



ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

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EVALUATION OF THE BEHAVIOR AND DISTRIBUTION OF MERCURY AND ASSOCIATED HEAVY METALS IN CONTAMINATED SOILS FROM AN ABANDONED MERCURY COMPLEX IN THE AZZABA REGION (NORTHEAST ALGERIA)

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This research is about the mercury and toxic metals pollution caused by the mining processes of cinnabar deposits at Ismail abandoned mercury complex in Azzaba. This complex has caused many health and environmental problems in Azzaba area. The effect has continued to date with the presence of toxic elements even after almost 20 years since the site closed. Planning for remediation was never considered. However, this study aims to characterize the soil, by mercury and associated metals concentrations and physicochemical parameters. Also, to evaluate the behavior and distribution of toxic elements in samples based on the physicochemical parameters of the environment. The results show that all samples have a high level of toxic metals (Hg, Zn, Pb, As, Cr, Cu, and Sb) with averages in ppm, respectively (1526, 8421, 4372, 238, 134, 389, 124), these concentrations exceed standards, which increase the environmental risks. The statistical results show a correlation between pH–(Zn, Pb, Cr), Ec–(Pb, Cr and Cu), CEC–(Zn, Cu and As), OM–Zn and CaCO₃–(Zn, Pb, Cr, Cu and Sb) indicate that physicochemical parameters can affect the behavior and the mobility of metals. Except for Hg, which behaves in a particular way. In addition, according to ANOVA tests, Hg and As are evenly distributed throughout the study area. Unlike other metals, Pb, Cu and Sb to move to the surrounding soil or accumulate at a distance of 150 m while Zn and Cr accumulate in the upper part of the waste dump. This research investigates how toxic elements disperse or accumulate, make an assumption about their geochemical origin, and analyses their interactions with different soil characteristics. In addition, it contributes to the assessment of environmental risks and provides a relevant scientific support for planning appropriate decontamination and site restoration strategies.

Keywords: mercury district, toxic elements, physicochemical properties, soil, mobility, accumulation.

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ASSESSMENT OF THE TECHNICAL CONDITION OF A TREATMENT FACILITY AT A CHEMICAL ENTERPRISE

pages 14–19

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The object of research is a sewage well of a chemical enterprise. The chemical composition of the enterprise's wastewater, which is concentrated in the averaging unit, and the structural and elemental composition of concrete samples were determined. Upon completion of the experiment, proposals were made regarding the further operation of the chemical enterprise's treatment plant. It was found that the suspended solids content was higher in the first sample by 4.85%, and in the fifth – by 15.29%. The dry residue content was higher in the second sample by 20.18%, in the fourth – by 9.27%, and in the fifth – by 27.45%. The concentration of ammonium nitrogen is higher in the fourth experiment by 52.31%. The level of ammonium ions was higher in the fourth by 43.77%, nitrite ions in the second and third samples were higher by 16.67%, in the fourth by 383.33%, in the fifth by 983.33%. The increase in nitrate ions in the second sample was by 58.0%, in the third by 146.0%, in the fourth by 276.0%, in the fifth by 520.0%. APAR increased in the second water sample by 306.0%, in the third by 422.0%, in the fourth by 250.0%, in the fifth by 190.0%. The level of total iron is higher in the second group by 2288.89%, in the third – by 970.37%, in the fourth – by 1075.92%, in the fifth – by 1459.26%. The study by the X-ray fluorescence method showed that the CaO content was lower in the first sample by 3.27%, the second – by 2.27%, the third – by 3.01%; Fe₂O₃ is higher by 20.09%, by 22.77%, by 24.11%, SiO₂ by 10.83%, by 2.27%, 3.01%, SO₂ was by 4.50%, in the second and third – by 4.05%, TiO₂ by 0.68%, by 12.50%, by 14.19%. X-ray diffraction analysis showed the presence of a large amount of gypsum and quartz in the concrete.

The conducted research is distinguished by the fact that chemical corrosion of the concrete treatment plant under the influence of wastewater was established. The practical significance of the results obtained is that the destruction of the surface layer of concrete as a result of corrosion was established. Preventive measures are proposed to prevent corrosion of the treatment plant.

Keywords: chemical composition of wastewater, concrete corrosion, elemental composition, concrete structure.

