

OFFICIAL COPY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

1. SCOPE

- 1.1. This standard operating procedure (SOP) describes the analysis of α -endosulfan, β -endosulfan, and endosulfan sulfate (hereafter referred to as "endosulfans") in soil.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1. Up to 50 g of soil is serially extracted by tumbling with acetone. The acetone is combined with salted water and equilibrated with methylene chloride using an automated separatory funnel shaker. The extract may be cleaned up by gel permeation chromatography (GPC), Florisil, or silica gel adsorption chromatography. The final extract is concentrated after solvent substitution with hexane and analyzed by capillary column gas chromatography (GC) using an electron capture detector (ECD).

3. APPARATUS

- 3.1. Glassware. The required glassware must be solvent cleaned and heated at 400-500°C for at least 4 hours following SOP ASCC-50-019, or glassware may be cleaned as described in the SOP except for heating, then rinsed with methanol and methylene chloride.
- 3.1.1. Centrifuge bottles -- 200-mL with Teflon-lined screw cap
- 3.1.2. Kimax separatory funnel -- 2-L with a Teflon stopcock and stopper.
- 3.1.3. Graduated cylinders -- 1000-, 500-, and 50-mL
- 3.1.4. Kuderna-Danish equipment
- 3.1.4.1. Concentration tube -- 25-mL
- 3.1.4.2. Flask -- 500-mL
- 3.1.4.3. Macro-Snyder column -- 3-ball chambers
- 3.1.4.4. Micro-Snyder column -- 3-ball chambers
- 3.1.5. Collection flask -- 500-mL Erlenmeyer or round-bottom
- 3.1.6. Serological pipet -- 5-mL disposable

OFFICIAL COPY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

-
- 3.1.7. Vials -- GPC with Teflon-lined septum
 - 3.1.8. Vials -- 4-dram with Teflon-lined screw caps
 - 3.1.9. Beakers -- 50 mL
 - 3.2. Miscellaneous materials
 - 3.2.1. Pyrex glass wool -- heated at 400-500°C for at least 4 hours.
 - 3.2.2. Carborundum boiling chips -- heated at 400-500°C for at least 4 hours.
 - 3.2.3. Water bath -- Blue M Magniwhirl or equivalent.
 - 3.2.4. Analytical balance -- capable of weighing with an accuracy of ± 0.0001 g.
 - 3.2.5. Top-loading balance -- capable of weighing with an accuracy of ± 0.01 g.
 - 3.2.6. Nitrogen evaporation device -- N-Evap Organomation Associates, or equivalent, with constant temperature water bath. The nitrogen gas must be filtered through activated charcoal.
 - 3.2.7. Peroxide test strips -- capable of detecting 1.5 mg/L peroxide.
 - 3.2.8. Tumbler apparatus - capable of tumbling 200-mL centrifuge bottles end-over-end at a constant rate.
 - 3.2.9. Separatory funnel shaker -- capable of holding eight 2-L separatory funnels and shaking them with a rocking motion to achieve thorough mixing of separatory funnel contents (available from Eberbach Co., Ann Arbor, Michigan).
 - 3.2.10. Centrifuge - IEC Model 2K or equivalent.
 - 3.2.11. GPC System - Set up system as described in SOP ASCC-50-102. Define fraction collection zone as shown in Figure 1. These times correspond to the interval between

OFFICIAL COPY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

the end of the bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate peak and the end of the pentachlorophenol peak in the GPC standard. These times may change slightly; therefore, the GPC standard must be run before any samples to ensure the proper collection times. Normally the fraction eluting between 31 and 44 min contains the endosulfans and is collected.

3.2.12. Gas Chromatograph -- analytical system complete with GC suitable for use with capillary columns and all required accessories including syringes, analytical columns, gases, and electron capture detector.

3.2.12.1. Capillary column -- 30 meters long x 0.25 mm I.D. SPB-5 bonded fused silica column, 0.25 μ m film thickness (available from Supelco). Alternative columns may be used in accordance with the provisions described in Section 5.2.

3.2.12.2. Detector -- ECD. Alternative detectors, including a mass spectrometer, may be used in accordance with the provisions described in Section 5.2.

3.3. Reagents

3.3.1. Solvents -- Burdick and Jackson distilled-in-glass grade methylene chloride, unpreserved ethyl ether, hexane, and ethyl acetate.

