

**Analysis of Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Residues
in Fish Collected May 24-25, 2006
from the Bayou Creek System**

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DRAFT REPORT

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Submitted to

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INTRODUCTION

Fish were collected on May 24-25, 2006 from our series of sampling stations on Big and Little Bayou Creeks and the reference station on the west fork of Massac Creek (MC). Samples were collected during high-flow stream conditions. Fish could not be collected at station BB9 due to high waters. Fillet samples were analyzed for Aroclor 1248, 1254, and 1260. A total of 66 fish were analyzed from Big and Little Bayou Creeks and Massac Creek. This included 46 fish from Big Bayou Creek, 16 fish from Little Bayou Creek, and 4 fish from Massac Creek. The fish from Big Bayou Creek consisted of 1 bluegill sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*) (BG), 10 green sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*) (GS), 20 longear sunfish (*Lepomis megalotis*) (LS), 1 largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) (LMB), and 9 yellow bullhead catfish (*Ictalurus natalis*) (YBH). Fish collected from Little Bayou Creek consisted of 3 green sunfish, 9 longear sunfish, 1 largemouth bass, and 3 yellow bullhead catfish. From Massac Creek, fish consisted of 1 green sunfish and 3 longear sunfish.

METHODS

Fish collection

Fish were collected by UK personnel by use of back-pack shocker and seining. Fish that did not meet our requirements were returned to the stream. Collected fish were wrapped in aluminum foil, tagged, bagged in plastic containers by collecting station, and placed on ice (4 °C) for transport to the laboratory. Fish species were identified and stored in the freezer (-15 °C) until extraction.

Tissue extraction

Fish were measured for length and whole body weight, and fillets were taken with solvent-cleaned surgical instruments. The fillets were then weighed and macerated as described below. Otoliths (sagittae) were removed from each specimen for age determinations (Boxrucker, 1986). PCBs in fish tissues were extracted and analyzed as described by Birge and Price (2001), using standard U.S. EPA methods (Watts, 1980; U.S. EPA, 1997; Erickson, 1997).

Analysis by Gas Chromatography

Samples were analyzed for Aroclor 1248, 1254, and 1260 according to SW-846 Method 8082 (U.S. EPA, 1997) and previously described by Birge and Price (2001).

Quality Assurance

Permanent bench records were kept of all assays and annotated as required under Good Laboratory Practices (*Federal Register*, 40 CFR, Part 160, August 17, 1989). All printouts and graphic recordings were filed and are open for inspection. These bench records will be archived within two years after the close of the project but retrievable upon request.

RESULTS

A total of 66 fish were analyzed during this survey, which included 1 GS and 3 LS from Massac Creek; 1 BG, 10 GS, 20 LS, 1 LMB, and 9 YBH from Big Bayou Creek; and 3 GS, 9 LS, 1 LMB, and 3 YBH from Little Bayou Creek (Tables 1 and 2). As observed in the past, the fish from Big Bayou Creek ranged in age from <1 to 2+ years old, and the fish from Little Bayou Creek ranged from <1 to 2 years old.

PCB concentrations for fish from Big and Little Bayou Creeks are presented in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The means \pm standard deviations for length, whole body weight, lipid, and Aroclor concentrations for both streams are given in Table 3. Mean PCBs in longear sunfish, green sunfish, and yellow bullhead are represented graphically in Figures 1 through 10. No PCBs were found in any of the fish from the upstream reference stations (MC, BB1A, BB1, and BB2). In Big Bayou Creek, Aroclor 1248 was quantifiable in 31 of 46 fish collected (67.4%), Aroclor 1254 and 1260 were found in 15 and 11 fish out of 46 (32.6% and 23.9%), respectively (Table 1). In comparison, 1248, 1254, and 1260 were quantifiable in 5, 63, and 58% of the fish collected from Big Bayou Creek in March 2005, respectively (Birge and Price, 2005). Highest Aroclor 1248 and 1254 concentrations were detected in a bluegill from station BB8 at 0.58 and 0.29 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively. Although longear sunfish from BB6 had the highest 1248 concentration, total PCBs were higher at station BB5 (Figures 1 and 2). No green sunfish or yellow bullheads were found in station BB5. Green sunfish from BB7 had the highest total PCBs (Figure 3 and 4). The highest 1260 was found in a yellow bullhead at station BB6 at 0.24 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Table 1 and Figure 5). Yellow bullheads from BB6 also had the highest total PCB concentrations (Figure 6). Of the 46 fish analyzed from Big Bayou Creek, 32 contained fillet total PCB values at or above the lowest action level in Kentucky (0.05 $\mu\text{g/g}$). Only two fish had total PCBs higher than 0.50 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (BB6-YBH1 and BB7-GS1). In contrast, during the March 2005 collection (Birge and Price, 2005), of the 43 fish analyzed from Big Bayou Creek, 29 contained fillet total PCB values at or above the lowest action level of 0.05 $\mu\text{g/g}$.

