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Application of chemometric methods to the investigation of main microcontaminant sources of endocrine disruptors in coastal and harbour waters and sediments

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In our recent paper entitled ‘Application of chemometric methods to the investigation of main microcontaminant sources of endocrine disruptors in coastal and harbor waters and sediments’ published in a recent issue of this journal (Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry 2004, 378:642–654) we have used the term ‘endocrine disruptors’ incorrectly and we apologize for that. The disruptor character of the analyzed compounds has been only shown for three (nonylphenol, 4-octylphenol and nonylphenol-mono and diethoxylates) of the seven type of studied chemical compounds. Linear alkylbenzenesulfonates, alcohol ethoxylates, polyethyleneglycol and coconut diethanol-amide organic compounds have not been shown to have estrogenic activity (E. Routledge & J.P. Sumpter, “Estrogenic activity of surfactants and some of their degradation products assessed using a recombinant yeast screen,” Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry 15:241-8, 1996).

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