

Treatment of Wastewater collected from Automobile Service station using Sawdust as Adsorbent

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Abstract – The main aim of the experimental study is to compare the efficiency of sawdust activated carbon in treating service station wastewater in both batch and column adsorption method. The parameters like oil and grease, turbidity, chloride, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) are effectively reducing in both batch and column adsorption method. Batch study was conducted by taking adsorbent dosage as a variable parameter. Sawdust was added into wastewater in the order of 2g, 4g, 6g, 8g, 10g respectively for a contact time of 60 min in the batch adsorption study. Column adsorption study was performed by taking flow rate and contact time as a variable parameter. Flow rate was varied as 10 ml/min, 8 ml/min, 6ml/min, 4ml/min, 2ml/min respectively. Contact time was varied in the order of 20 min, 40 min, 60 min, 80 min, 100 min. The maximum removal efficiency was obtained at 6g of adsorbent for 60 min contact time in batch adsorption study. The maximum removal efficiency was obtained at a flow rate of 6ml/min for a contact time of 60 min in column adsorption study. This work shows sawdust activated carbon as an effective adsorbent in treating service station wastewater.

Key Words: Adsorbent dosage, sawdust, service station wastewater, batch adsorption study, column adsorption study.

1. INTRODUCTION

Water pollution because of discharging untreated oil and greasy water directly into water source is a great threat to environmental pollution and can kill aquatic organism both plants and animals. Water is the most important resource and due to increased concern for the future of today's water supplies humans have been forced to develop new technologies to protect these bodies of water from contamination. Industrial growth and discharge of wastewater directly to surface water stream has increased the level of pollutants in water this is one of the major concerns of mankind. The main problem of the service station is that the disposal of wastewater is not done accurately especially in the case of small and not so well-equipped service station releases the wash water directly into streams or into ground. The water released into ground which have oil and grease suffocate the

natural porosity of the soil and clogs the pores on the surface of ground and it resists the downward percolation of the rainwater which recharge underground water system. The service station wastewater contains high concentrations of oil and grease and many other impurities, therefore proper treatment prior to discharge is required. The wastewater from service station is mainly from the carwash activities they perform. The present study focuses on the effect of saw dust activated carbon in treating service station wastewater by conducting batch adsorption and column adsorption study.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

The adsorbent used for the treatment of wastewater collected from service station is the chemically activated sawdust for the better removal of oil and grease from the wastewater. Sawdust is the waste material generated by wood-based industries. Dumping of sawdust is also a threat to natural environment so by using sawdust oil and grease can be removed from the service station wastewater. Exposure to excessive amount of wood dust may irritate the eyes, nose and throat.



Fig -1: Sawdust

The waste sawdust was first washed to remove dirt and then dried, crushed and sieved sawdust was passed through 2.54 mm sieve. 5gm of sieved sawdust was mixed with 250 ml of 0.1M NaOH and stirred. Sawdust was then separated using 0.075mm sieve, and rinsed with 2 L of distilled water. This procedure was repeated twice to ensure removal of base from sawdust. The purified sawdust was then mixed with 0.1 M of sulfuric acid for a period of 24 hours and later dried. Then filtered after

washing with 100-150 mL of distilled water. It is then dried and stored in air tight container.



Fig -2: Sawdust activated carbon

3. BATCH STUDY

In batch adsorption study, the service station wastewater was treated with sawdust activated carbon by varying its dosage as 2g, 4g, 6g, 8g, 10g for a period of one hour by agitating it under the jar test apparatus. Sawdust has usually low bulk density, high water porosity, low air porosity, and low cation exchange capacity. A batch adsorption experiment from the liquid phase, also known as immersion experiment, is one of the most common tests used to measure adsorption equilibrium and kinetics from solutions. It is done normally by adding a known mass of sample to a fixed volume of liquid at an initial concentration.

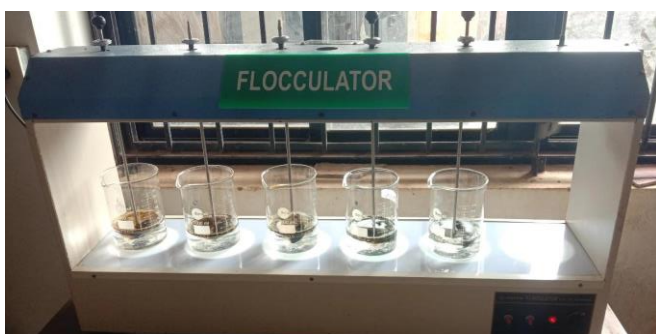


Fig -3: Experimental setup for batch study

The service station wastewater was treated with sawdust activated carbon by varying the rate of flow as 10 ml/min, 8 ml/min, 6 ml/min, 4 ml/min and 2 ml/min respectively. The time of collection of wastewater through the column setup after filtration was varied as 20 min, 40 min, 60 min, 80 min, 100 min respectively. The dosage of adsorbents was kept constant as 6g since the optimum dosage of adsorbent were 6g in the batch adsorption study.



