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|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|----------|
| AQ-4 Mercury in Seawater | | | | | |
| Year | 2021 | Number of Rounds / Year | 2 | Number of Materials | 4 |
| Distribution | April, October (30 laboratories expected) | | | | |
| Participation fee | €700,= | | | | |

Introduction

This study covers the determination of mercury in the seawater test materials.

Test Materials

The test materials are prepared in bulk from filtered seawater. All test materials are preserved with 2 mL trace metal analysis grade nitric acid per litre of test material. Normally 3 spiked seawater test materials are supplied for each exercise.

Homogeneity of the test materials is assumed, as they were prepared in bulk and thoroughly mixed, before being dispensed into 1 litre glass bottles for distribution. The test materials are stable for the purposes of the exercise.

Determinands and concentration ranges

Mercury should be determined in each test material. The table shows:

- The expected concentration range in the spiked test materials.
- The constant and proportional error that will be used for assessment of the results.

Where available the AA-EQS (EU-WFD) is given.

| Determinand | Unit | Concentration Range | | Error | | MAC-EQS |
|-------------|------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------|-------|---------|
| | | Low Salinity Seawater (spiked) | Seawater (spiked) | Const | Prop | |
| Mercury | ng/L | 10 - 5000 | 0.2 -40 | 0.2 | 12.5% | 50 |

N.B. In addition to the test materials mentioned above, we are intending to send 1 extra bottle with much higher concentrations (± 20 times higher indicated). This bottle will be clearly indicated as high contaminated.

This determinand is not in the scope of the accreditation.