

AQUATALK



In this edition

- Welcome Message
- AWQC hosts NUTRIENTS workshop
- Are biofilms the cause of your water quality issues??
- Cyanobacterial expertise goes overseas
- The new fireban season is upon us!

Send to a colleague
Send this email to a colleague you think may be interested.

Updated Terms and Conditions

The AWQC has updated its Terms and Conditions (T & C's) for Analytical and Consulting Services. The new T & C's are part of an ongoing effort to improve business processes. If you would like to review the new T & C's please email our [Customer Services Team](#).

Dear Aquatalk Subscriber

Welcome Message

Welcome to the November issue of AquaTalk, Newsletter of the Australian Water Quality Centre. This month the AWQC hosted the Environmental Nutrients Collaborative Trials Workshop and broad attendance from across the industry made for a very successful workshop. The AWQC has built considerable expertise in dealing with many challenges faced by the water industry, biofilms and cyanobacteria being two areas featured in this issue. As we enter the warmer months, algal issues become a focus for many water utilities and the AWQC offers a comprehensive analytical service for the identification of toxins and taste and odour metabolites. Our researchers continue to lead the way in cyanobacterial research and are in high demand to speak at international conferences.

Karen Simpson, Manager Laboratory Services and Mike Burch, (Acting) RDI Manager.

Tell us your future analysis or research needs

Do you currently have any product or service needs that are not being met by AWQC?

Do you currently have any product or service needs that are not being met by any supplier in the market?

AWQC is continually developing its methods to meet the ever expanding needs of our customers. Tests or methods that you may have a need for now or in upcoming projects AWQC may be able to develop. AWQC is keen to enhance our partnership by ensuring research and method development meets the needs of the water industry [EMAIL HERE](#)



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AWQC hosts NUTRIENTS workshop

In early November the AWQC hosted the Environmental Nutrient Collaborative Trials (ENCT) Technical Workshop, held every two years. The workshop ran over 3 days and was attended by participants from all over Australia, representing Water Utility Laboratories, Environmental and Research Laboratories, Students and Research Officers. The ENCT has been running 15 years with 6 delegates from across Australia with the aim of producing natural fresh and saline water samples for interlaboratory comparisons. It also provides participants with an educational framework and an avenue to explore improvements in scientific outcomes.

The success of this workshop was also due to support from industry sponsors DKSH, Thermo Fisher Scientific and Thermo Fisher/Skalar. If you would like to find out more about future ENCT workshops just [EMAIL HERE](#).



Are biofilms the cause of your water quality issues??

Biofilms are a community of microorganisms that can attach and surround a solid surface, secreting 'slime' and making them resistant to treatment processes.

If the Biofilm mass is not controlled eventually it will

- corrode equipment causing high maintenance costs and loss of production by the disintegration of equipment.
- impart taste and odours and impact on water quality

reduce pipe diameters and increase frictional drag and pumping power resulting in reduced efficiency and increased costs

- clog water filters
- and in the worst-case cause disease from opportunistic pathogens.

How AWQC can help with biofilms

- Provide identification of biofilms from pipes, filters, water or equipment.
- Ensure compliance with AS/NZS 4020:2005 – Taste, Odour & Microbial Growth testing on any product in contact with drinking water.
- Provide advice on Water Quality and Treatment on remedial action and strategies.

The AWQC offers a comprehensive laboratory testing service that will help in the most effective analysis or advice on Biofilms. For more information contact our [Customer Services Team](#).

Cyanobacterial expertise goes overseas

This November, three AWQC researchers are attending the **American Water Works Association, 2010 Water Quality Technology Conference to be held in Savannah, Georgia**. A stream at the conference will focus on Algae and their Toxins: Identification, Detection, and Control and **AWQC is presenting five of the seven sessions**. This is certainly testament to the expertise and knowledge AWQC has in cyanobacterial research.

Cyanobacteria and other toxin producing algae are a topic of recent interest for drinking water utilities. In large numbers their presence can negatively impact water quality treatment and their production of toxins can have an adverse affect on human health. As demand for water grows and current water sources are exhausted, there is potential to affect the prevalence and magnitude of algal blooms and their toxins.

Our researchers will take this opportunity to also visit the Metropolitan Water Board of Southern California to commence collaborating on new project jointly funded by Water Quality Research Australia (WQRA) and the Water Research Foundation (WRF) in the United States. The project is about cyanobacteria removal by conventional water treatment. [CLICK HERE](#) to read more about the sessions AWQC is presenting in Stream ST04 - Algae and their Toxins: Identification, Detection, and Control on 16th November 2010.

The new fireban season is upon us!

The 1st of November, brings on the Fire Danger Season in South Australia. With the introduction of the new Fire Danger Index and Rating last season and the high rainfalls during the winter have provided higher fuel levels coming into this summer

season. As safety is a high priority for our staff we have implemented the following procedure;

On CATASTROPHIC FIRE DANGER RATED days;

- Our Field Laboratory Services Team will not be entering areas of fireban.
- If already in the region our Sampling Team will be only travelling on the main arterial roads back to Adelaide. In these instances sample collection will be restricted to major towns en route to Adelaide.
- When we are not able to collect samples, customers will be notified and the sample will be rescheduled.

We thank all customers for their understanding in enabling us to keep our staff safe.



Water Quality Solutions

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