

Physical Sciences

- Solvent Extraction of Zn(II) from Aqueous Sulphate Media by Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phosphoric Acid in Kerosene**
D. A. Begum, M. Alauddin, M. F. Islam and M. S. Rahman 173
- Synthesis, Characterization and Antimicrobial Evaluation of Some Arylidenehydrazono-fuopyrimidines and Thienopyrimidines**
Md. Mosharef Hossain Bhuiyan, Khandker M. M. Rahman and Md. Imjamul Islam 180
- In vitro* Analysis and Data Comparison of Market Brands of Ciprofloxacin, Ofloxacin and Levofloxacin**
Muhammad Zaheer, Salma Rahman, Shahid Mahmood and Muhammad Saleem 186

Biological Sciences

- Purification and Characterization of Bacteriocin Like Substance Produced from *Bacillus lentus* with Perspective of New Biopreservative for Food Preservation**
Nivedita Sharma, Ambika Attri and Neha Gautam 191
- Karyomorphological and Morphometric Studies of Ploidy Levels in Some Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) Genotypes**
E. A. Kamel, A. Arminian and S. Houshmand 200
- Ameliorative Effect of Ethanolic Extract of *Cichorium intybus* on Cisplatin-Induced Nephrotoxicity in Rats**
Shafaq Noori and Tabassum Mahboob 208

Technology

- Effects of Biodiesel from Soybean Oil on the Exhaust Emissions of a Turbocharged Diesel Engine**
Asad Naeem Shah, GE Yun-shan, TAN Jian-wei, He Chao 217
- Development of a Solar Fish Dryer**
Adenike Boyo and Henry Boyo 228

Physical Sciences

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Solvent Extraction of Zn(II) from Aqueous Sulphate Media by Di(2-Ethylhexyl) Phosphoric Acid in Kerosene

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Abstract. The extraction equilibrium studies of Zn(II) from sulphate medium by di(2-ethylhexyl) phosphoric acid (D2EHPA, H_2A_2) in kerosene revealed that the distribution ratio (D) decreased with the increase of initial [Zn(II)] in the aqueous phase and increased with the increase of equilibrium pH and extractant concentration. The equilibration is reached within 2 min. The species extracted into the organic phase is thought to be $ZnA_2 \cdot HA$. The pH and extractant dependencies were about 2 and 1.67, respectively. The distribution ratio decreased with the increase in sulphate ion concentration in the aqueous phase. The extraction equilibrium reaction is suggested as $Zn^{2+}_{aq} + 1.5 (H_2A_2)_{org} \leftrightarrow [ZnA_2 \cdot HA]_{org} + 2H^+_{aq}$. The extraction equilibrium constant (k_{ex}) for the above reaction was calculated to be $10^{-2.26}$. The extraction process was endothermic in nature having positive DH value of 16.27 kJ/mol. The loading of D2EHPA by Zn(II) is about 4.50 g of Zn(II) by 0.10 M D2EHPA. Possible reaction mechanism has been suggested based on distribution data, extractant concentration and equilibrium pH of the aqueous phase.

Keywords: solvent extraction, Zn(II) ion, sulphate media, D2EHPA, di(2-ethylhexyl) phosphoric acid, kerosene

Synthesis, Characterization and Antimicrobial Evaluation of Some Arylidenehydrazonofuopyrimidines and Thienopyrimidines

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Abstract. Cyclization of heteroaromatic *o*-aminoester with formamide afforded furo[2,3-d]pyrimidin-4(3*H*)-one which was then chlorinated with thionyl chloride followed by displacement by hydrazine hydrate to furnish hydrazinofuro [2,3-d]pyrimidine. Reaction of hydrazino derivative with formic acid gave furo[3,2-e][1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-c]pyrimidine. Treatment of hydrazino derivative with aromatic aldehydes afforded arylidenehydrazonofuro[2,3-d]pyrimidine derivatives. Reaction of *o*-aminonitrile with carbon disulphide, followed by methylation with methyl iodide and subsequent reaction with hydrazine hydrate afforded hydrazinothieno[2,3-d]pyrimidine. 14 derivatives were synthesized. Some of these derivatives exhibited pronounced antimicrobial activities against *S. typhi*, *S. aureus*, *S. dysenteriae*, *V. cholerae*, *C. lunata*, *A. alternata*, *C. corchori*, *F. equeseti* and *M. phaseolina*.

Keywords: aminoester, aminonitrile, furo-pyrimidine, thieno-pyrimidine, antimicrobial activity, pyrimidines

***In vitro* Analysis and Data Comparison of Market Brands of Ciprofloxacin, Ofloxacin and Levofloxacin**

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Abstract. In the evaluation of three different groups of 12 brands of locally manufactured Quinolone tablets available in the market i.e. ciprofloxacin HCl, ofloxacin and levofloxacin hemihydrate, it was found that composition of active ingredients were within the range of pharmacoeptial limits but their disintegration time and rate of dissolution were different, some being very close to the lower pharmacoeptial limit. One product was substandard having high disintegration time and very low rate of dissolution.

