## Accepted Manuscript

Effect of dilute acid pretreatment severity on the bioconversion efficiency of *Phalaris aquatica L.* lignocellulosic biomass into fermentable sugars

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PII: S0960-8524(14)00738-X

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biortech.2014.05.072

Reference: BITE 13480

To appear in: Bioresource Technology

Received Date: 25 February 2014
Revised Date: 11 May 2014
Accepted Date: 21 May 2014



Please cite this article as: Pappas, I.A., Koukoura, Z., Tananaki, C., Goulas, C., Effect of dilute acid pretreatment severity on the bioconversion efficiency of *Phalaris aquatica L.* lignocellulosic biomass into fermentable sugars, *Bioresource Technology* (2014), doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.biortech.2014.05.072

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## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

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2	ciency of Phalaris aquatica L. lignocellulosic biomass into fermentable
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14	
15	Abstract
16	The effect of dilute acid pretreatment severity on the bioconversion efficiency of <i>Phala-</i>
17	ris aquatica lignocellulosic biomass into fermentable sugar monomers was studied. The
18	pretreatment conditions were expressed in a combined severity factor (CSF), ranged
19	from 0.13 to 1.16. The concentration of xylose and total monomeric sugars released
20	from hemicellulose increased with pretreatment as the CSF increased. Dilute acid pre-
21	treatment resulted in about 1.7 fold increase in glucose release relative to the untreated
22	biomass, while CSF was positively correlated with glucose recovery. A maximum glu-
23	cose yield of 85.05 % was observed at high severity values (i.e. CSF 1.16) after 72h.
24	The total amount of sugars released (i.e. xylose and glucose) was increased with pre-
25	treatment severity and a maximum conversion efficiency of 76.1 % of structural carbo-
26	hydrates was obtained at a CSF =1. Our data indicated that <i>Phalaris aquatica</i> L. is an
27	alternative bioethanol feedstock and that hemicellulose removal promotes glucose yield.

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