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RESEARCH ARTICLE

BIOREMEDIATION

Richa Sanka

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Abstract

The process of bioremediation is to remove pollutants and toxins from the soil and water with the help of microbes. Chemical treatment, incarnation and burial in landfills are a part of solid waste management. The idea is to implement different techniques that are imposed to understand the functionality, structure and the various microbes which help in the treatment of wastewater. Treatment of contaminated material at a site or the stimulation of indigenous that is the intrinsic factor, or the excavation of contaminated soil are the factors to facilitate the degradation. Secondary and tertiary treatment are majorly responsible for the improvement of wastewater. Hazard posed by the pharmaceutical industries are the generation of waste which if not disposed can pose hazard to environment and to public health. This review helps in analyzing the characteristics and the component of the influent water. In addition to this we have discussed the types of bioremediations, applications, drawbacks and how to decrease its effect.

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Introduction:-

Domestic and industrial purposes are the most important root for the surface and ground water. Water is important as we use it for cattle and irrigation which plays a versatile role for cooling, washing, or processing in a processing unit. The role of xenobiotics is significant for the needs of sanitary industry that is dumped in the water bodies affecting the ecosystem which result in raising public concerns on health. The wastewater comprises of organic, inorganic, along with heavy metals becoming into landfill leachates. Untreated influents are used to turn the wastewater into neutral effluents for disposal. The ions in drinking water such as fluoride cause kidney disorders. Various methods including electrocoagulation, nano-filtration, and exchange as reverse osmosis for remediation. And these techniques are imposed to comprehend the process and the structure. Various treatment plants have been activated including the sludge which contains the wetlands or the biological filters and other decentralized solutions having low efficiency, low cost, and management requirements. Bioremediation is a major advantage over the other chemical methods as the chemical methods makes the water toxic as the other process focuses on the action of fungal or bacterial or phytoremediation as a steady state of chemicals. Genelibraries, fingerprinting methodologies, or next generation sequencing are some of the methods. Explore the capacity to focus on the facets of wastewater bioremediation and the major focus on the health of our planet.

Bioremediation Of Wastewater

Bacteria and fungi play an important role as they help in digesting contaminants like oil spills or chlorinated pesticides.

