

# The University of British Columbia <br> Vancouver, B.C. 

In account with,
KENNCO EXPLORATIRNS ( RANARAM, LIMITEQ


The University of Eritish cquumbia
Expenses incurred by KENNCO EXPLORATIONS, (CANADA) LTD.
in making Biogeochemical Survey of Afton Claims (Pothook)
A. Salary (collecting, mapping)
J. Greenaway 1 week ..... $\$ 50.00$
Oscar Schmidt
" " ..... 60.00
J. Noel (E.I.T.) 10 days ..... 100.00
D. Barr (E.I.T.
10 days ..... 83.33
$\$ 420.00$
B. Cost of Assaying
247 samples at \$1.25 a sample ..... 309.00
C. Supervision (H.V. Warren)
3 days at $\$ 35.00$ ..... 105.00
$\$ 834.00$

## Determination of copper and zinc in plants

Use at least one gram; for zinc only, 0.2 gram may be enough. If dry or rainy conditions are expected to be the same during collection of the whole batch of samples, it is possible to weigh the sample just as it comes from the tree; take a double weight ( 2 or 0.4 gram ) and weigh within a few hours of collection. A safe way is to weigh at the same time two series of samples, as identical as possible, and keep one to dry leisurely, for calculating the ratio between fresh and dry weights.

Drying proceeds easily in a few hours around 2000F. in a drying oven, or in a few weeks in a warm dry place; samples dry well in paper bags, if they are loosely packed. Drying quickly in the field is the trickiest operation of the procedure. The weighed samples (approximately double weight, 2 grams or 0.4 gram ) are packed separately in filter or towel paper; the small bundles are placed vertically in a glassbeaker, and heated gently on a corner of the camp stove, or on a piece of asbestos board, with a very small flame. The beaker must be hot enough, above $150^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$., for the samples to dry in one hour or so; it must be too hot to be held in the hand. But the samples must only lose their humidity; any charred parts must be discarded; the paper usually warns by turning brown.

Ashing must proceed as far as possible at a dull red temperature, though the loss of copper or zinc is negligible at bright red heat. To prevent undue flaming, it is best to distill first most of the organic material on a small flame, or on a less hot region of the heating device. A mica sheet can be placed on top. Still, flaming has no significance when only the volatile constituents distilled from the samples burn at the mouth of the crucible.

In order to expose in succession all the parts of the sample to the direct influx of air, rotate slightly the crucible from time to time, holding it in the forceps. When this is being done, particles brought into contact with a richer atmosphere glower; when this phenomenon stops, it means usually that ashing is completed.

For copper and zinc, or copper alone:
Transfer the ash to a small beaker, 10 or 20 ml , moisten with water, attack with one half ml per gram of dry material of 3 N hydrochloric acid, heating very gently, so that it takes about 30 minutes to evaporate just to dryness. Add two or three drops of 3 N hydrochloric and two or three ml of water; leave a few minutes so that everything soluble is dissolved. Pass into a 50 ml graduated cylinder, with a ground stopper (preferably standard taper); rinse two times the beaker with 2 ml about each time. It is immaterial whether the silica precipitate goes into the cylinder or remains in the beaker. The solution must be strongly acid, between pH 4 and $2-3 \%$ hydrochloric, so that only precious metals and bismuth could be extracted with the copper. If the copper seems abnormally high on titrating, check the acidity at once, and unless it is very high, make sure by adding one drop of 3 N hydrochloric. Before titrating, the solution must be adjusted to a known volume, in order to take eventually an aliquot, if copper is very high, or to titrate the zinc on an aliquot.

For titration, add one ml of dithizone solution ( 60 milligrams per litre) into the cylinder, and sheke strongly. The green solution usually darkens, then turns to a more or less dark shade of purple. If it remained green, it would mean too much acid or too little copper. Test the pH with the paper, and try to raise it by adding acetate buffer drop by drop; if there is not enough copper, the sample was too small or too poor. Poor samples have no interest in prospecting applications. If they indicate a certain rock, they can just as well be listed as "poor".

Page two: Cu \& Zn in plants.
If the dithizone solution turns purple, add more of it, gradually, and shaking gently a few seconds between each addition, until it is grey, neither green, nor purple. Then shake very strongly. Usually, it turns purple again, because all the copper had not been extracted. It is made grey again, and shaken strongly. By alterating additions of reagent and shaking, a moment comes when the dithizone solution remains grey on shaking. This nearly neutral grey color, neither greenish, nor purplish, just a little bluish if no oxidations products are present corresponds to the end-points of ordinary, one liquid titrimetry. The dithizone solution is standardized, using a known solution containing 0.1 milligram per ml, which is diluted before using to 0.004 milligram per ml . In our common experience, one ml of 60 milligram per litre dithizone solution is equivalent to about 0.004 mgr Cu or 0.002 mgr Zn with this end-point.

