

**SUMMARY SHEET 105**  
**Mercury**

		Run #1	Run #2	Run #3	Avg
Client/Plant Name					FDS 105
Job No.					FDS 105
Sample ID #					FDS 105
Test Date					FDS 105
Run Start Time					FDS 105
Run Finish Time					FDS 105
Sample Time Increment	hr				FDS 105
Sample Volume per Grab Sample	L				FDS 105
Solids Content of Blended Sludge	F <sub>sb</sub>				LDS 105
Solids Content of Sludge Before Blending	F <sub>sm</sub>				LDS 105
Weight Wet Blended Sample, g	S <sub>wb</sub>				LDS 105
Digested Sample Volume, mL	V <sub>s</sub>				LDS 105
Digested Aliquot Volume, mL	V <sub>a</sub>				LDS 105
Mass of Hg in Aliquot, μg	m				LDS 101
Conc. of Hg in Digested Sample, μg/g	C <sub>m</sub>				SS 105
Avg of Three 8-Hr Samples, μg/g	C <sub>m(avg)</sub>				SS 105
Concentration of Hg, dry, μg/g	M				SS 105

$$C_m = \frac{m V_s}{V_a S_{wb}}$$

$$M = \frac{C_{m(avg)}}{F_{sb}}$$

**FIELD PROCEDURE 105**  
**Mercury in Wastewater Treatment Plant Sewage Sludge**

***Sampling***

Withdraw equal volume increments of sludge, for a total of at least 15 L, at intervals of 30 minutes, over an 8-hr period. Place samples in a rigid plastic container.



**LABORATORY PROCEDURE 105**  
**Mercury in Wastewater Treatment Plant Sewage Sludge**

*Note: This laboratory procedure is similar to LP 101A, except for the variations below. Use LDS 105.*

**A. Reagents**

1. Aqua Regia. Carefully add one volume conc.  $\text{HNO}_3$  to three volumes conc. HCl. Prepare immediately before use.
2. Mercury (II) Stock Solution, 1 mg Hg/mL. Stable for at least one month. Dissolve 135.4 mg ACS reagent-grade  $\text{HgCl}_2$  in 75 mL water, add 10 mL conc.  $\text{HNO}_3$ , and adjust the volume to 100.0 mL with water. Mix thoroughly.
3. Nitric Acid, 15%. Dilute 15 mL conc.  $\text{HNO}_3$  to 100 mL with water.
4. Intermediate Mercury Standard Solution, 10  $\mu\text{g}$  Hg/mL. Prepare fresh weekly. Pipet 5.0 mL Hg stock solution into a 500-mL volumetric flask, and add 20 mL 15%  $\text{HNO}_3$  solution. Adjust the volume to 500 mL with water. Mix thoroughly.
5. Working Mercury Standard Solution, 200 ng Hg/mL. Pipet 5.0 mL "Intermediate Mercury Standard Solution" into a 250-mL volumetric flask. Add 20 mL 15%  $\text{HNO}_3$ , and adjust the volume to 250 mL with water. Mix thoroughly. Prepare fresh daily.
6. Tin (II) Solution. Dissolve 20 g tin (II) chloride [or 25 g tin (II) sulfate] crystals in 25 mL conc. HCl (do not use other acids for HCl). Dilute to 250 mL with water. Prepare fresh daily, and keep sealed.
7. Sodium Chloride-Hydroxylamine Solution. Dissolve 12 g NaCl and 12 hydroxylamine sulfate (or 12 g hydroxylamine hydrochloride) in water; dilute to 100 mL.
8. Potassium Permanganate, 5%. Dissolve 5 g  $\text{KMnO}_4$  in water; dilute to 100 mL.

**B. Sample Preparation**

1. Sludge Mixing

- a. Transfer the entire 15-L sample to a 57-L capacity mortar mixer. Mix the sample for  $\geq 30$  min at 30 rpm.
- b. Using a 200-mL beaker, take six 100-mL portions of sludge, and combine in a 2-L blender. Blend the sludge for 5 min; add water as necessary to give a fluid consistency.
- c. Immediately after stopping the blender, use a 50-mL beaker to withdraw four 20-mL portions of blended sludge and place them in separate, tared 125-mL Erlenmeyer flasks.

- c. Reweigh each flask to determine the exact amount of sludge added.

2. Solids Content of Blended Sludge

- a. Dry one of the 20-mL blended samples from step B1c in an oven at 105°C to constant weight.
- b. Cool in a desiccator between weighings; weigh the dry sample.

3. Aqua Regia Digestion of Blended Sludge

- a. To each of the three remaining 20-mL samples from step B1c, add 25 mL aqua regia, and digest the samples on a hot plate at low heat (do not boil) for 30 min, or until samples are a pale yellow-brown color and are void of the dark brown color characteristic of organic matter. Remove from the hot plate, and allow to cool.
- b. Filter each digested sample separately through an S and S No. 588 filter, or equivalent, and rinse the filter contents with 50 mL water.
- c. Transfer the filtrate and filter washing to a 100-mL volumetric flask, and carefully dilute to volume with water.

4. Solids Content of Sludge Before Blending

- a. Using a 200-mL beaker, remove two 100-mL portions of mixed sludge from the mortar mixer, and place in separate, tared 400-mL beakers.
- b. Reweigh each beaker to determine the exact amount of sludge added. Dry in an oven at 105°C, and cool in a desiccator to constant weight.

**C. Equipment Preparation**

This is the same as that in Method 101A, section C, except calibrate the *spectrophotometer and recorder* as follows:

1. Set the spectrophotometer wavelength to 253.7 nm.
2. Make certain the optical cell is at the minimum temperature that will prevent water condensation from occurring.
3. First add 25 mL water and 3 drops Antifoam B to the aeration-cell bottle. Then pipet 5.0 mL working Hg standard solution (or any Hg-containing solution) into the aeration cell. Never switch the order.

4. Place a Teflon-coated stirring bar in the bottle. Add 5 mL 15%  $\text{HNO}_3$  and 5 mL 5%  $\text{KMnO}_4$  to the aeration bottle, and mix well.
5. Attach the bottle section to the bubbler section of the aeration cell, close stopcock on the aeration cell exit arm, and ensure there is no flow through the bubbler.
6. Add 5 mL sodium chloride-hydroxylamine solution to the aeration bottle and mix. If the solution does not become colorless, add sodium chloride-hydroxylamine solution in 1-mL increments until the solution is colorless.
7. Add 5 mL tin (II) solution to the aeration bottle through the side-arm, and immediately stopper the side arm. Stir the solution for 15 sec, turn on the recorder, open the aeration cell exit arm stopcock, and immediately initiate aeration with continued stirring.
8. Determine the maximum absorbance of the standard, and set this value to read 90% of the recorder full scale.

