

A couple important updates at CCAL:

PLEASE READ!

The Flame Atomic Absorption Spectrometer previously used by CCAL in the analysis of cations failed in June 2011. A replacement instrument was purchased in July, and after qualification, was put into service August 2011. Since the original instrument was no longer functioning, side-by-side comparisons were not possible. Overlap samples were analyzed from archived storage. Results were varied, with some matrices showing very good agreement for all elements, and others varying substantially. Internal and external Quality Assurance testing has shown very good accuracy with the new instrument. Please review your long term analytical results; shifts may be attributable to the change in instrumentation.

In addition, the laboratory has replaced the auto-titrator that has been used for the last 3 years to analyze alkalinity and pH with a newer model. Samples submitted to the laboratory will now be analyzed using the ManSci PCT auto-titrator. We have discontinued using the Radiometer TIM840 auto-titrator at this time. The changeover date for the new instrument is 31 August 2011. Please refer to the attached Alkalinity & pH Instrument Comparison document for specific details.

All documentation on the CCAL webpage is in the process of being updated to reflect changes. See <http://www.ccal.oregonstate.edu> or contact the lab for more information.

Thank you for your support,
Kathy

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