If there is oxidation of dithizone, the green reagent is transformed into a yellow compound, which will not turn the purple complex to grey, but to purplish brown. When making grey before shaking, the color is yellowish. The best thing to do is to ash again. Oxidation is due to a greater amount of iron than usual, or to calytic action of unburned carbon in the ash. For a few spots of charcoal, or iron, it is usually enough to add one decigram of hydroxylamine hydrochloride when evaporating after the attack. If there is much charcoal, filter, remedoring to add each of the successive rinsings of the beaker, only when the preceding one has passed through.

For estimation of zinc, take an aliquot of the solution from which copper has been extracted. Add about the same volume of acetate buffer and titrate with dithizone as for copper. Extraction proceeds much more quickly, and shaking need not be so strong. But reagent must be added much more cautiously, as all zinc is often extracted after the first shaking; the beginner will do wisely to record each rosding of the burette.

For zinc only, the whole amount of ash can be treated in the cylinder in the cold, by hydrochloric acid; add acetate buffer, about 4 times the volume of the 3 N hydrochloric acid used, thiosulfate solution, about one tenth of the total volume (to prevent copper from interfering). It works sometimes better to attack the ash as for copper, and treat an aliquot by its volume of acetate buffer and thiosulfate, one tenth of the volume titrated.

Practical details. Always close the cylinder with a wet stopper, otherwise, the carbon tetrachloride solution, which has a low surfact tension, would leak through it. If distilled water is scarce, the same cylinder may be used for zinc determinations without rinsing, as no more zinc is left in the solution when it is titrated. But never use it for copper without rinsing thoroughly, as small amounts of buffer would cause zinc to be extracted as copper. The same applies to thiosulfate solution: small amounts, insufficient to cause complete fixation of copper as complex, can decrease considerably the extraction of copper, and cause important errors, if the cylinder has not been thoroughly rinsed after use. The pipette used to take an aliquot of the solution for zinc extraction need not be rinsed with distilled water, unless an exceptionally high content is met. Otherwise, it is enough to shake it, wipe it outside, and rinse with a little of the solution to be pipetted, which should be done anyhow. Of course rinse everything when the work is finished, or before interrupting overnight. Do not use a brush to pass ash into the beakers, a strip of sized paper, as from a writing pad, will do; discard after using once. Crucible should just be wiped with towel or filter paper. Clean with hydrochloric after using ten times, or finding extremely rich (5-10 times the normal content) material.

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Drying proceeds easily in a few hours around $200^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. in a drying oven, or in a few weeks in a warm dry place; samples dry well in paper bags, if they are loosely packed. Drying quickly in the field is the trickiest operation of the procedure. The weighed samples (approximately double weight, 2 grams or 0.4 gram ) are packed separately in filter or towel paper; the small bundles are placed vertically in a glassbeaker, and heated gently on a corner of the camp stove, or on a piece of asbestos board, with a very small flame. The beaker must be hot enough, above 150 F., for the samples to dry in one hour or so; it must be too hot to be held in the hand. But the samples must only lose their humidity; any charred parts must be discarded; the paper usually warns by turning brown.

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## 

- (Artomisia Rricontate, znd year tmige)

| SAXPLS | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{PPP} \\ & \mathrm{Cu} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { in } \mathrm{Cu} h \\ & \text { ish } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PRY } \\ & \text { Zn } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { An } \\ & \text { in ash } \end{aligned}$ | $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{cm}$ reetio | \& of ash |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $514 B 1$ | 15 | .047 | 19 | .059 | .79 | 3.2 |
| 51AB2 | 6 | .025 | 17 | .053 | . 47 | 3.2 |
| 52123 | 7 | . 015 | 14 | .033 | . 50 | 4.3 |
| 51414 | 8 | .026 | 12 | .042 | .66 | 3.0 |
| 52.85 | 9 | . 028 | 12 | .039 | .75 | 3.1 |
| 51AB6 | 9 | .025 | 9 | . 025 | 1.0 | 3.4 |
| 51AB7 | 8 | . 027 | 14 | .050 | .57 | 2.9 |
| 51488 | 8 | .025 | 13 | . 044 | . 62 | 3.0 |
| 51AB9 | 9 | .031 | 14 | .052 | .61 | 2.8 |
| 51 ABLO | 11 | . 032 | 13 | .039 | . 81 | 3.3 |
| 51 abll | 10 | . 029 | 13 | .039 | .77 | 3.3 |
| 514812 | 11 | . 041 | 12 | .044 | . 95 | 2.6 |
| 5Laba 3 | 10 | . 027 | 9 | .023 | 1.2 | 3.7 |
| 51AB14 | 10 | .035 | 11 | .037 | . 95 | 2.9 |
| 514015 | 9 | .031 | 27 | .059 | . 53 | 2.6 |
| 51.4616 | 11 | . 040 | 10 | .036 | 2.2 | 2.6 |
| 51.4817 | 12 | . 0.46 | 15 | .059 | .79 | 2.6 |
| 514018 | 12 | .042 | 9 | .032 | 2.3 | 2.4 |
| $51 \mathrm{BB19}$ | 12 | .038 | 10 | . 031 | 2.2 | 3.1 |
| 514820 | 14 | .013 | 12 | . 039 | 1.1 | 3.2 |
| 514321 | 9 | .032 | 12 | . 039 | .75 | 2.9 |
| 514822 | 12 | .034 | 27 | .052 | .65 | 3.2 |
| 51AB23 | 12 | . 043 | 15 | . 053 | . 80 | 2.8 |
| 51AN24 | 11 | .032 | 20 | .030 | 1.1 | 3.3 |