3.3.2. Reagent water -- Millipore water or distilled water from Magnetic Springs Water Company (Columbus, Ohio) or equivalent.

3.3.3. Sodium sulfate -- granular, anhydrous, heated at 400-500°C for at least 4 hours.

3.3.4. Florisil -- 60 to 100 mesh, J. T. Baker or equivalent, activated by heating at 140°C overnight.

3.3.5. Silica gel -- 100-200 mesh, chromatographic grade, Sigma Chemical Company or equivalent, activated by heating at 140°C overnight.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

OFFICIAL COPY

- 3.3.6. 2,3,4,5,2'-Pentachlorobiphenyl -- >95% purity, for use as internal standard (Note: another polychlorinated biphenyl isomer, 2,3,4,2',5'-pentachlorobiphenyl, can also be successfully substituted as the internal standard).
- 3.3.7. Stock standard solution of endosulfans (1 mg/mL) -- The stock standard solution is prepared from pure standard materials as in the following example:
- 3.3.7.1. Prepare stock standard solution by accurately weighing 10 mg each of α -endosulfan, β -endosulfan, and endosulfan sulfate, dissolving the materials in ethyl acetate and diluting to volume with ethyl acetate in a 10-ml volumetric flask. Larger quantities may be prepared if necessary. If compound purity is certified at 95% or greater, the weight may be used without correction to calculate the concentration of the stock standard.
- 3.3.7.2. Transfer the stock standard solution into a screw-cap vial with a Teflon-lined cap. Store at $4 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ and protect from light.
- 3.3.7.3. The stock standard solution must be replaced after three months or sooner if GC-ECD analyses indicate a problem.
- 3.3.8. Spike solution (50 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) -- Make a 5:100 dilution of the stock standard solution (i.e. 5 mL of the stock standard solution (Section 3.3.7.) into a 100-mL volumetric flask, and dilute to volume with ethyl acetate). Addition of 100 μL of the spike solution to 50 g of soil results in a concentration of 100 $\mu\text{g/kg}$ for each individual endosulfan. Transfer the soil spike solution into a screw-cap vial with a Teflon-lined cap. Store at $4 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ and protect from light. The spike solution must be replaced after three months or sooner if comparison GC-ECD analyses indicate a problem.
- 3.3.9. Internal standard spike solution (0.05 mg/mL) -- Prepare the internal standard spiking solution by accurately weighing 5 mg of pure 2,3,4,5,2'-pentachlorobiphenyl, dissolving the compound in hexane, and diluting to volume

OFFICIAL COPYSTANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

with hexane in a 100-mL volumetric flask. The amounts of 2,3,4,5,2'-pentachlorobiphenyl and hexane may be scaled up or down as long as the final concentration remains at 0.05 mg/mL. Transfer the internal standard spiking solution to a Teflon-lined screw-top bottle and store at room temperature. Addition of 5 μ L of the internal standard spiking solution to 1 mL of sample extract yields an internal standard concentration of 0.25 μ g/mL.

4. CALIBRATION

4.1. Establish retention times of each analyte and the internal standard. Calibrate the GC-ECD using the internal standard method.

4.2. Internal standard calibration procedure --

4.2.1. Prepare calibration solutions containing 2.5, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, and 250 ng/mL each of α -endosulfan, β -endosulfan, and endosulfan sulfate and 0.25 μ g/mL of internal standard. Prepare calibration solutions by adding volumes of the spike solution (Section 3.3.8.) to a volumetric flask. Add the appropriate constant amount of the internal standard solution (Section 3.3.9.) to each calibration standard, and dilute to volume with hexane.

4.2.2. Inject 1-2 μ L of each calibration standard and tabulate the relative response for each analyte (RR_a) to an internal standard using the equation:

$$RR_a = A_a/A_{is}$$

where: A_a = analyte peak area, and
 A_{is} = internal standard peak area.

Generate a calibration curve of analyte concentration response, RR_a , versus analyte concentration in the extract in ng/mL.

4.2.3. The working calibration curve must be verified on each working shift by the measurement of one or more calibration standards. If the response for any analyte varies from the predicted response by more than $\pm 20\%$, the test must be repeated using a fresh calibration standard. Alternatively, a new calibration curve must be prepared for that analyte.