Types of Bioremediations

Bioremediations are of two types-

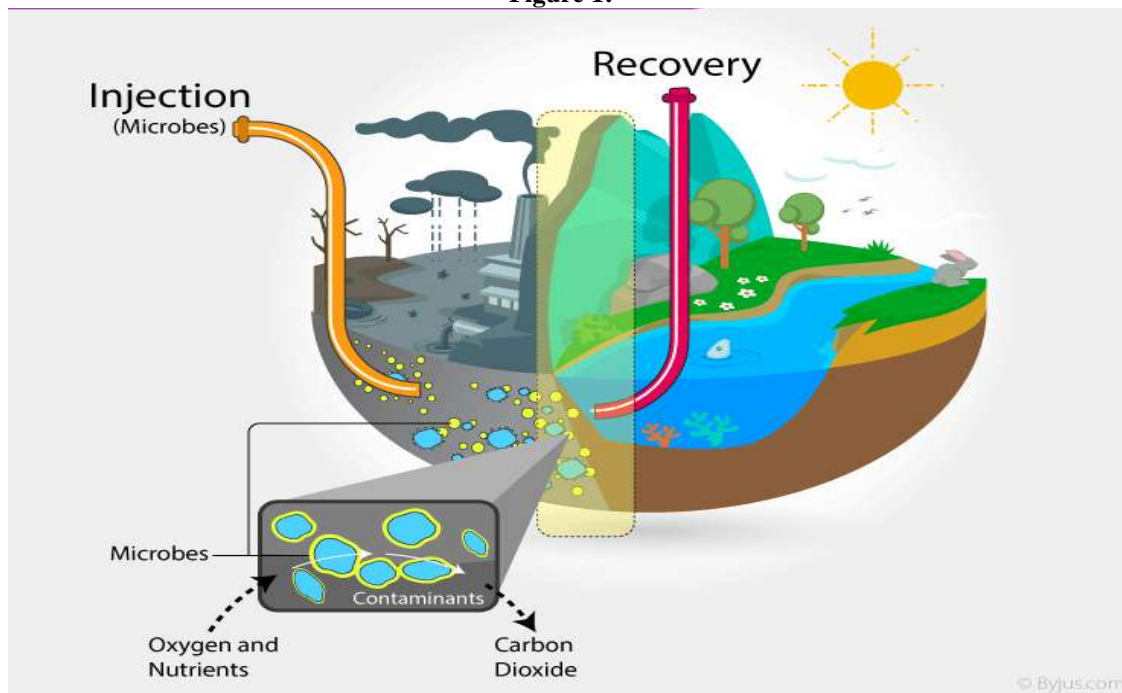
A) Bio stimulation

- The polluted soil is mixed with unique nutrients that promote the growth of microbes, which in turn stimulates the bacteria to start the process.

B) Intrinsic Bioremediation

- These have two biomes that are most effective and have a high probability of toxin.

Figure 1: -



Source- (<https://byjus.com/biology/bioremediation>)

Chapter 2 - Types Of Microbes and Types of Bioremediations

- Reduction of organic matter of waste and determining the BOD and COD.
- Removal of trace organic compounds
- Pathogenic microorganism

There are some microbes along with bacteria that are required for bioremediation-

1. Aerobic bacteria can degrade the alkanes, polyatomic compounds. Examples are pseudomonas and alcaligenes.
2. River sediments containing polychlorinated biphenyls or the dichlorination of TCE are produced by anaerobic bacteria.
3. Ligninolytic fungi include substrates such as straw and saw dust which can degrade the pollutants of environment.
4. Methylophils utilize carbon and energy. The enzyme methane monooxygenase has a wide range of compounds such as 1,2-dichloroethane.

Types Of Bioremediations

- IN-SITU BIOREMEDIATION
- EX-SITU BIOREMEDIATION

Classification Based on Sites

• In-Situ Bioremediation

The process of treating polluted material on site is known as in-situ bioremediation. It is separated into two categories: intrinsic and engineered bioremediation. Intrinsic bioremediation involves boosting the population of

naturally occurring microorganisms. Therefore, the increase in oxygen and nutrients causes a further increase in metabolic activity. Certain bacteria are introduced to the contamination site as part of engineered bioremediation. Numerous locations possess specific characteristics that render them unsuitable for introducing and degrading the process through physio-chemical growth of microorganisms. For example, oxygen, nutrition, and electron acceptor.

Ex-Situ Bioremediation

Contaminants are removed from the environment by the process of bioremediation by biological organisms. We speed up the process by using bioreactors and add the nutrients for the breakdown of pollutant. We provide aerobic conditions, specific microorganisms utilize organic contaminants such as PAH (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon), phenols, cresols and finally degrade them. The material that is removed is first put into bioreactors, the large vessels where all the materials are monitored and we can control the bioremediation by certain parameters like mining rate, P_h , temperature, or the nutrient level. Landfarming is the spreading of soil into a bedlike structure to avoid leaching and further boost biological activity. Biopiling is a process of contaminated soil to place them into piles and adding more nutrients to speed up bioremediation.

