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HEALTH-RELATED WATER MICROBIOLOGY 1990

Editors: W. O. K. GRABOW, R. MORRIS and
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Water Science and Technology

HEALTH-RELATED WATER MICROBIOLOGY 1990

Proceedings of an International Symposium organised by the IAWPRC Specialist Group on Health-Related Water Microbiology, Tübingen, Germany, 1-6 April 1990

Various papers in these proceedings illustrate the major public health importance of the microbiological quality of water in all parts of the world. Evidence is presented that significant transmission of infectious diseases by water may occur not only in developing regions and rural communities, but also in highly developed countries.

Data presented at the symposium shed important new light on quality criteria for water. Detailed analysis of statistics on waterborne diseases, minimal infectious doses of various pathogens and the consumption of water, led to the expression of health risks in quantitative terms. This made it possible to define acceptable health risks and to calculate corresponding limits for numbers of pathogens in water.

An outstanding feature of the symposium was the wealth of information on new techniques for assessment of the microbiological quality of water, wastewater, shellfish and fish. Details on the latest progress in advanced techniques using gene probes, the polymerase chain reaction and immunological methods, and the potential value of this technology for application in practice, are of particular interest.

The combination of up-to-date state-of-the-art review papers on important topics including WHO standards and related policies, and details on the latest technology for microbiological analyses in advanced research as well as routine quality assessment, makes these proceedings a publication of special importance to all associated with the water industry.

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CONTENTS

Editorial	xiii
Disease Outbreaks and Risk Assessment	
W. O. K. GRABOW, R. KFIR and J. L. SLABBERT: Microbiological methods for safety testing of drinking water directly reclaimed from wastewater	1
R. WALTER, K. STANIA, T. HANTZSCHE, R. ITTLINGER, W. MACHT, E. STILLER and F. RATHFELDER: Health risk assessment of water contaminants using baseline data of cancer incidence in different water supply areas	5
Y. ANDERSSON: A waterborne disease outbreak	13
G. F. CRAUN: Causes of waterborne outbreaks in the United States	17
M. POULTON, J. COLBOURNE and P. J. DENNIS: Thames Water's experiences with <i>cryptosporidium</i>	21
P. PAYMENT, L. RICHARDSON, M. EDWARDES, E. FRANCO and J. SIEMIATYCKI: A prospective epidemiological study of drinking water related gastrointestinal illnesses	27
J. B. ROSE and C. P. GERBA: Use of risk assessment for development of microbial standards	29
Microbiological Standards and Quality Control	
R. HELMER, I. HESPANHOL and L. J. SALIBA: Public health criteria for the aquatic environment: recent WHO guidelines and their application	35
H. T. EL-ZANFALY: The need for new microbiological water quality criteria	43
R. MORRIS: The EC bathing water virological standard: is it realistic?	49
K. A. MOOIJMAN, A. H. HAVELAAR, J. A. HOEKSTRA and N. G. W. M. VAN STRIJP-LOCKEFEEER: Production and control of reference materials for water microbiology	53
H. E. TILLET and N. F. LIGHTFOOT: Preliminary statistical assessment of UK water quality control trials	57
Bacteria in Drinking Water	
B. J. LLOYD and J. K. BARTRAM: Surveillance solutions to microbiological problems in water quality control in developing countries	61

