



Removal of congo red dye from effluent sample using casuarina leaves as a adsorbent

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ABSTRACT

Dyes are present in various Industrial effluents like Textile Industries, Sewage water, Water treatment plants. The use of low cost adsorbent has been investigated as a replacement for the current expensive method of removing dye from waste water. The objective of this work is the study of adsorption of dye solution which is a phenol red using low cost adsorbent Casuarina fresh leaf. Removal of phenol red dye from aqueous solution using this adsorbent has been investigated. Liquid phase adsorption experiments were conducted. Batch adsorption studies are carried out by observing the effect of experimental parameters namely adsorbent dose, initial dye concentration, time agitation and effect of pH. In present study it was observed that adsorption of initial dye concentration 700mg/L solution showed 17% adsorption. The maximum adsorption observed was 40% with 1gm adsorbent dose for the same concentration 700mg/L of dye solution at same condition. The effect of time of 100 min contact time for same condition of 700mg/L & 3gm adsorbent dose showed not much difference as adsorbent gives 20%. Since this initial dye concentration of phenol red is acidic dye pH variation of 7, 7.5, 8.5 showed negative value.

Keywords: Adsorption, pH, dye, Casuarina

INTRODUCTION

The textile industry occupies a unique place in the industrial map of India and the total production of cloth from both cotton and synthetic fibres was 10527 million metres in 1980 (Badrinath *et al.* 1983). Textile mills require a large volume of water for their processes and the wastewater discharged from the mill is equally large and of a polluting nature. Colour imparts visible pollution, persists for long distances in streams, decreases reaeration capacity of the stream, and retards photosynthetic activity. The treatment of dyeing wastewater poses several problems as the dyes are generally stable to light and oxidation and hence they cannot be treated by conventional methods of aerobic digestion. By far, activated carbon has been the most favoured material for adsorption of various materials like herbicides, chemical pollutants, dyes etc. (Venkata Rao and Sastry 1987). Various other non-conventional adsorbents like fired clay, silica (Mckay *et al.* 1987), biogas residual slurry (amasivayam and Yamuna 1992a), Fe³⁺/Cr³⁺ hydroxide sludge (Namasivayam and Chandrasekaran 1990), China clay (Gupta *et al.* 1989), peat moss and rice hulls (Nawar and Doma 1989), coconut husk (Low and Lee 1990) and fly ash (Khare *et al.*, 1987; Gupta *et al.* 1988), groundnut shell, and tea waste (Kowsalya *et al.*, 2015) have also been reported as efficient adsorbents in removing colour. In India 80% of the population depends on the land for their living. The utilization of agricultural waste is of great significance and can play an important role in the national economy. India is the second largest banana producer after Brazil. It produces about 2.34 million tonnes from a cultivated area of 164,000 hectares (Manoharan 1988). The white central portion of the banana stem, called banana pith, is used to treat persons

bitten by poisonous snakes (Pushpangadan *et al.* 1989). The stems have been used for biogas generation (Elorteguri *et al.*, 1987; Sharma *et al.*, 1987), ethanol production (Tewari *et al.*, 1987) and paper making (Geopaul 1980) etc. After cutting off the bunch most of the residues are either used as manure, simply thrown away or burnt off to reduce the volume. The approximate amount of dry matter produced per banana plant is about 1, 1.3 and 5 g of leaf, pseudostem and fruit respectively (Hegde and Srinivas 1991). In order to make the dyeing wastewater treatment economical, it is imperative to go for low cost adsorbents. The aim of this paper is to assess the ability of waste banana pith to adsorb Congo red from aqueous solution. Use of various dyes in order to color the products is a common practice in composite knit industry. The presence of these dyes in water even at low concentration is highly visible and undesirable. The various study was carried out for the utilization of waste material as a useful adsorbent. The use of orange peel as adsorbent for the removal of dyes from wastewater and to establish it as a standard wastewater treatment process for composite knit industry was carried out (Fahim Bin AbdurRahman *et al.*, 2013). In this present work, searching for new waste material for treating Congo Red dye effluent was carried out and casuarina leaves were found to be a new adsorbent and its efficacy was studied.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Preparation of adsorbent:

Initially casuarina leaves were collected from a fresh casuarina tree and leaves were washed with tap water again washed with distilled water for 3-4 times to remove other contaminants. Leaves were then dried in sunlight for 5 days. Leaves were crushed and passed through a 40 mesh size sieve to get uniform particle size distribution of raw casuarina leaves adsorbent. The prepared adsorbent was stored in bottles for further use.



Figure:1 Fresh leaves powder

Preparation of Adsorbate:

A stock solution of phenol red was prepared by dissolving 0.7g of phenol red dye in 1L of distilled water by constant stirring with a magnetic stirrer at 400 rpm and 80°C for 1 hour for complete mixing. The solution is then cooled and filtered to get the clear stock solution and this is stored for further use.

