

**DETERMINATION of DOMOIC ACID in TISSUE  
SAMPLES by RAPID EXTRACTION**

Domoic acid is a naturally occurring seafood toxin produced by at least one form of diatom, *Nitzschia pungens*. Shellfish and other marine life that feed on the diatom concentrate domoic acid in their tissues and glands. Since the toxin is not affected by either freezing or cooking, humans consuming the seafood ingest the toxin. There is no antidote for domoic acid, and ingestion can cause a variety of gastrointestinal and neurological problems. If the dose is sufficiently high, ingestion may lead to death.