Classification Based on Methods

Bioaugmentation

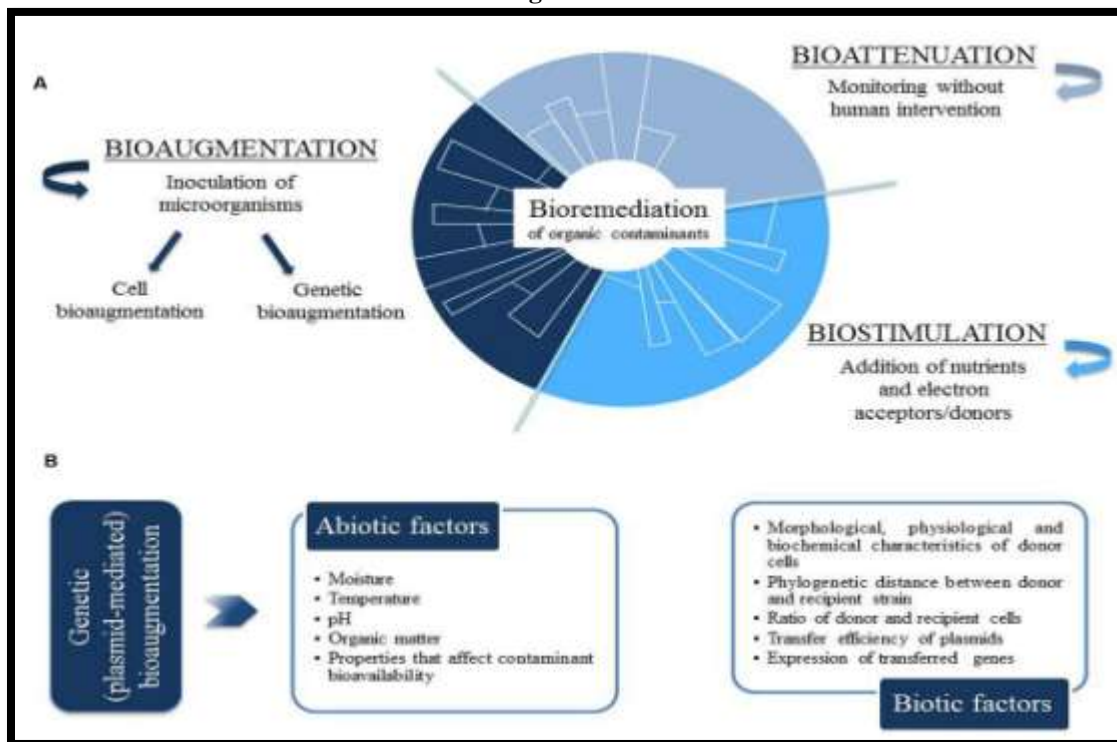
When the contaminated soil is first combined with nutrients and other liquid or gaseous substances to promote the growth of germs, bacteria are motivated to start the process.

The process of bio stimulation that is possible only by studying the indigenous varieties and if we don't perform the remediation process and the indigenous variety don't have the capability then we do introduce the exogeneous variety.

Bioaugmentation

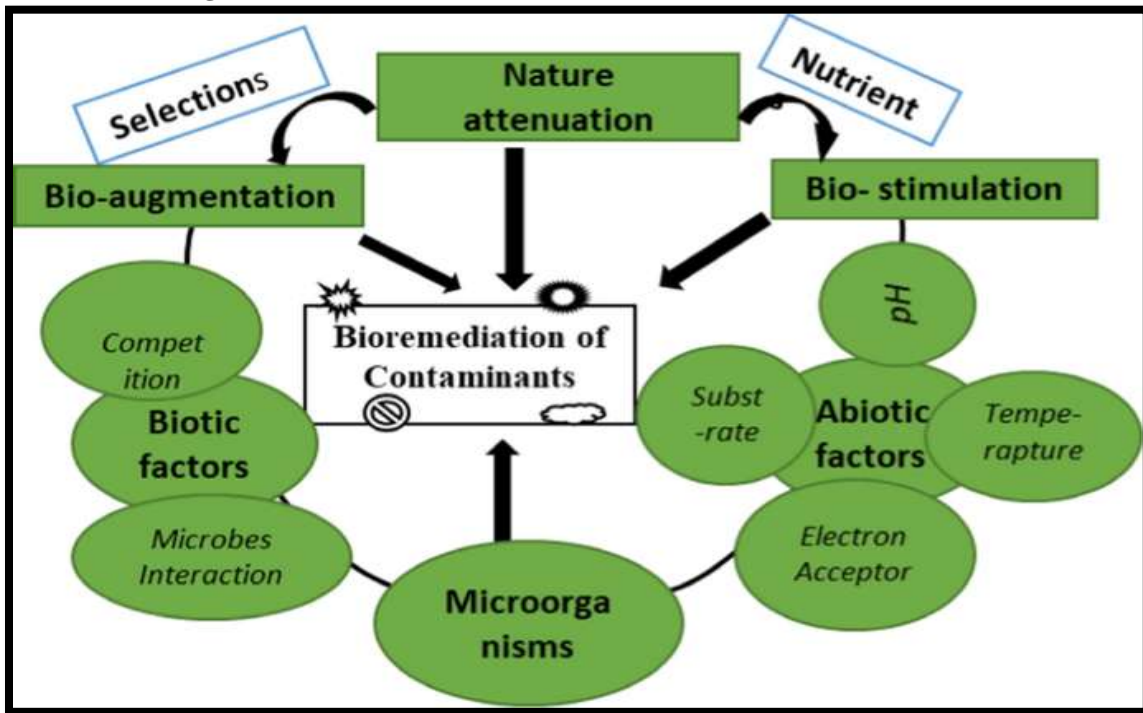
The process of bioaugmentation is the addition of bacteria and nutrients to enhance the process of bioremediation. Bioaugmentation is the inoculation of microorganisms to biodegrade the contaminants which speed up the process by breakdown of chemicals and harmful particles get reduced.