For Little Bayou Creek, Aroclor 1248 was quantifiable in all fish; Aroclor 1254 was found in 1 of 16 fish (6.3%); and Aroclor 1260 was found in 13 of 16 fish (81.3%) (Table 2). During the March 2005 collection, Aroclor 1248, 1254 and 1260 were quantifiable in 78, 89, and 100%, respectively. Mean PCB concentrations in longear and green sunfish from Little Bayou Creek are represented graphically in Figures 7 through 10. Highest Aroclor 1248 and 1260 concentrations were found for a longear sunfish (LS2) from LB3 at 1.56 and 0.33 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively (Table 2 and Figure 7). Aroclor 1254 was found only in one longear sunfish from LB2 (LS3). Both longear and green sunfish had the highest total PCB concentrations at LB3 (Figures 8 and 10). A total of 8 of 16 fish analyzed from Little Bayou Creek contained total PCBs in fillets that were at or above 0.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$. During the March 2005 collection, 4 fish of 18 analyzed contained total PCBs at or above 0.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Birge and Price, 2005). Two of the fish tested during this collection (LB3-LS2 and LB3-GS2) contained total PCBs above 1.0 $\mu\text{g/g}$. In comparison, for the March 2004 collection 4 fish tested contained total PCBs above 1.0 $\mu\text{g/g}$.

DISCUSSION

As noted in previous reports, younger fish (i.e. <1 to 1+ years) tended to predominate both stream systems. In both Big and Little Bayou Creeks, no fish over 3 years old were obtained. The lack of older fish may account in part for the lower PCB concentrations found in both streams, as the fish may have not had time to bioaccumulate significant PCB concentrations. Fish from the effluent receiving zone (i.e. BB4-BB7) in Big Bayou Creek still have detectable PCBs (Table 1, Figures 1, 3, and 5).

A total of 32 of 46 fish analyzed from Big Bayou Creek contained fillet total PCB values at or above the lowest action level in Kentucky (0.05 µg/g).

Concerning Little Bayou Creek, Aroclor 1248 occurred in fillets for all fish tested and Aroclor 1260 was detected in 81.3% of all fish analyzed. The high frequency of detection of Aroclor 1248 may indicate that exposure was recent. However, based on frequency of detection for Aroclor 1260, fish from Little Bayou Creek also have bioaccumulated the higher chlorinated PCBs over time. A total of 8 of 16 fish analyzed from Little Bayou Creek contained total PCBs in fillets that were at or above 0.5 µg/g, and in addition, two of the fish tested contained total PCBs above 1.0 µg/g. Based on these results, station LB3 was the most impacted station in Little Bayou Creek at the time of collection.

REFERENCES

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Table 1. PCB concentrations in fish from Massac Creek and Big Bayou Creek collected May 24-25, 2006.

Station	Date	Type	Length (mm)	Age (Years)	Whole Body Wt. (g)	Fillet Wt. (g)	mg fat /g tissue	Aroclor Conc. ($\mu\text{g/g}$)			
								1248	1254	1260	Total
MC	05/25/06	LS1	85	1	14.489	1.983	7.82	<0.101	<0.101	<0.101	<0.101
MC	05/25/06	LS2	84	1	14.591	1.796	8.91	<0.111	<0.111	<0.111	<0.111
MC	05/25/06	LS3	83	1	12.740	1.744	17.78	<0.115	<0.115	<0.115	<0.115
MC	05/25/06	GS1	83	1+	10.677	1.479	9.80	<0.135	<0.135	<0.135	<0.135
BB1A	05/24/06	LS1	107	2+	33.453	4.551	5.82	<0.044	<0.044	<0.044	<0.044
BB1A	05/24/06	LS2	107	2+	26.524	3.931	7.38	<0.051	<0.051	<0.051	<0.051
BB1A	05/24/06	LS3	104	2+	25.445	3.669	8.18	<0.055	<0.055	<0.055	<0.055
BB1A	05/24/06	GS1	102	1+	22.600	2.877	8.34	<0.070	<0.070	<0.070	<0.070
BB1A	05/24/06	YBH1	106	---	15.756	1.591	6.91	<0.126	<0.126	<0.126	<0.126
✓ BB1	05/24/06	LS1	108	2+	33.399	5.162	9.01	<0.039	<0.039	<0.039	<0.039
BB1	05/24/06	BG1	98	<1	16.949	1.428	5.25	<0.140	<0.140	<0.140	<0.140
BB1	05/24/06	BG2	92	1	13.867	2.443	7.78	0.093	<0.082	<0.082	0.093
BB1	05/24/06	GS1	103	<1	19.436	2.516	3.97	<0.079	<0.079	<0.079	<0.079
BB2	05/24/06	GS1	91	1	16.273	2.249	5.11	<0.089	<0.089	<0.089	<0.089
BB3	05/24/06	LS1	122	1+	40.263	5.785	2.51	<0.035	<0.035	<0.035	<0.035
BB3	05/24/06	LS2	125	1+	48.969	6.764	3.10	<0.030	0.038	<0.030	0.038
BB3	05/24/06	GS1	118	1	35.403	5.116	4.20	0.049	<0.039	<0.039	0.049
BB3	05/24/06	GS2	103	1+	23.172	3.278	7.63	<0.061	<0.061	<0.061	<0.061
BB3	05/24/06	BG1	108	1+	19.643	2.680	9.70	<0.075	0.120	<0.075	0.120
BB3	05/24/06	YBH1	119	---	22.835	1.760	5.40	0.229	<0.114	<0.114	0.229
BB3	05/24/06	YBH2	115	---	20.613	1.542	4.22	0.218	<0.130	<0.130	0.218

Table 1, continued. PCB concentrations in fish from Massac Creek and Big Bayou Creek collected May 24-25, 2006.