C. M. E. DE WET, M. GRUNDLINGH, B. LOUW and D. BESTER: Evaluation of fecal enterococci isolation media to indicate fecal pollution in chlorinated water	77	Legion
P. R. G. SCHINDLER and H. METZ: Coliform bacteria in drinking water from South Bavaria: identification by the API 20E-system and resistance patterns	81	N. A. numl
C. BERRY, B. J. LLOYD and J. S. COLBOURNE: Effect of heat shock on recovery of <i>Escherichia coli</i> from drinking water	85	N. A. Legi
A. A. AL-SULAMI and H. A. YASEEN: Bacteriological suitability of water from Basrah wells for drinking	89	R. SC tion
J. C. JORET, Y. LEVI and C. VOLK: Biodegradable dissolved organic carbon (BDOC) content of drinking water and potential regrowth of bacteria	95	Parasit
Bacteria in Fresh and Estuarine Waters		
J. AHTIAINEN, M. NIEMI and H. JOUSIMIES-SOMER: Staphylococci in polluted waters and in waters of uninhabited areas	103	D. P. the
T. ARAI: Studies on the bacterial fauna of the Tamagawa River	109	G. VE from
J. L. JACOBS and J. B. ELLIS: Bacterial water quality in urban receiving waters	113	H. V. PAR water divid
W. STELZER and J. JACOB: A study of campylobacter in sewage, sewage sludge and in river water	117	W. JA and amin
Bacteria in Marine Waters		
A. DE VICENTE, J. C. CODINA and P. ROMERO: Relationship between <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> and bacterial indicators in polluted natural waters	121	R. A. R. V cysts
J. L. ALONSO, I. AMORÓS and M. S. BOTELLA: Enumeration of motile <i>Aeromonas</i> in Valencia coastal waters by membrane filtration	125	L. GA cysts
M. J. GAUTHIER, G. N. FLATAU and V. A. BREITTMAYER: Protective effect of glycine betaine on survival of <i>Escherichia coli</i> cells in marine environments	129	J. L. S P. I butic
D. P. MILNE, J. C. CURRAN, J. S. FINDLAY, J. M. CROWTHER, J. BENNETT and B. J. B. WOOD: The effect of dissolved nutrients and inorganic suspended solids on the survival of <i>E. coli</i> in seawater	133	J. M. amo
J. F. HERNANDEZ, J. M. GUIBERT, J. M. DELATTRE, C. OGER, C. CHARRIÈRE, B. HUGHES, R. SERCEAU and F. SINÈGRE: Miniaturized fluorogenic assays for enumeration of <i>E. coli</i> and enterococci in marine water	137	Viruses
		W. D. born
		M. JO logic
		M. VA J. F The

Legionella and Biofilms

- 7 N. A. GRABOW, R. KFIR and W. O. K. GRABOW: A most probable
number method for the enumeration of *Legionella* bacteria in water 143
- 1 N. A. GRABOW, E. J. PIENAAR and R. KFIR: The occurrence of
Legionella bacteria in cooling towers in South Africa 149
- 15 R. SCHULZE-RÖBBECKE and R. FISCHEDER: Growth and inactiva-
tion kinetics of mycobacteria in biofilms 153

Parasites

- 39 D. P. CASEMORE: The epidemiology of human cryptosporidiosis and
the water route of infection 157
- 95 G. VESEY and J. SLADE: Isolation and identification of *cryptosporidium*
from water 165
- 03 H. V. SMITH, A. M. GRIMASON, C. BENTON and J. F. W.
PARKER: The occurrence of *Cryptosporidium* spp. oocysts in Scottish
waters, and the development of a fluorogenic viability assay for in-
dividual *Cryptosporidium* spp. oocysts 169
- 09 W. JAKUBOWSKI, J. L. SYKORA, C. A. SORBER, L. W. CASSON
and P. D. GAVAGHAN: Determining giardiasis prevalence by ex-
amination of sewage 173
- 113 R. A. GILMOUR, H. V. SMITH, P. G. SMITH, G. P. MORRIS and
R. W. A. GIRDWOOD: The occurrence and viability of *Giardia* spp.
cysts in UK waters 179
- 117 L. GASSMANN and J. SCHWARTZBROD: Wastewater and *Giardia*
cysts 183
- 121 J. L. SYKORA, C. A. SORBER, W. JAKUBOWSKI, L. W. CASSON,
P. D. GAVAGHAN, M. A. SHAPIRO and M. J. SCHOTT: Distri-
bution of *Giardia* cysts in wastewater 187
- 125 J. M. DELATTRE, C. OGER and G. APROSI: Interrelations between
amoebae and bacteria in the Moselle River, France 193
- 129 **Viruses in Water**
- 133 W. D. CUBITT: A review of the epidemiology and diagnosis of water-
borne viral infections 197
- M. JOHL, M.-L. KERKMANN, U. KRAMER and R. WALTER: Viro-
logical investigation of the River Elbe 205
- 137 M. VAN OLPHEN, H. A. M. DE BRUIN, A. H. HAVELAAR and
J. F. SCHIJVEN: The virological quality of recreational waters in
The Netherlands 209

