

Contact: Ling Yuan, 859-257-4806

## **CTRP announces release of four new smokeless tobacco reference products**

By Jeff Franklin

LEXINGTON, Ky., (May 14, 2019) - The Center for Tobacco Reference Products (CTRP) has produced four new certified smokeless tobacco reference products, developed under a \$7.4 million, 5 year cooperative agreement with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). CTRP is a unit of the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center, College of Agriculture, Food and Environment, The University of Kentucky. The compositions of the smokeless tobacco reference products resemble smokeless tobacco products commonly sold in the United States. The reference products are not for human consumption, but rather for facilitating research only. The new reference products can help tobacco researchers and regulators compare and acquire accurate data about smokeless tobacco products. They can also be used to generate high-quality data to help FDA make public health decisions about the regulation of tobacco products and advance scientific understanding of the harmful effects of tobacco use.

The new certified smokeless tobacco reference products include 23,040 units of STRP 1S4 Swedish Style Snus, 23,040 units of STRP 1S5 Snus, 16,560 units of STRP 3S1 Loose Leaf Smokeless Tobacco, and 24,930 units of STRP 3S3 Moist Snuff, which are designed for nonclinical, investigational use by tobacco manufacturers, academic researchers, and contract or government laboratories. The Reference Products are among the few reference tobacco products in the world to include a certificate of analysis, containing measurements of selected chemical properties, including those recognized as harmful and potentially harmful constituents.

The four new certified reference products, representative of loose leaf chewing tobacco, moist snuff, Swedish style snus and pouched snus, were manufactured in one manufacturing run each to ensure product uniformity, and have certified characteristics to allow for proficiency testing, instrument calibration, employee/student training, method validation, and other investigational purposes. CTRP, a unit of the Kentucky Tobacco Research and Development Center, will expand its program for tobacco analysis and reference tobacco products to support collaborative studies on constituent analysis, and product storage and stability.

Since 1968, the University of Kentucky has provided reference tobacco products as standards for non-clinical investigational purposes by tobacco manufacturers, contract or government laboratories, and academic institutions. CTRP is committed to supply certified standards for tobacco product research. The development

<http://www.ca.uky.edu>

and distribution of high-quality smokeless tobacco reference products by CTRP will strengthen the FDA's effort to develop the science of tobacco regulation and serve as a necessary resource for tobacco product research and analysis by governmental, industrial, and academic entities.

For more information, visit the website of the University of Kentucky, Center for Tobacco Reference Product at <https://ctrp.uky.edu/home>.

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