Station	Date	Type	Length (mm)	Age (Years)	Whole Body Wt. (g)	Fillet Wt. (g)	mg fat /g tissue	Aroclor Conc. ($\mu\text{g/g}$)			
								1248	1254	1260	Total
BB4	05/24/06	LS1	119	2	41.002	5.680	5.11	0.067	0.078	0.035	0.180
BB4	05/24/06	LS2	95	1	20.604	3.347	9.56	0.170	<0.060	<0.060	0.170
BB4	05/24/06	LS3	92	1	20.404	2.508	10.37	0.152	<0.080	<0.080	0.152
BB4	05/24/06	GS1	102	1	24.963	3.694	11.23	<0.054	0.121	0.075	0.196
BB4	05/24/06	YBH1	121	---	27.351	2.012	5.22	0.213	<0.099	<0.099	0.213
BB4	05/24/06	YBH2	143	---	44.445	2.939	4.08	0.166	<0.068	<0.068	0.166
BB5	05/24/06	LS1	131	1+	52.464	7.315	4.78	0.161	0.132	0.075	0.368
BB5	05/24/06	LS2	122	1+	39.228	5.956	3.44	0.056	0.059	<0.034	0.115
BB5	05/24/06	LS3	132	1+	44.669	6.701	3.21	0.076	0.060	0.044	0.181
BB5	05/24/06	LS4	97	1	18.700	2.379	7.15	0.194	0.145	<0.084	0.340
∞ BB5	05/24/06	BG1	108	1	24.324	3.219	9.01	0.123	<0.062	<0.062	0.123
BB6	05/25/06	LS1	110	1	31.672	4.486	5.13	0.089	<0.045	<0.045	0.089
BB6	05/25/06	LS2	88	1	14.667	2.361	8.68	0.296	<0.085	<0.085	0.296
BB6	05/25/06	GS1	121	1	35.841	4.828	5.49	0.123	0.133	0.076	0.332
BB6	05/25/06	GS2	104	1+	23.502	2.867	9.07	0.156	<0.070	<0.070	0.156
BB6	05/25/06	YBH1	216	---	137.600	5.207	2.02	0.124	0.192	0.241	0.557

Table 1, continued. PCB concentrations in fish from Massac Creek and Big Bayou Creek collected May 21-22, 2005.

Station	Date	Type	Length (mm)	Age (Years)	Whole Body Wt. (g)	Fillet Wt. (g)	mg fat /g tissue	Aroclor Conc. ($\mu\text{g/g}$)			
								1248	1254	1260	Total
BB7	05/25/06	LS1	111	1	31.815	4.706	12.96	0.145	0.148	0.056	0.349
BB7	05/25/06	LS2	106	1	30.169	4.201	10.59	0.114	<0.048	<0.048	0.114
BB7	05/25/06	LS3	91	1	18.025	2.660	9.59	0.237	<0.075	<0.075	0.237
BB7	05/25/06	GS1	94	2	17.847	2.651	15.47	0.240	0.255	0.093	0.589
BB7	05/25/06	BG1	87	<1	12.281	2.135	2.81	0.214	<0.094	<0.094	0.214
BB7	05/25/06	LMB1	132	1	31.803	4.568	4.49	0.124	0.128	0.060	0.312
BB7	05/25/06	YBH1	139	---	45.105	2.385	3.98	0.204	<0.084	<0.084	0.204
BB8	05/25/06	LS1	133	2+	58.583	8.019	5.24	0.068	<0.025	<0.025	0.068
BB8	05/25/06	LS2	123	1	53.962	7.695	10.20	0.089	<0.026	0.038	0.127
BB8	05/25/06	BG1	110	1+	28.219	4.378	9.25	0.582	0.288	0.150	1.020
BB8	05/25/06	GS1	82	2	10.069	1.430	9.09	0.279	<0.140	<0.140	0.279
BB8	05/25/06	YBH1	164	---	81.260	5.379	2.60	0.101	<0.037	<0.037	0.101
BB8	05/25/06	YBH2	114	---	25.867	1.601	5.93	<0.125	0.202	<0.125	0.202

Table 2. PCB concentrations in fish from Little Bayou Creek collected May 24-25, 2006.