OFFICIAL COPY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

5. QUALITY CONTROL

5.1. The minimum quality control requirements for this program consist of the following: an initial demonstration of laboratory capability; the analysis of spiked control samples (prepared in the field) as a continuing check on sample integrity; the analysis of background control samples (prepared in the field) as a continuing check on sample cross-contamination; the analysis of spiked process blanks (prepared in the analytical laboratory) as a continuing check on analytical method performance; and the analysis of process blanks (prepared in the analytical laboratory) as a continuing check on laboratory contamination.

5.2. In recognition of the rapid advances occurring in chromatography, the analyst is permitted to modify GC columns, GC conditions, or detectors to improve the separations or lower the cost of measurements. In addition, the analyst is also permitted to introduce a cleanup procedure in addition to GPC, Florisil adsorption chromatography, or silica gel adsorption chromatography to permit lower detection limits in a specific soil sample.

5.2.1. Each time such modifications are made, the laboratory must demonstrate acceptable method performance by extracting four representative soil samples, three spiked at 5-15 times the estimated method detection limit and one unspiked. The average recovery of each endosulfan must be between 70 and 130 percent, and the relative standard deviation of the three measurements must be equal to or less than 20 percent. Alternatively, the demonstration described in Section 5.2.2. can be substituted.

5.2.2. If a lower method detection limit is claimed, the laboratory must demonstrate acceptable method performance by extracting four representative soil samples, three spiked at the estimated method detection limit and one unspiked. The average recovery of each endosulfan should be between 70 and 130 percent, and the relative standard deviation of the three measurements should be equal to or less than 20 percent. The level of interferences detected as one of the endosulfans in the unspiked soil must be less than half of the claimed method detection limit.

OFFICIAL COPY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

- 5.3. Assessing Laboratory Performance -- The laboratory must, on an ongoing basis, analyze at least one spiked process blank per sample set. A sample set consists of 22 samples, one process blank, and one spiked process blank.
- 5.3.1. Combine all solvents listed in Sections 6.2. and 6.3. in a tumbler bottle, spike with 100 μ L of the spike solution (Section 3.3.8.) and process and analyze to determine the concentration of each analyte in the final extract (A). Calculate percent recovery for each analyte (R_i) as $(100 \times A)/T$, where T is the known true concentration of the spike.
- 5.3.2. Monitor the percent recovery (R_i) for each analyte. The recoveries should be within $\pm 30\%$ of the true value. If the recovery of analyte falls outside the designated reasonable range, the laboratory performance for that analyte is judged to be out of control, and the source of the problem must be immediately identified and resolved before continuing analyses. The analytical results for that analyte in samples is suspect and must be so labelled. All results for that analyte in that sample set must also be labelled suspect.
- 5.4. Assessing Sample Integrity -- Spiked control samples, prepared in the field will be analyzed on a regular basis.
- 5.4.1. Monitor and report all data from the spiked samples.
- 5.4.2. If the recovery of any analyte falls outside the range specified in Section 5.3.2. and the laboratory performance for that analyte is judged to be in control, the recovery problem encountered with the dosed sample is judged to be matrix-related, not system-related. The result for that analyte in unspiked samples is labelled suspect/matrix to indicate that the results were suspect due to matrix effects.
- 5.5. Assessing Laboratory Contamination -- Before processing any samples, the analyst must demonstrate that all glassware and reagent interferences are under control. This is accomplished by the analysis of a method blank and unspiked control samples.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

OFFICIAL COPY

5.5.1. A method blank is prepared by placing 100 mL of acetone into a 200-mL centrifuge bottle and proceeding with the steps described in Sections 6.3. through 6.12. A method blank is prepared and analyzed for each sample set (Section 5.3.) or when there is a change in reagents as a continuing check on laboratory contamination. The level of interferences detected as one of the endosulfans in the method blank must be less than half of the claimed method detection limit.

5.5.2. Unspiked control samples, prepared in the field, will be analyzed on a regular basis. Monitor and report all data from the unspiked samples. Detectable levels of any of the endosulfans may indicate sample cross-contamination during handling, shipping or storage.

