



Corn Cob Biosorption

A-Maize Cob-oration

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Background

Purpose: Create an isotherm for Arsenic, validate the Cadmium isotherm, test for Total Coliform using corn cobs as a biosorbent

Client: Dr. Ozis

Stakeholders: Dr. Ozis, marginalized communities

Location: Inspired by the Gold King Mine Spill



Figure 2-1: Gold King Mine Spill Before and After
<https://www.sudrum.com/news/2018/08/31/three-year-water-quality-study-reveals-no-lasting-impacts-from-gold-king-mine-spill/c>

Background - Corn Corps

Cadmium Testing

- Testing Using Untreated Biosorbent
 - Average removal efficiency of 76%
- Testing Using Treated Biosorbent
 - Average removal efficiency of 97%
- Prototype Development
 - Column design

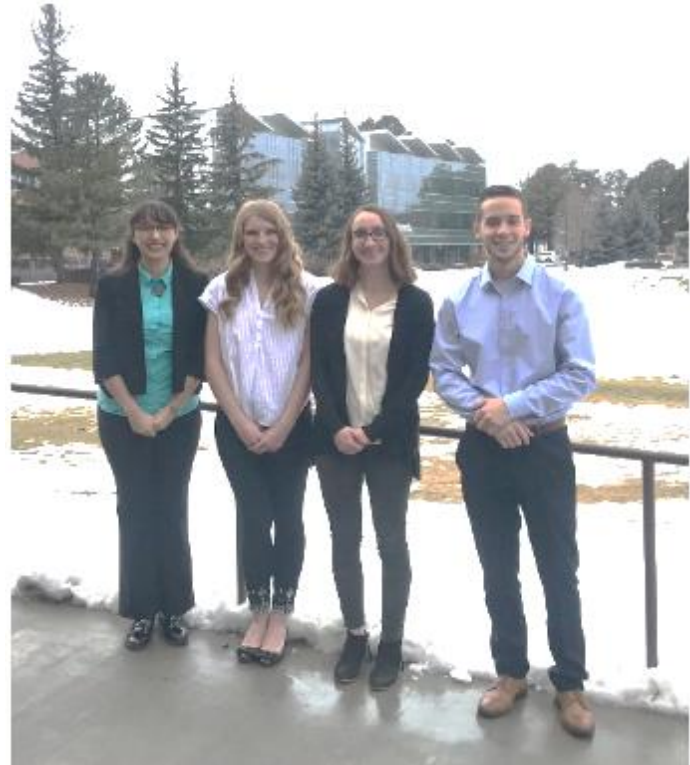


Figure 3-1: Corn Corps Team Members

<https://www.cefns.nau.edu/capstone/projects/CENE/2019/NASAResearch/index.html>

Scope - Task 1.0

Task 1.0: Biosorbent Preparation

- Task 1.1: Corn Preparation
 - Task 1.1.1: Biosorbent
 - Task 1.1.2: Activated Biosorbent



Figure 4-1: Sieved Corn
Corn Corps, "CENE 486 Final Presentation," NAU, 2018.



Figure 4-2: Example of Corn That Will be Used for the Analysis

<https://scitechdaily.com/researchers-discover-simple-way-sweet-corn-growers-could-dramatically-increase-yield/>

Scope - Task 2.0

Task 2.0: Testing of Contaminants

- Task 2.1: Sample preparations
 - Task 2.1.1: Cadmium Sample Preparation
 - Task 2.1.2: Arsenic Sample Preparation
 - Task 2.1.3: Total Coliform Sample Preparation
 - Task 2.1.4: Batch Reactor Sample Preparation
- Task 2.2: Cadmium Testing
- Task 2.3: Arsenic Testing
 - Task 2.3.1: Chemistry Department Planning
- Task 2.4: Total Coliform Testing

Table 5-1: Cadmium Testing Concentrations

Cadmium (Treated) Testing Concentrations		
1	5	µg/L
2	10	µg/L
3	20	µg/L
4	35	µg/L
5	50	µg/L
6	75	µg/L
7	100	µg/L