Station	Date	Type	Length (mm)	Age (Years)	Whole Body Wt. (g)	Fillet Wt. (g)	mg fat /g tissue	Aroclor Conc. (µg/g)			
								1248	1254	1260	Total
LB2	05/24/06	LS1	120	2	41.533	6.285	3.74	0.254	<0.032	0.083	0.337
LB2	05/24/06	LS2	97	1+	24.362	2.922	4.28	0.429	<0.068	0.097	0.526
LB2	05/24/06	LS3	101	1	23.969	3.342	2.69	0.440	0.161	0.288	0.888
LB2	05/24/06	LS4	91	1+	17.403	2.526	4.35	0.331	<0.079	0.108	0.439
LB3	05/24/06	LS1	110	1+	33.932	4.800	3.02	0.191	<0.042	0.051	0.242
LB3	05/24/06	LS2	75	<1	11.190	1.349	11.49	1.563	<0.148	0.325	1.888
LB3	05/24/06	GS1	84	1	12.921	1.820	5.49	0.672	<0.110	<0.110	0.672
LB3	05/24/06	GS2	93	1+	18.007	2.173	4.83	1.026	<0.092	0.133	1.159
LB3	05/24/06	LMB1	144	1+	42.085	3.709	5.53	0.435	<0.054	0.078	0.513
LB3	05/24/06	YBH1	105	---	18.134	1.427	3.50	0.587	<0.140	0.160	0.746
10 LB4	05/25/06	LS1	85	1	12.618	1.783	6.45	0.216	<0.112	0.112	0.328
LB4	05/25/06	LS2	83	<1	13.872	1.684	5.64	0.293	<0.119	<0.119	0.293
LB4	05/25/06	LS3	85	<1	12.484	1.973	6.08	0.660	<0.101	0.135	0.795
LB4	05/25/06	GS1	115	2	27.227	3.361	3.87	0.197	<0.060	0.064	0.262
LB4	05/25/06	YBH1	125	---	26.266	2.293	5.23	0.326	<0.087	0.145	0.471
LB4	05/25/06	YBH2	94	---	11.587	0.964	4.67	0.494	<0.207	<0.207	0.494

Table 3. Means \pm standard deviations for measured parameters of fish from the Bayou Creek system, collected May 24-25, 2006.

System	Fish Type	Length (mm)	Whole Body Wt. (g)	Lipid (mg/g)	Mean Aroclor Conc. ($\mu\text{g/g}$)			
					1248	1254	1260	Total
MC	LS	84 \pm 1.0	13.94 \pm 1.04	11.50 \pm 5.46	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
MC	GS	83	10.68	9.80	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
BB1A	LS	106 \pm 1.7	28.47 \pm 4.35	7.13 \pm 1.20	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
BB1A	GS	102	22.60	8.34	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
BB1A	YBH	106	15.76	6.91	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
BB1	LS	108	33.40	9.01	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
BB1	BG	95 \pm 4.2	15.41 \pm 2.18	6.51 \pm 1.79	0.093	N.D.	N.D.	0.093
BB1	GS	103	19.44	3.97	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
¹ BB2	GS	91	16.27	5.11	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
BB3	LS	124 \pm 2.1	44.62 \pm 6.16	2.81 \pm 0.42	N.D.	0.038	N.D.	0.038
BB3	GS	111 \pm 10.6	29.29 \pm 8.65	5.91 \pm 2.42	0.049	N.D.	N.D.	0.049
BB3	BG	108	19.64	9.70	N.D.	0.120	N.D.	0.120
BB3	YBH	117 \pm 2.8	21.72 \pm 1.57	4.81 \pm 0.84	0.224 \pm 0.008	N.D.	N.D.	0.224 \pm 0.008
BB4	LS	102 \pm 14.8	27.34 \pm 11.83	8.34 \pm 2.83	0.129 \pm 0.055	0.078	0.035	0.167 \pm 0.014
BB4	GS	102	24.96	11.23	N.D.	0.121	0.075	0.196
BB4	YBH	132 \pm 15.6	35.90 \pm 12.09	4.65 \pm 0.80	0.189 \pm 0.034	N.D.	N.D.	0.189 \pm 0.034
BB5	LS	121 \pm 16.3	38.77 \pm 14.44	4.65 \pm 1.81	0.122 \pm 0.067	0.099 \pm 0.046	0.060 \pm 0.022	0.251 \pm 0.122
BB5	BG	108	24.32	9.01	0.123	N.D.	N.D.	0.123

Table 3, continued. Means \pm standard deviations for measured parameters of fish from the Bayou Creek system, collected May 24-25, 2006.

