Trophic position and individual feeding habits as drivers of differential PCB bioaccumulation in fish populations.

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Abstract: Despite PCBs being banned since the 1980's, some European peri-alpine lakes, and consequently their fish populations, are still contaminated by these xenobiotics. We investigated the relative contribution of physiological and trophic factors that could be implicated in fish PCB bioaccumulation in Lake Bourget (France), one of the most contaminated in Europe, by collecting Arctic char (n?=?55) and European whitefish (n?=?89) from 2013 to 2016. Concentrations of 7 indicator PCBs were 9-168?ng.g w.w-1 in whitefish and 90-701?ng.g w.w-1 in Arctic char. The fish trophic positions calculated from d 15N values were positively correlated with PCB concentrations (r2?=?0.45; p?

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