## Samples received from DeA. Barr Kamloops. Be. Ke

(Artemisia Tridentata, 2nd year twigs)

| SAMPLE (1951) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { PPM } \\ & \text { Cu } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \& \mathrm{Cu} \\ & \text { in Ash } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{PPM} \\ & \mathrm{Zn} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \% \mathrm{Zn} \\ & \text { in Ash } \end{aligned}$ | Ratio <br> $\mathrm{Cu} / \mathrm{Zn}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \% of } \\ & \text { Ash } \end{aligned}$ | Color PPM of Ash Fe | $(\mathrm{MPM})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AB25 | 10 | . 025 | 12 | . 030 | . 83 | 4.1 |  |  |
| AB26 | 17 | . 039 | 12 | . 028 | 1.36 | 4.4 |  |  |
| AB27 | 10 | . 029 | 15 | . 045 | . 65 | 3.4 |  |  |
| AB28 | 11 | . 030 | 18 | . 049 | .61 | 3.7 |  |  |
| AB29 | 12 | . 036 | 14 | . 041 | . 6 | 3.5 |  |  |
| AB30 | 9 | . 027 | 18 | . 051 | . 53 | 3.5 |  |  |
| AB31 | 13 | . 036 | 13 | . 037 | . 96 | 3.6 |  |  |
| A332 | 18 | . 048 | 13 | . 035 | 1.4 | 3.8 |  |  |
| AB33 | 12 | . 038 | 14 | . 045 | . 83 | 3.2 |  |  |
| AB34 | 13 | $\begin{aligned} & 0.38 \\ & 0933 ? \end{aligned}$ | 14 | . 041 | . 93 | $\begin{aligned} & 3.4 \\ & 1.4 ? \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| AB35 | 18 | . 050 | 12 | . 033 | 1.5 | 3.7 |  |  |
| AB36 | 17 | . 050 | 14 | . 041 | 1.2 | 3.4 |  |  |
| AB37 | 18 | . 058 | 17 | . 052 | 1.1 | 3.2 |  |  |
| AB38 | 14 | . 045 | 13 | . 041 | 1.1 | 3.2 |  |  |
| AB39 | 15 | . 044 | 10 | . 030 | 1.5 | 3.5 |  |  |
| AB40 | 14 | . 046 | 7 | . 023 | 2.0 | 3.0 |  |  |
| A341 | 12 | . 050 | 4 | . 016 | 3.1 | 2.5 |  |  |
| AB42 | 23 | . 038 | 14 | . 043 | . 90 | 3.4 |  |  |
| AB43 | 16 | . 048 | 18 | . 056 | . 87 | 3.3 |  |  |
| 1844 | 16 | . 042 | 17 | . 046 | . 91 | 3.7 |  |  |
| AB45 | 13 | . 041 | 14 | . 044 | . 93 | 3.0 |  |  |
| AB46 | 13 | . 048 | 14 | . 052 | . 93 | 2.8 |  |  |
| AB47 | 14 | . 045 | 15 | . 048 | . 93 | 3.1 |  |  |
| A34 ${ }^{\circ}$ | 12 | . 043 | 6 | . 029 | 1.5 | 2.8 |  |  |
| AB49 | 11 | . 034 | 12 | . 037 | . 92 | 3.3 |  |  |



SAMPLES RECEIVED FROM GERRY NOEL, KAMLOOPS, B.C.