System	Fish Type	Length (mm)	Whole Body Wt. (g)	Lipid (mg/g)	Mean Aroclor Conc. ($\mu\text{g/g}$)			
					1248	1254	1260	Total
BB6	LS	99 \pm 15.6	23.17 \pm 12.02	6.90 \pm 2.51	0.192 \pm 0.146	N.D.	N.D.	0.192 \pm 0.146
BB6	GS	113 \pm 12.0	29.67 \pm 8.72	7.28 \pm 2.53	0.140 \pm 0.023	0.133	0.076	0.244 \pm 0.125
BB6	YBH	216	137.60	2.02	0.124	0.192	0.241	0.557
BB7	LS	103 \pm 10.4	26.67 \pm 7.53	11.05 \pm 1.73	0.166 \pm 0.064	0.148	0.056	0.233 \pm 0.117
BB7	GS	94	17.85	15.47	0.240	0.255	0.093	0.589
BB7	BG	87	12.28	2.81	0.214	N.D.	N.D.	0.214
BB7	LMB	132	31.80	4.49	0.124	0.128	0.060	0.312
BB7	YBH	139	45.11	3.98	0.204	N.D.	N.D.	0.204
12 BB8	LS	128 \pm 7.1	56.27 \pm 3.27	7.72 \pm 3.51	0.079 \pm 0.015	N.D.	0.038	0.097 \pm 0.041
	BG	110	28.22	9.25	0.582	0.288	0.150	1.020
	GS	82	10.07	9.09	0.279	N.D.	N.D.	0.279
	YBH	139 \pm 35.4	53.56 \pm 39.17	4.27 \pm 2.36	0.101	0.202	N.D.	0.152 \pm 0.071
LB2	LS	13	10.32	0.77	0.088	N.D.	0.096	0.240 \pm 0.000
LB3	LS	93 \pm 24.7	22.56 \pm 16.08	7.26 \pm 5.99	0.877 \pm 0.970	N.D.	0.188 \pm 0.194	1.065 \pm 1.164
LB3	GS	89 \pm 6.4	15.46 \pm 3.60	5.16 \pm 0.47	0.849 \pm 0.250	N.D.	0.133	0.915 \pm 0.344
LB3	LMB	144	42.09	5.53	0.435	N.D.	0.078	0.513
LB3	YBH	105	18.13	3.50	0.587	N.D.	0.160	0.746
LB4	LS	84 \pm 1.2	12.99 \pm 0.77	6.06 \pm 0.40	0.390 \pm 0.237	N.D.	0.124 \pm 0.016	0.472 \pm 0.280
LB4	GS	115	27.23	3.87	0.197	N.D.	0.064	0.262
LB4	YBH	110 \pm 21.9	18.93 \pm 10.38	4.95 \pm 0.40	0.410 \pm 0.119	N.D.	0.145	0.482 \pm 0.016

Figure 1. Mean PCB concentrations in longear sunfish from Big Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

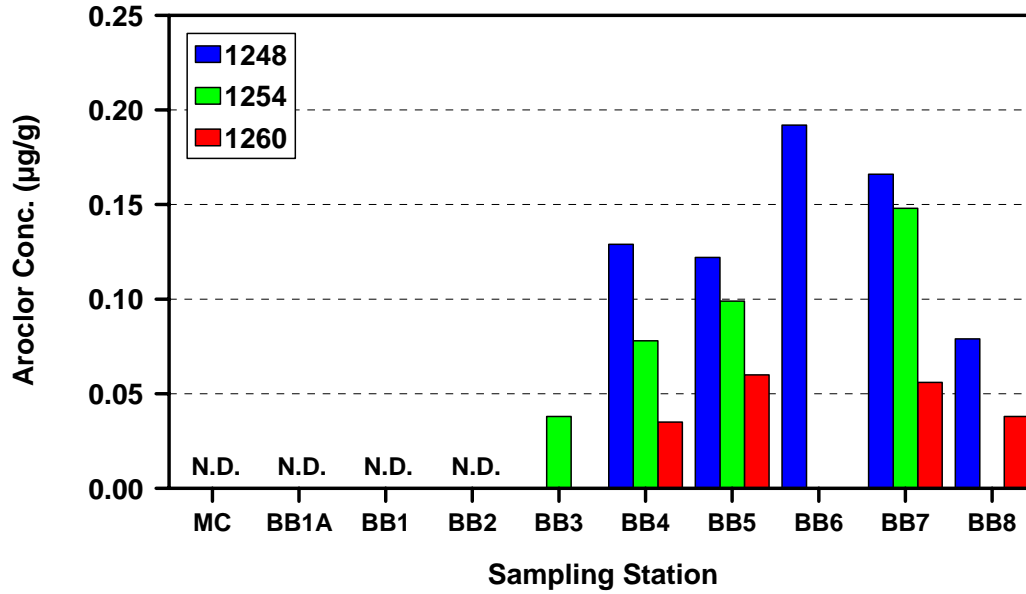


Figure 2. Mean total PCB concentrations in longear sunfish from Big Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

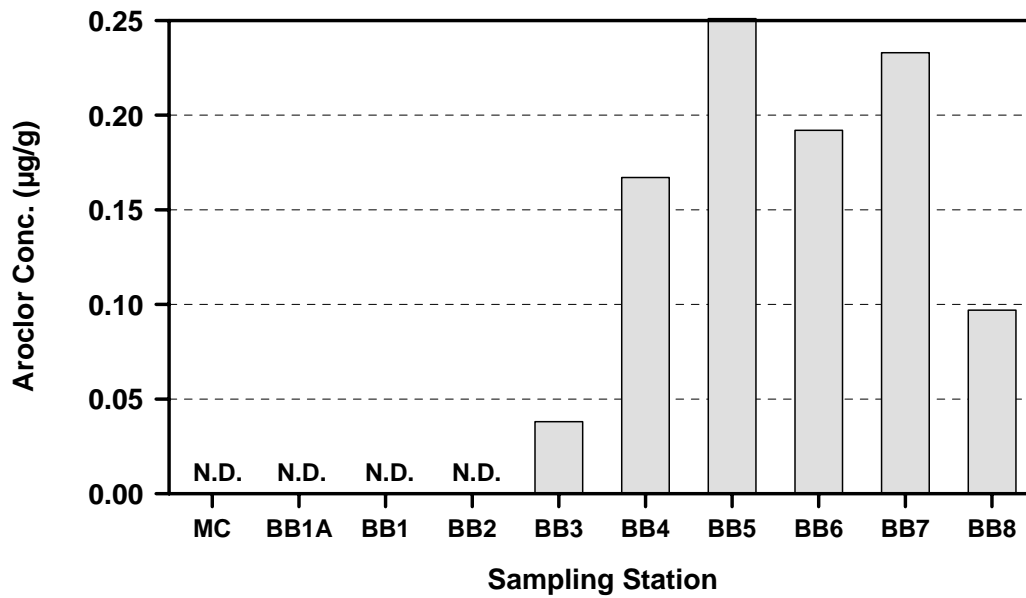


Figure 3. PCB concentrations in green sunfish from Big Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

