



Project HORIZONTAL Validation Report on polybrominated diphenylethers

Validation of a horizontal standard for the determination of selected polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE) by gas-chromatography method with mass selective detection (GC-MS) in a European Intercomparison Exercise

E. Sobiecka, H. van der Sloot, D. Barcelo, B. M. Gawlik



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Validation of a horizontal standard for the determination of selected polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE) by gas-chromatography method with mass selective detection (GC-MS) in a European Intercomparison Exercise

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Summary

Project HORIZONTAL is interdisciplinary aiming at a harmonisation and horizontal standardisation of test procedures, in particular for sludge, soils and biowastes. In the context of this standardization project, a series of draft technical specifications were designed upon an extensive desk study, fine-tuned after expert consultations and finally validated in international intercomparisons exercise.

This report summarises the work performed within the validation study of the draft standard for the determination of polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE) in soils, sludge and treated bio-waste using gas-chromatography method with mass selective detection (GC-MS). It further explains the underlying statistical concept for the calculation of reproducibility and repeatability from intercomparisons data. In addition all single values, results of the statistical evaluation as well as background information on the validation materials used are described and explained.

Abbreviations

Throughout this report the following abbreviations are used:

ANOVA	Analysis of variances	GC	Gas Chromatography
CAS	Chemical Abstracts System	MILC	Measure Interlaboratory Comparison
CEN	Comité Européen de Normalisation	MS	Mass Spectroscopy
DG	Directorate General	P	Number of labs
ECD	Electron Capture Detector	PBDE	Polybrominated Diphenylethers
ECN	Energy Research Centre for the Netherlands	r	Repeatability limit
EU	European Union	R	Reproducibility limit
IES	Institute for Environment and Sustainability	s _r	Repeatability standard deviation
IT	Information Technology	s _R	Reproducibility standard deviation
ISO	International Organization for Standardisation	TC	Technical Committee
JRC	Joint Research Centre		

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Introduction to the validation project

Project HORIZONTAL is interdisciplinary aiming at a harmonisation and horizontal standardisation of test procedures, in particular for sludges, soils and biowastes. It was created as in response to the European Commission Mandate M 330 given to CEN, asking for the

development and validation of those standards in support of forthcoming EU Directives, such as:

- The revision of the Sewage Sludge Directive 86/278/EEC.
- The Directive on the biological treatment of biodegradable waste.
- The initiative on a legal framework for soil monitoring in Europe.

This mandate explicitly considers standards for the entire analytical procedure (i.e., sampling, pre-treatment and analytical measurement methods for inorganic, organic, hygiene and biological parameters). These are grouped into classes according to their physical/chemical

properties, which in turn determine the methods needed to quantify the potential impact on human and animal health, plant uptake, soil function and groundwater quality. As the materials generally feature a mixture of different types of contaminants, it is important to provide an integrated answer covering evaluation of all relevant pollutants.

In order to fulfil the requirements of the aforementioned mandate, the European Commissions Joint Research Centre (JRC) and its Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENV) together with the Technical Committees of the European Standardisation Committee (CEN TCs) concerned designed a pre-normative research initiative called Project HORIZONTAL and presented it to the Commission and the Environmental Authorities in the Member States.

After an extensive literature research and careful evaluation of the feasibility of a given horizontal standard, the standards were drafted and finally validated in an European laboratory intercomparison.

The underlying statistical concept, information about the materials used, details about the participants, measurement results obtained as well as the derived performance characteristics obtained for the determination of polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE) are described hereafter.

1.1 Statistical concept underlying the validation

According to the requirements of the work package concerning data handling & interpretation of the project HORIZONTAL-ORG the respective validation intercomparisons have to be evaluated according to the principles laid down in ISO standard 5725-2:1994. In particular repeatability and reproducibility of the draft standard methods have to be determined. The determination of trueness would require the availability of independent reference values for the materials investigated. This, however, is not possible and was not requested in the frame of this work. In the following, the approach chosen is explained.

1.1.1 Introduction to the statistical model

The statistical model used in ISO 5725 for estimation of accuracy of a measurement method assumes that every test result is the sum of three components:

$$y = m + B + e$$

y: test result

m: general mean

B: laboratory component of bias under repeatability conditions

e: random error occurring in every measurement under repeatability conditions

In the workprogram the quantification of term *e* is explicitly asked for (i.e. repeatability and reproducibility). The repeatability variance is measured directly as the variance of the error term *e*, but the reproducibility depends on the sum of the repeatability variance and the between-laboratory variance:

$$\sigma_r = \sqrt{\text{var}(e)}$$

$$\sigma_R = \sqrt{\sigma_L^2 + \sigma_r^2} \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma_L = \sqrt{\text{var}(B)}$$

However, soil, biowaste and sludge are multi-phase materials, i.e. they contain two or more distinct types of particles which are fundamentally different in their properties and composition. As a consequence, this introduces an important source of variation for the intercomparison exercise which needs to be considered, i.e. the inherent heterogeneity of the materials.

Thus, a contribution of variation between samples *H* is introduced to the general statistical model:

$$y = m + B + e + H$$

Using ANOVA techniques the different variances are calculated and separated for the evaluation.

1.1.2 Requirements for precision experiment

Layout of the experiment

A suite of 10 to 12 different materials (soil, sludge and biowaste) has been made available for the intercomparison exercise. For each parameter investigated, at least 10 laboratories should be nominated to participate. The same laboratories should be used for different parameters as far as possible. Due to the complexity of analysis and the respective workload to the laboratories, it was decided to propose three materials for the validation of the PBDE draft standard.

Each laboratory received two bottles of each material and was requested to perform 4 independent analyses per material¹ (2 per bottle) using the respective draft standard methods. The 4 analysis per material should be carried out under repeatability conditions (i.e. same operator², same equipment, within a short period of time). As far as possible, also the different materials should be measured under repeatability conditions; however, changes of e.g. operator or equipment are permitted, but must be reported. Likewise, different materials can be analysed on different days if necessary.

Equipment used in the experiment needed to be checked prior to the experiment according to the requirements of the draft standard, The results of these checks have to be documented. Similarly, date and time of each measurement had to be recorded for verification of repeatability conditions.

An appropriate timeframe for the entire exercise has been set and was to be respected.

Recruitment of the laboratories

Each sub-workpackage leader of HORIZONTAL was asked to select the laboratories using the information from section 5.2 of ISO 5725-2:1994 and provide the signed questionnaires (see also Annex 1). The workpackage leaders were responsible for providing the laboratories with the draft standard method and explaining the context of this exercise.

Preparation and use of the materials

Materials used for the exercise were prepared according to the general requirements for reference materials as laid down in ISO Guide 34. Materials were accompanied by instructions for use.

Reporting of results

Online submissions of results using an internet-based IT platform as well as XLS-Spreadsheets were used. In case of online data submission, the participating laboratories received a unique and confidential login and password in due time, enabling them to

¹ Independent analysis means analysis of independent test portions, applying the entire analytical scheme to this test portion, from e.g. extraction to quantification. For instance it does not mean replicate injections of aliquots into a GC-MS instrument.

² Operator in this context may also consist of a fixed team of persons, e.g. one person performing extraction, one clean-up, one quantification.

enter their data in a structured form. For authentication purposes a signed printout had to be submitted by mail.

The online data submission included a detailed questionnaire for additional information on the measurements.

1.1.3 Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis of data followed the requirements of ISO 5725-2:1994 and ISO 5725-5:1998. Appropriate tests for the homogeneity of variance, detection of outliers and normal distribution were applied. Statistical evaluation was done using an Excel Macro, developed, tested and successfully applied in other occasion by ECN. Evaluation was executed jointly by JRC and ECN.

1.2 Validation exercise for PBDE

1.2.1 Compounds to be measured

The following compound were selected for the validation exercise : Tetra-BDE-47, Penta-BDE-100, Penta-BDE-99, Hexa-BDE-154, Hexa-BDE-153, Hepta-BDE-183, Octa-BDE-196, Octa-BDE-197, Octa-BDE-203, Deca-BDE-209.

1.2.2 Samples dispatched for the validation of PBDE

After a preliminary rough screening, the following materials were used for the validation round of PBDE:

- Compost 1 A pollutant loaded compost material from Vienna
- Sewage Sludge 1 A mixed sewage sludge from Essen
- Soil 3 A sludge amended soil from Barcelona

A more detailed description of background concentrations can be found in Annex 2 to this report. The samples were dispatched simultaneously to all participants using a private courier service.

1.2.3 Draft standards to be followed

The draft standards to be followed could be downloaded following this link, which is situated on the website of the Project HORIZONTAL:

http://www.ecn.nl/docs/society/horizontal/BFR_Standard_for_validation.pdf

1.2.4 Analytical programm

Of each of the three materials 2 bottles had to be analysed and each bottle had to analysed independently twice. As mentioned above analyses were to be done under repeatability conditions. Results were to be reported referring to DRY MATTER content. The choice, how to apply d.m. correction was free for each participant.

1.2.5 Timing and Submission of data

Dispatch of samples was done on the 18th of October 2006. For users of the Online data submission system (MILC), User Registration was possible from 14th of November 2006 with opening of the MILC Data Submission on 1st of December 2006. The deadline for submission of results has been set for PBDE to the 12th of January 2007, but was extended to the end of the same months. After that no further submission was possible.

Alternatively the participants were allowed to submit data electronically as Excel sheet using simply Email.

All data were treated in a confidential way. Any presentation hereafter will refer only to numerical data and it will not be possible to identify the originating laboratory. Lab Codes displayed are NOT related to the order of laboratories hereafter.

In addition to the information provide an Helpdesk was implemented in order to give quick and individual response to the participants during and immediately after the validation study. In case of doubt and suspected transcription errors, further enquires were conducted by JRC.

1.2.6 Participants

The following table lists the participating organisations and entities in the validation exercise for the horizontal PBDE standard;

- Austria
 - Umweltbundesamt
- Czech Republic
 - Povodi Labe, statni podnik - OVHL Laboratory
- France
 - CIRSEE
 - CTC Environnement
 - INERIS
- Germany
 - Federal Environmental Agency, Section III 3.4, Laboratory Methods for the Surveillance of Waste and Wastewater (UBA)
- Italy
 - European Commission DG JRC IES
- Spain
 - Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (CSIC)

- Sweden
 - ALCONTROL AB

1.3 Summary results and derived performance characteristics

The result of the various statistical evaluation including outlier tests, calculation of repeatability and reproducibility standard deviation for the congeners of interest can be found in Annex 3 of this report. In addition, all data submitted by the participants as well as those considered for the calculation of the performance characteristics are listed in Annex 3 to this report.

Based on these calculations the following results were obtained in the validation round upon statistical evaluation according to ISO 5725-2. The average values, the repeatability standard deviation (s_r) and the reproducibility standard deviation (s_R) were obtained (Table 1).

The repeatability is determined as an interval around a measurement result (i.e. "repeatability limit"). This interval corresponds to the maximum difference that can be expected (with a 95% statistical confidence) between one test result and another, both test results being obtained under the following conditions: The tests are performed in accordance with all the requirements of the present standard by the same laboratory using its own facilities and testing laboratory samples obtained from the same primary field sample and prepared under identical procedures. The repeatability limit was calculated using the relationship: $r_{\text{test}} = f \cdot \sqrt{2} \cdot s_{r,\text{test}}$ with the critical range factor $f = 2$.

The reproducibility, like repeatability is also determined as an interval around a measurement result (i.e. "reproducibility limit"). This interval corresponds to the maximum difference that can be expected (with a 95% statistical confidence) between one test result and another test result obtained by another laboratory, both test results being obtained under the following conditions: The tests are performed in accordance with all the requirements of the present standard by two different laboratories using their own facilities and testing laboratory samples obtained from the same primary field sample and prepared under identical procedures. The reproducibility limit was calculated using the relationship: $R = f \cdot \sqrt{2} \cdot s_R$ with the critical range factor $f = 2$.

Table 1 - Results of the interlaboratory comparison studies of the determination of selected polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) by gaschromatography with mass spectrometric detection (GC-MS) in soil, sludge and treated biowaste. All concentrations are expressed in mg/kg dm.

<i>Matrix</i>	<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>sR</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Outliers</i>	<i>Used No of data</i>	<i>No of data reported below detection</i>	<i>Total no of data</i>
Sludge 1	PBD 47	0.0181	*/*	46.1	*/*	*/*	4		15	5	20
Compost 1		0.0039	*/*	9.4	*/*	*/*	3		12	0	12
Soil 3		0.0010	50%	50%	0.0014	0.0014	4	0	13	10	23
Sludge 1	PBD 99	0.0239	6.4%	28%	0.0043	0.0186	5	1	19	0	23
Compost 1		0.0029	31%	35%	0.0025	0.0028	5	0	17	4	21
Soil 3		0.0013	*/*	49.9	*/*	*/*	4		16	8	24
Sludge 1	PBD 100	0.0049	5.1%	17%	0.0007	0.0024	5	1	18	2	24
Compost 1		0.0009	25%	29%	0.0006	0.0007	4	0	14	7	21
Soil 3		6.1103	*/*	211	*/*	*/*	3		10	15	25
Sludge 1	PBD 153	0.0038	33%	38%	0.0034	0.004	5	0	18	0	18
Compost 1		0.0019	*/*	116	*/*	*/*	3		11	3	14
Soil 3		0.0011	*/*	177	*/*	*/*	2		10	10	20
Sludge 1	PBD 154	0.0023	*/*	23.4	*/*	*/*	4		15	2	17
Compost 1		0.0008	*/*	111.8	*/*	*/*	3		9	5	14

<i>Matrix</i>	<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>sR</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Outliers</i>	<i>Used No of data</i>	<i>No of data reported below detection</i>	<i>Total no of data</i>
Soil 3		0.0002	*/*	104.9	*/*	*/*	4		13	6	19
Sludge 1	PBD 183	0.0048	*/*	121.7	*/*	*/*	3		12	2	14
Compost 1		0.0009	*/*	104.8	*/*	*/*	2		8	5	13
Soil 3		0.0011	*/*	139.5	*/*	*/*	3		12	6	18
Sludge 1	PBD 196	0.0037	*/*	47.0	*/*	*/*	2		8	7	15
Compost 1		0.0004	*/*	95.0	*/*	*/*	2		6	4	10
Soil 3		0.0023	*/*	51.9	*/*	*/*	3		12	2	14
Sludge 1	PBD 197	0.0062	*/*	83.4	*/*	*/*	2		6	8	14
Compost 1		0.0009	*/*	100.1	*/*	*/*	2		7	7	14
Soil 3		0.0032	*/*	90.4	*/*	*/*	2		8	6	14
Sludge 1	PBD 203	0.0037	*/*	46.1	*/*	*/*	2		8	4	12
Compost 1		0.0004	*/*	97.8	*/*	*/*	2		5	3	8
Soil 3		0.0022	*/*	59.8	*/*	*/*	3		12	0	12
Sludge 1	PBD 209	0.2493	17.0%	39%	0.1186	0.2689	5	0	16	2	18
Compost 1		0.0273	*/*	104	*/*	*/*	3		10	5	15
Soil 3		0.2582	11.15%	51%	0.0806	0.3676	6	0	22	0	22

<i>Matrix</i>	<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>sr</i>	<i>sR</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Outliers</i>	<i>Used No of data</i>	<i>No of data reported below detection</i>	<i>Total no of data</i>
Sludge 1	Sum PBD	0.256	15.5%	54.8%	0.111	0.392	6	1	22		
Compost 1		0.009	33.1%	63.7%	0.008	0.016	5	1	18		
Soil 3		0.227	11.6%	71.7%	0.074	0.455	7	1	26		

Abbreviations: sr Repeatability standard deviation; SR Reproducibility standard deviation; r Repeatability limit (comparing two measurements); R Reproducibility limit (comparing two measurements); p Number of labs; */* determination not possible.

