

General Information on Testing

The problems of chloramine when testing for free chlorine.

When performing on-site tests for free chlorine by the OTO or DTD methods, the presence of chloramine used as a disinfectant extender in the water supply will produce erroneous results. That is, such tests may be incorrectly measured and show no free chlorine reduction, or an amount less than anticipated.

Chloramine is produced when a municipality injects both chlorine and ammonia simultaneously into the water supply. This is done to reduce the free chlorine's ability to combine with organic matter in the water and thereby produce potentially harmful trihalomethanes, THMs.

The presence of iodine ions in the water will magnify the chloramines interference with test results when using the OTO or DPD procedure.

To get accurate reading of free chlorine levels it is recommended that you use the lab test called amperometric titration test method. It is least likely to reflect interference.

You can also purchase a hand-held digital chlorine test meter from established test meter manufacturers. You can find them at HACH.com, Hannainst.com, Lamotte.com or sensafe.com

Hanna PH# (877) 694-2662 www.hannainst.com
Hach Co. PH# (800)227-4224 www.hach.com