

Comparative Analysis of *Ranunculus muricatus* and *Typha latifolia* as Wetland Plants Applied for Domestic Wastewater Treatment in a Mesocosm Scale Study

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Abstract : Comparing other methods of waste water treatment, constructed wetlands are one of the most fascinating practices because being a natural process they are eco-friendly have low construction and maintenance cost and have considerable capability of wastewater treatment. The current research was focused mainly on comparison of *Ranunculus muricatus* and *Typha latifolia* as wetland plants for domestic wastewater treatment by designing and constructing efficient pilot scale HSSF mesocosms. Parameters like COD, BOD₅, PO₄, SO₄, NO₃, NO₂, and pathogenic indicator microbes were studied continuously with successive treatments. Treatment efficiency of the system increases with passage of time and with increase in temperature. Efficiency of *T. latifolia* planted setups in open environment was fairly good for parameters like COD and BOD₅ which was showing up to 82.5% for COD and 82.6% for BOD₅ while DO was increased up to 125%. Efficiency of *R. muricatus* vegetated setup was also good but lowers than that of *T. latifolia* planted showing 80.95% removal of COD and BOD₅. *Ranunculus muricatus* was found effective in reducing bacterial count in wastewater. Both macrophytes were found promising in wastewater treatment.

Keywords : wastewater treatment, wetland, mesocosms study, wetland plants

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