1.4 Annexes

Annex 1: Model questionnaire to be filled by the participating laboratories

Annex 3: Report on the validation materials used

Annex 2: Statistical calculations

Annex 3: Data submitted

Annex 1:

Model questionnaire to be filled by the participating laboratories

Model questionnaire to be filled by the participating laboratories

Name of laboratory:
Contact person:
Contact details: email:
Phone:
Fax:
Mail address of lab:

Dispatch address of lab for shipment of samples (no PO boxes!):

Title of measurement method (copy attached):

Our laboratory is willing to participate in the precision experiment for this draft standard method.

Yes

No

As participant we understand that:

- All essential apparatus, chemicals and other requirements specified in the method must be available in our laboratory when the programme begins
- Specified timing requirements such as starting and finishing date of the programme must be rigidly met
- The method must be strictly adhered to
- Samples must be handled in accordance with instructions
- A qualified operator must perform the measurements

Having studied the method and having made a fair appraisal of our capabilities and facilities, we feel that we will be adequately prepared for cooperative testing of this method.

Comments:

.....
Signature Date

Annex 2:

Report on the validation materials used

Abstract

This report gives an overview on the available analytical information on the following raw materials to be used for the production of validation materials of the so-called Project HORIZONTAL:

- Four sludge materials from Düsseldorf, Germany,
- An agricultural soil material from Reading, United Kingdom;
- A compost material from Vienna, Austria;
- A compost material from Korschenbroich, Germany;
- A sludge-amended, agricultural soil from Pavia Province, Italy;
- A sludge-amended soil from Barcelona, Spain
- A sludge-amended soil from Essen, Germany
- A long-term sludge exposed soil from Hohenheim, Germany

List of Abbreviations

Throughout this report the following abbreviations are used.

AOX	absorbable organic halogens	LoD	limit of detection
C _{org}	organic carbon content	LUA	Landesumweltamt
C _{total}	total carbon content	N _{total}	total nitrogen content
CAT	cation exchangeable	NH ₄ -N	Ammonium nitrogen
CDD	chlorinated dibenzodioxin	NO ₃ -N	Nitrate nitrogen
CDF	chlorinated dibenzofuran	NP	nonylphenol
DEHP	di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	NRW	North Rhine Westphalia
DM	dry matter	O	octa
EPA	Environment Protection Agency	P	poly
EU	European Union	PAH	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
FM	fresh matter	PCB	polychlorinated biphenyl
Hp	hepta	Pe	penta
Hx	hexa	T	tetra
IES	Institute for Environment and Sustainability	TEQ	toxicity equivalent
IRMM	Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements	UBA	Umweltbundesamt
JRC	Joint Research Centre	WHO	World Health Organization
LAS	linear alkylsulfonates	WWTP	waste water treatment plant

1 Introduction

This report gives an overview on the available analytical information on the following raw materials to be used for the production of validation materials of the so-called Project HORIZONTAL:

- Four sludge materials from Düsseldorf, Germany,
- An agricultural soil material from Reading, United Kingdom;
- A compost material from Vienna, Austria;
- A compost material from Korschenbroich, Germany;
- A sludge-amended, agricultural soil from Pavia Province, Italy;
- A sludge-amended soil from Barcelona, Spain
- A sludge-amended soil from Essen, Germany
- A long-term sludge exposed soil from Hohenheim, Germany

The following analytical information was gathered partly before and during the sampling of the raw materials, to be used for the production of the HORIZONTAL validation materials. The material were sampled by IES and shipped to IRMM in the course of the year 2005. The information gathered was then completed by various analytical screenings for PAHs and PCBs done by the Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements, Geel, Belgium, for phthalates done by UBA, Berlin, Germany, for PBDE done by IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain, for trace elements and some selected major and minor elements by the Institute for Environment and Sustainability, Ispra, Italy.

The work compiled hereafter is based on the numerous additional efforts of the scientists working at various members of the consortium Project HORIZONTAL-Org and contributing organisations.

This work is gratefully acknowledged.

2 Overview on property values

2.1 *Sludge materials from Düsseldorf, Germany*

The various sewage sludge materials originate from various installations in the North Rhine Westphalia and were produced and sampled by staff from the Landesumweltamt (LUA) NRW under the responsibility from Dr. K. Furtmann.

In total, four sludge materials (Sludge A and D from a major municipal WWTP, Sludge B from a municipal WWTP with industrial input, and Sludge C from a municipal WWTP with high PCB-Content,) were obtained and will be blended to two final materials. Before sampling the following analytical data for a typical sample were received.

Table 1 – Analytical data obtained on an average sludge sample in LUA NRW (with courtesy of K. Furtmann, LUA, Düsseldorf)

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Concentration</i>
PCB	120 ug/kg
DEHP	110 mg/kg
PAH	5 mg/kg (EPA)
PCDD/F	15 ng TE/kg
PBDE	400 ug/kg
NP	40 mg/kg
LAS	3 g/kg
AOX	300 mg/kg

Subsequent screening led to the information displayed hereafter. It should be stressed that the data were obtained as SCREENING information on the UNTREATED or partially treated raw materials. Therefore, the final target values, which are relevant for the validation intercomparison can be different.

Table 2 – Analytical data obtained on a first screening on the sludge samples from LUA NRW

	<i>Sewage sludge A Dusseldorf</i>	<i>sewage sludge D Dusseldorf</i>
PCB (ng/g)		
28	62	35
52	101	65
101	31	38
118	49	40
153	30	33
105	24	11
138	46	38
156	<1	<1
180	34	23
170	23	19
PAH (ng/g)		
Naphtalene	34	381
Acenaphtylene	15	43
Acenaphthene	81	108
Fluorene	94	1167
Phenantrene		3440
Anthracene	22	344
Flouranthene	316	4817
Pyrene	235	3011
Benz(a)anthracene	473	791
Chrysene	691	1078
Benz(b)fluoranthene	538	1688
Benz(k)fluoranthene	228	635
Benz(a)pyrene	383	1114
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	92	229
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	71	70
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	80	185

Table 3 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	<i>DiBP</i>	<i>DBP</i>	<i>DCHP</i>	<i>DEHP</i>	<i>Water</i>
	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	Wgt. %
Sludge D (1)		0.135		41.474	3.85
Sludge B (2)	0.538	0.034		30.634	5.47
Sludge A (3)	0.184	0.037		31.399	1.46
Sludge C (4)		0.354	1.528	6.678	2.29

Table 4 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	<i>Sludge 2</i> <i>(B)</i>
Tetra-BDE-47	55.4
Penta-BDE-100	9.59
Penta-BDE-99	69.4
Hexa-BDE-154	5.91
Hexa-BDE-153	7.72
Hepta-BDE-183	5.09
Octa-BDE-196	nq
Octa-BDE-197	nq
Octa-BDE-203	9.70
Deca-BDE-209	2216
TOTAL	2379

Table 5 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena, IES, Ispra, Spain). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	<i>Cd</i>	<i>Co</i>	<i>Cr</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Mn</i>	<i>Ni</i>	<i>Pb</i>	<i>Sb</i>	<i>Tl</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>Zn</i>
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Sludge 1 (D)	2.65	29.0	53.3	359	1231	33.8	78.4	4.38	< 0.05	23.2	786
Sludge 2 (B)	1.19	31.1	62.6	202	278	29.9	72.2	2.51	< 0.05	11.8	625
Sludge 3 (A)	1.68	36.0	62.1	332	847	41.6	119	4.51	< 0.05	11.6	1237
Sludge 4 (C)	5.63	19.8	116	273	726	51.1	473	6.18	< 0.05	44.4	2015

Table 6 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>SiO2 (%)</i>	<i>Al2O3 (%)</i>	<i>CaO (%)</i>	<i>K2O (%)</i>	<i>Fe2O3 (%)</i>	<i>MgO (%)</i>	<i>TiO2 (PPM)</i>	<i>S (PPM)</i>	<i>P2O5 (PPM)</i>
Sludge 1 (D)	21.54	5.8	8.44	0.99	10.3	1.01	4367	<15	50448
Sludge 2 (B)	10.67	3.66	6.92	0.46	14.91	0.77	5217	<15	57633
Sludge 3 (A)	7.31	6.63	6.84	0.35	12.87	0.68	3733	<15	60369
Sludge 4 (C)	43.79	9.65	5.27	1.63	5.22	1.07	5628	<15	23945

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Na2O (%)</i>	<i>Cl (PPM)</i>	<i>Pb (PPM)</i>	<i>Zn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cu (PPM)</i>	<i>Ni (PPM)</i>	<i>Mn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cr (PPM)</i>
Sludge 1 (D)	0.3	2403	101	1002	350	15	1944	132
Sludge 2 (B)	0.31	315	97	879	172	12	514	180
Sludge 3 (A)	0.31	1281	153	1567	265	16	1440	168
Sludge 4 (C)	0.55	231	628	2625	371	81	1101	244

2.2 Agricultural soil material from Reading, United Kingdom

The material was proposed by the University of Reading (S. Nortcliff) and was sampled from a site called “Frogmore Farm” which was featured in the “Metals” Report for HORIZONTAL. This site is close to Reading with soils developed on flintyloamy periglacial materials over Chalk, has a long and well documented history of sludge application. The focus of the work of Nortcliff *et al.* undertook at this site and the monitoring and control at the site (by Thames Water and the subsequent subsidiary bodies dealing with sludge application to soil) was on metals (and metal loads), with no analysis or indeed any form of investigation in to organics in the broadest sense.

The analytical information produced in the context of the screening of the raw material is displayed below.

Table 7 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	<i>DiBP</i>	<i>DBP</i>	<i>DCHP</i>	<i>DEHP</i>	<i>Water</i>
	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	Wgt. %
Soil 3 (Reading)		0.032		0.119	6.69

Table 8 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	<i>Cd</i>	<i>Co</i>	<i>Cr</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Mn</i>	<i>Ni</i>	<i>Pb</i>	<i>Sb</i>	<i>Tl</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>Zn</i>
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Soil 3 (Reading)	0.15	7.06	27.9	13.8	152	9.01	26.7	3.00	< 0.05	25.8	93.1

Table 9 – Analytical data obtained on a first screening on the sludge-amended soil from Reading (courtesy of IRMM)

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Concentration</i>
PCB	ng/g
28	<1
52	<1
101	<1
118	<1
153	<1
105	<1
138	<1
156	<1
180	<1
170	<1
PAH	ng/g
Naphtalene	<10
Acenaphtylene	21
Acenaphthene	<10
Fluorene	<10
Phenantrene	<10
Anthracene	<10
Flouranthene	818
Pyrene	776
Benz(a)anthracene	565

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Concentration</i>
Chrysene	608
Benz(b)fluoranthene	824
Benz(k)fluoranthene	329
Benz(a)pyrene	799
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	779
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	118
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	394

Table 10 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	<i>Soil 3 (Reading)</i>
Tetra-BDE-47	nq
Penta-BDE-100	nq
Penta-BDE-99	1.03
Hexa-BDE-154	0.03
Hexa-BDE-153	nq
Hepta-BDE-183	nq
Octa-BDE-196	nq
Octa-BDE-197	nd
Octa-BDE-203	nd
Deca-BDE-209	272
TOTAL	273

Table 11 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	<i>Cd</i>	<i>Co</i>	<i>Cr</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Mn</i>	<i>Ni</i>	<i>Pb</i>	<i>Sb</i>	<i>Tl</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>Zn</i>
Soil 3 (Reading)	0.15	7.06	27.9	13.8	152	9.01	26.7	3.00	< 0.05	25.8	93.1

Table 12 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>SiO2 (%)</i>	<i>Al2O3 (%)</i>	<i>CaO (%)</i>	<i>K2O (%)</i>	<i>Fe2O3 (%)</i>	<i>MgO (%)</i>	<i>TiO2 (PPM)</i>	<i>S (PPM)</i>	<i>P2O5 (PPM)</i>
Soil 3 (Reading)	79.36	4.77	1.12	0.96	1.94	0.17	4107	443	2102

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Na2O (%)</i>	<i>Cl (PPM)</i>	<i>Pb (PPM)</i>	<i>Zn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cu (PPM)</i>	<i>Ni (PPM)</i>	<i>Mn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cr (PPM)</i>
Soil 3 (Reading)	0.42	13	45	69	69	69	216	92

Table 13 – Screening data on mercury by solid-sampling cold-vapour AAS using amalgamation enrichment (with courtesy of G. Locoro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Hg µg/g</i>
Soil 3 (Reading)	0.12

2.3 Compost from Vienna, Austria

The fresh compost material was obtained from the Austrian Federal Environment Agency (UBA, Vienna), which had used a sub-batch of the raw material for national intercomparison. The remainder of the material was stored at 4°C until shipment to IRMM for further processing. The following analytical information was provided by UBA Austria and completed with various screenings.

