



Helping you to meet the new drinking water standards for cyanotoxins.

With new national drinking water standards due to come into effect from 1 July 2022, water providers will be required to assess the risk of cyanotoxins in their water supplies. Where a risk is identified, ongoing monitoring and assessment of cyanobacteria and their toxins is needed.

Cawthron Institute, New Zealand's largest independent science organisation, provides freshwater management consultancy and testing. We are experts in the analysis of cyanobacteria and their toxins and our consultants can help you determine the risk they pose for your drinking water supplies. Through our partnership with Lutra, we can also help you to develop a management plan to meet the new standards and give your consumers confidence their water is safe to drink.

What risk do toxins pose if found in drinking water supplies?

Cyanobacteria are a type of algae commonly found in freshwater environments, including those used for drinking water. Some cyanobacteria produce potent toxins which can cause serious health issues. To ensure drinking water is safe, water supplies that have some risk level must be monitored for the level of cyanobacteria /toxins present.

Our partnership with Lutra.

Cawthron has partnered with Lutra, who provide water and wastewater treatment software and engineering solutions. Together we will offer the best cyanotoxin management support available in New Zealand. This service consists of two phases. Firstly, we will provide you with a cyanotoxin risk assessment, which includes evaluation and a risk assessment report. Secondly, a cyanobacteria / toxin monitoring and management plan.

Cawthron's freshwater expertise.

Cawthron Institute, based in Nelson, is a convenient one-stop-shop that combines analytical and consulting expertise. Our fully accredited laboratory offers the most extensive range of cyanotoxin testing in New Zealand. Tests can be combined to suit the needs of your water source. Our laboratory team and freshwater consultants work together to help you manage your cyanotoxin risk and ensure the safest drinking water for your customers.

What can Cawthron test for?

Cawthron offers the following tests to monitor your drinking water:

Microscopy: Cyanobacteria

Our expert taxonomists can provide consistent, accurate identification and amount of cyanobacteria in water and algal mats.

Molecular: Cyanotoxin gene detection

This test will determine whether cyanobacteria could be toxic through the detection of key genes.

Chemistry: Cyanotoxins by LC-MS

Cawthron can test for a uniquely large range of cyanotoxins which includes:

- Anatoxins / dihydro-anatoxins / Cylindrospermopsin
- Microcystins / Nodularin
- Saxitoxins

Questions?

Cawthron's laboratory and research teams have a proven track record for analytical excellence, scientific expertise and quality assurance. We work closely with you to provide cutting edge testing and customised advice to protect the health of our New Zealand water consumers.

Call our expert team to discuss options for managing your drinking water supply.

Contact: Catherine Moisan,
Team Leader Natural Toxins

Email: catherine.moisan@cawthron.org.nz

Phone: +64 03 668 7734

