



CadmiumCheck for Soil: Applications Note

Background:

Cadmium contamination of soil and groundwater occurs as a by product of industrial processes such as metal fabrication or plating, and from the manufacture of batteries. When used in conjunction with LeadCheck Soil, CadmiumCheck Swabs can provide valuable information about the cadmium content of soils.

Method:

Follow the standard LeadCheck Soil instructions for sample preparation. Use the modified extraction procedure described below to screen the extract for cadmium.

1. Add 3 level spoonfuls of soil to the reaction bottle. Mix and allow to settle as directed.
2. Using one of the droppers provided, place 2 drops of liquid from the reaction bottle into a well on the reaction tray.
3. Neutralize the extract to pH 7.0 by adding 1 drop of 1N NaOH (not supplied).
4. Activate a CadmiumCheck Swab and rub the tip directly into the neutralized extract. If cadmium is present, the tip of the swab will turn a peach color. (This may require several minutes.)

Sensitivity:

The detection limit for soil samples spiked with Cadmium Nitrate is approximately 500ppm. This detection limit may vary with naturally occurring differences in soil chemistry.