Table 14 – Analytical data on compost material received from UBA Austria
Inorganic and sum parameters

Parameter	Unit	Sample fraction used	Observed mean
B CAT	mg/l F.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	6.1
K CAT	mg/l F.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	2624
Mg CAT	mg/l F.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	242
P CAT	mg/l F.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	49
B CAT	% D.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	0.0017
K CAT	% D.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	0.72
Mg CAT	% D.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	0.07
P CAT	% D.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	0.01
NO3-N	mg/kg F.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	3.5
NH4-N	mg/kg F.M.	Fresh sample, <10mm	230
Ctotal	% D.M.	<45° dry, milled	29
Corg	% D.M.	<45° dry, milled	27
Ntotal	% D.M.	<45° dry, milled	1.7
P	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	2596
K	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	11019
K	% D.M.	<45° dry, milled	1.10
B	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	60
Cd	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	0.46
Cr	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	25
Cu	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	46
Hg	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	0.20
Ni	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	18
Pb	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	45
Zn	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	198
Ca	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	68776
Ca	% D.M.	<45° dry, milled	6.9
Mo	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	0.8
S	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	2137
Fe	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	9959
Mn	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	418
Na	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	742
Co	mg/kg D.M.	<45° dry, milled	4.1
AOX	mg/kg D.M.	<30° dry, milled	62

Table 15 – Analytical data on compost material received from UBA Austria
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

PAH	Unit	Result
Naphthaline	µg/kg DM	9.3
Acenaphthylene	µg/kg DM	8.6
Acenaphthene	µg/kg DM	5
Fluorene	µg/kg DM	8.0
Phenanthrene	µg/kg DM	89
Anthracene	µg/kg DM	27
Fluoranthene	µg/kg DM	487
Pyrene	µg/kg DM	380

<i>PAH</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Result</i>
Benzo(a)anthracene	µg/kg DM	278
Chrysene	µg/kg DM	317
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	µg/kg DM	365
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	µg/kg DM	193
Benz(a)pyrene	µg/kg DM	320
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	µg/kg DM	233
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	µg/kg DM	67
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	µg/kg DM	225
Sum EPA	µg/kg DM	3013
Sum EPA	mg/kg DM	3.0

Table 16 – Analytical data on compost material received from UBA Austria
Sum PCDDs and PCBs

<i>Parameter</i>			
Dioxine	TEQ (ITEF)	ng/kg DM	7.3
PCB	TEQ (WHO)	ng/kg DM	3.5
	Σ Ballschmitter	mg/kg DM	0.05

Table 17 – Analytical data on compost material obtained by screening in IRMM

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Result in ng/g</i>
PCB	
28	2
52	2
101	4
118	3
153	10
105	1
138	8
156	1
180	5
170	<1
PAH	
Naphtalene	<10
Acenaphthylene	<10
Acenaphthene	<10
Fluorene	<10
Phenantrene	<10
Anthracene	26
Fluoranthene	611
Pyrene	510
Benzo(a)anthracene	888
Chrysene	957
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	1531
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	547
Benzo(a)pyrene	1101
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	416
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	81
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	295

Table 18 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	Compost 1 (Vienna)
Tetra-BDE-47	4.02
Penta-BDE-100	0.19
Penta-BDE-99	2.59
Hexa-BDE-154	nq
Hexa-BDE-153	0.23
Hepta-BDE-183	0.04
Octa-BDE-196	nq
Octa-BDE-197	nq
Octa-BDE-203	1.44
Deca-BDE-209	17.4
TOTAL	25.9

Table 19 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	DiBP	DBP	DCHP	DEHP	Water
	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	Wgt. %
Compost 1 (Vienna)		0.058		1.426	5.57

Table 20 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	Cd	Co	Cr	Cu	Mn	Ni	Pb	Sb	Tl	V	Zn
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Compost 1 (Vienna)	0.39	7.36	31.9	41.0	365	12.7	49.5	0.04	0.79	0.13	208

Table 21 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

Sample	SiO ₂ (%)	Al ₂ O ₃ (%)	CaO (%)	K ₂ O (%)	Fe ₂ O ₃ (%)	MgO (%)	TiO ₂ (PPM)	S (PPM)	P ₂ O ₅ (PPM)
Compost 1 (Vienna)	20.63	4.31	6.17	4.26	1.99	2.49	1602	<15	10521

Sample	Na ₂ O (%)	Cl (PPM)	Pb (PPM)	Zn (PPM)	Cu (PPM)	Ni (PPM)	Mn (PPM)	Cr (PPM)
Compost 1 (Vienna)	0.35	3496	81	375	79	55	653	60

Table 22 – Screening data on mercury by solid-sampling cold-vapour AAS using amalgamation enrichment (with courtesy of G. Locoro).

Sample	Hg µg/g
Compost 1 (Vienna)	0.17

2.4 Agricultural soil, sludge amended soil from Pavia, Italy

This sludge-amended soil material was obtained during a monitoring campaign, which aimed at a generic description of the over-all soil quality in Pavia Province, Italy. The material, which was collected from the upper horizon, originates from a small farm called “*Cascina Novello*”. During the characterisation of the site, the following analytical information was obtained on a pooled sample of a sub-area of the farm of 20 X 20 m².

Table 23 – Analytical data on Pavia soil

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Result</i>
Al	7.13 Wgt%
As	22.4 mg/kg
Cd	0.79 mg/kg
Cr	59 mg/kg
Cu	30.8 mg/kg
Hg	0.08 mg/kg
Ni	34.4 mg/kg
Pb	24.6 mg/kg
Zn	95 mg/kg
C	0.91 Wgt %
2,3,7,8-TCDD	0.047 pg/g
1,2,3,7,8-PeCDD	0.15 pg/g
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDD	0.19 pg/g
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDD	1.5 pg/g
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDD	0.74 pg/g
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDD	26 pg/g
OCDD	382 pg/g
2,3,7,8-TCDF	0.68 pg/g
1,2,3,7,8-PeCDF	0.53 pg/g
2,3,4,7,8-PeCDF	0.71 pg/g
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxDF	1.00 pg/g
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxDF	0.66 pg/g
2,3,4,6,7,8-HxDF	1.6 pg/g
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxDF	0.27 pg/g
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpDF	12 pg/g
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HpDF	0.68 pg/g
OCDF	33 pg/g
I-TEQ	2.0 pg/g
WHO-TEQ	1.7 pg/g

In addition, the screening performed at IRMM did not reveal significant quantities of PCBs and PAHs, which were all below the LoDs (1 ng/g for PCBs and 10 ng/g for PAHs, respectively).

Table 24 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	<i>DiBP</i>	<i>DBP</i>	<i>DCHP</i>	<i>DEHP</i>	<i>Water</i>
	µg/g TM	µg/g TM	µg/g TM	µg/g TM	Wgt. %
Soil 5 (Pavia)		0.005		0.011	1.54

Table 25 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	Soil 5 (Pavia)
Tetra-BDE-47	nq
Penta-BDE-100	nq
Penta-BDE-99	0.39
Hexa-BDE-154	nq
Hexa-BDE-153	nq
Hepta-BDE-183	0.08
Octa-BDE-196	nq
Octa-BDE-197	nd
Octa-BDE-203	nd
Deca-BDE-209	670
TOTAL	671

Table 26 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	Cd	Co	Cr	Cu	Mn	Ni	Pb	Sb	Tl	V	Zn
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Soil 5 (Pavia)	0.33	18.4	57.3	22.5	426	30.5	20.6	2.00	< 0.05	38.1	87.8

Table 27 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

Sample	SiO ₂ (%)	Al ₂ O ₃ (%)	CaO (%)	K ₂ O (%)	Fe ₂ O ₃ (%)	MgO (%)	TiO ₂ (PPM)	S (PPM)	P ₂ O ₅ (PPM)
Soil 5 (Pavia)	69.39	12.9	1.45	2.24	4.25	1.16	6118	255	1789

Sample	Na ₂ O (%)	Cl (PPM)	Pb (PPM)	Zn (PPM)	Cu (PPM)	Ni (PPM)	Mn (PPM)	Cr (PPM)
Soil 5 (Pavia)	1.84	62	38	108	55	66	597	110

Table 28 – Screening data on mercury by solid-sampling cold-vapour AAS using amalgamation enrichment (with courtesy of G. Locoro).

Sample	Hg µg/g
Soil 5 (Pavia)	0.06

2.5 Sludge-amended-soil from Barcelona, Spain

The sludge-amended soil material from Barcelona sampled upon indication from the Barcelo'- Group in Barcelona.

Table 29 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	<i>DiBP</i>	<i>DBP</i>	<i>DCHP</i>	<i>DEHP</i>	<i>Water</i>
	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	Wgt. %
Soil 2 (Lleida T.)		0.015		0.183	11.38

Table 30 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	<i>Soil 2</i> (<i>Lleida T.</i>)
Tetra-BDE-47	nq
Penta-BDE-100	nq
Penta-BDE-99	1.59
Hexa-BDE-154	0.45
Hexa-BDE-153	nq
Hepta-BDE-183	0.48
Octa-BDE-196	1.60
Octa-BDE-197	nq
Octa-BDE-203	nq
Deca-BDE-209	1000
TOTAL	1004

Table 31 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	<i>Cd</i>	<i>Co</i>	<i>Cr</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Mn</i>	<i>Ni</i>	<i>Pb</i>	<i>Sb</i>	<i>Tl</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>Zn</i>
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Soil 2 (Lleida T.)	0.59	14.1	32.7	53.6	405	18.6	18.4	2.24	< 0.05	31.8	111

Table 32 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>SiO2 (%)</i>	<i>Al2O3 (%)</i>	<i>CaO (%)</i>	<i>K2O (%)</i>	<i>Fe2O3 (%)</i>	<i>MgO (%)</i>	<i>TiO2 (PPM)</i>	<i>S (PPM)</i>	<i>P2O5 (PPM)</i>
Soil 2 (Lleida T.)	44.43	10.67	14.29	2.53	3.44	2.04	4116	780	3396

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Na2O (%)</i>	<i>Cl (PPM)</i>	<i>Pb (PPM)</i>	<i>Zn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cu (PPM)</i>	<i>Ni (PPM)</i>	<i>Mn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cr (PPM)</i>
Soil 2 (Lleida T.)	0.64	65	26	125	59	17	547	65

Table 33 – Screening data on mercury by solid-sampling cold-vapour AAS using amalgamation enrichment (with courtesy of G. Locoro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Hg µg/g</i>
Soil 2 (Lleida T.)	0.10

2.6 Sludge amended soil from Essen, Germany

The German sludge-amended soil from Essen, which was provided as the three sludge materials by LUA NRW, did not feature significant concentrations of the PCB congeners 28, 52, 101, 118, 153, 105, 138, 156, 180, 170, but had detectable amounts of some PAHs.

Table 34 – Analytical screening data on the German sludge-amended soil.

Parameter	Concentration (ng/g)
Naphtalene	<10
Acenaphtylene	<10
Acenaphthene	<10
Fluorene	<10
Phenantrene	<10
Anthracene	<10
Fluoranthene	28
Pyrene	20
Benz(a)anthracene	24
Chrysene	47
Benz(b)fluoranthene	76
Benz(k)fluoranthene	20
Benz(a)pyrene	35
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	35
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene	10
Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	26

Table 35 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	DiBP	DBP	DCHP	DEHP	Water
	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	µg/g dm	Wgt. %
Soil 4 (Essen)		0.011		0.302	0.55

Table 36 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	Soil 4 (Essen)
Tetra-BDE-47	nq
Penta-BDE-100	nq
Penta-BDE-99	nq
Hexa-BDE-154	nq
Hexa-BDE-153	nq
Hepta-BDE-183	nq
Octa-BDE-196	nq
Octa-BDE-197	nq
Octa-BDE-203	1.28
Deca-BDE-209	19.1
TOTAL	20.3

Table 37 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	<i>Cd</i>	<i>Co</i>	<i>Cr</i>	<i>Cu</i>	<i>Mn</i>	<i>Ni</i>	<i>Pb</i>	<i>Sb</i>	<i>Tl</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>Zn</i>
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Soil 4 (Essen)	0.52	5.45	26.1	8.05	320	4.03	27.3	2.73	< 0.05	29.5	78.1

Table 38 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>SiO2 (%)</i>	<i>Al2O3 (%)</i>	<i>CaO (%)</i>	<i>K2O (%)</i>	<i>Fe2O3 (%)</i>	<i>MgO (%)</i>	<i>TiO2 (PPM)</i>	<i>S (PPM)</i>	<i>P2O5 (PPM)</i>
Soil 4 (Essen)	79.47	4.42	0.85	0.6	0.86	0.07	2163	189	2019

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Na2O (%)</i>	<i>Cl (PPM)</i>	<i>Pb (PPM)</i>	<i>Zn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cu (PPM)</i>	<i>Ni (PPM)</i>	<i>Mn (PPM)</i>	<i>Cr (PPM)</i>
Soil 4 (Essen)	0.45	19	42	87	683	60	462	61

Table 39 – Screening data on mercury by solid-sampling cold-vapour AAS using amalgamation enrichment (with courtesy of G. Locoro).

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Hg µg/g</i>
Soil 4 (Essen)	0.04

2.7 Long-term sludge exposed soil from Hohenheim-Stuttgart, Germany

Similarly, an additional sludge exposed soil was sampled at the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, where a test soil was long-term exposed to elevated concentrations of sewage sludge.