Table 5-2: Arsenic Testing Concentrations

Arsenic Testing Concentrations		
1	10	µg/L
2	20	µg/L
3	35	µg/L
4	50	µg/L
5	65	µg/L
6	80	µg/L
7	125	µg/L
8	250	µg/L
9	500	µg/L

Scope - Task 3.0

Task 3.0: Analysis

- Task 3.1: Cadmium Analysis
- Task 3.2: Arsenic Analysis
- Task 3.3: Total Coliform Analysis

Original form	Linearized form
1. Langmuir model: $q = \frac{q_m \cdot K_L \cdot C}{1 + K_L \cdot C}$	$\frac{C}{q} = \frac{1}{K_L \cdot q_m} + \frac{1}{q_m} \cdot C$
2. Freundlich model: $q = K_F \cdot C^{\frac{1}{n}}$	$\log q = \log K_F + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \log C$

Figure 6-1: Isotherm Models for Arsenic

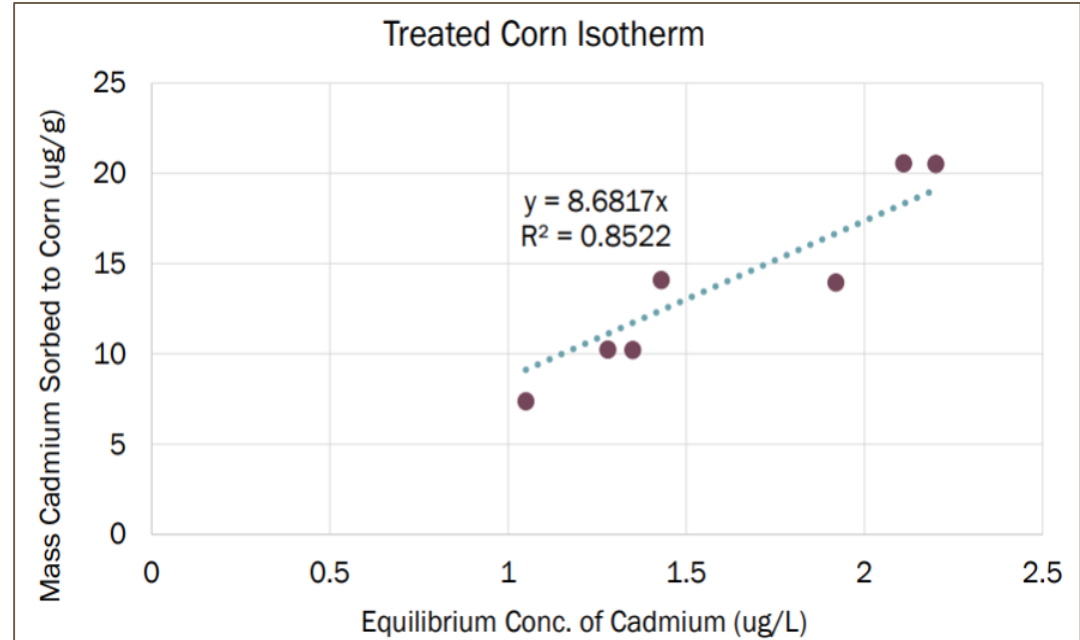


Figure 6-2: Results from Freundlich Isotherm Method for Treated Corn from Corn Corps

Scope - Task 4.0

Task 4.0: Project Impacts

- Task 4.1: Environmental Impacts
- Task 4.2: Social Impacts
- Task 4.3: Economic Impacts



Figure 7-2: Animas River After the Gold Kings Mine Spill
<https://cbsnews1.cbsistatic.com/hub/i/2015/08/10/377d050c-1cd7-4584-ba59-0a21967fae72/animasriver839584589424.jpg>

