

2025 – Proficiency testing Scheme

Cyanobacteria in fresh waters (AGLAE's programme '17')

The monitoring of cyanobacteria in bathing waters or waters used for the production of drinking water is necessary because of their ability to produce cyanotoxins.

In partnership with the Nancy Hydrology Laboratory of ANSES and with the technical support of INRAE, AGLAE invites you to participate in a proficiency test. In the frame of this test, laboratories will be assessed on their **ability to identify cyanobacteria at genus level and to quantify their abundance**.

As part of the “Water – Health” French approval required for regulatory control of bathing waters, accreditation for cyanobacteria analysis will be compulsory in France from June 2026.

Description of the test



- Provision of **digital media** (photographs and/or short videos) enabling all the useful criteria for determining cyanobacteria individuals to be viewed:
 - ⇒ Determination of cyanobacteria at genus level
- Receipt of 2 bottles of 200 mL of **bathing water fixed with alkaline lugol** and performance of 2 independent measurements per bottle:
 - ⇒ Determination of cyanobacteria at genus level and classification (toxigenic/non-toxigenic)
 - ⇒ Determination of abundance* in the sample, expressed as number of cells/L, biovolume (mm^3/L) for each of the genera and total biovolume (mm^3/L) of toxigenic genera present.
- Receipt of a test report presenting:
 - an assessment of participants' proficiency,
 - an evaluation of the dispersion of results across the profession.

**Abundance in cells/L can be determined from a sample uptake obtained directly from the sample, or from a sample uptake obtained from a concentrate of the sample.*

The concentrate can be obtained by sedimentation (XP T90-330 method) or by filtration (XP T90-330 method adapted according to the health control analysis standard).

Practical information

Dates to remember

- **Registration deadline: 10/09/2025**
- Test samples sent on: 07/10/2025
- Results reported until: 28/10/2025
- 1st feedback on your results: 07/11/2025

Cost and registration process

- **€ 800 excl. VAT** + transport fees (please contact us to get a quote)
- AGLAE's members: send a purchase order to contact@association-aglae.fr
- Non members: contact us
- Test conducted for a **minimum of 10 participants** and **maximum of 20 participants**

For any question, contact us: contact@association-aglae.fr / + 33 (0)3 20 16 91 40