Table 40 – Data on phthalate contents (with courtesy of S. Heise, UBA, Germany)

	<i>DiBP</i>	<i>DBP</i>	<i>DCHP</i>	<i>DEHP</i>	<i>Water</i>
	µg/g TM	µg/g TM	µg/g TM	µg/g TM	Wgt. %
Soil 1 (Stuttgart)		0.045		0.263	17.65

Table 41 – Data on PDBE contents (with courtesy of D. Barceló and co-workers, IIQAB-CSIC, Barcelona, Spain)

	<i>Soil 1</i> <i>(Stuttgart)</i>
Tetra-BDE-47	nq
Penta-BDE-100	nq
Penta-BDE-99	2.30
Hexa-BDE-154	0.06
Hexa-BDE-153	0.04
Hepta-BDE-183	0.04
Octa-BDE-196	nq
Octa-BDE-197	nd
Octa-BDE-203	nd
Deca-BDE-209	498
TOTAL	500

Table 42 – Screening data on some selected trace elements by ICP-AES after micro-wave assisted digestion using aqua regia (with courtesy of F. Sena). Note that these data are based on single measurements!

	Cd	Co	Cr	Cu	Mn	Ni	Pb	Sb	Tl	V	Zn
	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g	µg/g
Soil 1 (Stuttgart)	0.69	12.7	36.1	26.2	504	18.3	25.2	2.62	<0.05	26.6	142

Table 43 – Screening data on some selected matrix constituents and elements by WDXRF (with courtesy of S. Vaccaro).

Sample	SiO₂ (%)	Al₂O₃ (%)	CaO (%)	K₂O (%)	Fe₂O₃ (%)	MgO (%)	TiO₂ (PPM)	S (PPM)	P₂O₅ (PPM)
Soil 1 (Stuttgart)	71.94	10.06	1.33	1.86	3.66	0.88	7874	275	3571

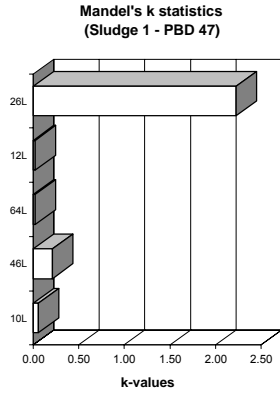
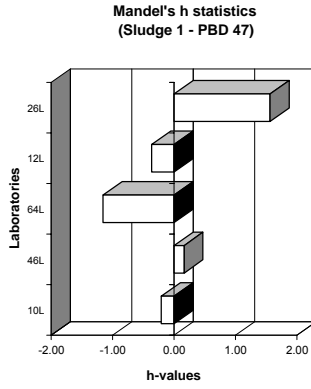
Sample	Na₂O (%)	Cl (PPM)	Pb (PPM)	Zn (PPM)	Cu (PPM)	Ni (PPM)	Mn (PPM)	Cr (PPM)
Soil 1 (Stuttgart)	1.23	50	47	212	85	69	991	129

Table 44 – Screening data on mercury by solid-sampling cold-vapour AAS using amalgamation enrichment (with courtesy of G. Locoro).

Sample	Hg µg/g
Soil 1 (Stuttgart)	1.77

Annex 3:
Statistical calculations

Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **PBD 47**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 47)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 47)
 #NUM!

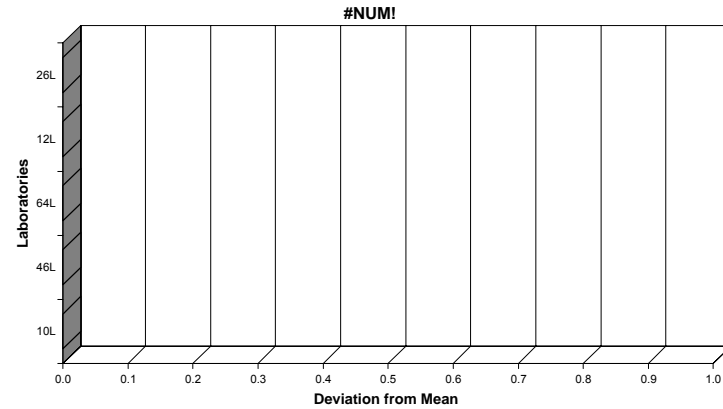
General calc.parm.
 T1= #NUM!
 T2= #NUM!
 T3=
 T4=
 T5=
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 3

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
10L	0.0213	0.001	3		-0.21	0.05			-	.10L	-	-	-	#NUM!
46L	0.0273	0.002	4		0.16	0.21			-	.46L	-	-	-	#NUM!
64L	0.0059	0.000	4		-1.16	0.02			#NUM!	.64L	-	-	-	#NUM!
12L	0.0188	0.000	4		-0.36	0.02			-	.12L	-	-	-	#NUM!
26L	0.0499	0.024	2		1.57	2.23	II	Fail	-	.26L	-	-	-	#NUM!
Tot.gem	0.025	0.005 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.72	(1.85)			5	#NUM!	(10L,46L,64L,12L,26L)		-1	
Tot.std=	0.016	0.010		5%-level:	1.57	(1.62)								

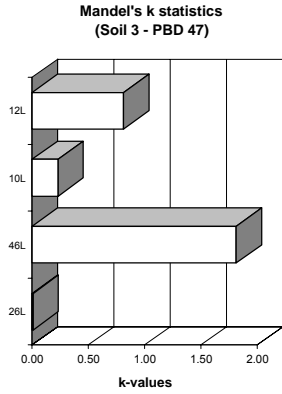
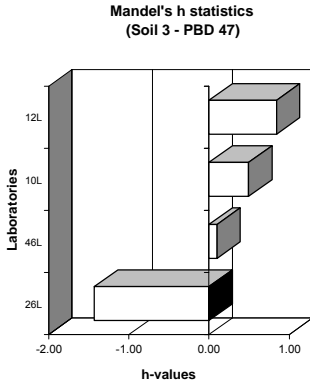
RESULTS: Mean = #NUM! mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #NUM!
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #NUM!
 Reproducibility std. SR = #NUM! --> #NUM! R = #NUM!

Remarks: 5 Labs rejected! (10L,46L,64L,12L,26L)



Sample: Soil 3
 Element: PBD 47



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 47)
 Mandel's h statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 47)

Soil 3 - PBD 47 -- Mean PARM = 0.001 [mg/kg]

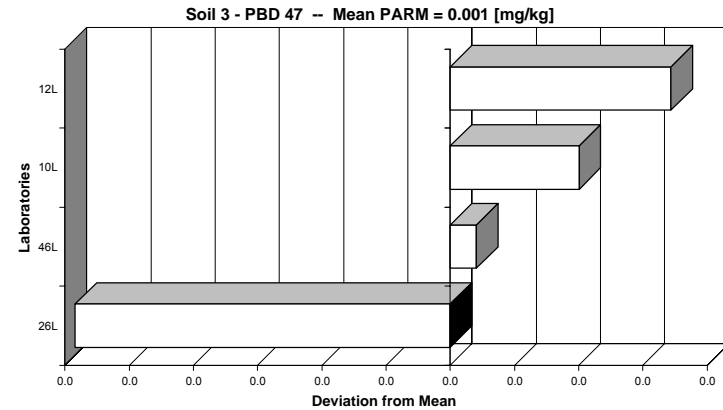
General calc.parm.
 T1= 1.34814E-02
 T2= 1.42830E-05
 T3= 13
 T4= 45
 T5= 2.2767E-06
 n= variabel
 p= 4
 N-table= 3

Mandel's statistics					End Result:									
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
26L	0.0007	0.000	2	I	-1.43	0.01			0.0007	0.0000		2	1	0.00
46L	0.0010	0.001	4		0.10	1.81	!!		0.0010	0.0008		4	3	0.00
10L	0.0011	0.000	3		0.49	0.23			0.0011	0.0001		3	2	0.00
12L	0.0012	0.000	4		0.84	0.81			0.0012	0.0004		4	3	0.00
Tot.gem	0.001	0.000 mg/kg			1% -level: 1.49	(1.77)			4	0.0010	()	4	3	
Tot.std=	0.000	0.000			5% -level: 1.42	(1.59)								

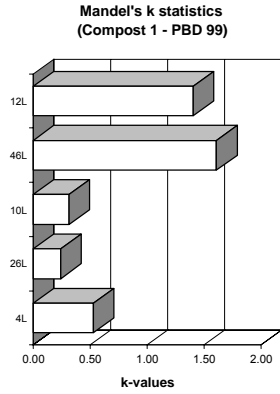
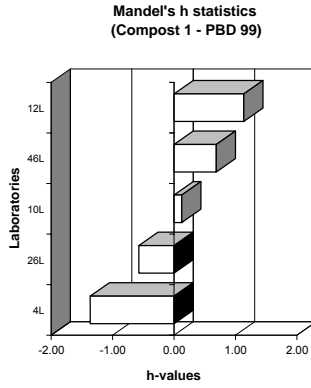
RESULTS: Mean = 0.00100 mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00000
 Repeatability std. Sr = 0.00050 --> 50.31% r = 0.0014
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00000
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00000
 Reproducibility std. SR = 0.00050 --> 50.31% R = 0.0014

Remarks: none



Sample: **Compost 1**
 Element: **PBD 99**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 99)
 Mandel's h statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 99)
 Compost 1 - PBD 99 -- Mean PARM = 0.003 [mg/kg]

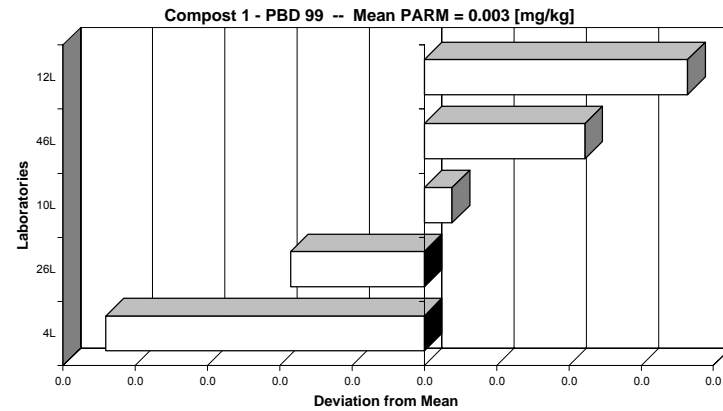
General calc.parm.
 T1= 4.92124E-02
 T2= 1.48747E-04
 T3= 17
 T4= 61
 T5= 9.3196E-06
 n= variabel
 p= 5
 N-table= 3

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	End Result:			N	N-1	dev_mean
					h	k			PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs			
4L	0.0020	0.000	4	-1.37	-1.37	0.53			0.0020	0.0004		4	3	0.00
26L	0.0025	0.000	2	-0.58	-0.58	0.24			0.0025	0.0002		2	1	0.00
10L	0.0029	0.000	3	0.12	0.12	0.32			0.0029	0.0003		3	2	0.00
46L	0.0033	0.001	4	0.69	0.69	1.61	!		0.0033	0.0013		4	3	0.00
12L	0.0036	0.001	4	1.14	1.14	1.40			0.0036	0.0011		4	3	0.00
Tot.gem	0.003	0.001 mg/kg			1.72	(1.85)			5	0.0029	0	5	4	
Tot.std=	0.001	0.001		1%-level:	1.57	(1.62)								

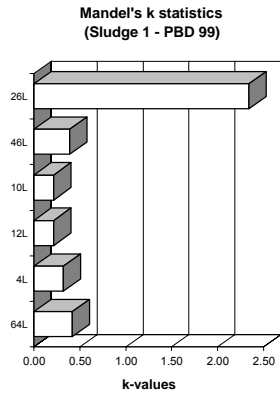
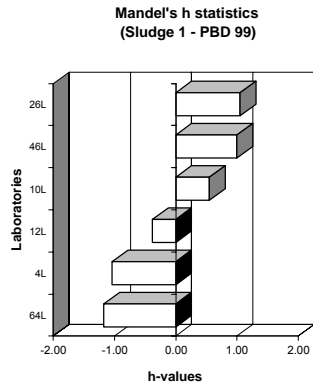
RESULTS: Mean = 0.00286 mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00000
 Repeatability std. Sr = 0.00088 --> 30.86% r = 0.0025
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00000
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00000
 Reproducibility std. SR = 0.00101 --> 35.25% R = 0.0028

Remarks: none



Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **PBD 99**



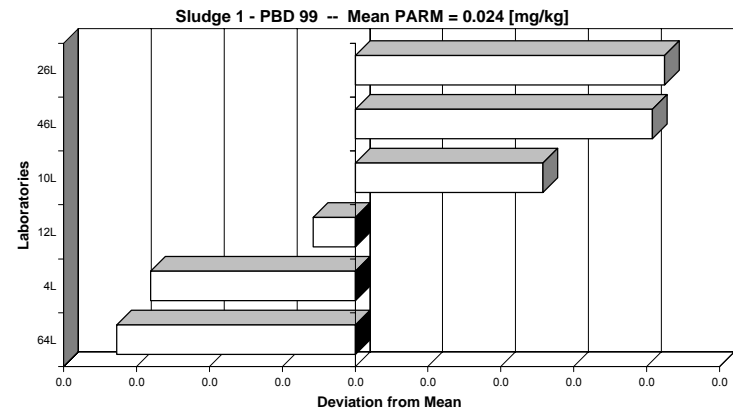
Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 99)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 99)
 Sludge 1 - PBD 99 -- Mean PARM = 0.024 [mg/kg]

General calc.parm.
 T1= 4.48050E-01
 T2= 1.12113E-02
 T3= 19
 T4= 73
 T5= 3.2972E-05
 n= variabel
 p= 5
 N-table= 4

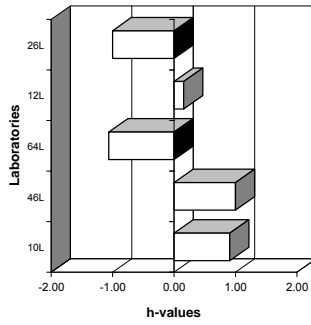
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	End Result:						
					h	k			PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean	
64L	0.0173	0.002	4	-1.18	-1.18	0.41			0.0173	0.0019		4	3	-0.01	
4L	0.0183	0.002	4	-1.04	-1.04	0.32			0.0183	0.0015		4	3	-0.01	
12L	0.0227	0.001	4	-0.38	-0.38	0.22			0.0227	0.0010		4	3	0.00	
10L	0.0290	0.001	3	0.55	0.55	0.21			0.0290	0.0010		3	2	0.01	
46L	0.0320	0.002	4	1.00	1.00	0.39			0.0320	0.0018		4	3	0.01	
26L	0.0323	0.011	2	1.05	1.05	2.34	II		-	-	,26L	-	-	0.01	
Tot.gem	0.025	0.003 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.87	(1.77)			5	0.0239		5	4		
Tot.std=	0.007	0.004		5%-level:	1.66	(1.54)			1						

RESULTS: Mean = **0.02385** mg/kg
 Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00000
 Repeatability std. Sr = **0.00153** --> 6.43% r = 0.0043
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00004
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00004
 Reproducibility std. SR = **0.00666** --> 27.91% R = 0.0186
 Remarks: 1 Lab rejected! (26L)

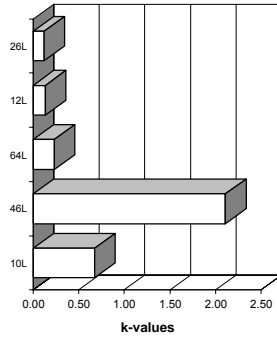


Sample: Soil 3
 Element: PBD 99

Mandel's h statistics
 (Soil 3 - PBD 99)



Mandel's k statistics
 (Soil 3 - PBD 99)



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 99)
 Mandel's h statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 99)
 #NUM!

