

Olivia Pecukonis

Laura Garcia

Senior Division Environmental Sciences

The Removal Of Ferric Ions Utilizing Mollusk Shells

The following experiment demonstrates the effectiveness of oyster shells in the absorption of ferric chloride from a beaker of water. The oyster shells were put in varying concentrations of ferric chloride and standards were prepared. The experiment was repeated with crushed shells to test the effectiveness of an increase in surface area. The Visible Light Spectrometry results indicated an increased concentration initially and a drastic decrease of concentration over an extended period of time, depending on the initial concentration. Between the whole shells and the crushed shells, the whole shells were more successful in regard to speed of absorption. The experiment proves the possibility of oyster shells as an alternative water purification method.