

Files

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**RADIOACTIVITY (BETA) IN FISH
TISSUES AT RONGELAP ATOLL**

Dr. Seymour furnished the following data by telephone this morning:

"Average gross beta values for Rongelap fish in terms of micro curies per kilogram of wet tissue are as follows:

1. March 1958, Kabelle Island reef fish - muscle .026, whole fish approximately .10.
2. March 1958, Rongelap Island reef fish - muscle .006, whole fish approximately .010.
3. August 1958, Rongelap Island reef fish - average maximum value for muscle is .005.
4. Current average values are as low or lower than values from any of the previous collections.

Isotopic composition of samples:

1. The estimated amount of K-40 in muscle is approximately .003 micro curies per kilogram.
2. Zinc 65 is the principal gamma emitter in fish muscle. Maximum value from August 1958 collection is 0.2 micro curies per kilogram.
3. Traces of Cobalt-60 are also present.
4. Only other isotope expected in measurable amounts in fish muscle would be iron 55.
5. Strontium-90 has not been found in fish muscle in either the 1956 or 1957 collection."

cc: Dr. Dunham
Dr. Wolfe
Dr. Boss
Dr. Dunning

Rongelap Data file