

Photometer Method

POTASSIUM

AUTOMATIC WAVELENGTH SELECTION

TEST FOR POTASSIUM IN NATURAL AND TREATED WATERS

0 – 12.0 mg/l

Potassium is an abundant natural element. However in fresh water potassium levels are normally low. Higher levels can be observed in brackish waters. The guide level prescribed for drinking water supplies under the EEC Regulations is 10 mg/l.

The Palintest Potassium test provides a simple means of testing potassium levels in water over the range 0 - 12.0 mg/l.

Method

The Palintest Potassium test is based on a single tablet reagent containing sodium tetraphenylboron. Potassium salts react with sodium tetraphenylboron to form an insoluble white complex. At the potassium levels encountered in the test, this is observed as a turbidity in the test sample. The degree of turbidity is proportional to the potassium concentration and is measured using a Palintest Photometer.

Reagents and Equipment

Palintest Potassium K Tablets
Palintest Automatic Wavelength Selection Photometer
Round Test Tubes, 10 ml glass (PT 595)

Test Procedure

- 1 Fill test tube with sample to the 10 ml mark.
- 2 Add one Potassium K tablet, crush and mix to dissolve. A cloudy solution indicates the presence of potassium.
- 3 Select Phot 30 on Photometer.
- 4 Take Photometer reading in usual manner (see Photometer instructions).
- 5 The result is displayed as mg/l K.