

PREPARATION OF WHO STANDARD WATERS

Method WHO/M/29
Approved 25 September 1989

1. Preparation of WHO standard hard water

Dissolve 0.304 g of anhydrous calcium chloride and 0.139 g of magnesium chloride hexahydrate in distilled water and make up to 1 litre. This provides water with a hardness of 342 mg/L calculated as calcium carbonate. Check the hardness by CIPAC method MT 73 (CIPAC Handbook F, p.201) and correct if appropriate.

2. Preparation of WHO standard soft water

Dilute one part of the WHO standard hard water, the hardness of which is 342 mg/L calculated as calcium carbonate, with nine parts of distilled water to give 34.2 mg/L hardness.