Fig -4: Experimental setup for column study

While performing the column adsorption study, there is a chance for the filter to get clogged. As a result to prevent clogging filter aids are used. These are the substances used to prevent the filter medium from becoming clogged.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

For batch adsorption study, optimum results were obtained at 6g of adsorbent dosage. Sawdust has a maximum removal efficiency of 73.46 % for oil and grease and 69.63% for turbidity. Sawdust has removal efficiency of 67.54% for chloride, 56.53% for BOD, 54.92% for COD respectively.

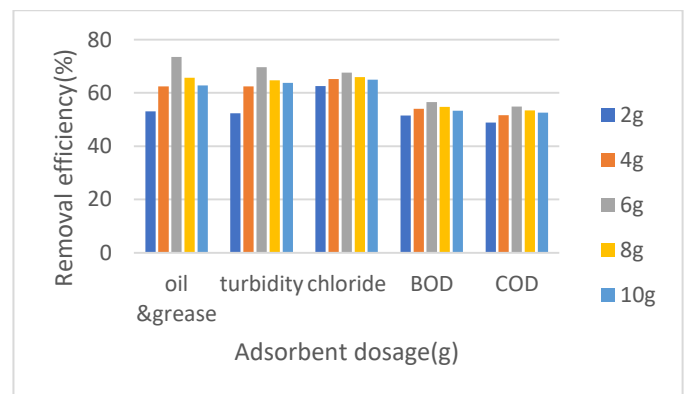


Fig -5: Removal efficiency of parameters in batch study

Adsorbent study was performed with sawdust activated carbon by the column adsorption method by varying the rate of flow of wastewater and time of collection of treated water through the column setup. For column adsorption study optimum results were obtained at 6ml/min flow rate and contact time 60 min. sawdust is having a maximum removal efficiency of 62.24% for oil & grease, 61.66% for turbidity, 62.25% for chloride, 51.25% for BOD, 51.39% for COD.

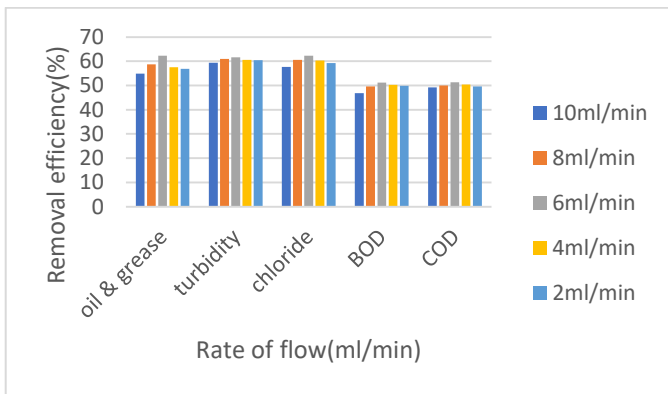


Fig-6: Removal efficiency of parameters in column adsorption study taking flow rate as variable parameter

Taking contact time as a variable parameter, sawdust is having a maximum removal efficiency of 59.59% for oil and grease, 56.12% removal efficiency for turbidity, 54.30% for chloride, 48.80% for BOD, 49.05% for COD. Optimum results were obtained at a contact time of 60 min.

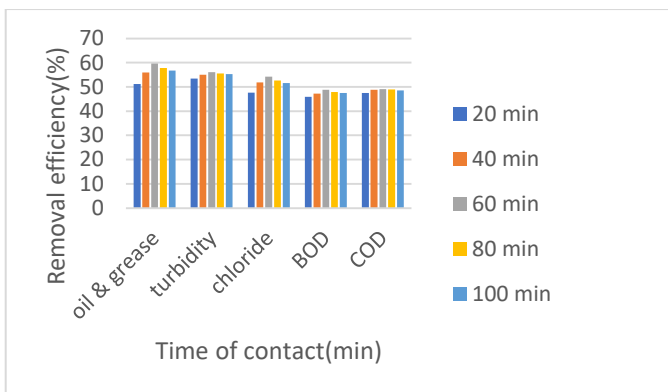


Fig-7: Removal efficiency of parameters in column adsorption study taking contact time as a variable parameter

4. CONCLUSIONS

In batch adsorption method, sawdust showed a maximum removal efficiency of 73.46% for oil and grease. Sawdust is able to keep pH of wastewater in alkaline range. Sawdust is having a maximum removal efficiency of 69.63% for turbidity. Sawdust is showing removal efficiency of 67.54% for chloride. Sawdust is showing removal efficiency of 56.53% for BOD. Sawdust is showing maximum removal efficiency of 54.92% for COD. Optimum results were obtained at 6g of adsorbent dosage for a contact period of 60 min. for column study the rate of flow of wastewater and the time of contact was varied. While taking flowrate as a variable parameter, sawdust is having a maximum removal efficiency of 62.24% for oil and grease. Sawdust is having a maximum removal efficiency of 61.66% for turbidity. Sawdust shows a removal

efficiency of 62.25% for chloride. Sawdust shows a removal efficiency of 51.25% for BOD and 51.39% for COD.

While taking contact time as a variable parameter sawdust is having a maximum removal efficiency of 59.59% for oil and grease. Sawdust shows removal efficiency of 56.12% for turbidity. Sawdust shows removal efficiency of 54.30% for chloride. Sawdust shows maximum removal efficiency of 48.8% for BOD and 49.05% for COD. Optimum results were obtained at a flow of 6ml/min and contact time 60 min.

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