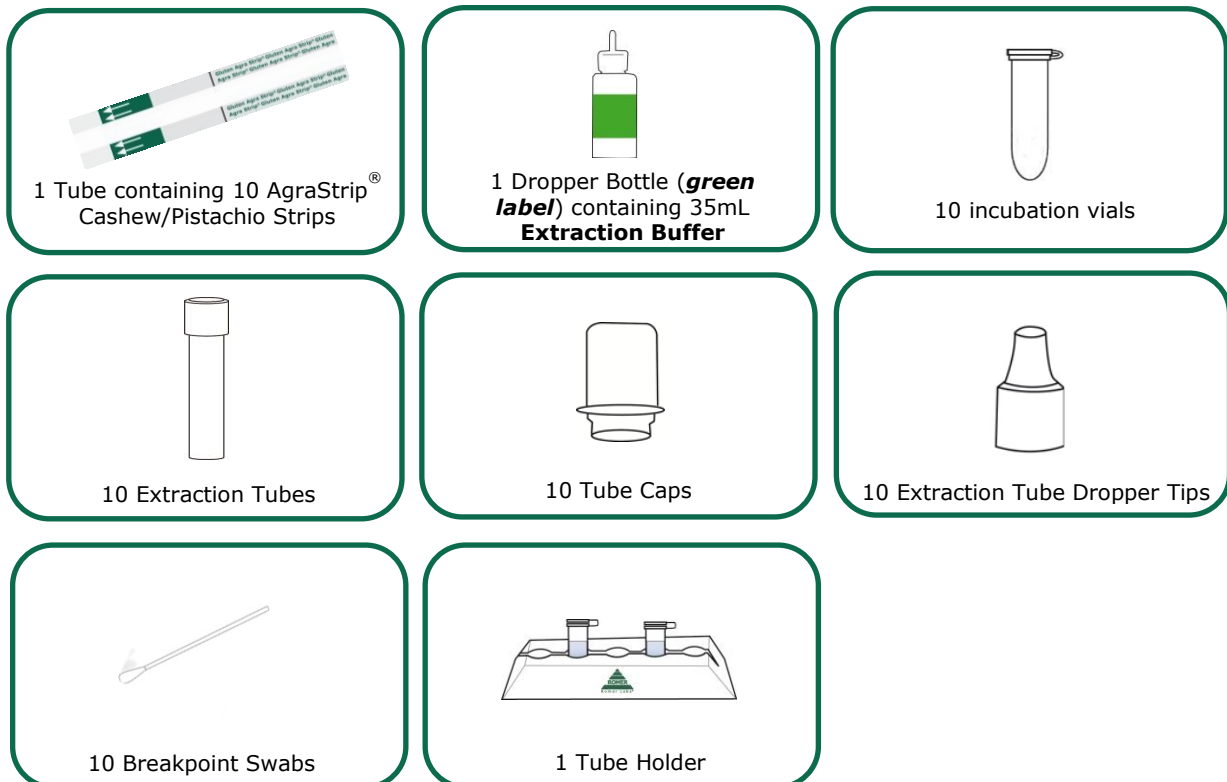
**Limit of detection:** 2 ppm Cashew/Pistachio (Finished product & rinse water testing)  
2 µg/25cm<sup>2</sup> Cashew/Pistachio (Swab testing)

**Range of detection:** 2 – 100000 ppm Cashew/Pistachio

**pH range:** Performing the assay in a pH range of 6-8 will lead to reliable results. Highly acidic samples can lead to false positive results whereas in an alkaline milieu there is the tendency to false negative results.

## Materials Supplied with Kit:

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## Materials required but not supplied for solid sample preparation

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- Blender or Crusher or Blade

## Technical and Background Information

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The AgraStrip® Cashew/Pistachio Test Kit is a lateral flow assay for the detection of Cashew/Pistachio content in food, rinse waters and environmental swab samples.

### Cashew/Pistachio Allergy

The *Cashew* tree (*Anacardium occidentale*) belongs to the family *Anacardiaceae*. With about 18% the fraction of proteins in cashew seed is very high. Some of these proteins, like the vicilin Ana o 1, the legumin Ana o 2 and the albumin Ana o 3 are known to elicit an allergenic response. Many of the proteins are heat resistant making them stable to different production processes. For this reason cashew represents an important food allergen.

*Pistachio* (*Pistacia vera*) belongs to the family of *Anacardiaceae*. At approximately 21%, the protein fraction in pistachio seed is very high. Some of these proteins, for example the 2S albumin Pis v 1, the 11S globulin Pis v 2 or the 7S vicillin Pis v 3 are known to be allergenic. Many of the proteins are heat stable making them resistant to different production processes. For this reason pistachio represents an important food allergen.

For cashew- or pistachio-allergic persons, hidden cashew/pistachio allergens in food are a critical problem. Very low amounts of cashew/pistachio can cause allergic reactions, which may lead to anaphylactic shock in severe cases. Because of this, cashew- and pistachio-allergic persons must strictly avoid the consumption of cashew/pistachio-containing food. Cross-contamination, mostly as a consequence of the production process, is often noticed. This explains why in many cases the existence of cashew/pistachio residues in food can not be excluded. For this reason sensitive detection systems for cashew/pistachio residues in foodstuffs are required.

### Assay Principles

Immunological rapid test in lateral flow format for the detection of Cashew/Pistachio in food, rinse waters and swab samples (environmental samples). The extracted sample is transferred to an incubation vial that contains specific ready - to - use antibodies. If the sample contains Cashew/Pistachio, an antigen-antibody complex will form. This is subsequently detected by the test strip. The test is easy to use, fast and reliable.

### Precautions

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1. The product must be stored in its original package, between 15 and 25°C (room temperature). Do not use components beyond the expiration date indicated on the kit labels. Do not open the product until needed.
2. Test strips must be kept inside their original packaging, closed as tightly as possible. Do not freeze.
3. Adhere to the instructions for test procedures.
4. The components in this test kit have been quality control tested as a standard batch unit. Do not mix components from different lot numbers.

### Sampling:

Consideration must be taken that the food may contain an uneven distribution of Cashew/Pistachio (spot contamination). It is important to test a representative portion of food as only a small amount of material is tested with the AgraStrip® Cashew/Pistachio test.

**Detection:**

The detection limit of the AgraStrip® Cashew/Pistachio test is at the low ppm level but will vary depending on the food matrix being tested. To give reliable results each individual matrix should be validated before the kit is used routinely.

For further information regarding validation please contact Romer Labs.

**Note:**

Chocolate and flour samples may block the filter tip of the extraction tube. This can be avoided by transferring the extract directly from the extraction tube to the reaction vial using a pipette or by hand to a level just under the 0.5ml graduation of the reaction vial

**Handling of the new improved AgraStrip® extraction buffer bottles**

To **open** the bottle just hold the neck of the upper part (indicated by the asterix) with your thumb and index finger and twist the corrugated screw top counterclockwise .

To **close** the bottle twist the screw top clockwise up to the stop.

**For further information please contact:**

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Email: enquiry@romerlabs.com

**For customer service contact details in your country please visit:**

[www.romerlabs.com](http://www.romerlabs.com)

**Warranty**

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FOR NOTES

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