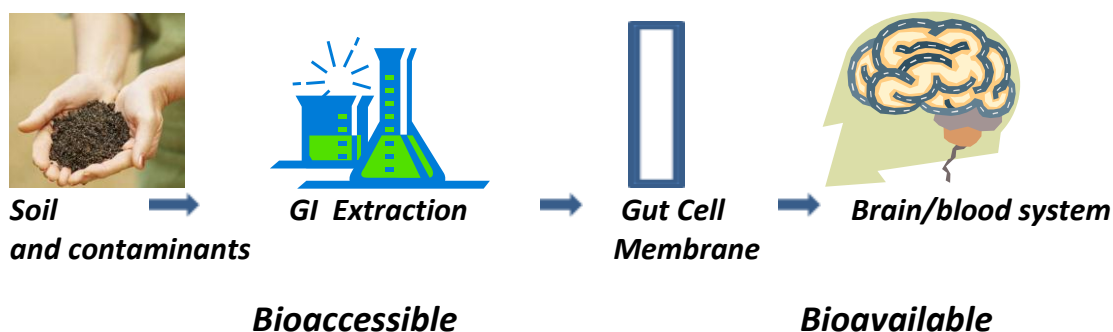


Bioaccessibility Testing at DETS



We are pleased to announce that DETS is now offering bioaccessibility testing, both as PBET (Physiologically Based Extraction Test) and the BARGE method (Bioaccessibility Research Group of Europe).

Bioaccessibility has become increasingly important over the last few years, as remediation costs become ever more critical, and using bioaccessible data can save £millions in not having to treat or remove soil if it is demonstrated that contaminants are not likely to be taken up by the human body. A well documented study sponsored by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) and BGS was conducted in 2009 and resulted in estimated cost savings of £3.75 million.

It is important to understand the difference between bioaccessible and bioavailable, as shown in the above diagram:

The **bioaccessible** fraction of contaminants can be dissolved into physiological solutions (stomach acid, enzymes, etc) in the gastro intestinal (GI) tract, and can be mimicked by *in vitro* laboratory tests. The **bioavailable** fraction is the proportion of this fraction which can pass across the gut membranes and be taken up by the blood system and circulated to other organs – this is only truly measurable by *in vivo* testing.

For more information, please contact our Customer Service staff or your Account Manager.

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