Figure 1.1: -



<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fmicb.2017.01966/full>

Figure 1.2: -Classification Based on Sites and Methods Of Bioremediation.



Chapter 3 Different Techniques and Processes

We have physical, chemical and biological treatments that drive wastewater management. Process including the chemical and biological involves disinfection, absorption, and the biological unit processes involves microbial activity that is the organic matter degradation.

Physical process includes the cleaning of wastewater and making the quality better and applying a prominent method called sedimentation. It is a method of separating heavy, insoluble particles. Another method could be aeration through water to provide oxygen. Filtration is also another method to filter out the contaminants.

Chemical treatment is to clean the water or sewage, using chlorine and the method is called chlorination. These methods seek to treat xenobiotics and polymers in a way that produces less hazardous microbial transformations. Membrane technology is generally used in purification, wastewater treatment and polymeric membrane including centrifugation and microfiltration. COD and BOD are some physiochemical that are additionally reviewed from the respective pharmaceutical industry.

Stages Of Wastewater Treatment

Secondary Treatment

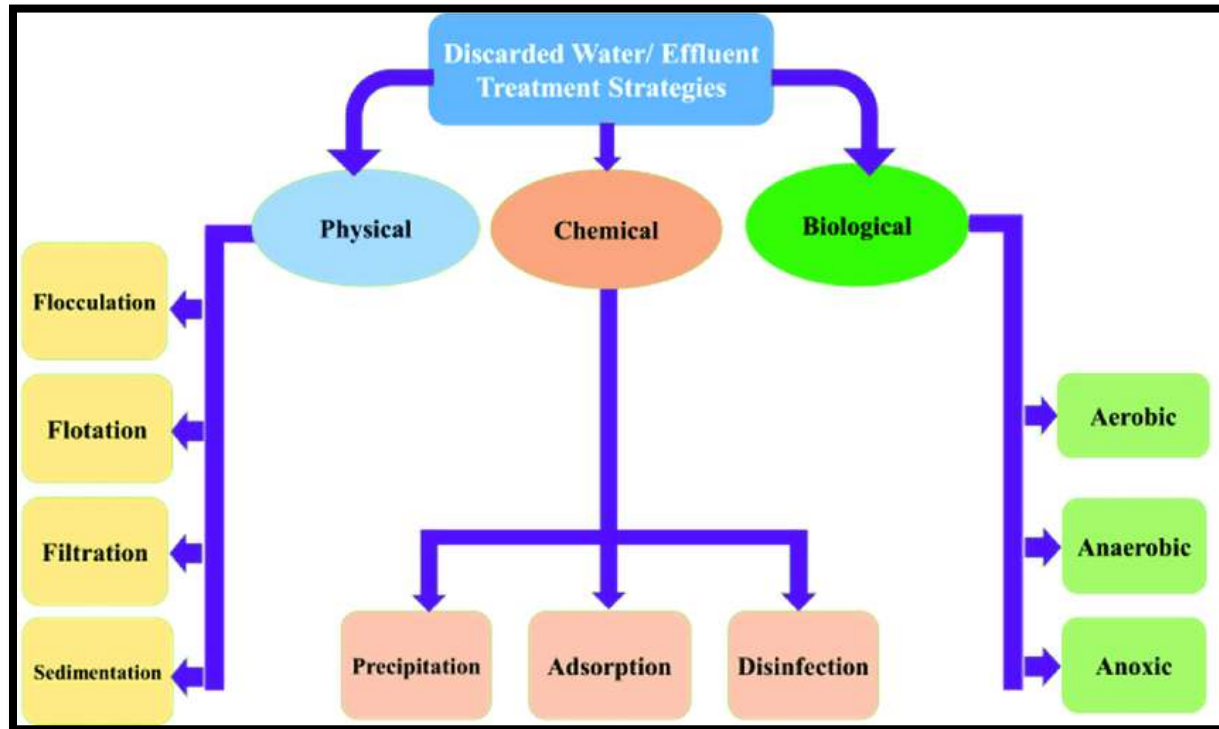
- Residual effluent is pumped to an aeration tank and the air is injected. It purifies the water through additional processes like biofiltration that uses filters with sand, contact filter that remove sediment from the sewage.
- 85 percent of the organic matter with the help of bacteria can be removed using the secondary treatment.
- Trickling filter and activated sludge process are the two basic secondary treatments.
- After the primary treatment the sedimentation tank flows using one or other processes.
- The particles, oil and grease are removed using biological treatment.
- The biological treatment performed by those bacteria and protozoa consume soluble concentrations and the rate of reaction increases.

