Data Article

Advanced treatment of saline municipal wastewater by *Ruppia maritima*: A data set

Mehdi Ahmadi [a,b], Hamed Saki [b], Afshin Takdastan [a,b],
Mehri Dinarvand [c], Sahand Jorfi [a,b], Bahman Ramavandi [d,*]

[a] Environmental Technologies Research Center, Ahvaz Jundishapur University of Medical Sciences, Ahvaz, Iran
[b] Department of Environmental Health Engineering, Ahvaz Jundishapur University of Medical Sciences, Ahvaz, Iran
[c] Forests and Rangelands Research Department, Khuzestan Agricultural and Natural Resources Research and Education Center, Agricultural Research Education and Extension Organization (AREEO), Ahvaz, Iran
[d] Department of Environmental Health Engineering, Bushehr University of Medical Sciences, Bushehr, Iran

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ABSTRACT

Saline municipal wastewater treatment is a challenging environmental issue in coastal cities, due to the discharge of saline water into the sewers. The present research article focuses on the phytoremediation of high saline municipal wastewater by *Ruppia maritime*, a widespread plant which can be found in saline medium such as traditional fish ponds, estuaries, tidal flats, salt pans, coastal paddy fields, coastal lagoons, marsh pools, and mangrove salt marshes in Khuzestan province, Iran. The experimental data was obtained using a pilot plant constructed in Chobeineh wastewater treatment plant in Ahvaz city, fed by activated sludge effluent in 3 levels of electrical conductivity (EC) (10, 15, 20 ms cm^{-1}), during 45 days of the experiment. Chemical oxygen demand (COD), total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP) and total suspended solids (TSS) were daily monitored in blank and pilot study. The COD removal decreased from 83.26% to 72.39% by increasing the EC level from 10 to 20 ms cm^{-1}, respectively. The experimental data will practically be an appropriate source of information for environmental engineers to design a natural treatment scenario for saline wastewater treatment.

* Corresponding author.
    E-mail addresses: ramavandi_b@yahoo.com, b.ramavandi@bpums.ac.ir (B. Ramavandi).

Specifications Table

Subject area	*Environmental Engineering*
More specific subject area	*Natural wastewater treatment*
Type of data	*Table, figure*
How data was acquired	*Data collected from phytoremediation of the saline wastewater with 3 EC levels in 2 pilot studies.*
Data format	*Analyzed*
Experimental factors	*COD, TN, TP, TSS, NH_4^+ and NO_3^- were daily monitored as a function of different electrical conductivity levels.*
Experimental features	*Advanced treatment of saline municipal wastewater by Ruppia maritima*
Data source location	*Ahvaz, Iran, 31°19′13″N 48°40′09″E*
Data accessibility	*Data are available in the article*

Value of the data

- Base on the data set, *Ruppia maritime* is considered as a promising saline tolerant plant in advanced treatment of saline wastewater.
- This data set focused on a challenging issue in treatment of coastal wastewater treatment; therefore, it will be interesting for coastal community with saline wastewaters.
- Our data showed that *R. maritime* could simultaneously remove nutrient and COD from wastewater; an interesting issue for environmentalists who concerned about saline wastewater treatment.

1. Data

This data set contains 5 tables and 1 figure. Tables 1–3 represent the performance of *R. maritima* in saline wastewater treatment. Tables 4 and 5 show the specific growth rate and the nutrient uptake rate during the study, respectively. The photo of *R. maritima* plant is presented in Fig. 1.

2. Experimental design, materials and methods

Secondary effluent of Ahvaz Choneibeh wastewater treatment plant was used as an influent for operation of study and pilot blank.

2.1. Pilot plant preparation

Two pilot plants constructed as study and blank pilot (without *R. maritima*). They were constructed by concrete in a certain dimension ($L = 3.3$ m, $W = 1.1$ m, $H = 0.8$ m). About 7 cm of pilot's bed was covered by an appropriate soil layer and prepared for planting. A pump was applied for transition of wastewater from secondary effluent line of the Ahvaz Choneibeh wastewater treatment plant and the flow discharge was adjusted for obtaining the desired detention time (10 days).

In order to prevent the short circuiting flow, two baffles were installed in the entrance and exit of the pilots. In addition, for adjusting the influent EC, a peristaltic pump was used to inject salt solution to influent line to obtain desired EC range as experimental design.