Batch adsorption studies:

The effect of initial dye concentration, adsorbent dose and contact time of agitation of adsorbate were studied using 100 mL of phenol red dye solution in 250 mL standard conical flasks and required amount of adsorbent was added to each flask. The solutions were agitated at a constant speed and temperature using Secor India Griffin Flask Shaker. After agitation the solutions were centrifuged at 7000 rpm for 15 minutes to remove colloidal materials. Then the absorbance of the supernatant solution was found out using Systronics Photoelectric Colorimeter 114, to estimate the final dye concentration at 315 nm and 515 nm since methyl red absorbs light of two different wavelengths (George *et al.*, 2007). The percentage removal of adsorbate adsorbed on the adsorbent is given as,

$$\% \text{ Dye removal} = \frac{(C_0 - C_f)}{C_0} \times 100 \quad \text{-----(1)}$$

Where,

C_0 = Initial concentration of dye (mg/L)

C_f = Final concentration of dye (mg/L)

Effect of initial dye concentration:

For this aliquots of stock phenol red solution (300 mg/L – 700mg/L) were taken in 5 conical flasks and 3g of adsorbent was added to each flask. These were kept in the shaker for 100 minutes. After agitation the solutions were centrifuged at 7000 rpm for 15 minutes to remove colloidal materials. Then the absorbance of the supernatant solution was found to estimate the final dye concentration. The amount of phenol red adsorbed per unit weight of adsorbent was calculated as

$$Q = ((C_0 - C_f) * V) / W \text{ mg/g} \text{ -----(2)}$$

Where,

C_0 = Initial concentration of dye (mg/L)

C_f = Final concentration of dye (mg/L)

Effect of adsorbent:

For this 700 mg/L of stock phenol red solution w taken in 5 conical flasks and 1, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3g of adsorbent was added to each flask. These were kept in the shaker for 100 minutes. After agitation the solutions were centrifuged at 7000 rpm for 15 minutes to remove colloidal materials. Then the absorbance of the supernatant solution was found to estimate the final dye concentration

Effect of time of agitation:

For this 700 mg/L of stock phenol red solution were taken in 5 conical flasks and 3g of adsorbent was added to each flask. These were kept in the shaker for different time intervals of 20, 40, 60, 80 and 100 minutes. After agitation the solutions were centrifuged at 7000 rpm for 15 minutes to remove colloidal materials. Then the absorbance of the supernatant solution was found to estimate the final dye concentration.

Effect of pH:

For this 700mg/L of stock phenol red solution were taken in 12 conical flasks, 6 for fresh leaves and 6 for dried leaves adsorbents. The pH of 3 flasks was adjusted to acidic range (3.5-5.5) by adding 1N Hcl and 3g of adsorbent was added to each flask. Similarly, the pH of another set of 3 flasks was adjusted to alkaline range (7.5-9.5) by adding 1N NaOH and 3g of adsorbent was added to each flask. These were kept in the shaker for fixed time intervals of 100 minutes. After agitation the solutions were centrifuged at 7000 rpm for 15 minutes to remove colloidal materials. Then the adsorbance of the supernatant solution was found to estimate the final dye concentration.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION**EFFECT OF INITIAL DYE CONCENTRATION:**

Table1: Effect of initial dye concentration on adsorption with at a constant adsorbent dose 3 g

S.NO	Initial Concentration (mg/L)	%Dye Reductionby Fresh Leaves
1	700	17
2	600	16
3	500	12
4	400	10
5	300	6