Activated Sludge

- Has bacteria and wastewater suspended in it.
- Oxygen-supplying machines actively mix the aeration tank.

- Sedimentation separates the microorganisms from the liquid and removes the remaining sediments from the process.

Figure 2.1: -Different Treatment Strategies.



<https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Physical-and-Biological-Treatment-Technologies-of-A-Musa-Idrus>

Aerobic Process

Bacteria degrade or eat the basic matter and convert to CO_2 which can be used by plants.

Anaerobic Process

- At a specific temperature the sludge or the waste is fermented.
- They enter a bioreactor receptacle which contains the sludgeresulting in the chemical oxygen demand and total suspended solids to be lower.
- Anaerobic treatment is also utilised for specific purposes; for example, it is an excellent choice for treating warm industrial wastewater and waste streams containing inorganics or organics that have been chlorinated.

Tertiary Treatment

- Nitrogen is removed by the process of denitrification and the effluent by chemical precipitation.
- The quality will improve by decomposing and breaking down the organic matter biochemically.

Microbial Populations for Bioremediation Processes

Microbes are separated from a variety of sources for the conditions associated with the environment. Microbes adjust themselves to subzero temperature to extremeconditions in water.

Sub-Divide These Microorganisms

- **AEROBIC**- Pseudomonas, alcaligenes, sphingomonas are capable of degrading pollutant.
- **ANAEROBIC**- (Lack of oxygen)The growth of anaerobes used for PCBs in sediments of river, dichlorination of TCE with chloroform.
- **LIGNINOLYTIC FUNGI**- Fungi including the white rot fungus Phanaerochaete, chrysosporium degrades theenvironment pollutant and substrates like straw or saw dust.

- **METHYLOTROPHS**- Bacteria utilize oxygen for energy and carbon. The starting enzyme, which is required for decay of methane monooxygenase.

Figure 2.3: -Sewage Treatment Process.