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FOOD PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

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JUSTIFICATION OF THE PRELIMINARY ENZYMATIC TREATMENT OF BERRIES OF DOGWOOD, BLACK ELDERBERRY, HAWTHORN, BARBERRY AND RASPBERRY, GROWN IN THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

pages 20–28

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The research shows the results of the effect of preliminary enzymatic treatment of dogwood berries, black elderberry, hawthorn, barberry and raspberry on juice yield and extraction of valuable chemical compounds and nutrients into juice. The objects of the research were the technology for enzymatic extraction of dogwood berries, black elderberries, hawthorn berries, barberries, and raspberries. Enzyme preparations with pectolytic and gluconolytic activity were also investigated. The enzymes included Pectinex BE XXL, Pectinex Yieldash Extra, Amylase AG 300 L, and Fructozym P. Additional preparations used in the research were Rapidaza CR, Bryuzaym BGX, Laminex Super, Selloviridin Q20X, Sellokyuks-A Extra, and Enzerzim XT. The experiment

used modern photometric, thermogravimetric, refractometric, potentiometric, chromatographic and other methods of analysis. It was established that the use of a composition of enzyme preparations with pectolytic and glucanolytic action Pectinex BE XXL, Amylase AG 300 L, Rapidaza CR, Sellokyuks-A contributes to an increase in the yield of unclarified juices by an average of 6.8–9.4% compared to the control samples. In this case, the most effective are the use of Fructosym P, Pectinex BE XXL and Amylase AG300L, and when using multienzyme complexes, MFK-I and MFK-II turned out to be more effective, each consisting of a mixture of two enzymes, the juice yield increased by an average of 11.0–14.4% or 1.19–1.29 times compared to the control. The use of the enzyme preparation composition allows to increase the yield of valuable natural components and functional food ingredients in the juice – total sugars by 1.05–1.23 times, organic acids by 1.04–1.24 times, pectin substances by 1.06–1.31 times, ash substances by 1.19–1.33 times, vitamin C by 1.18–1.38 times. The extraction of natural antioxidants and preservatives increases the nutritional value of the juice and improves its technological properties.

Keywords: berries, enzyme preparations, multi-enzyme composition, juice yield, chemical composition, carbohydrates, pectin.

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ESTABLISHING THE PATTERNS OF INFLUENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ON THE BIOCHEMICAL INDICATORS OF GRAPE MUST AND THE WINE PRODUCED FROM IT

pages 29–37

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The object of research is grape must and wines made from white and red grape varieties grown in the conditions of the Absheron and Gabala regions. The article provides a comparative analysis of the biochemical indicators of must and wine samples made from grape varieties grown in the ecological and geographical conditions of the Absheron and Gabala regions of Azerbaijan. Grapes of some white (Muscat white, Viognier, Chardonnay, Semillon, Riesling, Bayan Shirey, Rkatsiteli) and red (Aleatico, Shiraz, Merlot, Madrasa) varieties were used as the research material. In order to determine the direction of use and technological suitability of the harvest of the studied grape varieties, the biochemical indicators of must were studied, various wine samples were prepared and their physicochemical analysis was carried out. It was found that the biochemical composition of the must and the physicochemical indicators of wine samples vary depending on the soil and climatic conditions of the place where the grape variety is grown. It turned out that the juice density of grape varieties grown in the Gabala district is 1.09122–1.11207 g/L, and the juice density of grape varieties grown in the Absheron district is higher and is 0.90010–1.90024 g/L. Grape varieties grown in the Gabala district are characterized by a higher content of tartaric acid. The highest content of tartaric acid was noted in the Semillon variety. In grape varieties grown in the Gabala district, the malic acid content varies in the range of 0.3–3.2 g/L, and in varieties grown in the Absheron district, within 0.2–1.2 g/L. The amount of polyphenols in grapes grown in the Gabala district was higher than the similar indicator for the Absheron district. The obtained results can be used in the winemaking industry, which will allow producers to more accurately select raw materials for the production of a specific type of wine, and can also be useful for winemakers in other regions with similar soil and climatic conditions and the assortment of regionalized varieties.

Keywords: white and red grape varieties, must, wine, biochemical indicators, phenolic compounds.

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IMPROVEMENT OF THE MODEL OF STRUCTURAL-MECHANICAL AND THIXOTROPIC PROPERTIES OF MEAT BATTERS

pages 38–44

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The object of research is the thixotropy of meat batters with different ingredient compositions characteristic of sausage products. The research analyzes modern approaches to evaluating the rheological properties of meat emulsion systems and summarizes the factors influencing their structural organization. The regularities of changes in viscous-plastic characteristics of pork and turkey batters under different levels of load are investigated, and the features of structural destruction and recovery are established.

A comprehensive assessment of thixotropic properties is based on the analysis of the structural-mechanical characteristics of batter systems during their formation with various ingredients. It has been demonstrated that the thixotropic state depends on the concentration of protein components and the degree of hydration of the protein system, which determines the stability of the sausage matrix during mechanical processing. The shear stress was calculated for time intervals in the range of 1–1000 s. The output parameters of the proposed model were adapted to the properties of soft meat batters: for minced pork, coefficients $A = 80$ Pa and $B = -12$ were adopted, and for minced turkey, $A = 60$ Pa and $B = -9$. Since the value of B is negative for both types of raw materials, this confirms the presence of pronounced thixotropic properties in the studied systems. Controlling these parameters allows regulation of the thixotropy of the batter to achieve optimal consistency and structural stability of the finished product.