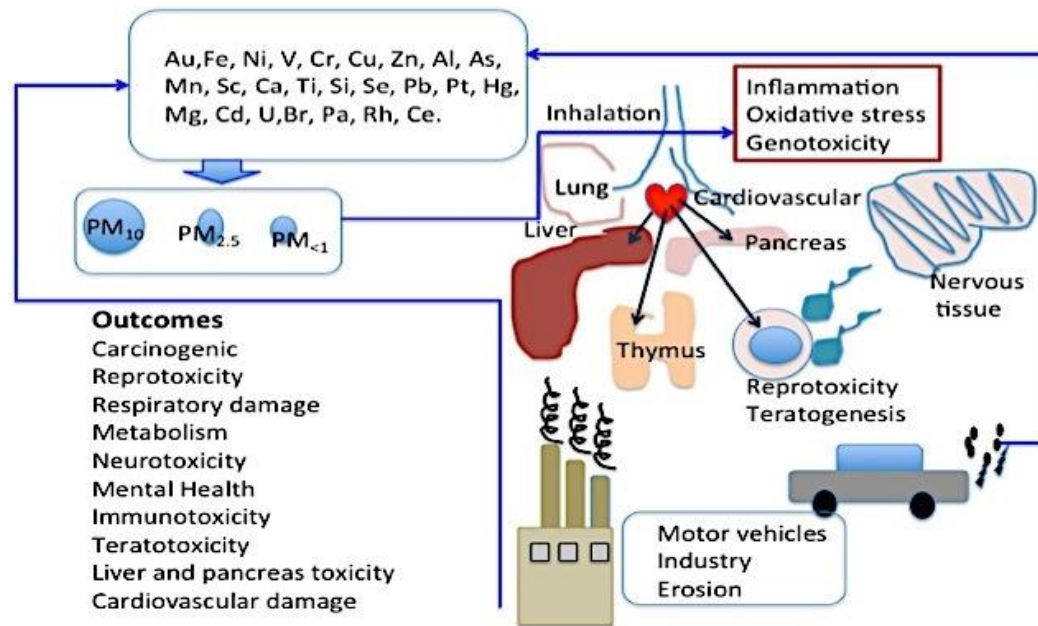


Figure 7-1: Health Effects of Metals

<https://www.intechopen.com/books/current-air-quality-issues/health-effects-of-metals-in-particulate-matter>

Scope - Task 5.0

- Task 5.0: Project Deliverables
 - Task 5.1: 30% Deliverables
 - Task 1.0
 - Task 5.2: 60% Deliverables
 - Tasks 2.0 and 3.0
 - Task 5.3: 90% Deliverables
 - Tasks 4.0 and 5.0
 - Task 5.4: Final Deliverables
 - Task 5.5: Other Professional Deliverables
 - Task 5.5.1: Project Presentations
 - Task 5.5.2: Compiled Project Results Publication



Figure 8-1: NAU Undergraduate Symposium Logo

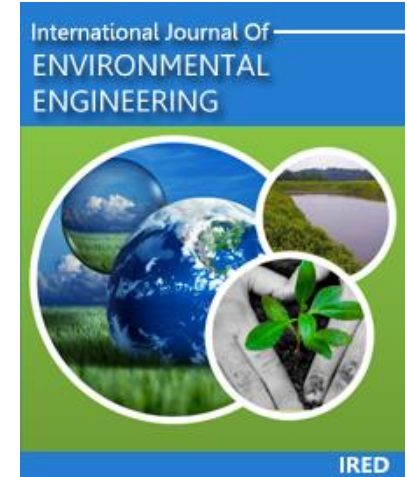


Figure 8-2: Example Engineering Journal



Figure 8-3: NAU Water Symposium Logo

Scope - Task 6.0

Task 6.0: Project Management

- Task 6.1: Meetings
 - Task 6.1.1: Meeting with Client and Technical Advisor (TA)
 - Task 6.1.2: Meeting with Grading Instructor (GI)
 - Task 6.1.3: General Meeting Requirements
- Task 6.2: Project Schedule
 - Gantt Chart
- Task 6.3: Resource Management