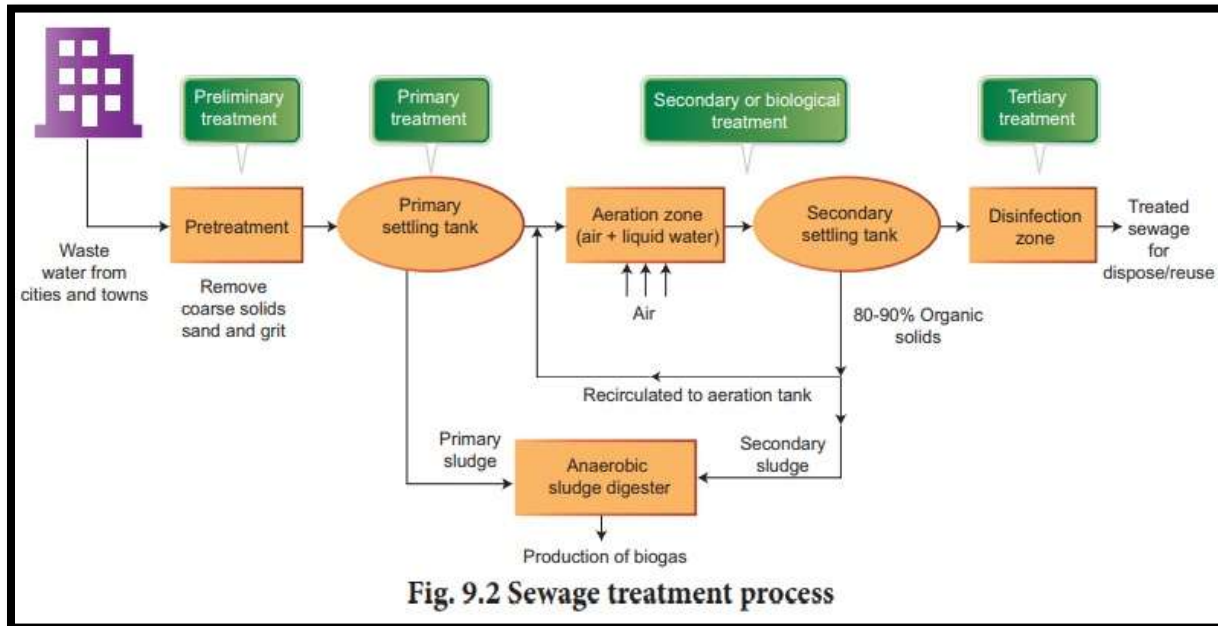


Fig. 9.2 Sewage treatment process

Chapter 4 Bioremediation of Different Wastewaters

Bioremediation Of Industrial Wastewater

The main attributes of industrial wastewater are its temperature, colour, odour, solid content, and inorganic and organic contents. The colour features that are quantifiable include the light brown that is younger than six hours. Grey or black wastewater indicates a septic system that has undergone anaerobic processing and sulphide production, which is what causes the blackening. Additional substances such as cadaverin, skatol, and indol can be found in pulp and paper mill wastewater. As chromium is released into the environment, heavy metals are also released by several businesses. Mining wastes and industrial discharge are the sources of the cadmium pollution found in water. Tannins, together with other dyes and inorganic pigments, are what give substances their colour. Both the textile and pharmaceutical industries are the largest users of dyes. These industries consume large quantities of water and lead to colour pollution. These businesses cause colour pollution and heavy water use. This leads to the recalcitrant, synthetic origin, and complicated structure. The process of treating industrial wastewater encompasses biological sources that are diverse, conflicting, and erratic.

