

HSA:JH:krw

December 30, 1958

Dr. Robert A. Conrad Jr.
Medical Division
Brookhaven National Laboratory
Associated Universities, Inc.
Upton, Long Island, New York

Dear Dr. Conrad:

I am enclosing a corrected table of the data on the Marshall Island food samples. The correction only applies to the calculation of the overall level of Strontium-90 in the diet. This figure should have been calculated at about 300 Strontium Units rather than 900.

In addition, the table has been somewhat rearranged but none of the original data has been changed.

Dr. Dunning has questioned the relative calcium values found on these and previous surveys. In going through past data it appears there have been some large spreads in calcium value. Part of this has been due to lack of a standard wet weight basis and I feel that the present samples which were carefully prepared to represent the food as eaten are the best we have. In any case, the usual comparisons are on the basis of Strontium Units and I know that these, of course, would not be changed since both calcium and strontium are calculated to the same base.

Sincerely,

John H. Merley, Chief
Analytical Branch

WMB 5

Enclosures:
1. Table

cc: C. L. Dunham, DBM ✓
G. M. Dunning, DBM (2)
S. A. Lough, HS
I. B. Whitney, HSA

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DATA ON PORTION OF SAMPLE RECEIVED AT HASL

DATA ON TOTAL SAMPLE

HASL Number	Sample	DATA ON PORTION OF SAMPLE RECEIVED AT HASL					DATA ON TOTAL SAMPLE			
		Grams rec'd. at HASL Measured	d/m Sr ⁹⁰ in HASL Sample Measured	d/m Sr ⁹⁰ per gram (wet weight) Calculated	mg Ca per gram Measured	mg Ca in HASL Sample Calculated	S. U. Calculated	Total g Sample	Total Sr ⁹⁰ in Sample (d/m) Calculated	Total mg* Ca
8603	Arrowroot	176.7	15.4 ± 1.4	0.087 ± .006	2.06	365	19 ± 2	236.7	20.6 ± 1.8	487
8604	Bread	30.2	2.39 ± 1.2	0.079 ± .040	0.093	3	390 ± 21	50.2	3.97 ± 2.0	5
8605	Coconut Milk	92.3	30.2 ± 1.6	0.328 ± .018	0.15	14	1000 ± 55	152.3	49.9 ± 2.7	23
8606	Green Coconut	108.7	6.96 ± 1.5	0.064 ± .014	0.14	15	210 ± 45	168.7	10.5 ± 2.3	24
8607	Cooked Fish	38.6	3.12 ± 1.1	0.081 ± .028	0.13	5	280 ± 100	68.6	5.55 ± 1.9	9
8608	Ripe Coconut	10.8	2.14 ± 1.0	0.198 ± .095	0.075	1	1200 ± 590	30.8	6.10 ± 2.9	2
8609	Pandanus	27.4	83.7 ± 2.4	3.06 ± .088	0.15	4	9300 ± 270	87.4	267.0 ± 7.7	13
8610	Rice	34.6	2.34 ± 1.0	0.068 ± .030	0.11	4	340 ± 130	94.6	6.4 ± 2.8	10
8611	Water (500 ml.)		17.7 ± 1.5	---	--	--	---	--	---	--
TOTAL								889.3	370	573

* Calculated to entire sample including amount not sent to HASL.

Errors expressed are one standard deviation of counting and do not include possible chemical errors.

$$\frac{13}{573} \approx 2.3\%$$