Author's Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S2352-801X(17)30014-0 DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gsd.2017.10.006 Reference: GSD76

To appear in: Groundwater for Sustainable Development

Received date:9 March 2017Revised date:18 October 2017Accepted date:26 October 2017

Cite this article as: Adrielli C.P. Silva, Alexandre O. Jorgetto, Marcos H.P. Wondracek, Rodrigo M Galera, José F. Schneider, Margarida J. Saeki, Valber A. Pedrosa, Luiz F. Zara and Gustavo R. Castro, Properties, characteristics and application of grinded Malpighia emargiata seeds in the removal of toxic metals from water, *Groundwater for Sustainable Development*, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gsd.2017.10.006

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Properties, characteristics and application of grinded Malpighia emargiata seeds

in the removal of toxic metals from water

Adrielli C.P. Silva^a, Alexandre O. Jorgetto^a, Marcos H.P. Wondracek^b, Rodrigo M Galera^a, José F. Schneider^c, Margarida J. Saeki^a, Valber A. Pedrosa^a, Luiz F. Zara^d, Gustavo R. Castro^{a*}

^a IB – UNESP, Dept. Química e Bioquímica, C.P. 510, 18618-000 Botucatu, SP, Brazil ^b UFGD, C.P. 533, 79804-970 Dourados, MS, Brazil

^c Instituto de Física de São Carlos – USP - C.P. 369, 13560-970 São Carlos, SP, Brazil ^d Universidade de Brasília-UnB – Planaltina-DF

Abstract

Cadmium and copper, which are found in aquatic ecosystems, may be considered toxic and potentially toxic metal species, respectively. These metals tend to accumulate in plants and fish, besides their potential to be transferred to other animals and cause several diseases. *Malpighia emarginata* grinded seeds were simply prepared and applied as adsorbent in order to remove and assist the safe trace quantification of such elements. Dry biomass was characterized through FTIR, ¹³C-NMR, SEM, surface area measurements and through elemental analysis. Important structures, which may be involved in metal coordination, such as carboxylic acid, thiazole and amine groups, were identified. *Malpighia emarginata* seeds had its pH_{PZC} determined (6.0) and the influence of dynamic contact time (kinetic) and pH on adsorption of Cu(II) and Cd(II) was investigated. Adsorption equilibrium was reached in less than 30 min, and it had good correlation with the pseudo-second-order kinetic model in Cu(II) and Cd(II). The *Ns* values were calculated through the modified Langmuir equation (0.103 and 0.098

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