

Abstract Submitted
for the SES06 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Radioactivity of Consumer Products DAVID PETERSON, DEREK JOKISCH, PHILIP FULMER, Francis Marion University — A variety of consumer products and household items contain varying amounts of radioactivity. Examples of these items include: FiestaWare and similar glazed china, salt substitute, bananas, brazil nuts, lantern mantles, smoke detectors and depression glass. Many of these items contain natural sources of radioactivity such as Uranium, Thorium, Radium and Potassium. A few contain man-made sources like Americium. This presentation will detail the sources and relative radioactivity of these items (including demonstrations). Further, measurements of the isotopic ratios of Uranium-235 and Uranium-238 in several pieces of china will be compared to historical uses of natural and depleted Uranium. Finally, the presenters will discuss radiation safety as it pertains to the use of these items.

Derek Jokisch
Francis Marion University

Date submitted: 16 Aug 2006

Electronic form version 1.4