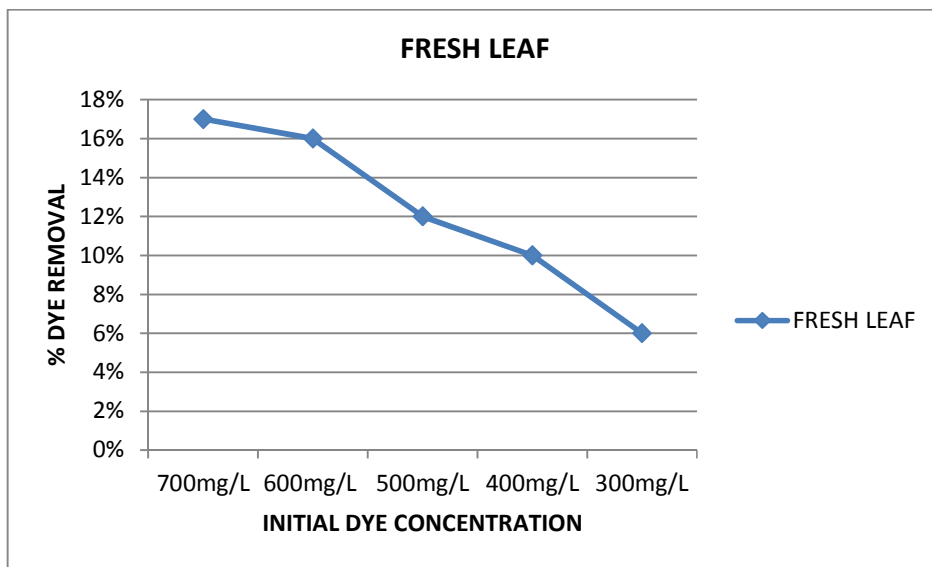


FIGURE 2: Effect of initial dye concentration on adsorption with a constant adsorbent dose 3 g

By the concentration change at constant time intervals the difference in dye removal percentage was noted and it was plotted as graph. In which the 300mg/L showed 6% adsorption, 400mg/L showed 10% adsorption gradually increased and finally 700mg/L showed 17% adsorption.

EFFECT OF ADSORBENT DOSE:

Table. 2: Effect of Adsorbent Dose on Initial Dye Concentration of 700 mg/L on Adsorption

S.NO	Amount Of Adsorbent (gm)	% Dye Reduction Of Fresh Leaves
1.	1	40
2.	1.5	21
3.	2	18
4.	2.5	18
5.	3	16

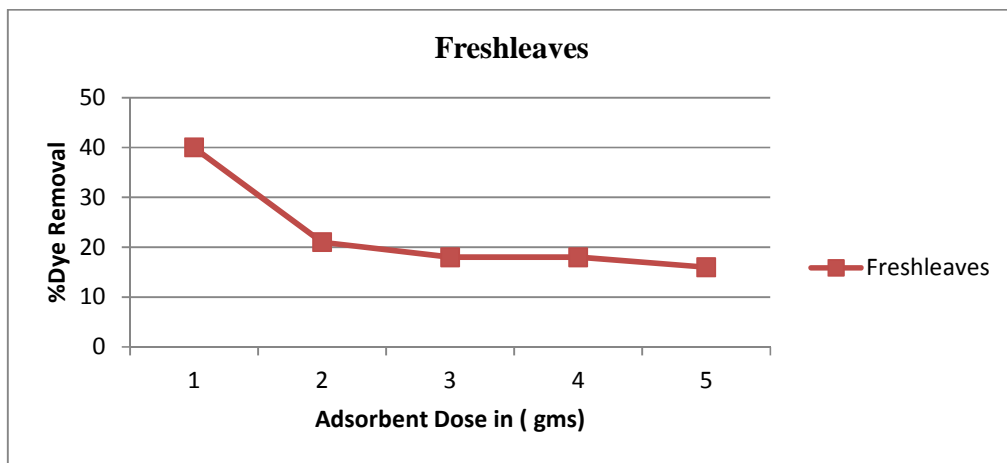
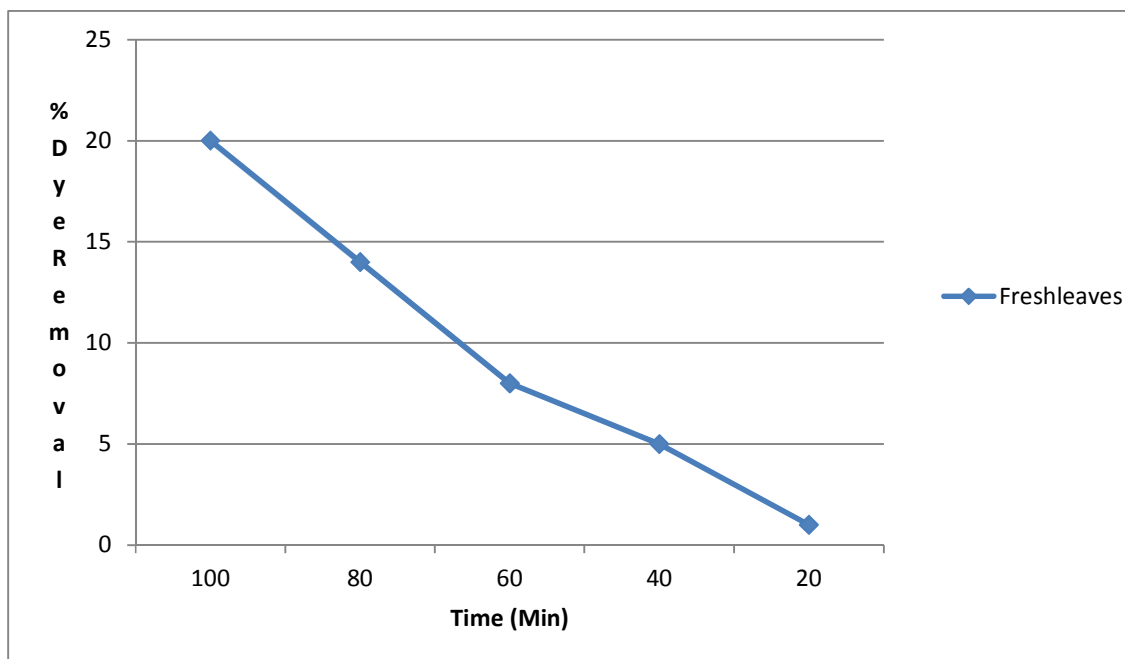