Apparently some of the copper results previously sent were high, perhaps owing to some slight changes in the asking procedure necessitated by mass production. Samples repeated at the same time checked fairly well, but were lower when repeated recently.

Results on the present list checked well when repeated several times recently, and also conform better with results obtained for similar plants in previous years. Therefore I foel these are much more reliable. Any figures on this repeat list are to be used instead of those formerly sent.

As the trouble occurred mainly in groups of ashings it is safe to assume that if all the samples repeated from one ashing agree, the ilirst results from the entire ashing are correct.

The sage samples, especially above ABl50, are also presenting difficulties as it is almost impossible to tell which years growth we are dealing with. The trace element content of sage, especially in a positive area, would likely be affected by the seasons rainfall more than that of trees such as pine or fir, because the sage roots might not penetrate as deeply. Results for any one year would be comparable with each other, but not with those of different years.
A few corrections on O, D.E. semples will follow. All W samples have checked very well for botl copper and zinc.

SAMPLES RLCEIVED FROM GERRY YOEL, KALLCORS, B.C.




SARLES RECETVED FROM G NOEL KAMLOOPS, B.C.




- 51-AE-215 rtemisia tridentata $15 \quad .038 \quad 10 \quad .026 \quad 1.50 \quad 3.3$

| 216 | $"$ | 13 | .034 | 20 | .051 | .67 | 3.8 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 217 | $"$ | 12 | .035 | 16 | .046 | .75 | 3.5 |
| 218 | $"$ | 14 | .036 | 17 | .045 | .80 | 3.7 |
| 219 | $"$ | 11 | .032 | 11 | .032 | 1.0 | 3.5 |
| 220 | $"$ | 11 | .029 | 13 | .035 | .60 | 3.5 |
| 221 | $"$ | 14 | .044 | 10 | .033 | 1.40 | 3.2 |


| 16 | .043 | 25 | .067 | .65 | 3.7 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |


| 15 | .045 | 24 | .072 | .62 | 3.4 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

$12 \quad .038 \quad 10 \quad .032 \quad 1.20 \quad 3.0$
$\begin{array}{llllll}16 & .049 & 13 & .039 & 1.20 & 3.3\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllll}15 & .043 & 11 & .032 & 1.30 & 3.4\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllll}20 & .047 & 19 & .045 & 1.05 & 4.2\end{array}$
$15 \quad .044 \quad 17 \quad .047 \quad .91 \quad 3.6$
15 .042 . 18 . 051 . $83 \quad 3.6$
$\begin{array}{lllll}16 & .069 & 14 & .052 & 1.20 \\ 2.6\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{lllll} & 17 & .052 & 19 & .059\end{array}$
$17 \quad .046 \quad 20 \quad .054 \quad .85 \quad 3.6$
$\begin{array}{llllll}18 & .052 & 15 & .044 & 2.20 & 3.5\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllll}20 & .061 & 14 & .044 & 1.4 & 3.2\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllll}20 & .059 & 17 & .050 & 1.2 & 3.5\end{array}$
12 . $041 \quad 7 \quad .023$ 1.8 3.1
$\begin{array}{llllll}20 & .049 & 15 & .038 & 1.3 & 4.0\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllll}17 & .046 & 18 & .051 & .95 & 3.5\end{array}$
$12.029 \quad 54 \quad .13$. 22 4.1
$\begin{array}{llllll}15 & .043 & 42 & .12 & .36 & 3.5\end{array}$
$\begin{array}{llllll}10 & .039 & 31 & .15 & .34 & 2.7\end{array}$

| SAPPLE(1951) | $\begin{aligned} & { }^{P P 1} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Cu } \\ & \text { in ash } \end{aligned}$ | ${ }_{\text {Pra }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2 n \\ & \text { in ash } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Latig } \\ & \text { Cuv } \end{aligned}$ | \% Of |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 51-AB-242 Pinus ponderosa | 5 | . 027 | 29 | .14 | . 19 | 2.0 |
| 243 Amel Alnifolia | 12 | . 045 | 53 | . 10 | . 45 | 2.7 |
| 244 Pinus ponderosa | 9 | . 037 | 41 | . 18 | . 21 | 2.3 |
| 245 Pseud. taxifolia | 15 | . 063 | 59 | . 26 | . 25 | 2.3 |
| 246 Populus tremuloids | 7 | . 023 | 17 | . 059 | . 39 | 2.6 |
| 247 Amel. alnifolia | 9 | . 039 | 20 | . 089 | . 43 | 2.3 |
| 51 AB Dean 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pseudotsuga taxifolia * | 10 | . 040 | 29 | . 12 | . 35 | 2.5 |

* This sample was repeated. Both copper and zinc checked well.