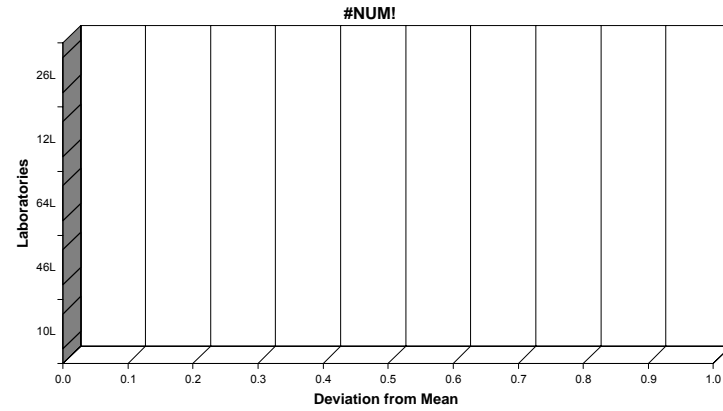
General calc.parm.
 T1= #NUM!
 T2= #NUM!
 T3=
 T4=
 T5=
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 4

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	End Result:					
					h	k			PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
10L	0.0017	0.000	4		0.91	0.68		-	0.10L	-	-	-	-	#NUM!
46L	0.0017	0.001	4		1.00	2.11	!!	-	0.46L	-	-	-	-	#NUM!
64L	0.0005	0.000	4		-1.06	0.23		-	#NUM!	-	-	-	-	#NUM!
12L	0.0012	0.000	4		0.15	0.14		-	0.12L	-	-	-	-	#NUM!
26L	0.0006	0.000	2		-1.01	0.12		-	0.26L	-	-	-	-	#NUM!
Tot.gem	0.001	0.000 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.72	(1.73)		5	#NUM!	(10L,46L,64L,12L,26L)				-1
Tot.std=	0.001	0.000		5%-level:	1.57	(1.53)								

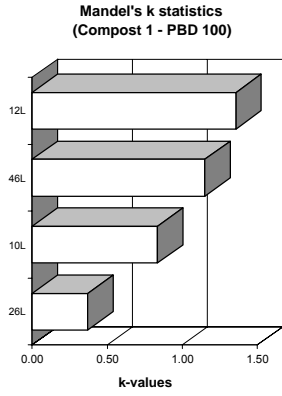
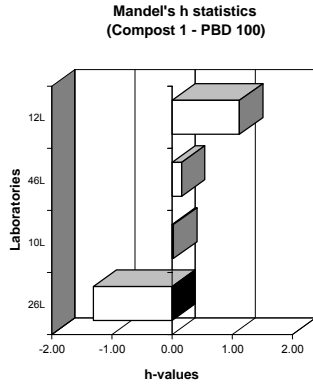
RESULTS:

Mean = #NUM! mg/kg
 Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #NUM!
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #NUM!
 Reproducibility std. SR = #NUM! --> #NUM! R = #NUM!

Remarks: 5 Labs rejected! (10L,46L,64L,12L,26L)



Sample: **Compost 1**
 Element: **PBD 100**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 100)
 Mandel's h statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 100)
 Compost 1 - PBD 100 -- Mean PARM = 0.001 [mg/kg]

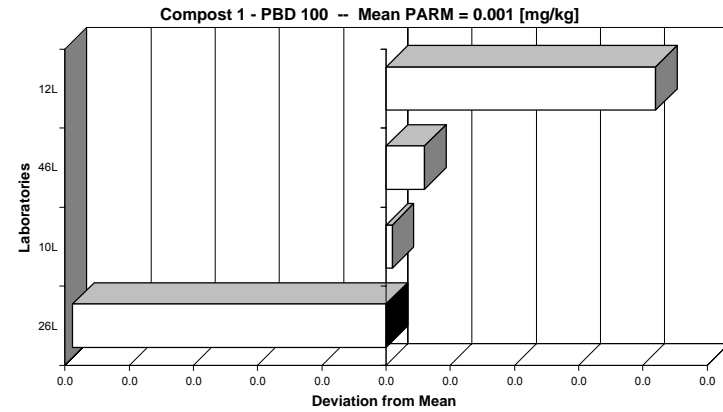
General calc.parm.
 T1= 1.24272E-02
 T2= 1.13129E-05
 T3= 14
 T4= 52
 T5= 4.6584E-07
 n= variabel
 p= 4
 N-table= 4

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	End Result:			N	N-1	dev_mean
					h	k			PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs			
26L	0.0006	0.000	2		-1.31	0.37			0.0006	0.0001		2	1	0.00
10L	0.0009	0.000	4		0.03	0.83		Fail	0.0009	0.0002		4	3	0.00
46L	0.0009	0.000	4		0.16	1.15			0.0009	0.0002		4	3	0.00
12L	0.0011	0.000	4		1.12	1.36	Fail		0.0011	0.0003		4	3	0.00
Tot.gem	0.001	0.000 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.49	(1.67)			4	0.0009	()	4	3	
Tot.std=	0.000	0.000		5%-level:	1.42	(1.5)								

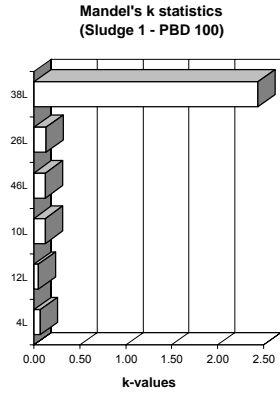
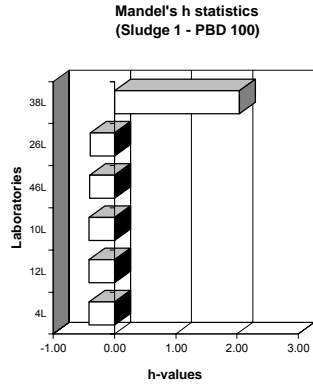
RESULTS: Mean = 0.00085 mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00000
 Repeatability std. Sr = 0.00022 --> 25.31% r = 0.0006
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00000
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00000
 Reproducibility std. SR = 0.00025 --> 28.82% R = 0.0007

Remarks: none



Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **PBD 100**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 100)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 100)
 Sludge 1 - PBD 100 -- Mean PARM = 0.005 [mg/kg]

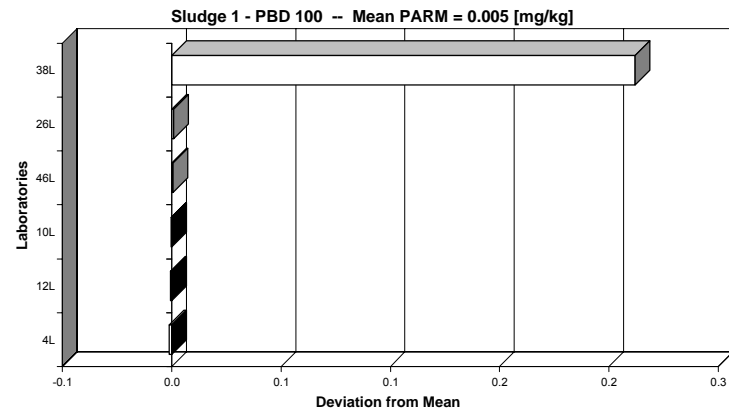
General calc.parm.
 T1= 8.52065E-02
 T2= 4.12762E-04
 T3= 18
 T4= 68
 T5= 7.8914E-07
 n= variabel
 p= 5
 N-table= 4

Mandel's statistics										End Result:				
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
4L	0.0039	0.000	4		-0.42	0.07		Fail	0.0039	0.0002		4	3	0.00
12L	0.0044	0.000	4		-0.41	0.05		Fail	0.0044	0.0001		4	3	0.00
10L	0.0046	0.000	4		-0.41	0.13		Fail	0.0046	0.0003		4	3	0.00
46L	0.0056	0.000	4		-0.40	0.12		Fail	0.0056	0.0003		4	3	0.00
26L	0.0059	0.000	2		-0.40	0.13		Fail	0.0059	0.0003		2	1	0.00
38L	0.2168	0.006	4	II	2.04	2.44	II	Fail	-	-	,38L	-	-	0.21
Tot.gem	0.040	0.001 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.87	(1.77)			5	0.0049		5	4	
Tot.std=	0.087	0.002		5%-level:	1.66	(1.54)			1					

RESULTS: Mean = **0.00486** mg/kg

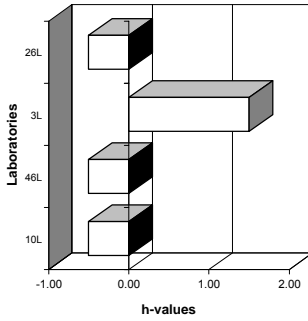
Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00000
 Repeatability std. Sr = **0.00025** --> 5.07% r = 0.0007
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00000
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00000
 Reproducibility std. SR = **0.00084** --> 17.31% R = 0.0024

Remarks: 1 Lab rejected! (38L)

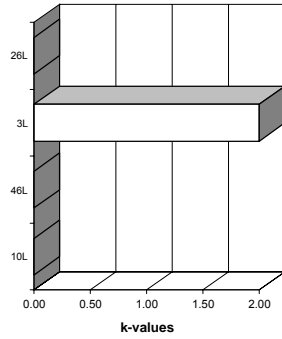


Sample: Soil 3
 Element: PBD 100

Mandel's h statistics
 (Soil 3 - PBD 100)



Mandel's k statistics
 (Soil 3 - PBD 100)



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 100)
 Mandel's h statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 100)
 #NUM!

General calc.parm.
 T1= #NUM!
 T2= #NUM!
 T3=
 T4=
 T5=
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 3

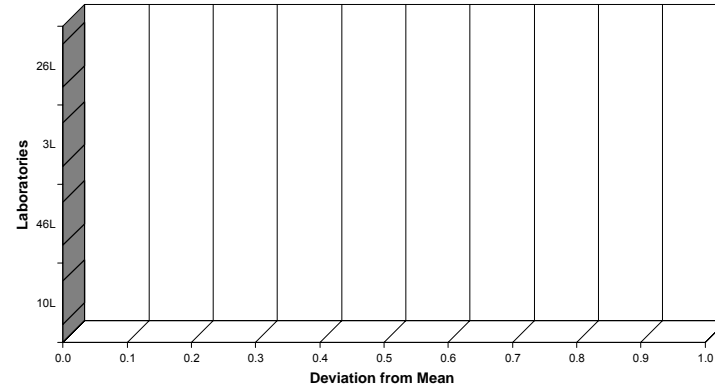
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
10L	0.0003	0.000	4		-0.50	0.00		Fail	-	.10L	-	-	-	#NUM!
46L	0.0003	0.000	4		-0.50	0.00		Fail	#NUM!	.46L	-	-	-	#NUM!
3L	30.5500	2.051	2	!!	1.50	2.00	!!	Fail	-	.3L	-	-	-	#NUM!
26L	0.0005	0.000	2		-0.50	0.00		Fail	-	.26L	-	-	-	#NUM!
Tot.gem	7.638	0.513 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.49	(1.77)			#NUM!		(10L,46L,3L,26L)		-1	
Tot.std=	15.275	1.025		5%-level:	1.42	(1.59)			4					

End Result:

RESULTS:

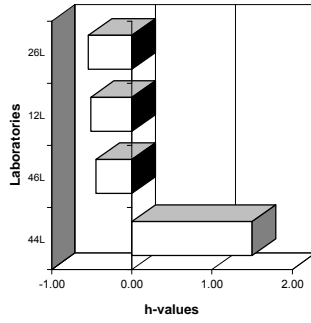
Mean = #NUM! mg/kg
 Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #NUM!
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #NUM!
 Reproducibility std. SR = #NUM! --> #NUM! R = #NUM!
 Remarks: 4 Labs rejected! (10L,46L,3L,26L)

#NUM!

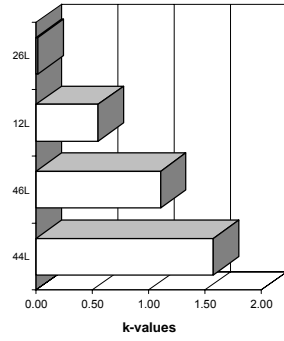


Sample: **Compost 1**
 Element: **PBD 153**

Mandel's h statistics
 (Compost 1 - PBD 153)



Mandel's k statistics
 (Compost 1 - PBD 153)



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 153)
 Mandel's h statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 153)
 #NUM!