P. PAYMENT: Elimination of coliphages, <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> and human enteric viruses during drinking water treatment: results of large volume samplings	213	R. DE L gene pr
Virus Methods		
K. YANO, Y. YOSHIDA and M. KANEKO: Improvement of the zeta-plus filter method for concentration of viruses from water	217	A. P. W' astroviri
P. STRAPPE: Rotavirus detection — a problem that needs concentration	221	L. M. A. toring -
M. ALBERT and L. SCHWARTZBROD: Recovery of enterovirus from primary sludge using three elution concentration procedures	225	Groundwa
A. BOSCH, R. GAJARDO, F. X. ABAD, J. M. DIEZ and J. JOFRE: Concentration of hepatitis A virus in environmental samples	229	H. HÖT. tracers
S. R. FARRAH and D. R. PRESTON: Adsorption of viruses by diatomaceous earth coated with metallic oxides and metallic peroxides	235	K. HERE K. BO viruses
B. GENTHE, G. K. IDEMA, R. KFIR and W. O. K. GRABOW: Detection of rotavirus in South African waters: a comparison of a cytoimmunolabelling technique with commercially available immunoassays	241	S. OETZ HART:
Bacteriophages		
M. KARST, R. DUTKIEWICZ, T. HAHN and K. BOTZENHART: The difficulty of using coliphages as "indicators" and "index" organisms	245	G. TEU T. HAL undergr
R. KFIR, P. COUBROUGH and W. O. K. GRABOW: The occurrence of male-specific and somatic bacteriophages in polluted South African waters	251	S. SCHN Enterob their re
M. A. QURESHI and A. A. QURESHI: Polyvalent coliphages in sewage	255	Z. FILIP —a pre
Gene Probes		
I. T. KNIGHT, J. DIRUGGIERO and R. R. COLWELL: Direct detection of enteropathogenic bacteria in estuarine water using nucleic acid probes	261	Disinfectic
S. DUBROU, H. KOPECKA, J. M. LOPEZ PILA, J. MARÉCHAL and J. PRÉVOT: Detection of hepatitis A virus and other enteroviruses in wastewater and surface water samples by gene probe assay	267	G. J. MI and A <i>Aeromc</i>
D. TOUGIANIDOU and K. BOTZENHART: Detection of poliovirus in water by direct isolation of the RNA and hybridization with gene probes	273	S. KNØC
A. B. MARGOLIN, M. J. HEWLETT and C. P. GERBA: The application of a poliovirus cDNA probe for the detection of enteroviruses in water	277	M. D. S inactiva iodine
		KI. ME HAME
		S. CHRT sewage
		A. H. F and M viruses

	R. DE LEON and C. P. GERBA: Detection of rotaviruses in water by gene probes	281
213	A. P. WYN-JONES and A. J. HERRING: Growth of clinical isolates of astrovirus in a cell line and the preparation of viral RNA	285
	L. M. ALEXANDER and R. MORRIS: PCR and environmental monitoring — the way forward?	291
217		
221	Groundwaters and Bank Filtration	
	H. HÖTZL, W. KÄSS and B. REICHERT: Application of microbial tracers in groundwater studies	295
225		
	K. HERBOLD-PASCHKE, U. STRAUB, T. HAHN, G. TEUTSCH and K. BOTZENHART: Behaviour of pathogenic bacteria, phages and viruses in groundwater during transport and adsorption	301
229		
	S. OETZEL, W. KÄSS, T. HAHN, B. REICHERT and K. BOTZENHART: Field experiments with microbiological tracers in a pore aquifer	305
235		
	G. TEUTSCH, K. HERBOLD-PASCHKE, D. TOUGIANIDOU, T. HAHN and K. BOTZENHART: Transport of microorganisms in the underground — processes, experiments and simulation models	309
241		
	S. SCHNEIDER and R. SCHWEISFURTH: Species and genera of Enterobacteriaceae in River Neckar and after river bank filtration and their resistance patterns to antibiotics and heavy metal salts	315
245		
	Z. FILIP, P. SCHMELZ and R. SMED-HILDMANN: <i>Bdellovibrio</i> sp. — a predator under groundwater conditions? A short communication	321
251		
	Disinfection	
255	G. J. MEDEMA, E. WONDERGEM, A. M. VAN DIJK-LOOYAARD and A. H. HAVELAAR: Effectivity of chlorine dioxide to control <i>Aeromonas</i> in drinking water distribution systems	325
	S. KNØCHEL: Chlorine resistance of motile <i>Aeromonas</i> spp.	327
261	M. D. SOBSEY, C. E. OLDHAM and D. E. MCCALL: Comparative inactivation of hepatitis A virus and other enteroviruses in water by iodine	331
	Kl. MECHSNER, T. FLEISCHMANN, C. A. MASON and G. HAMER: UV disinfection: short-term inactivation and revival	339
267		
	S. CHRTEK and W. POPP: UV disinfection of secondary effluents from sewage treatment plants	343
273		
	A. H. HAVELAAR, Th. J. NIEUWSTAD, C. C. E. MEULEMANS and M. VAN OLPHEN: F-specific RNA bacteriophages as model viruses in UV disinfection of wastewater	347
277		