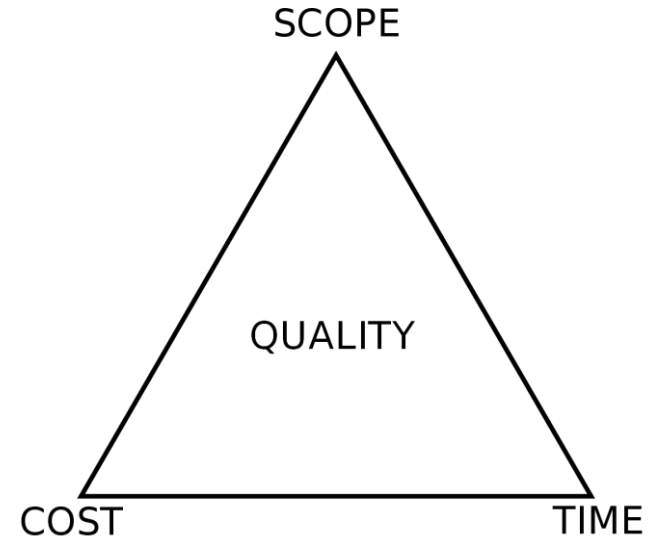


Figure 9-1: Triangle of Success

<https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/88/Project-triangle-en.svg/1200px-Project-triangle-en.svg.png>



Scope - Exclusions

- Field Sample Testing
 - Mine spill sampling
- Prototyping
- Column Testing
- Physicochemical Characteristics



Figure 11-1: Example of Water Sampling for the King's Mine Spill, Colorado

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/jan/19/obamas-epa-refuses-pay-claims-gold-king-mine-spill/>

Staffing Plan

- Staffing reasonable for scope
- Project Roles:
 - Senior Engineer (SENG)
 - Engineer (ENG)
 - Lab Technician (LAB)
 - Intern (INT)
 - Admin Assistant (AA)

Task	SENG hrs	ENG hrs	LAB hrs	INT hrs	AA hrs
1.1 Corn Preparation	4	0	250	80	0
1.1.1 Biosorbent Preparation	2	--	150	40	--
1.1.2 Activated Biosorbent Prep	2	--	100	40	--
2.1 Cadmium Testing	--	25	40	10	--
2.2 Arsenic Testing	--	30	60	10	--
2.3 Total Coliform Testing	--	25	35	10	--
3.1 Cadmium Analysis	15	30	--	5	5
4.0 Project Impacts	6	10	--	--	2
5.0 Project Deliverables	20	20	--	--	30
6.0 Project Management	30	10	15	5	15
Subtotal	95	210	400	120	52
Total Hours	877				
Total (person-days)	109.625				

Table 12-1: Staffing Table Determined by Team

Cost of Engineering Services

- Easy to follow and inclusive of necessary items
- Overhead costs include:
 - Base pay rate
 - Position benefits
 - Profit %
- Supply costs are adjusted to be conservative
- In-house subcontracting with NAU Chemistry Department
 - ICP-MS Testing

Cost Table				
	Classification	Hours	Rate, \$/hr	Cost
1.0 Personnel	SENG	95	194	\$ 18,430
	ENG	210	117	\$ 24,570
	LAB	400	82	\$ 32,800
	INT	120	19	\$ 2,280
	AA	52	23	\$ 1,196
	Total Personnel			
	Item	Quantity	Cost	Total
2.0 Supplies	Corn cob	100	0.75	\$ 75
	Total Coliform Testing Kit, 50 Bottles	1	218	\$ 218
	Total Coliform Testing Kit, 15 Brilliant Green Tubes	2	32.15	\$ 64
	0.45 µm filters, 100 units	1	3.79	\$ 4
	Total Supplies			
	Item	Quantity	Cost	Total
3.0 Subcontract	NAU Chemistry Dept, ICP Testing	54	30	\$ 1,620
4.0 Total				\$ 81,269

Table 13-1: Cost Table Determined by Team

Thank You!