

HEAVY METAL LEVEL ASSESSMENT IN CANNED FISH

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**Final Year Project Report Submitted in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Bachelor of Science (Hons.) Chemistry
in the Faculty of Applied Sciences
Universiti Teknologi MARA**

JANUARY 2017

ABSTRACT

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Heavy metal (Zn, Cu, Pb and Cd) concentration of canned sardine and canned mackerel, commercialized in Malaysia were determined using Flame Atomic Analyzer Spectroscopy (FAAS). The average contents of heavy metals in canned sardine and canned mackerel were found as 0.264 and 0.222 mg/kg for zinc, 0.0454 and 0.0505 mg/kg for copper, BDL for lead and 0.0305 and 0.0096 mg/kg for cadmium, respectively. All these products have below permissible limit of heavy metals allowed by the Malaysian Food Regulation 1985 and pose no risk with respect to the human health since the Hazard Index (HI) was below unity. Long term monitoring of heavy metals in canned fish are needed to prevent any potential health risks.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF ABBREVEATIONS	viii
ABSTRACT	xi
ABSTRAK	xii
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background study	1
1.2 Problem statement	3
1.3 Significance of study	4
1.4 Objectives of study	4
1.5 Scope and limitation of study	4
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Heavy metals	5
2.2 Cadmium	6
2.3 Lead	6
2.4 Copper	7
2.5 Zinc	8
2.6 Fish and canned fish	9
2.6.1 <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> (European pilchard)	10
2.6.2 <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> (Albacore tuna)	11
2.6.3 <i>Scomber scombrus</i> (Atlantic mackerel)	13
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY	
3.1 Materials	15
3.1.1 Raw materials	15
3.1.2 Chemicals and reagents	15
3.1.3 Glassware and apparatus	15

3.2	Methods	16
3.2.1	Cleaning of glassware and sample container	16
3.2.2	Equipment and analytical instrument	16
3.2.3	Sample collection	17
3.2.4	Sample preparation and digestion	17
3.2.5	Quality assurance	18
3.3	Health risk assessment (HRA) from consuming fish	18

CHAPTER 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1	Zinc	21
4.2	Copper	23
4.3	Lead	25
4.4	Cadmium	25
4.5	Health risk assessment of heavy metal in canned fish	27

CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

29

CITED REFERENCES

31

CURRICULUM VITAE

37

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE	TITLE	PAGE
3.1	Parameters used for estimation of ADD via ingestion	19
4.1	Reference dose (RfD) values for Zn, Cu, Pb and Cd.	28
4.2	Hazard quotients (HQ) for different heavy metals and hazard index (HI) from consumption of canned fish	28