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Use of Herbal Tea as an Approach to Water Remediation from Contaminants

Authors: Kaltrina Jusufi¹, Eralda Dano², Makfire Sadiku¹ and Bardha Korca¹
Affiliation: ¹University of Prishtina "Hasan Prishtina", Faculty of Natural Science and Mathematics, Department of Chemistry, str. "Nëna Tereze" Nr. 5, 10000 Prishtina, Kosovo.

²Agriculture University of Tirana, Faculty of Biotechnology and Nutrition, Tirana, Albania kaltrina.jusufi@uni-pr.edu

This study explores the viability of herbal tea as an eco-friendly solution for water remediation. Herbal teas, including hibiscus, mint, and chamomile, are rich in bioactive compounds such as antioxidants and polyphenols, known for their ability to absorb various contaminants present in water. Therefore, this investigation focused on chamomile tea's ability to remove lead from aqueous solutions. Systematic variations in adsorbent quantity, solution concentration, mixing conditions, and pH levels [1] were conducted to identify optimal experimental parameters. Quantitative assessment of metal concentration, specifically lead (Pb) pre-and post-treatment, was performed using ICP-OES (Inductively Coupled Plasma-Optical Emission Spectrometry). The morphological characteristics of the biosorbents were explained through SEM (Scanning Electron Microscopy). The outcomes of the study revealed exceptional efficacy, underscoring the potential of these agricultural waste-derived materials for practical use in daily water treatment. The biosorbents demonstrated significant advantages over conventional methods, including cost-effectiveness, high selectivity, and biodegradability, positioning them as promising candidates for sustainable water purification applications.

Keywords: Chamomile residues; heavy metal; ICP-OES; SEM.

References

[1] M. Maslova, N. Mudruk, A. Ivanets, I. Shashkova and N. Kitikova (2021). The effect of pH on removal of toxic metal ions from aqueous solutions using composite sorbent based on Ti-Ca-Mg phosphates, *J. Water Process Eng.* **40**, doi:10.1016/j.jwpe.2020.101830.