6. PROCEDURE

- 6.1. Weigh up to 50 g of the sample into a 200-mL centrifuge bottle. Record the sample weight to the nearest 0.1 g in the laboratory record book. If the sample is a field spike sample, transfer the entire sample into the 200-mL centrifuge bottle and record the sample weight to the nearest 0.1 g.
- 6.2. Immediately after the sample has been removed from the sample container, place 5 to 10 g of sample in a tared beaker for the determination of the dry weight and record the wet weight to the nearest 0.1 g. (Do not determine the dry weight of a field spike.) Place the beaker in a 105-110°C drying oven for 40-56 hours. Remove the beaker and let it cool in a desiccator. Weigh the dried sample and record the dry weight to the nearest 0.1 g.
- 6.3. Add 100 mL of acetone to the centrifuge bottle; tumble the bottle end-over-end for 30 min. Remove the bottle from the tumbler and centrifuge for 10 min. Decant the organic layer into a 2-L separatory funnel containing 1 L of reagent water and 100 g NaCl. Add 100 mL of clean acetone to the centrifuge bottle and repeat the procedure.
- 6.4. Add 300 mL of methylene chloride to the separatory funnel. Shake and vent the separatory funnel until there is no release of vapor upon venting. Place the separatory funnel in an automatic

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL**OFFICIAL COPY**

separatory funnel shaker and shake for 30 min. Complete mixing of the organic and aqueous phases should be observed within 2 min after starting the shaker.

- 6.5. Remove the separatory funnel from the shaker and place in a ringstand. Allow the organic layer to separate from the aqueous layer for a minimum of 10 min. If separation does not occur, 50-100 mL methylene chloride may be added to the sample to facilitate phase separation. Collect the methylene chloride extract in a 500-mL flask containing approximately 5 g anhydrous sodium sulfate. Swirl the flask to dry the extract; if the sodium sulfate is not free flowing, more sodium sulfate must be added to absorb excess water. Allow the sample to remain in contact with the drying agent for 15 min.
- 6.6. Assemble a K-D concentrator by attaching a 25-mL concentrator tube to a 500-mL flask. Decant the methylene chloride extract into the K-D concentrator. Rinse the sodium sulfate with two approximately 25-mL portions of methylene chloride; decant the rinses into the K-D concentrator.
- 6.7. Add 1-2 clean boiling chips to the evaporative flask and attach a macro-Snyder column which has been pre-wetted with methylene chloride. Place the K-D apparatus in a 65-70°C water bath; the concentrator tube should be partially immersed in the hot water and the flask should be bathed with hot vapor. At the proper rate of distillation, the balls of the column will actively chatter, but the chambers will not flood. When the apparent volume reaches 5 mL, remove the K-D apparatus from the bath and allow it to cool for at least 10 minutes.
- 6.8. Remove the macro-Snyder column and rinse the flask and its lower joint into the concentrator tube with 1-2 mL of methylene chloride. Dilute the sample to 25 mL with methylene chloride. Transfer the sample to a vial and refrigerate.
- 6.9. GPC cleanup -- This cleanup may not be necessary depending on the sample.
 - 6.9.1. Transfer ~10 mL of extract from 6.8. into a GPC vial.
 - 6.9.2. Inject 5 mL of the sample extract onto the GPC system following SOP ASCC-50-102. The amount of sample that is injected onto the GPC column represents 10 g of wet soil. Collect the fraction containing the endosulfans (Section 3.2.11.) in a K-D tube equipped with a 250 mL flask.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

OFFICIAL COPY

- 6.9.3. Add 1-2 clean boiling chips to the evaporative flask and place a prewetted macro-Snyder column on the K-D apparatus. Concentrate the sample to approximately 2 mL in a 65-70°C water bath; the concentrator tube should be partially immersed in the hot water and the flask should be bathed with hot vapor. Remove the K-D apparatus from the water bath and allow it to cool.
- 6.9.4. Add 5 mL of hexane and a clean boiling chip to the sample. Concentrate the sample to approximately 2 mL in a 85-90°C water bath. Add 5 mL hexane and reconcentrate to the apparent volume of 0.5 mL. Allow the sample to cool and adjust the volume to 1 mL with hexane. A nitrogen evaporator may be used to concentrate the sample.
- 6.10. Florisil cleanup -- This cleanup may not be necessary depending on the sample.
- 6.10.1. Dilute extract from 6.9.4. to 5 mL with hexane. If GPC clean-up was not performed, place 5 mL of extract from 6.8. and 5 mL of hexane into a K-D tube. Concentrate the sample to 2 mL using a micro-snyder column. Add 10 mL hexane and reconcentrate to 2 mL. Dilute to 5 mL with hexane.
- 6.10.2. Add 1 g of Florisil which has been thoroughly wetted with hexane to a serological pipet containing a plug of glass wool in the tip. Do not allow the Florisil to become exposed to the air during the fractionation procedure. When the liquid level is just above the adsorbent, apply the sample and begin collecting eluate in K-D tube. Rinse the concentrator tube with 2 mL of 1:1 hexane ethyl ether and add the rinse to the column; repeat.
- 6.10.3. Apply 6 mL of 50% ethyl ether in hexane to the column.
- 6.10.4. Concentrate the eluate to approximately 0.5 mL in a water bath or under a stream of nitrogen. Dilute to 2 mL with hexane.
- 6.11. Silica gel cleanup -- This cleanup may not be necessary depending on the sample.
- 6.11.1. Prepare the sample as described in 6.10.1.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