General calc.parm.
 T1= #NUM!
 T2= #NUM!
 T3=
 T4=
 T5=
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 3

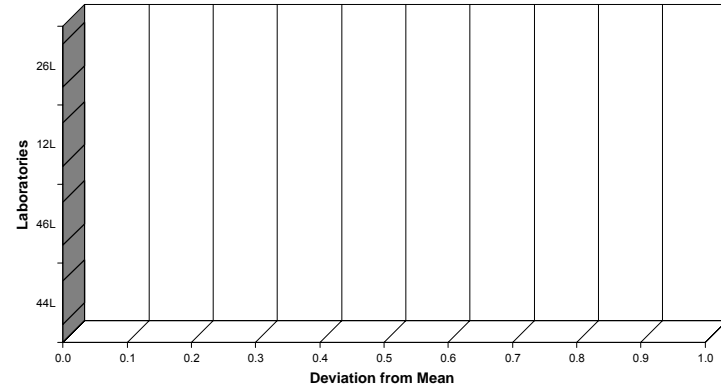
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
44L	0.0053	0.001	3	!!	1.50	1.57	Fail		-	,44L	-	-	-	#NUM!
46L	0.0007	0.000	4		-0.44	1.11		Fail	-	,46L	-	-	-	#NUM!
12L	0.0005	0.000	4		-0.51	0.55		Fail	-	,12L	-	-	-	#NUM!
26L	0.0005	0.000	2		-0.54	0.01		Fail	-	,26L	-	-	-	#NUM!
Tot.gem	0.002	0.000 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.49	(1.77)			#NUM!		(44L,46L,12L,26L)			-1
Tot.std=	0.002	0.000		5%-level:	1.42	(1.59)			4					

End Result:

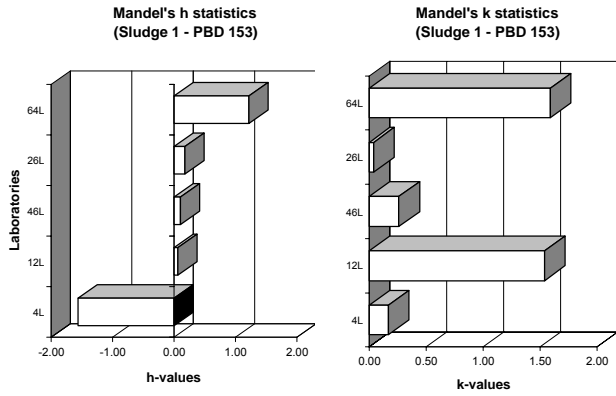
RESULTS:

Mean = #NUM! mg/kg
 Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #NUM!
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #NUM!
 Reproducibility std. SR = #NUM! --> #NUM! R = #NUM!
 Remarks: 4 Labs rejected! (44L,46L,12L,26L)

#NUM!



Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **PBD 153**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 153)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 153)
 Sludge 1 - PBD 153 -- Mean PARM = 0.004 [mg/kg]

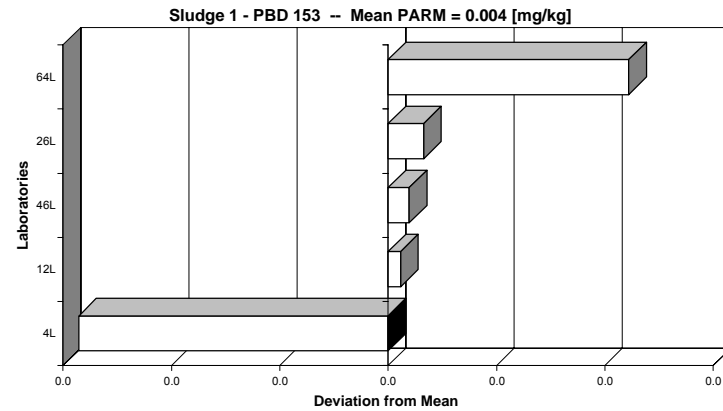
General calc.parm.
 T1= 6.76738E-02
 T2= 2.67609E-04
 T3= 18
 T4= 68
 T5= 1.9626E-05
 n= variabel
 p= 5
 N-table= 4

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	Mandel's statistics				End Result:						
				h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
4L	0.0024	0.000	4		-1.57	0.17			0.0024	0.0002		4	3	0.00
12L	0.0038	0.002	4		0.06	1.54	!		0.0038	0.0018		4	3	0.00
46L	0.0039	0.000	4		0.11	0.26			0.0039	0.0003		4	3	0.00
26L	0.0039	0.000	2		0.18	0.04			0.0039	0.0000		2	1	0.00
64L	0.0049	0.002	4		1.22	1.59	!		0.0049	0.0018		4	3	0.00
Tot.gem	0.004	0.001 mg/kg			1.72	(1.73)			5	0.0038	0	5	4	
Tot.std=	0.001	0.001			1.57	(1.53)								

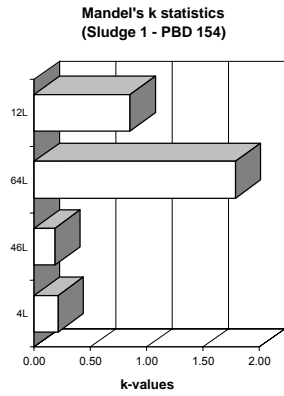
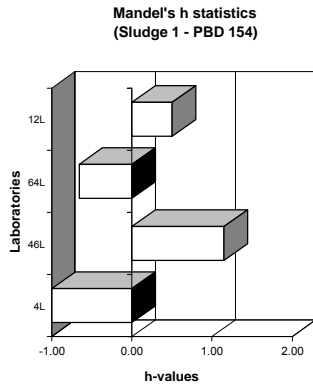
RESULTS: Mean = **0.00378** mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00000
 Repeatability std. Sr = **0.00123** --> 32.52% r = 0.0034
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00000
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00000
 Reproducibility std. SR = **0.00142** --> 37.54% R = 0.0040

Remarks: none



Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **PBD 154**



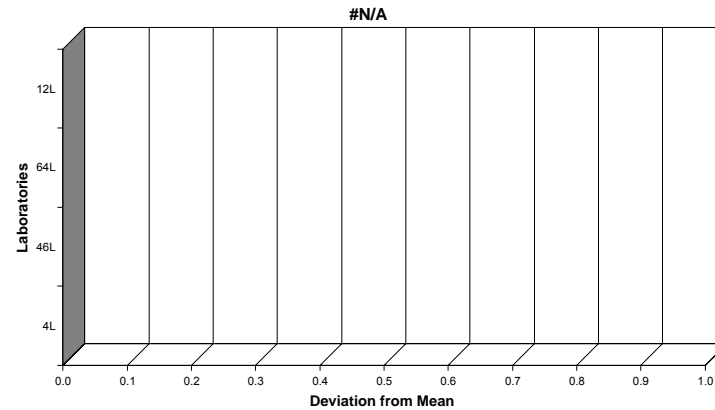
Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 154)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 154)
 #N/A

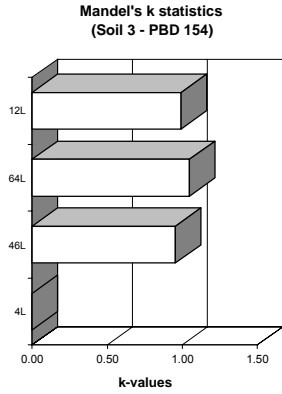
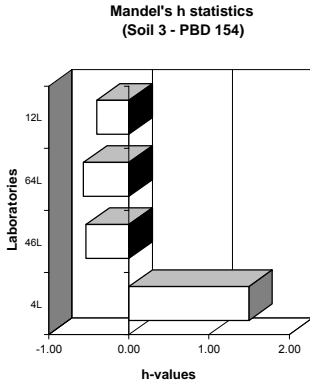
General calc.parm.
 T1= #N/A
 T2= #N/A
 T3=
 T4=
 T5= variabel
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 4

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{vX} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	End Result:					
					h	k			PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
4L	0.0021	0.000	3		-1.00	0.21			#N/A	.4L	-	-	-	#N/A
46L	0.0025	0.000	4		1.15	0.18			#N/A	.46L	-	-	-	#N/A
64L	0.0021	0.001	4		-0.66	1.79	!!			.64L	-	-	-	#N/A
12L	0.0023	0.000	4		0.50	0.85				.12L	-	-	-	#N/A
Tot.gem	0.002	0.000		1%-level:	1.49	(1.67)			#N/A	(4L,46L,64L,12L)			-1	
Tot.std=	0.000	0.000		5%-level:	1.42	(1.5)		4						

RESULTS: Mean = #N/A mg/kg
 Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #N/A
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #N/A
 Reproducibility std. SR = #N/A --> #N/A R = #N/A
 Remarks: 4 Labs rejected! (4L,46L,64L,12L)



Sample: Soil 3
 Element: PBD 154



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 154)
 Mandel's h statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 154)
 #NUM!

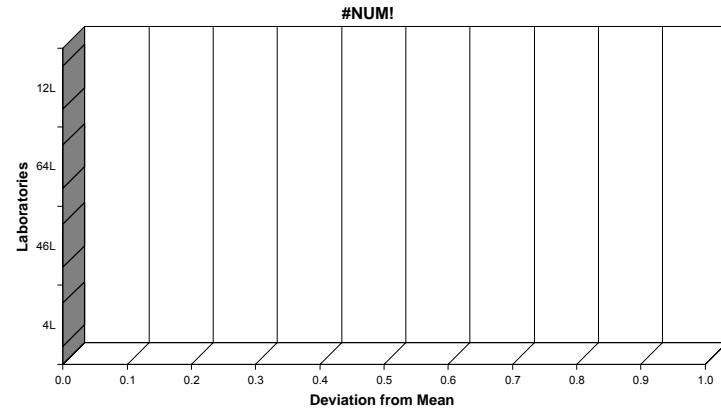
General calc.parm.
 T1= #NUM!
 T2= #NUM!
 T3=
 T4=
 T5=
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 3

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	End Result:					
					h	k			PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
4L	0.0010	-	1	!!	1.50	0.96	Fail	-	.4L	-	-	-	-	#NUM!
46L	0.0001	0.000	4		-0.53	1.05		Fail	-	.46L	-	-	-	#NUM!
64L	0.0001	0.000	4		-0.56	0.99		Fail	#NUM!	.64L	-	-	-	#NUM!
12L	0.0002	0.000	4		-0.40	1.64		Fail	-	.12L	-	-	-	#NUM!
Tot.gem	0.00037	0.000 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.49	(1.64)			#NUM!	(4L,46L,64L,12L)				-1
Tot.std=	0.00042	0.000		5%-level:	1.42	(1.53)		4						

RESULTS: Mean = #NUM! mg/kg

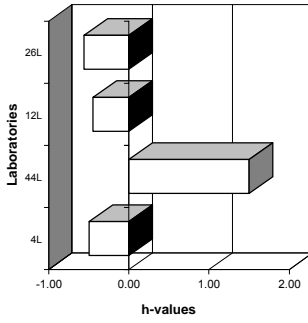
Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #NUM!
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #NUM!
 Reproducibility std. SR = #NUM! --> #NUM! R = #NUM!

Remarks: 4 Labs rejected! (4L,46L,64L,12L)

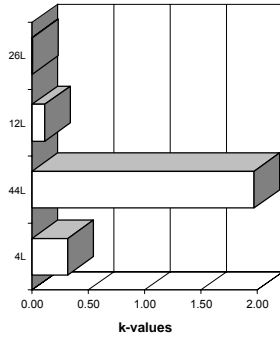


Sample: Compost 1
 Element: PBD 209

Mandel's h statistics
 (Compost 1 - PBD 209)



Mandel's k statistics
 (Compost 1 - PBD 209)



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 209)
 Mandel's h statistics (Compost 1 - PBD 209)
 #NUM!

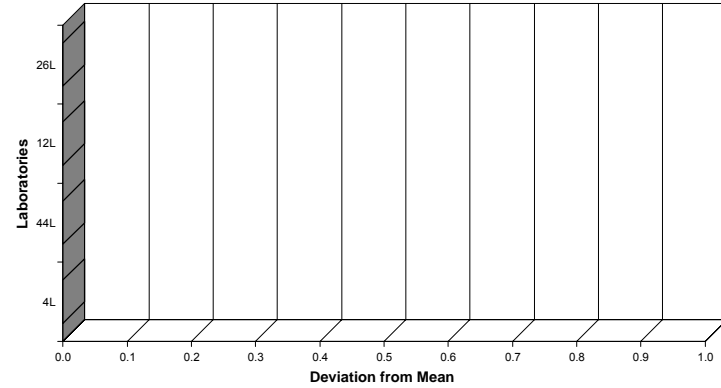
General calc.parm.
 T1= #NUM!
 T2= #NUM!
 T3=
 T4=
 T5=
 n= variabel
 p=
 N-table= 3

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{x} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
4L	0.0065	0.003	2		-0.49	0.32			-	.4L	-	-	-	#NUM!
44L	0.0573	0.021	4	!!	1.50	1.97	!!	Fail	-	.44L	-	-	-	#NUM!
12L	0.0078	0.001	4		-0.45	0.11			-	.12L	-	-	-	#NUM!
26L	0.0049	0.000	2		-0.56	0.00			#NUM!	.26L	-	-	-	#NUM!
Tot.gem	0.019	0.006 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.49	(1.77)			#NUM!	(4L,44L,12L,26L)				-1
Tot.std=	0.025	0.010		5%-level:	1.42	(1.59)			4					

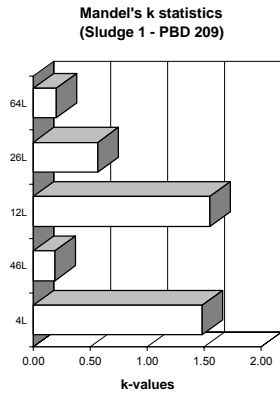
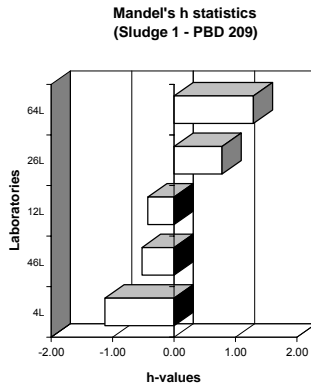
End Result:

RESULTS: Mean = #NUM! mg/kg
 Repeatability variance S2r = #DIV/0!
 Repeatability std. Sr = #DIV/0! --> #DIV/0! r = #DIV/0!
 Between lab variance S2L = #NUM!
 Reproducibility var. S2R = #NUM!
 Reproducibility std. SR = #NUM! --> #NUM! R = #NUM!
 Remarks: 4 Labs rejected! (4L,44L,12L,26L)

#NUM!



Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **PBD 209**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 209)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - PBD 209)
 Sludge 1 - PBD 209 -- Mean PARM = 0.249 [mg/kg]

```

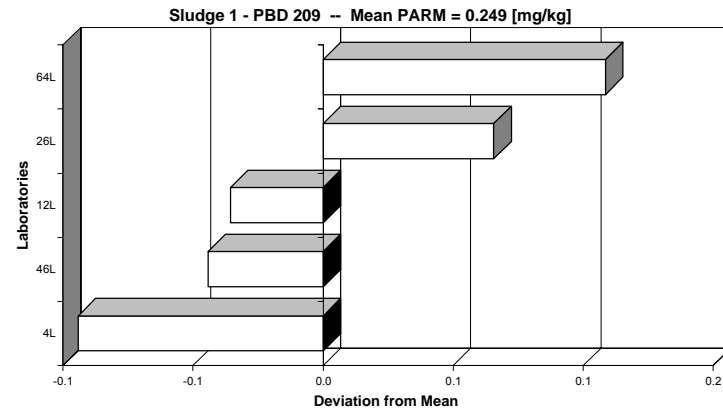
General calc.parm.
T1= 3.94542E+00
T2= 1.07296E+00
T3= 16
T4= 56
T5= 1.9723E-02
n= variabel
p= 5
N-table= 3
  
```

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	End Result:		Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
					h	k			PARM	Stdev				
4L	0.1550	0.055	4	-1.12	-1.12	1.48			0.1550	0.0551		4	3	-0.09
46L	0.2050	0.007	2	-0.53	-0.53	0.19			0.2050	0.0071		2	1	-0.04
12L	0.2137	0.058	4	-0.42	-0.42	1.55	!	Fail	0.2137	0.0576		4	3	-0.04
26L	0.3149	0.021	2	0.78	0.78	0.57		Fail	0.3149	0.0210		2	1	0.07
64L	0.3577	0.007	4	1.29	1.29	0.20		Fail	0.3577	0.0074		4	3	0.11
Tot.gem	0.249	0.030 mg/kg			1.72	(1.85)			5	0.2493	0	5	4	
Tot.std=	0.084	0.025			1.57	(1.62)								

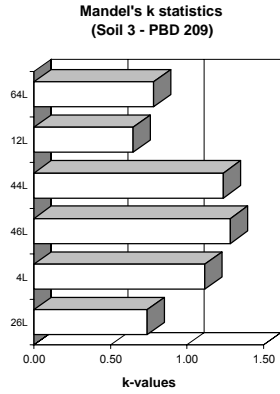
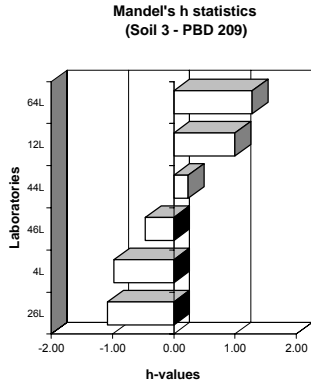
RESULTS: Mean = **0.24926** mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00179
 Repeatability std. Sr = **0.04234** --> 16.99% r = 0.1186
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00743
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00922
 Reproducibility std. SR = **0.09604** --> 38.53% R = 0.2689

Remarks: none



Sample: Soil 3
 Element: PBD 209



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 209)
 Mandel's h statistics (Soil 3 - PBD 209)
 Soil 3 - PBD 209 -- Mean PARM = 0.258 [mg/kg]

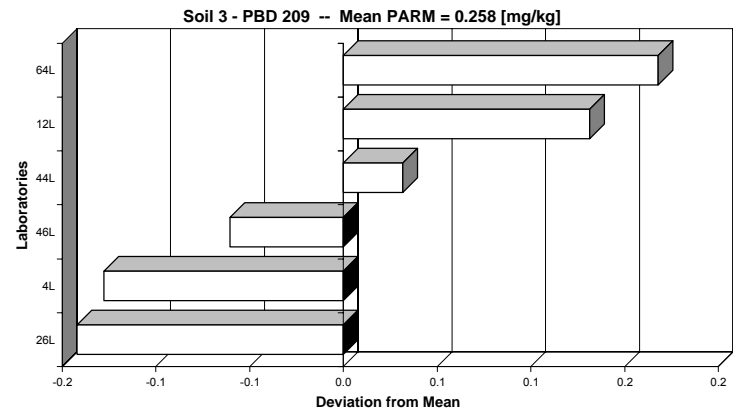
```

General calc.parm.
T1= 5.96398E+00
T2= 1.91917E+00
T3= 22
T4= 84
T5= 1.3249E-02
n= variabel 6
p= 6
N-table= 4
  
```

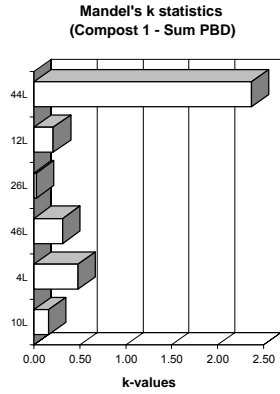
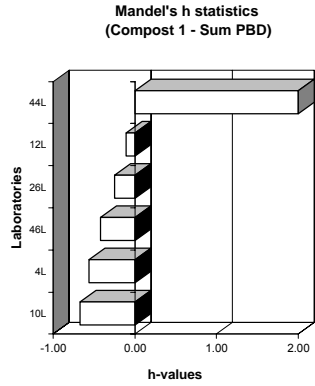
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
					h	k								
26L	0.1162	0.021	2		-1.08	0.74			0.1162	0.0207		2	1	-0.14
4L	0.1303	0.031	4		-0.97	1.11		Fail	0.1303	0.0312		4	3	-0.13
46L	0.1975	0.036	4		-0.46	1.28		Fail	0.1975	0.0359		4	3	-0.06
44L	0.2898	0.035	4		0.24	1.24	Fail		0.2898	0.0346		4	3	0.03
12L	0.3895	0.018	4		1.00	0.65	Fail		0.3895	0.0181		4	3	0.13
64L	0.4260	0.022	4		1.27	0.78	Fail		0.4260	0.0219		4	3	0.17
Tot.gem	0.258	0.027 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.87	(1.77)			6	0.2582	()	6	5	
Tot.std=	0.132	0.008		5%-level:	1.66	(1.54)								

RESULTS: Mean = 0.25818 mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00083
 Repeatability std. Sr = 0.02878 --> 11.15% r = 0.0806
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.01640
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.01723
 Reproducibility std. SR = 0.13127 --> 50.84% R = 0.3676
 Remarks: none



Sample: **Compost 1**
 Element: **Sum PBD**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Compost 1 - Sum PBD)
 Mandel's h statistics (Compost 1 - Sum PBD)
 Compost 1 - Sum PBD -- Mean PARM = 0.009 [mg/kg]

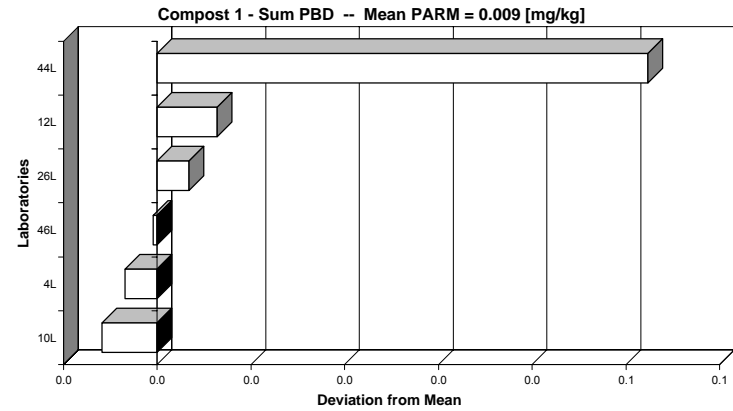
General calc.parm.
 T1= 1.54064E-01
 T2= 1.69065E-03
 T3= 18
 T4= 68
 T5= 1.1354E-04
 n= variabel
 p= 5
 N-table= 4

Mandel's statistics										End Result:				
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	h	k	k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	$AvX < AvST-2std$	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
10L	0.0031	0.002	4		-0.67	0.16			0.0031	0.0016		4	3	-0.01
4L	0.0055	0.005	4		-0.56	0.48			0.0055	0.0047		4	3	0.00
46L	0.0085	0.003	4		-0.42	0.31			0.0085	0.0030		4	3	0.00
26L	0.0123	0.000	2		-0.24	0.03			0.0123	0.0002		2	1	0.00
12L	0.0154	0.002	4		-0.11	0.21			0.0154	0.0021		4	3	0.01
44L	0.0613	0.023	4	II	2.00	2.37	II	Fail	-	-	.44L	-	-	0.05
Tot.gem	0.018	0.006 mg/kg		1%-level:	1.87	(1.77)			5	0.0089		5	4	
Tot.std=	0.022	0.009		5%-level:	1.66	(1.54)			1					

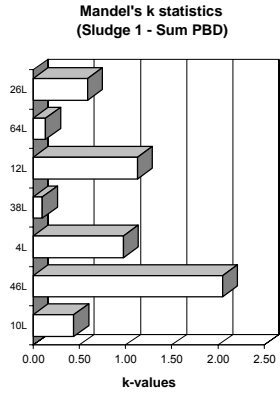
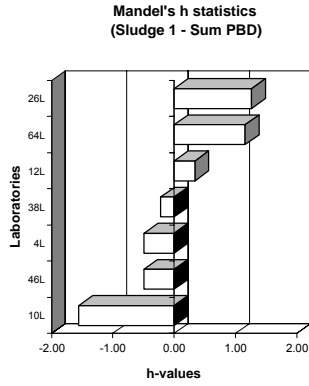
RESULTS: Mean = 0.00893 mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00001
 Repeatability std. Sr = 0.00296 --> 33.08% r = 0.0083
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.00002
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.00003
 Reproducibility std. SR = 0.00570 --> 63.74% R = 0.0159

Remarks: 1 Lab rejected! (44L)



Sample: **Sludge 1**
 Element: **Sum PBD**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Sludge 1 - Sum PBD)
 Mandel's h statistics (Sludge 1 - Sum PBD)
 Sludge 1 - Sum PBD -- Mean PARM = 0.256 [mg/kg]

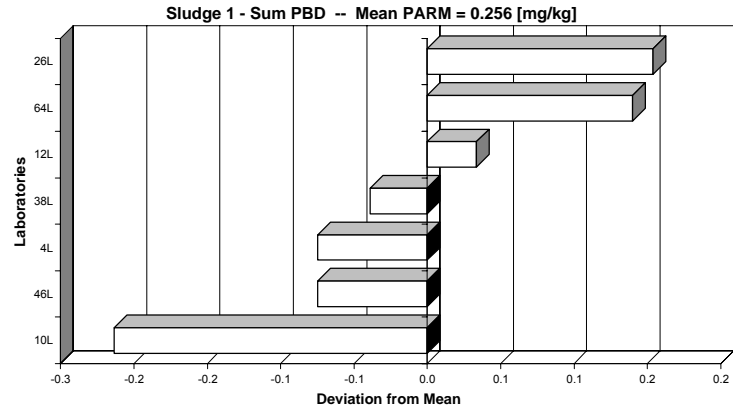
General calc.parm.
 T1= 5.31806E+00
 T2= 1.62188E+00
 T3= 22
 T4= 84
 T5= 2.5223E-02
 n= variabel
 p= 6
 N-table= 4

LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	h-mark	Mandel's statistics		k-mark $\sqrt{X} > AvST+2std$	AvX < AvST-2std	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
					h	k								
10L	0.0423	0.025	4		-1.56	0.44			0.0423	0.0252		4	3	-0.21
46L	0.1808	0.118	4		-0.49	2.05	!!	Fail	-		.46L	-	-	-0.07
4L	0.1810	0.056	4		-0.49	0.97			0.1810	0.0558		4	3	-0.07
38L	0.2168	0.006	4		-0.22	0.10			0.2168	0.0059		4	3	-0.04
12L	0.2890	0.065	4		0.34	1.13			0.2890	0.0647		4	3	0.03
64L	0.3958	0.008	4		1.16	0.14		Fail	0.3958	0.0079		4	3	0.14
26L	0.4094	0.034	2		1.26	0.59		Fail	0.4094	0.0337		2	1	0.15
Tot.gem	0.245	0.044 mg/kg			1.98	(1.79)			6	0.2557	(46L)	6	5	
Tot.std	0.130	0.039			1.71	(1.55)			1					

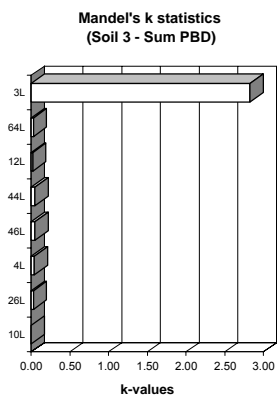
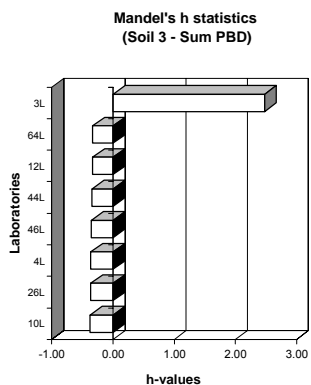
RESULTS: Mean = **0.25570** mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00158
 Repeatability std. Sr = **0.03970** --> 15.53% r = 0.1112
 Between lab variance S2L = 0.01807
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.01964
 Reproducibility std. SR = **0.14015** --> 54.81% R = 0.3924

Remarks: 1 Lab rejected! (46L)



