

## A Study on the Analysis of Hazardous Heavy Metals in Fishes and Shellfishes from Korean Coastal Area

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There are many kinds of fishes and shellfishes living in Korean coastal area and we have eaten them customarily. This study was performed to investigate the degree of contamination of harmful heavy metals in fishes and shellfishes living in Korean coastal area. We collected three kinds of fishes and two kinds of shellfishes consumed commonly in Korea from various area in 2001. These specimens were digested with microwave digestion system and then analyzed by atomic absorption spectrophotometer to know the contents of heavy metals such as arsenic(As), cadmium(Cd), lead(Pb) and mercury(Hg). The contents of heavy metals were follows : As  $ND \leq 0.153$ ppm, Cd  $ND \leq 1.233$ ppm, Pb  $ND \leq 0.153$ ppm and Hg  $ND \leq 0.089$ ppm. In this study the contents of heavy metals are showed nearly natural occurrence level which is under the legal limits and we could know the degree of contamination of harmful heavy metals in fishes and shellfishes living in Korean coastal area.