



Comments and Experiences with CCME-PHC Method

Enviro-Test Laboratories

CWS Analytical Methods Workshop

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Experiences

- Analyzed over 20,000 samples using the CCME-PHC Method.
- The method (for the most part) is sufficiently detailed, technically sound and reproducible.
- More detail needed regarding performance based aspects such as analytical protocols for BTEX, HTGC etc.

Problems Areas

- Heterogeneity of samples either internal or external.
- Request from clients to compare CCME-
PHC method to historical methods used at a site.
- The impact and evaluation of natural organics reported as hydrocarbons.

The Recent Interlab Study

- Did the study achieve its mandate?
- All laboratories should have used the CCME Method without modification.
- The data needs to be reworked to distinguish results from CCME method from others to evaluate impact of deviations.
- Target levels vs reference levels

Variability of Study Data

- Shades of 1998. Still a lot of bad data being generated.
- 11 laboratories had more than ten data points with unacceptable z- scores.
- A number of laboratories that participated reported only partial data.
- Reporting deadlines were extended well beyond the original due date.

What needs to be done.

- CCME- PHC AMTAG be re-convened to review concerns and make necessary changes to the method.
- Establish a protocol for determining equivalency of performance based options.
- Be diligent in insisting on “proof” of performance through QC data, use of RMs, successful PT results and accreditation audits.