Sample: **Soil 3**
 Element: **Sum PBD**



Unit: mg/kg

Mandel's k statistics (Soil 3 - Sum PBD)
 Mandel's h statistics (Soil 3 - Sum PBD)
 Soil 3 - Sum PBD -- Mean PARM = 0.227 [mg/kg]

General calc.parm.
 T1= 6.10980E+00
 T2= 2.00876E+00
 T3= 26
 T4= 100
 T5= 1.3106E-02
 n= variabel
 p= 7
 N-table= 4

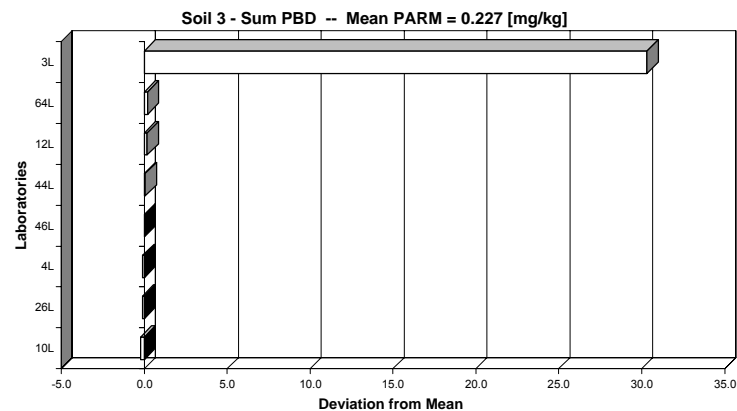
LAB	PARM-gem	Stdev	N	Mandel's statistics				End Result:							
				h-mark	h	k	k-mark	1vX > AvST+2std	AvX < AvST-2std	PARM	Stdev	Rej.labs	N	N-1	dev_mean
10L	0.0028	0.001	4		-0.37	0.00			Fail	0.0028	0.0005		4	3	-0.22
26L	0.1179	0.021	2		-0.36	0.03			Fail	0.1179	0.0208		2	1	-0.11
4L	0.1305	0.031	4		-0.36	0.04			Fail	0.1305	0.0308		4	3	-0.10
46L	0.2065	0.035	4		-0.36	0.05			Fail	0.2065	0.0350		4	3	-0.02
44L	0.2923	0.037	4		-0.35	0.05			Fail	0.2923	0.0365		4	3	0.07
12L	0.4051	0.015	4		-0.34	0.02			Fail	0.4051	0.0149		4	3	0.18
64L	0.4314	0.022	4		-0.33	0.03			Fail	0.4314	0.0223		4	3	0.20
3L	30.5500	2.051	2	!!	2.47	2.83	!!	Fail	-	-	.3L	-	-	-	30.32
Tot.gem	4.017	0.276 mg/kg		1%-level:	2.06	(1.81)			7	0.2266	(3L)		7	6	
Tot.std=	10.722	0.717		5%-level:	1.75	(1.56)			1						

RESULTS: Mean = 0.22663 mg/kg

Repeatability variance S2r = 0.00069
 Repeatability std. Sr = 0.02626 --> 11.59% r = 0.0735

Between lab variance S2L = 0.02568
 Reproducibility var. S2R = 0.02637
 Reproducibility std. SR = 0.16238 --> 71.65% R = 0.4547

Remarks: 1 Lab rejected! (3L)



Annex 4:

Raw data submitted

Sample:	Compost1		
Element:	PBD 99		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
4L		0.0021	
4L		0.0024	
4L		0.0014	
4L		0.0020	
10L		0.0029	
10L		0.0027	
10L		0.0032	
46L		0.0025	
46L		0.0052	
46L		0.0029	
46L		0.0026	
12L		0.0026	
12L		0.0043	
12L		0.0026	
12L		0.0047	
26L		0.0026	
26L		0.0024	

Sample:	Compost 1		
Element:	PBD 100		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
10L		0.0008	
10L		0.0008	
10L		0.0007	
10L		0.0011	
46L		0.0007	
46L		0.0012	
46L		0.0009	
46L		0.0007	
12L		0.0008	
12L		0.0012	
12L		0.0008	
12L		0.0014	
26L		0.0007	
26L		0.0006	

Sample:	Compost 1		
Element:	PBD 153		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
44L		0.0050	
44L		0.0060	
44L		0.0050	
46L		0.0004	
46L		0.0012	
46L		0.0004	
46L		0.0009	
12L		0.0004	
12L		0.0008	
12L		0.0004	
12L		0.0007	
26L		0.0005	
26L		0.0005	

Sample:	Compost 1		
Element:	PBD 154		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
4L		0.0010	
46L		0.0003	
46L		0.0007	
46L		0.0003	
46L		0.0004	
12L		0.0003	
12L		0.0005	
12L		0.0031	
12L		0.0006	

Sample:	Compost 1		
Element:	PBD 183		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0024	
46L		0.0021	
46L		0.0003	
12L		0.0003	
12L		0.0011	
12L		0.0003	
12L		0.0003	

Sample:	Compost 1		
Element:	PBD 196		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
46L		0.0011	
46L		0.0008	
12L		0.0002	
12L		0.0003	
12L		0.0001	
12L		0.0002	

Sample:		<i>Compost 1</i>		
Element:		<i>PBD 197</i>		
<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>	[mg/kg]		
46L	0.0002			
46L	0.0023			
46L	0.0022			
12L	0.0004			
12L	0.0006			
12L	0.0003			
12L	0.0004			

Sample:		<i>Compost 1</i>		
Element:		<i>PBD 203</i>		
<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>	[mg/kg]		
46L	0.0010			
12L	0.0002			
12L	0.0003			
12L	0.0002			
12L	0.0002			

Sample:		<i>Compost 1</i>		
Element:		<i>PBD 209</i>		
<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>	[mg/kg]		
4L	0.0041			
4L	0.0089			
44L	0.0410			
44L	0.0840			
44L	0.0640			
44L	0.0400			
12L	0.0079			
12L	0.0073			
12L	0.0065			
12L	0.0093			
26L	0.0049			
26L	0.0049			

Sample:		<i>Compost 1</i>		
Element:		<i>PBD 47</i>		
<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>	[mg/kg]		
26L	0.0038			
26L	0.0039			

Element: <i>PBD 99</i>		[mg/kg]	Element: <i>PBD 47</i>		[mg/kg]	Element: <i>PBD 209</i>		[mg/kg]
<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>		<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>		<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>	
4L	0.0170		10L	0.0210		4L	0.1000	
4L	0.0200		10L	0.0220		4L	0.1800	
4L	0.0170		10L	0.0210		4L	0.1200	
4L	0.0190		46L	0.0300		4L	0.2200	
10L	0.0280		46L	0.0280		46L	0.2100	
10L	0.0300		46L	0.0250		46L	0.2000	
10L	0.0290		46L	0.0260		64L	0.3518	
46L	0.0340		64L	0.0059		64L	0.3638	
46L	0.0330		64L	0.0057		64L	0.3645	
46L	0.0300		64L	0.0062		64L	0.3508	
46L	0.0310		64L	0.0060		12L	0.2209	
64L	0.0194		12L	0.0191		12L	0.1771	
64L	0.0154		12L	0.0187		12L	0.2922	
64L	0.0185		12L	0.0190		12L	0.1646	
64L	0.0159		12L	0.0186		26L	0.3297	
12L	0.0242		26L	0.0666		26L	0.3000	
12L	0.0223		26L	0.0332				
12L	0.0221							
12L	0.0222							
26L	0.0246							
26L	0.0400							

Element: <i>PBD 203</i>		[mg/kg]	Element: <i>PBD 197</i>		[mg/kg]	Element: <i>PBD 196</i>		[mg/kg]
<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>		<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>		<i>LAB</i>	<i>PARM</i>	
46L	0.0022		46L	0.0027		46L	0.0024	
46L	0.0014		46L	0.0024		46L	0.0022	
64L	0.0036		12L	0.0161		64L	0.0058	
64L	0.0058		12L	0.0060		64L	0.0065	
12L	0.0063		12L	0.0061		12L	0.0048	
12L	0.0034		12L	0.0036		12L	0.0025	
12L	0.0038					12L	0.0032	
12L	0.0027					12L	0.0022	

Element: PBD 183		[mg/kg]	Element: PBD 154		[mg/kg]	Element: PBD 153		[mg/kg]
LAB	PARM		LAB	PARM		LAB	PARM	
46L	0.0049		4L	0.0020		4L	0.0022	
46L	0.0035		4L	0.0022		4L	0.0024	
46L	0.0036		4L	0.0020		4L	0.0022	
46L	0.0034		46L	0.0025		4L	0.0026	
64L	0.0027		46L	0.0025		46L	0.0040	
64L	0.0023		46L	0.0025		46L	0.0042	
64L	0.0024		46L	0.0023		46L	0.0035	
64L	0.0020		64L	0.0034		46L	0.0038	
12L	0.0230		64L	0.0023		64L	0.0074	
12L	0.0032		64L	0.0017		64L	0.0047	
12L	0.0031		64L	0.0011		64L	0.0046	
12L	0.0030		12L	0.0030		64L	0.0030	
26L	0.0007		12L	0.0021		12L	0.0065	
26L	0.0008		12L	0.0021		12L	0.0029	
			12L	0.0021		12L	0.0032	
			26L	0.0015		12L	0.0029	
			26L	0.0019		26L	0.0039	
						26L	0.0040	

Element: PBD 100		[mg/kg]
LAB	PARM	
4L	0.0038	
4L	0.0041	
4L	0.0037	
4L	0.0038	
38L	0.2190	
38L	0.2200	
38L	0.2080	
38L	0.2200	
10L	0.0044	
10L	0.0050	
10L	0.0043	
10L	0.0046	
46L	0.0057	
46L	0.0059	
46L	0.0053	
46L	0.0053	
12L	0.0043	
12L	0.0045	
12L	0.0043	
12L	0.0043	
26L	0.0062	
26L	0.0057	

Sample:	Soil 3		
Element:	PBD 99		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
10L		0.0016	
10L		0.0019	
10L		0.0013	
10L		0.0019	
46L		0.0025	
46L		0.0025	
46L		0.0008	
46L		0.0011	
64L		0.0005	
64L		0.0005	
64L		0.0006	
64L		0.0007	
12L		0.0012	
12L		0.0013	
12L		0.0013	
12L		0.0012	
26L		0.0005	
26L		0.0006	

Sample:	Soil 3		
Element:	PBD 47		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
10L		0.0011	
10L		0.0010	
10L		0.0012	
46L		0.0007	
46L		0.0022	
46L		0.0005	
46L		0.0007	
12L		0.0010	
12L		0.0017	
12L		0.0010	
12L		0.0009	
26L		0.0007	
26L		0.0007	

Sample:	Soil 3		
Element:	PBD 100		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
10L		0.0003	
10L		0.0004	
10L		0.0004	
10L		0.0002	
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0006	
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0002	
3L		29.1000	
3L		32.0000	
26L		0.0005	
26L		0.0005	

Sample:	Soil 3		
Element:	PBD 153		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
44L		0.0050	
44L		0.0050	
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0003	
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0002	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0002	

Sample:	Soil 3		
Element:	PBD 154		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
4L		0.0010	
46L		0.0001	
46L		0.0002	
46L		0.0001	
46L		0.0002	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0001	
64L		0.0002	
12L		0.0003	
12L		0.0002	
12L		0.0002	
12L		0.0002	

Sample:	Soil 3		
Element:	PBD 196		
	LAB	PARM	[mg/kg]
46L		0.0007	
46L		0.0011	
46L		0.0008	
46L		0.0011	
64L		0.0026	
64L		0.0026	
64L		0.0029	
64L		0.0034	
12L		0.0045	
12L		0.0032	
12L		0.0022	
12L		0.0021	

Sample:		Soil 3		[mg/kg]
Element:		PBD 197		
LAB	PARM			
46L	0.0006			
46L	0.0013			
46L	0.0011			
46L	0.0013			
12L	0.0090			
12L	0.0056			
12L	0.0033			
12L	0.0032			

Sample:		Soil 3		[mg/kg]
Element:		PBD 203		
LAB	PARM			
46L	0.0011			
46L	0.0017			
46L	0.0015			
46L	0.0018			
64L	0.0013			
64L	0.0014			
64L	0.0016			
64L	0.0015			
12L	0.0055			
12L	0.0041			
12L	0.0027			
12L	0.0026			

Sample:		Soil 3		[mg/kg]
Element:		PBD 209		
LAB	PARM			
4L	0.0910			
4L	0.1500			
4L	0.1200			
4L	0.1600			
44L	0.3370			
44L	0.2810			
44L	0.2870			
44L	0.2540			
46L	0.2300			
46L	0.2200			
46L	0.1500			
46L	0.1900			
64L	0.4381			
64L	0.4016			
64L	0.4144			
64L	0.4498			
12L	0.3671			
12L	0.3978			
12L	0.4091			
12L	0.3838			
26L	0.102			
26L	0.131			

Sample:		Soil 3		[mg/kg]
Element:		PBD 183		
LAB	PARM			
46L	0.0007			
46L	0.0008			
46L	0.0058			
46L	0.0007			
64L	0.0002			
64L	0.0003			
64L	0.0003			
64L	0.0003			
12L	0.0015			
12L	0.0011			
12L	0.0007			
12L	0.0007			

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Abstract

Project HORIZONTAL is interdisciplinary aiming at a harmonisation and horizontal standardisation of test procedures, in particular for sludge, soils and biowastes. In the context of this standardization project, a series of draft technical specifications were designed upon an extensive desk study, fine-tuned after expert consultations and finally validated in international intercomparisons exercise.

This report summarises the work performed within the validation study of the draft standard for the determination of polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE) in soils, sludge and treated bio-waste using gas-chromatography method with mass selective detection (GC-MS). It further explains the underlying statistical concept for the calculation of reproducibility and repeatability from intercomparisons data. In addition all single values, results of the statistical evaluation as well as background information on the validation materials used are described and explained.

The mission of the JRC is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies. As a service of the European Commission, the JRC functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union. Close to the policy-making process, it serves the common interest of the Member States, while being independent of special interests, whether private or national.

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