

Variable	Platform	Analytical method	Method ranking	Accuracy
NO ₃ + NO ₂ / Si(OH) ₄	E1-M3A, HCB	Manual spectrophotometric	Acceptable	< 3 %/ < 4 %
PO ₄	E1-M3A, HCB	Magnesium-induced co-precipitation	Best	< 2 %
Total Chl- <i>a</i>	E1-M3A, HCB	Fluorescence and HPLC	Best	NA
Other phytopigments	E1-M3A, HCB	HPLC	Best	NA
Viruses and bacteria	E1-M3A	Flow cytometry	Best	NA
Picophytoplankton	E1-M3A	Flow cytometry	Best	NA
Nanophytoplankton	E1-M3A, HCB	Microscopy (UV plus blue light excitation)	Best	NA
Other nanoplankton	E1-M3A, HCB	Inverted microscopy	NA	NA
Microphytoplankton	E1-M3A, HCB	Inverted microscopy	Best	NA
Ciliates	E1-M3A	Inverted epifluorescence microscope (blue light excitation)	NA	NA
Zooplankton	E1-M3A, HCB	45 and 200 μm nets, scanning and image analysis	Best	NA