M. G. C. BALDRY, M. S. FRENCH and D. SLATER: The activity of peracetic acid on sewage indicator bacteria and viruses	353
K. M. SEIDEL, J. M. LOPEZ PILA and A. GROHMANN: Disinfection capability in water for swimming and bathing pools: a simple method for their evaluation in practice	359
Wastewaters	
M. T. MARTINS, G. V. A. PESSOA, P. S. SANCHEZ, M. I. Z. SATO, C. A. COIMBRÃO, C. K. MONTEIRO and E. MARQUES: Occurrence of <i>V. cholerae</i> 0:1 non-toxicogenic in wastewaters from São Paulo, Brazil	363
T. HIRATA, K. KAWAMURA, S. SONOKI, K. HIRATA, M. KANEKO and K. TAGUCHI: <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> , as an indicator microorganism for the evaluation of the effect of wastewater and sludge treatment systems	367
J. MINET, C. DESMONTS, M. POMMEPUY and M. CORMIER: <i>Salmonella</i> detection in sewage waters using fluorescent antibodies	373
E. G. CARRINGTON, E. B. PIKE, D. AUTY and R. MORRIS: Destruction of faecal bacteria, enteroviruses and ova of parasites in wastewater sludge by aerobic thermophilic and anaerobic mesophilic digestion	377
M. J. NASCIMENTO, J. S. OLIVEIRA, L. OLIVEIRA and J. T. MEXIA: Contribution for the study of new pathogenic indicators removal from W.S.P. in Portugal	381
J. LESNE, B. BALEUX, A. BOUSSAÏD and L. HASSANI: Dynamics of non-01 <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> in experimental sewage stabilization ponds under arid Mediterranean climate	387
G. L. FREDERICK: Waste stabilization ponds in Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands	391
A. BARZILY and Y. KOTT: Survival of pathogenic bacteria in an adverse environment	395
H. SHUVAL, R. JODICE, M. CONSIGLIO, G. SPAGGIARRI and C. SPIGONI: Control of enteric micro-organisms by aerobic-thermophilic co-composting of wastewater sludge and agro-industry wastes	401
A. KETRATANAKUL, S. OHGAKI and K. YANO: Comparative study on adsorption mechanisms of RNA-F-specific coliphages and poliovirus in activated sludge process	407

Fish and

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SephacS. BOF
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A con
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Subject

Next sym

Fish and Shellfish

353	W. O. K. GRABOW, J. C. DE VILLIERS and N. PRINSLOO: An assessment of methods for the microbiological analysis of shellfish	413
359	C. BERIL, S. BOHER and L. SCHWARTZBROD: Detoxification by Sephadex LH20 of seafood concentrates for rotavirus assay	417
363	S. BOHER, C. BERIL, D. TERVER and L. SCHWARTZBROD: Comparison of two methods for the recovery of rotavirus from mussels and oysters	423
367	G. K. IDEMA, B. W. BATEMAN, R. KFIR and W. O. K. GRABOW: A comparison of methods for the isolation of a wide range of viruses from shellfish	427
373	Subject index	431
377	Next symposium	xv