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[\[PDF \(628K\)\]](#) [\[References\]](#)**Chemiluminescent ELISA for the BTEX Determination in Water and Soil**[Elisabetta MAIOLINI^{1\)}](#), [Dietmar KNOPP^{2\)}](#), [Reinhard NIESSNER^{2\)}](#), [Sergei EREMIN^{3\)}](#), [Luca BOLELLI^{1\)}](#), [Elida Nora FERRI^{1\)}](#) and [Stefano GIROTTI^{1\)}](#)

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An indirect competitive chemiluminescence enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (CL-ELISA) for the determination of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and *ortho*-, *meta*-, *para*-xylenes (BTEX) in soil and water was developed. The assay was optimized concerning the coating conjugate concentration, anti-BTEX antiserum dilution, incubation time effect on primary and secondary antibody incubation, and temperature effect on the competitive step and tolerance to different organic solvents. The IC₅₀ and lower limit of the detection (LDD₉₀) values were 4.6 and 0.5 µg mL⁻¹, respectively. While water samples could be analyzed directly, soil has to be extracted and diluted prior to immunochemical measurements. BTEX could be recovered from spiked soil with a yield higher than 60% using 5-min ultrasonication with methanol. Finally, the assay was applied to soil and water samples collected at a contaminated site in Italy, and was compared to GC-MS.

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