

DETERMINATION OF THE AMOUNT OF METALS IN HONEY

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Summary. Honey is a natural product, mainly used in food and food products. The aim of this work was to determine the amount of heavy metals and trace elements in honey. Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) was used for the analysis of such elements as Ba, Cd, Cu, Pb, Sr, Rb, Zn in honey. In this investigation 13 honey samples were taken from different sites in Lithuania.

From the amount of trace elements and heavy metals in honey one may draw a conclusion about the origin of this food product and the environmental contamination of the area. So honey can be used as an inexpensive environmental indicator.

Keywords: honey, heavy metals, trace elements, contamination, bioindicator, mass-spectrometry.