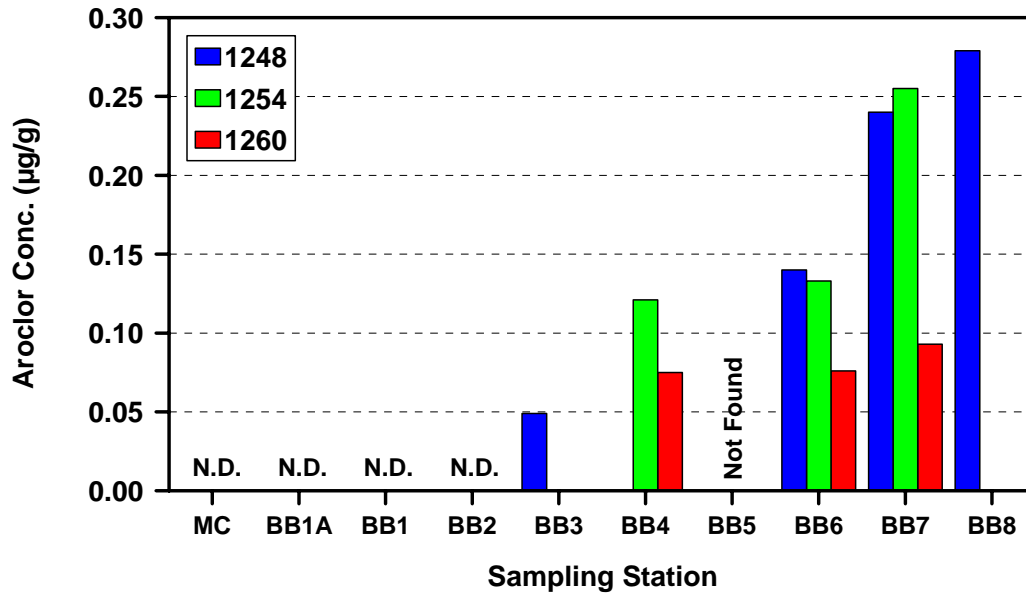


Figure 4. Mean total PCB concentrations in green sunfish from Big Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

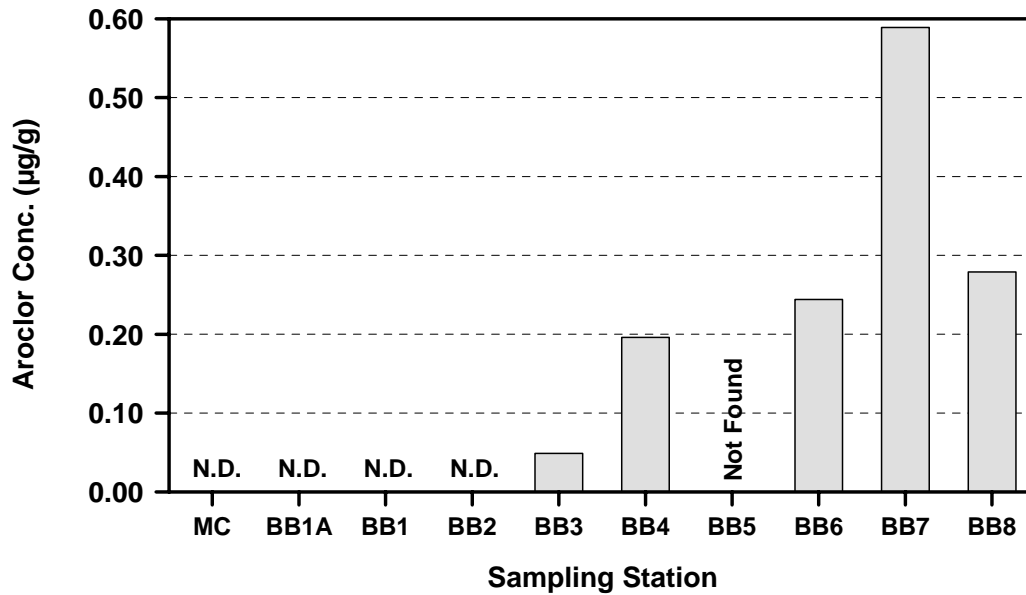


Figure 5. PCB concentrations in yellow bullhead from Big Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