- 6.11.2. Add 1 g of 1.5% deactivated silica gel which has been thoroughly wetted with hexane to a serological pipet containing a plug of glass wool in the tip. Do not allow the silica gel to become exposed to the air during the fractionation procedure. When the liquid level is just above the adsorbent, apply the sample; begin collecting eluate in K-D tube. Rinse the concentrator tube with 2 mL of 1:1 hexane ethyl ether and add the rinse to the column; repeat.
- 6.11.3. Apply 6 mL of 50% ethyl ether in hexane to the column.
- 6.11.4. Concentrate the eluate to approximately 0.5 mL in a water bath (K-D) or under a stream of nitrogen; dilute the extract to 2 mL with hexane.
- 6.12. Spike the sample with 10 μ L of the internal standard solution (Section 3.3.9.) and mix on a vortex mixer. Store extract at $4 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ until analysis by GC-ECD. After analysis by GC-ECD, reseal the sample in the GC vial with a new septa and store at $-10 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ or lower.

7. GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY

- 7.1. Table 1 summarizes the recommended operating conditions for the gas chromatograph. Included in Table 1 are retention times observed using this method. Other GC columns, chromatographic conditions, or detectors may be used if the requirements of Section 5.2. are met.
- 7.2. Calibrate the system daily as described in Section 4. The standards and extracts must be in hexane.
- 7.3. Inject 1-2 μ L of the sample extract. Record the resulting peak size in height units.
- 7.4. If the response for the peak exceeds the calibrated working range of the system, dilute the extract, adjust the internal standard concentration by adding additional internal standard spike solution (Section 3.3.9.), and reanalyze.

OFFICIAL COPY

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

8. CALCULATIONS

- 8.1. Calculate the dry weight (DW) of the sample using the following equation:

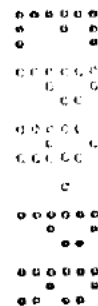
$$DW = WW_s \times DW_a / WW_a$$

where WW_s = the wet weight of the processed sample as measured in Section 6.1., DW_a = the dry weight of the aliquot described in Section 6.2., and WW_a = the wet weight of the aliquot described in Section 6.2.

- 8.2. Calculate analyte concentrations in the sample extract (C_e) in ng/mL from the relative response of the analyte to the internal standard (RR_a) using the calibration curve described in Section 4. Calculate analyte concentrations in the original sample (C) in $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ using the equation:

$$C = \frac{C_e}{(DW / 5)}$$

- 8.3. For samples processed as part of a set where the laboratory control standard recovery falls outside of the control limits in Section 5, data for the affected analytes must be labelled as suspect.



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
FOR DETERMINATION OF
ENDOSULFANS IN SOIL

OFFICIAL COPY

TABLE 1. SUGGESTED CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS

| Analyte | Chemical Abstracts Registry No. | Retention Time, min (a) |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| α -Endosulfan | 959-98-8 | 40.8 |
| β -Endosulfan | 33213-65-9 | 43.6 |
| Endosulfan sulfate | 1031-07-8 | 45.7 |
| 2,3,4,2',5'-Pentachlorobiphenyl (internal standard) | -- | 42.0 |

(a) Suggested GC conditions:

Column: 30 m long x 0.25 mm I.D. DB-5 bonded fused silica column, 0.25 μ m film thickness (J&W)
 Alt. Column: 30 m DB-608
 Injection volume: 2 μ L splitless with 45 second delay
 Carrier gas: He @30 cm/sec linear velocity
 Injector temp: 250°C
 Detector temp: 320°C
 Oven temp: Hold 60°C for 1 minute, program from 60°C-220°C at 20°C/minute, program from 220°C at 4°C/minute
 Alt. Oven temp: Program from 60°C to 300°C at 4°C/minute
 Detector: ECD