Keywords: flouroquinolone, ciprofloxacin, ofloxacin, levofloxacin

Biological Sciences

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Purification and Characterization of Bacteriocin Like Substance Produced from *Bacillus lentus* with Perspective of a New Biopreservative for Food Preservation

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Abstract. Molecular weight of bacteriocin like substance (BLIS) of a new strain of *Bacillus lentus* 121 was found to be approximately 11 kDa. Purification of BLIS was attained by single step gel exclusion chromatography. BLIS was characterized by studying the inhibitory spectrum. It was active at broad pH range, high temperature and high NaCl concentration and showed sensitivity to proteolytic enzymes like trypsin, α -chymotrypsin and papain, the characters desirable for food preservation. BLIS extended the shelf stability of milk upto 21 days as a biopreservative.

Keywords: bacteriocin like inhibitory substance, BLIS, *B. lentus*, antimicrobial activity, biopreservative

Karyomorphological and Morphometric Studies of Ploidy Levels in Some Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) Genotypes

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Abstract. Karyomorphological and morphometric investigations of different ploidy levels of 14 genotypes of *Triticum aestivum* L. and one genotype of *Triticum durum* Desf. showed that, total chromosomal length (TCL) varied between genotypes. The highest value (56.21 μm) was recorded with mean chromosomal length of $8.03 \pm 0.81 \mu\text{m}$, while the lowest value of TCL (31.65 μm) was found with mean chromosomal length (MCL) of $4.52 \pm 0.41 \mu\text{m}$. Simple Pearson correlation coefficient (r) between TCL and MCL was the highest ($r = 1.0$ and $P = 0.000$). While the correlation coefficients between mean arm ratio (MAR) and parameters: total form (TF), intrachromosomal asymmetry index (A_1) and m (karyotype; metacentric region chromosome) as well as the coefficients between TF and m and between A_1 and m were the only significant ($P < 0.01$) ones. Intrachromosomal asymmetry had a significant ($P = 0.000$) effect of total form percent than interchromosomal index. TCL and MCL were the most important karyological features influencing the principal component analysis and had 81.7 % variation, while in combination with MAR revealed 94% variation. Cluster dendrogram revealed close association and adjacent phylogenetic relatedness of tri- and hexaploid and also tetra- and hexaploid genotypes.

Keywords: cluster analysis, karyotype features, principal component analysis, wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.), genotypes

Ameliorative Effect of Ethanolic Extract of *Cichorium intybus* on Cisplatin - Induced Nephrotoxicity in Rats

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Abstract. In the study of the possible ameliorative effect of the *Cichorium intybus* vs. cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity, no sign of toxicity was observed in rats on administration of ethanolic extract of *C. intybus* (500 mg/kg) with cisplatin (3 mg/kg). Oral administration of *C. intybus* extract reduced cisplatin-induced nephrotoxicity and also prevented elevated plasma creatinine, urea and nitrate, plasma and tissue MDA levels and restored antioxidant enzymes.

Keywords: cisplatin, *Cichorium intybus*, nephrotoxicity, antioxidant enzymes

Technology

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Effects of Biodiesel from Soybean Oil on the Exhaust Emissions of a Turbocharged Diesel Engine

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Abstract. This paper presents the regulated emissions in the light of cylinder pressure and heat release rate (HRR) from a 4-stroke direct injection (DI) diesel engine fuelled with neat soybean oil-based biodiesel, commercial diesel and 20% biodiesel-diesel blend. The engine was run using electrical dynamometer at four different engine conditions. The experimental results revealed that brake power (BP) of the engine decreased but brake specific fuel consumption (BSFC) increased with biodiesel as compared to diesel. Relative to diesel, the maximum combustion pressure (MCP) was higher; however, HRR curves were not much deeper in the ignition delay (ID) periods and the premixed combustion peaks were lower with biodiesel. Carbon monoxide (CO), total hydrocarbons (HC), smoke opacity, and particulate matter (PM) emissions decreased by 3% to 14%, 32.6% to 46%, 56.5% to 83%, and 71% to 87.8%, respectively; however, oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) increased by 2% to 10% with biodiesel, compared to the commercial diesel. Both smoke and NO_x pollutants were greatly influenced by the MCP. CO, HC, and PM emissions were higher at lower load conditions compared to higher load conditions, but NO_x and smoke pollutants were higher at higher load conditions relative to lower load conditions.

Keywords: diesel engine, direct injection, biodiesel, heat release rate, regulated emissions

Development of a Solar Fish Dryer

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Abstract. The solar fish dryer developed for particular conditions of Bishop Village, Lagos, Nigeria absorbs sunlight with a flat plate collector for its air heater. Mirrors are appended to one of the collector sides to enhance collection of solar radiations. The dryer is a passive type, tailored to solve the energy needs of the people of the area. On days of high irradiance, temperature within the solar fish dryer can be as high as 80°C with relative humidity around 10%.

Keywords: renewable energy, flat plate collector, solar fish dryer, fish drying