FIGURE 3: Effect of Adsorbent Dose on Initial Dye Concentration of 700 mg/L on Adsorption

Adsorbent concentration it shows maximum 40% efficiency at 1gm adsorbent doze and shows gradual decrease in efficiency i.e for 2gm ,2.5gm,3gm of adsorbent doze result shows 15%,11%,7% adsorption efficiency respectively.

EFFECT OF TIME:**TABLE 3: Effect of Time on Initial Dye Concentration of 700 mg/L on Adsorption with at a constant adsorbent dose of 3 g**

S.No	Time (Min)	% Reduction Fresh Leaves
1.	20	1
2.	40	5
3.	60	8
4.	80	14
5.	100	20

**FIGURE 4: Effect of Time on Initial Dye Concentration of 700 mg/L on Adsorption with at a constant adsorbent dose of 3 g**

Keeping the concentration both Adsorbent and Adsorbate, how the time intervals were changed and the graph was plotted. The adsorption efficiency gradually increased fresh leaf from 1% to 20%.

EFFECT OF PH :**Table 4: Effect of pH on initial dye concentration of 700mg/L on adsorption with at a constant adsorbent dose 3g**

S.NO	PH	% Dye Reduction Fresh Leaves
1.	3.9	14
2.	4.00	21
3.	4.10	25
4.	7.5	-35
5.	8.00	-37
6.	8.5	-45

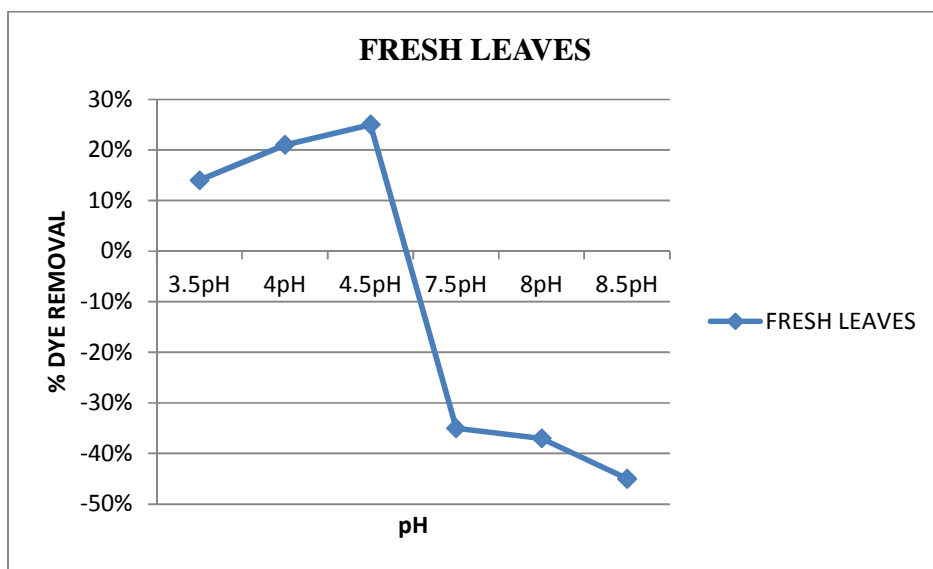


Figure 5: Effect of pH on initial dye concentration of 700mg/L on adsorption with at a constant adsorbent dose 3g

The efficiency of adsorption is dependent on the pH of solution since variation in pH leads to the variation in the surface properties of the adsorbent and the degree of ionization. The pH variation over the pH range of 3.5 to 8.5 for both fresh and dried leaves adsorbents. It is observed that the percentage removal decreases with increase in pH for both adsorbents. The maximum dye removal was 25% for fresh leaves. Hence it can be conclude that the acidic range of dye is favourable with both adsorbents.

CONCLUSION

Adsorption is operative in most natural physical, biological, and chemical systems, and is widely used in industrial applications such as treatment of effluents, purification of water etc., In this study, low cost and easily available sources were chosen as adsorbent and it's efficiency were analyzed. The casuarinas fresh leaves powder was used as adsorbent for the phenol red dye. It is been decided to convert it into activated charcoal in future to improve the dye adsorption and test the adsorption or dye reduction of various other dyes.

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