

Turbidity Tube

Instructions

This method should be followed if using a Turbidity Tube.

Equipment

Water column turbidity assessor

Sample container

Method

1. Shake sample vigorously before examination.
2. Gradually pour the water sample into the water column while looking vertically down into the assessor. Hold the assessor out of direct sunlight at this stage.
3. Stop pouring at the point where the black mark on the bottom of the assessor is **just** visible.
4. Note the reading from the scale on the side of the assessor.
5. If the reading is above 200, dilute the sample 1: 1 with clear water. Multiply the result by 2 to give the turbidity. If the result is still above 200, repeat the 1: 1 dilution and multiply the reading by 4.

Checklist

- Try to take turbidity readings in the same light each time.
- Add your water sample to the tube until you feel that you have the true reading. Record the reading and then add a little more sample and re-read the tube.
- If the turbidity is less than 8 (water can fill the tube and the lines are still visible), either record the test as <8 or have a guess.
 - a) If lines are still very clear, record 1 or 2.
 - b) If slightly cloudy, read 3 to 5.
 - c) If not easily visible, read 6 or 7.
- Remember, these reading are guesses only. All readings with the turbidity tube are guesses if turbidity is less than 8. If you remember this, then 4 is better than <8.
- If the sample stands for any length of time, shake your sample well before taking a measurement. This should be done as a matter of course for all chemical testing.

Tips

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- If the sample stands for any length of time, shake your sample well before taking a measurement. This should be done as a matter of course for all chemical testing.