

## **BOOK REVIEW**

### **Environmental Applications of $^{210}\text{Po}$ and $^{210}\text{Pb}$ in the Brazilian Amazon and Other Sites**

**Authors:** Daniel Marcos Bonotto and Jorge Luis Nepomuceno de Lima (Full Professor of Geochemistry, Instituto de Geociências e Ciências Exatas, UNESP, Brazil)

The book "*Environmental Applications of  $^{210}\text{Po}$  and  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  in the Brazilian Amazon and other sites*" of professors and researchers Daniel Bonotto and Jorge Lima brings an interesting approach to a subject of great importance at the present: the use of natural isotopes for a better understanding of the environment and possible contaminants.

In the first four chapters they present a general overview of the  $^{210}\text{Po}$  and  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  isotopes with an excellent introduction to the subject, with a review of the accumulated knowledge about lead and polonium from its natural occurrences, its physical and chemical properties to its radioactive properties. They also describe existing methods and those developed by the group for the quantification of these isotopes in the laboratory. And, finalizing, this first part, with the fourth chapter using the  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  as a chronometer.

Beginning from the fifth chapter until the end of the book, you encounter the entire experience of the researcher's, accumulated years of research and dedication to the study of the environment, with the use of radioactive techniques associated with the characterization of natural materials, such as sediments, surface and subsurface waters. The researchers demonstrate the use and application of methods developed in their laboratories in several Brazilian river basins and important rivers of the Brazilian Amazon, such as the Amazon River itself and one of its main tributaries, the Madeira River.

All this information is put into simple language and is easily assimilable, making this book useful to the most experienced researcher to the graduate student and, principally, undergraduate students.

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