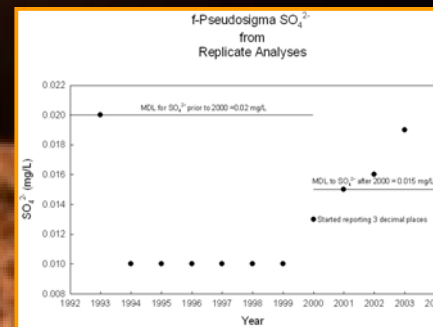
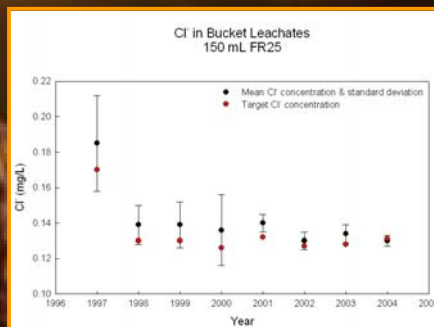
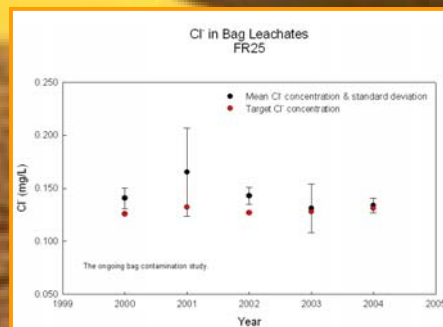
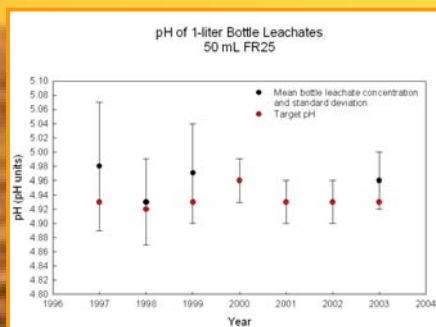
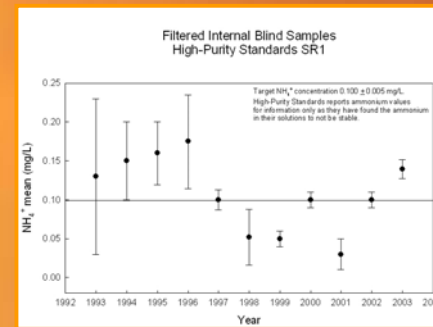
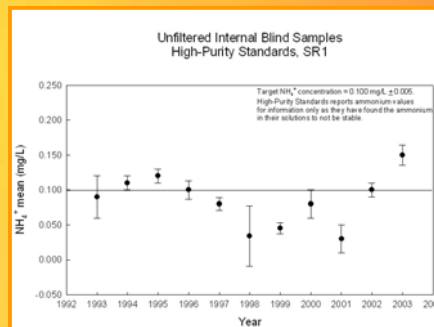
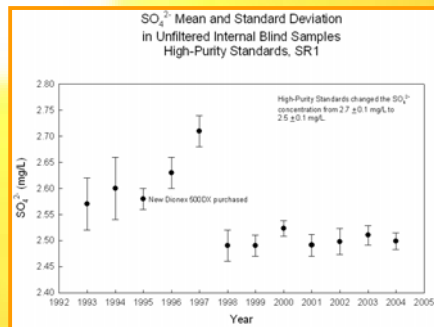
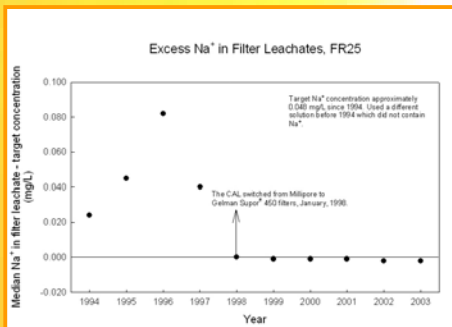
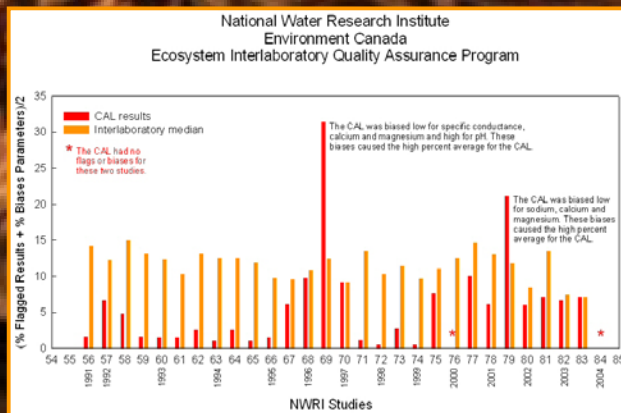
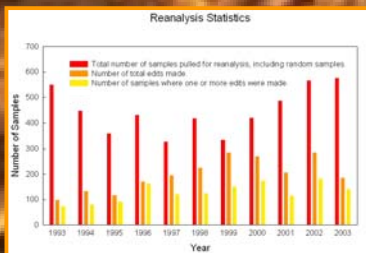


Ten Years of Quality Assurance at the CAL

Jane Rothert and Jason Pietrucha
 Central Analytical Laboratory
 Illinois State Water Survey
 Champaign, IL



| QUALITY ASSURANCE-TYPE SAMPLES | |
|--|-------|
| Interlaboratory comparison studies | 196 |
| Blanks/leachates of supplies used by NADP | 960 |
| Internal blinds (AIRMoN & NTN) | 204 |
| Random reanalysis | 330 |
| Required reanalysis | 332 |
| Split samples | 2500 |
| QC check samples run to verify calibrations | 5000 |
| Total | |
| per year | 9522 |
| per month | 794 |
| per week | 176 |
| per day | 35 |
| Total samples analyzed | |
| per year | 15000 |
| per month | 1250 |
| per week | 278 |
| per day | 56 |
| 1 QA sample / 1.6 precipitation samples or 40% of all analyses are QA samples | |



Quality Assurance (QA) Reports for the CAL have been published annually or semi-annually throughout the duration of NADP. QA samples are analyzed daily, weekly, and monthly at the CAL, monitoring the cleanliness of the equipment and supplies used for NADP and the condition and quality of the analyses. Over the years, although the actual solutions have often changed, the overall quality of the CAL has remained consistent. Throughout the duration of the program, whenever a problem or contamination has been discovered, the CAL has strived to correct the problem or remove the contamination. The graphs on this poster show some of the areas where the CAL has changed suppliers (filters and bags) to improve the quality of the sample results.

In addition to monitoring the NADP supplies and results, the CAL has participated in international laboratory comparison studies from the beginning. Although there have been some bumps in the road, most of the results show that the CAL as a laboratory is equal to or better than most of the laboratories in the world.

We would like to thank Pamela Biedert for her assistance with this poster.