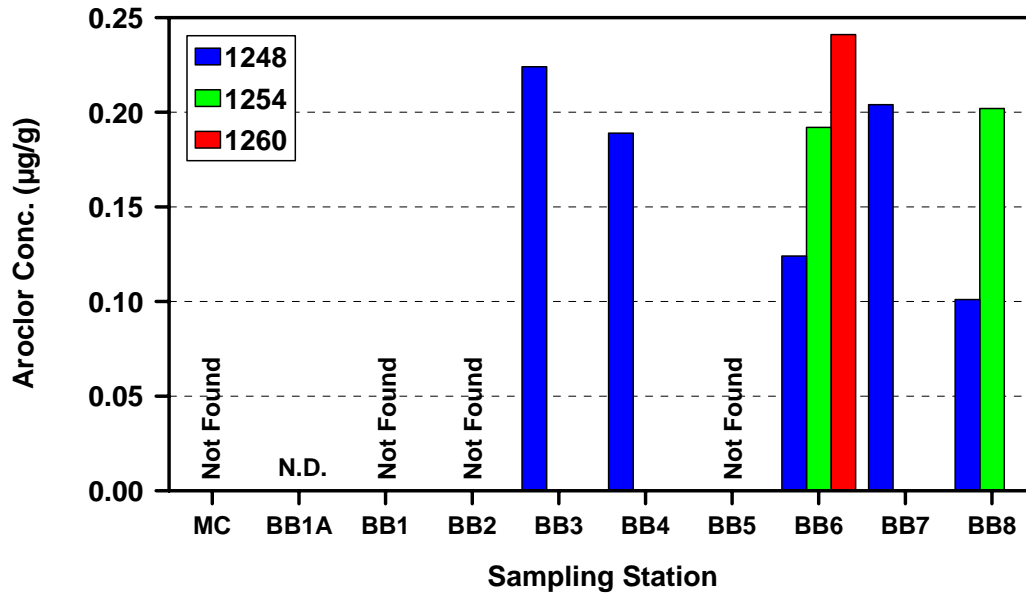


Figure 6. Mean total PCB concentrations in yellow bullhead from Big Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

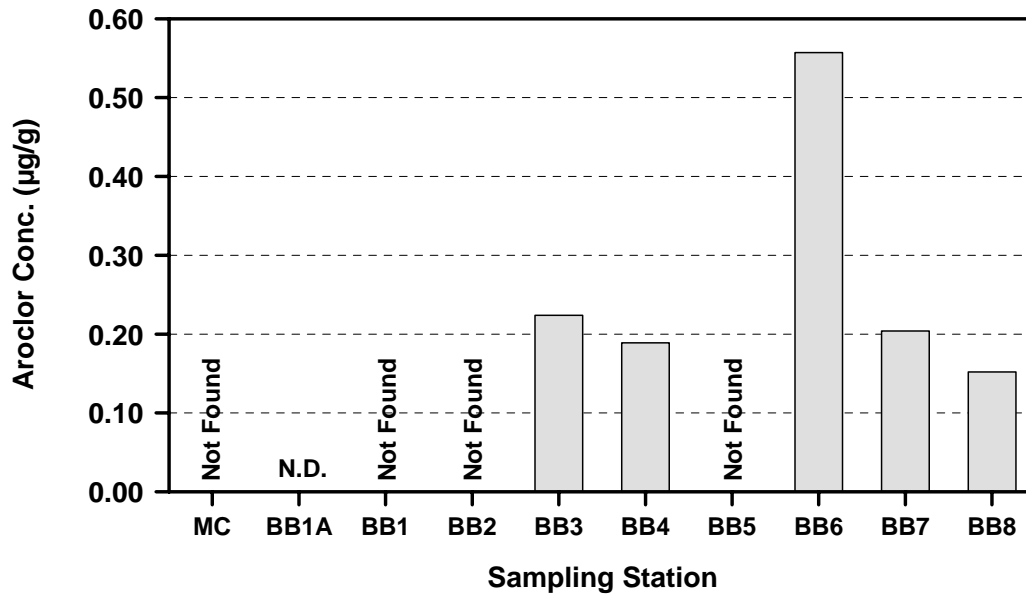


Figure 7. Mean PCB concentrations in longear sunfish from Little Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

