ABSTRACT

In this study, the content of the heavy metal lead was determined in *Hydrilla verticillata*, *Chanos chanos,* and water samples from Taal Lake. The samples were obtained from specific sites of Taal Lake, Batangas. The presence and absorbance of *H. verticillata* and *C. chanos* were monitored. Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS) was used to detect the lead content of the samples. The analysis of lead content in the samples revealed that *H. verticillata* and *C. chanos* accumulated measurable quantity of lead, ranging from 2.7 to 8.9 mg/kg. The level of detection in the samples was found to be higher than the allowable concentration of 0.002 mg/kg standard recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO) even though the presence of lead in the water was low. Fish species were found to have high levels of lead in their edible parts, and although cannot be completely said that fishing industries in Taal Lake are no longer safe for human consumption, it still showed that it is contaminated with lead beyond safety standards and so must be looked further into.