Thixotropic properties play a crucial role in technological operations, including grinding, mixing, filling casings, and structure formation during thermal processing. Excessive structural stability complicates processing, while excessive thixotropy reduces the shape retention of products. The determina-

tion of rheological parameters allows predicting the behavior of batter systems under production conditions, ensuring stable texture and high product quality. The results obtained have practical value for optimizing technological regimes in sausage production and developing new products with predictable rheological properties.

Keywords: thixotropy, meat product, sausage products, meat batter, rheological parameters, structural and mechanical properties.

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DETERMINATION OF THE INFLUENCE OF ROSEHIP POWDER ON THE QUALITY OF WHEAT DOUGH AND BREAD

pages 45–50

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The object of the research is the technology of wheat bread. The problem of creating high-quality bakery products using natural non-traditional raw materials with a high content of physiologically functional nutrients is solved. For this purpose, it is proposed to use rosehip powder. The introduction of non-traditional raw materials into the dough affects not only the nutritional value, but also the formation of bread quality. In this regard, the work investigated the effect of rosehip powder on the properties of wheat flour, as well as the processes of dough ripening, organoleptic and physicochemical properties of products. It was found that the introduction of rosehip powder in an amount of 2.0–8.0% to replace wheat flour contributes to the strengthening of gluten, namely, increasing elasticity and reducing gluten extensibility, reducing dough spreading, and improving the gas-holding capacity of the dough. This is explained by the oxidative action of ascorbic acid, the formation of complexes of gluten protein with polyphenols and dietary fibers of rosehip powder.

It was found that in the presence of rosehip fruit powder, lactic acid and alcoholic fermentation are activated, which contributes to more intense changes in acid accumulation and gas formation in the dough due to the activation of lactic acid bacteria and baker's yeast in the presence of biologically active substances of the additive.

The use of rosehip powder in an amount of 2.0–6.0% contributes to an increase in the specific volume, porosity and elasticity of the crumb, the formation of harmonious taste and aromatic properties of products with characteristic rosehip notes. The introduction of 8.0% of the additive is not recommended, as it leads to the formation of coarser porosity, too sharp sour taste of the additive and crunch.

The results obtained can be used in the practice of baking production to develop a technology for bread of increased nutritional value using rosehip powder.

Keywords: wheat bread, rosehip powder, gluten, dough ripening, quality indicators.

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EVALUATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL PROPERTIES AND SAFETY INDICATORS OF POULTRY PRODUCTS MADE USING NATURAL MARINADES

pages 51–58

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The object of research is the technology and quality parameters of marinated semi-finished poultry meat products using marinades based on cherry juice of the Chernokorka variety (Cherry tree Chernokorka) and Josta berries (Josta). The problem solved in the research is the lack of an exhaustive definition of the influence of natural marinades on the complex of indicators of natural semi-finished poultry meat products. The key evaluation parameters were: color, pH, moisture retention capacity, marinade absorption, losses during heat treatment, sensory indicators, safety indicators of finished products. The process of passive marinating (soaking) was carried out for 12 hours. For this, chicken breasts were soaked in marinade solutions No. 1 (josta berry juice: purified water: sea

salt – 60:37:3) and No. 2 (cherry berry juice: purified water: sea salt – 60:37:3). As a control, samples were marinated in marinades of the company Spice Land LLC (Ukraine).

It was found that the juice of josta berries differs from cherry juice in a higher content of total phenolic compounds (327.16 versus 201.31 mg/100 ml) and a higher titrated acidity (3.5%). The antioxidant activity of josta juice is at a high level: juice polyphenols inhibit $97.41 \pm 1.57\%$ of the DPPH free radical. An increase in moisture content was determined in products marinated with cherry juice (76.21%) and josta juice (77.16%). The use of cherry and josta juice in marinades accelerates their diffusion into muscle tissue. The highest sorption capacity was found in samples treated with marinade with josta juice (1.43%), which is 1.5 times higher than the control. The use of berry juices in marinades reduces thermal losses by 2.17–2.68%.

It has been proven that the use of cherry and josta juice as bases for marinades in the technology of semi-finished poultry meat products improves the taste and aroma profile of finished products, inhibits oxidative processes in marinated semi-finished poultry meat products, and ensures their microbiological safety during storage.

Keywords: marinated meat semi-finished products, cherry juice, josta juice, marinade absorption, antioxidant activity.

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