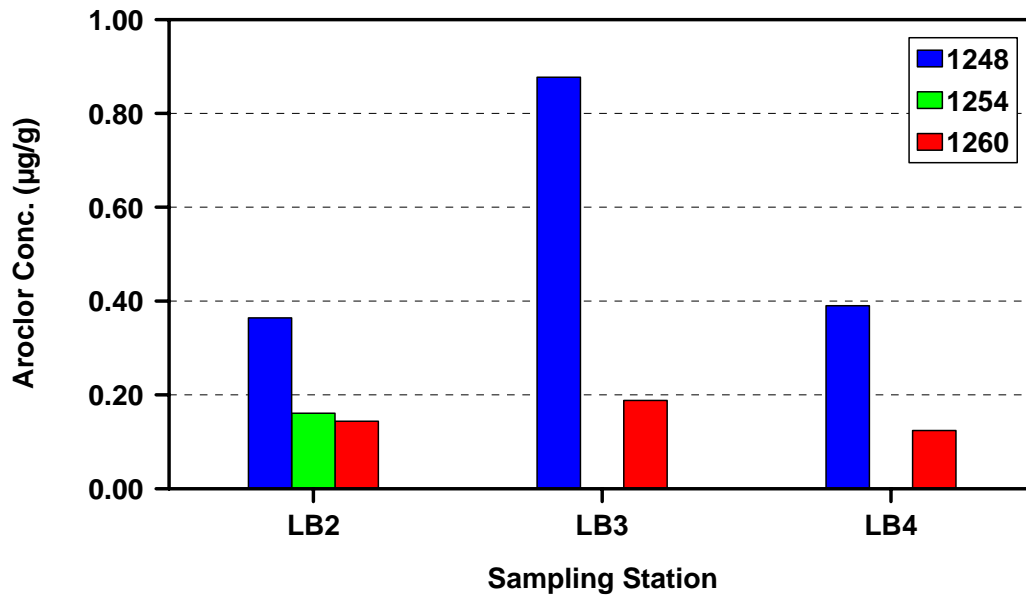


Figure 8. Mean total PCB concentrations in longear sunfish from Little Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

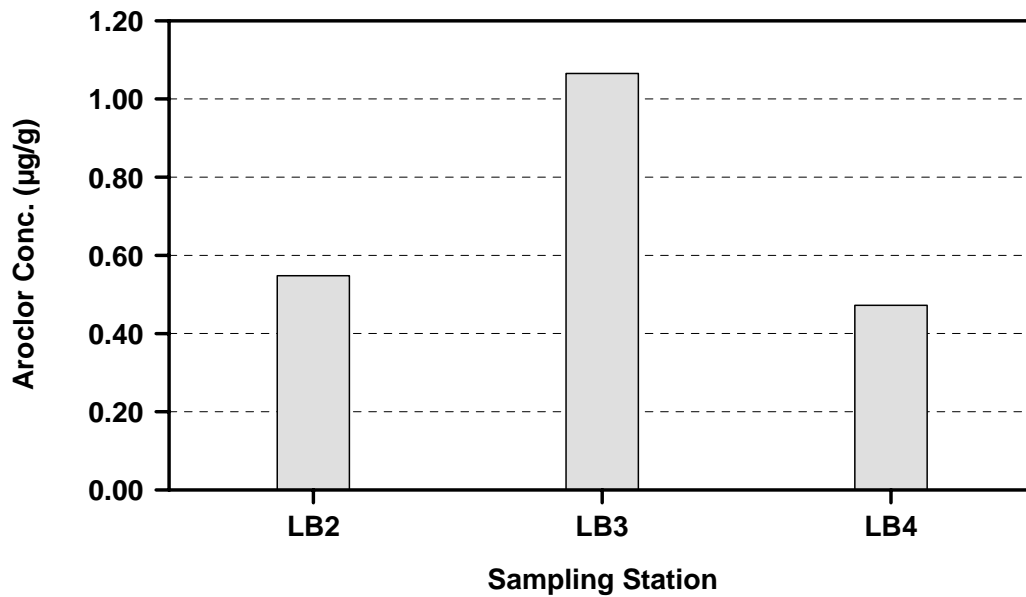


Figure 9. PCB concentrations in green sunfish from Little Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

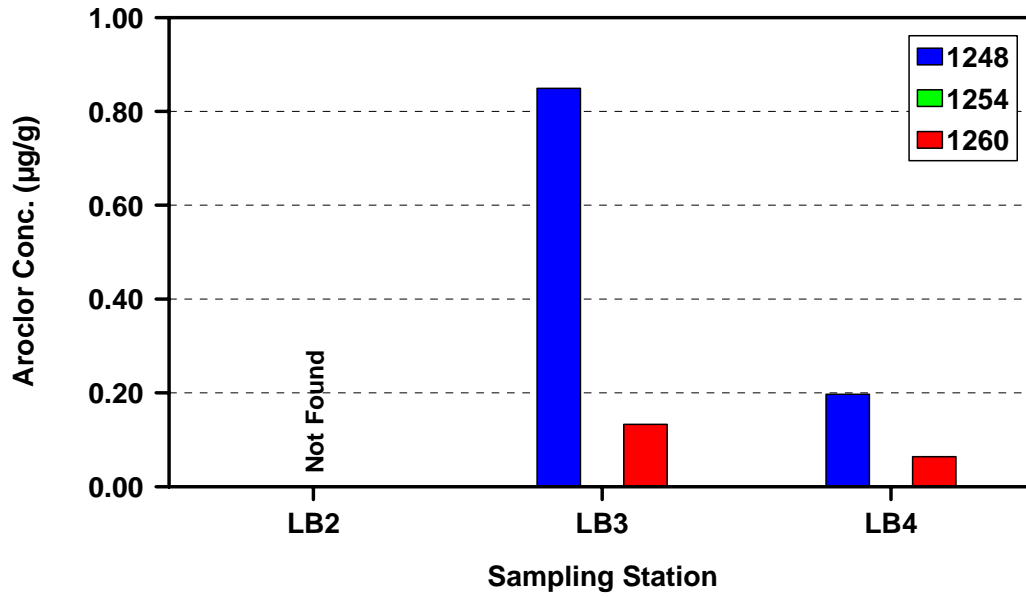


Figure 10. Mean total PCB concentrations in green sunfish from Little Bayou Creek, collected May 24-25, 2006.

