LEAD AND CADMIUM BIOACCUMULATION IN *Clupea harengus* (HERRING) FROM ROSARIO BAY, CAVITE

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DEA DANE S. SUILEN

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ABSTRACT

This study determined and compared the lead and cadmium present in the gills and muscles of herring. The herring samples were obtained on October 2013. Results were reinforced using Flame Atomic Absorption Spectrometer and quantitative analysis confirmed the presence of lead and cadmium in all fish samples. One-way ANOVA determined the significance between the levels of Pb and Cd concentration, which were found to be 0.7648, 0.3766, 3.7161 and 0.6990 ug/g. F-values were found to be 6.047, 4.390, 13.816 and 6.306, respectively. Lead in gills was found to have the highest concentration of 0.7648. Mean Cd concentration in gills is found to be significantly higher than in muscles. Significant difference is due to the increased Pb and Cd concentration in the environment, which may be in ionic form, thus, easily accumulated, and the prolonged and direct exposure of gills to the water than muscles, metallic adsorption, and presence of mucus and feeding habit. The Pb and Cd mean concentrations also exceeded the permissible therefore; it is not advisable for public consumption.

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