Bioremediation Of Municipal and Sewage

The primary component of bioremediation of sewage and municipal water is a comparatively low concentration of dissolved and suspended organic and inorganic particles. In addition to natural or artificial organic compounds, breakdown products include lipids, carbohydrates, lignin, and soaps. Additionally, a range of inorganic materials, including hazardous metals like arsenic, cadmium, and zinc, are present in municipal wastewater. The most popular biological treatment for both biological and sewage treatment is activated sludge systems. Within the aquatic environment of the system is a mixed colony of bacteria and high-quality effluent. The fungi that are present in activated sludge are the main microorganisms. Any concentrated bacterial composition used in commercial bioremediation is specifically formulated to enhance waste degradation in sewage treatment.

Figure 3.1: - Bioremediation Of Industrial Wastewater.

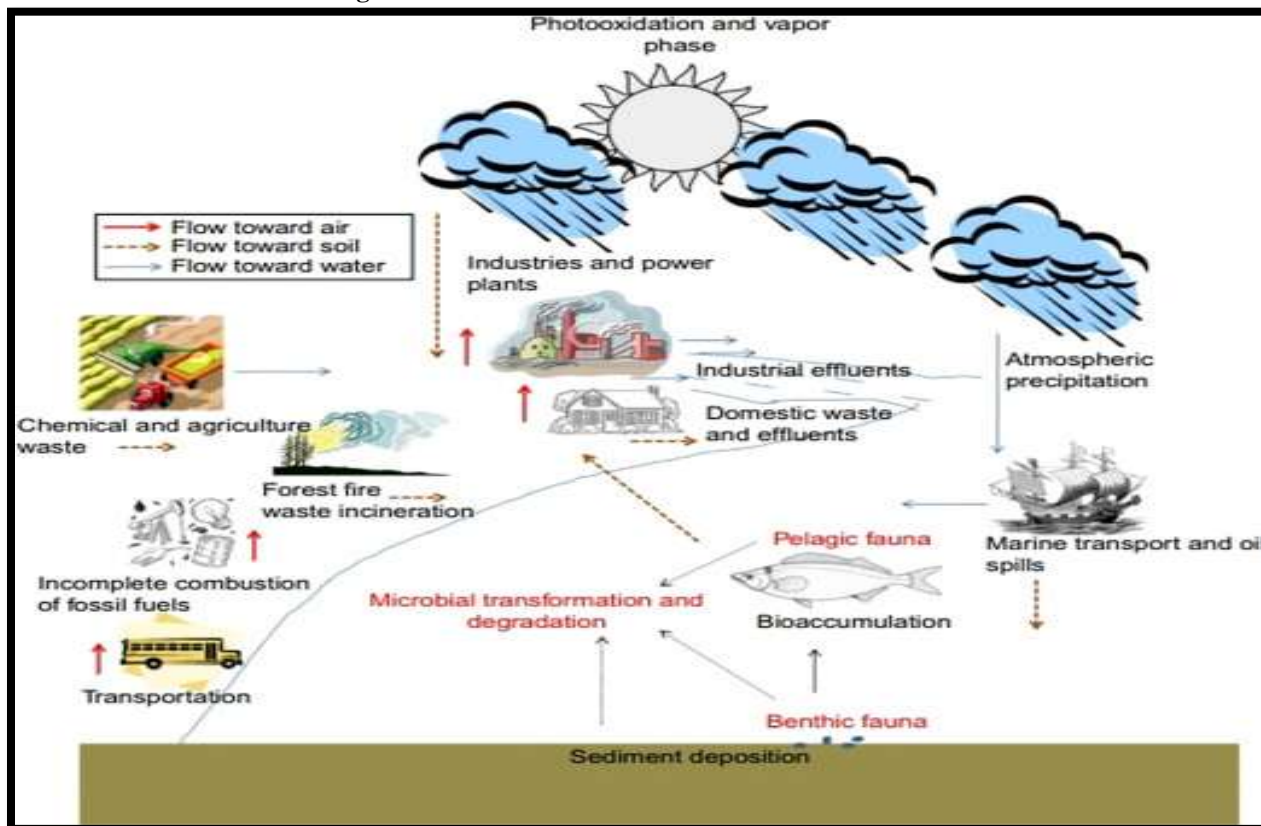
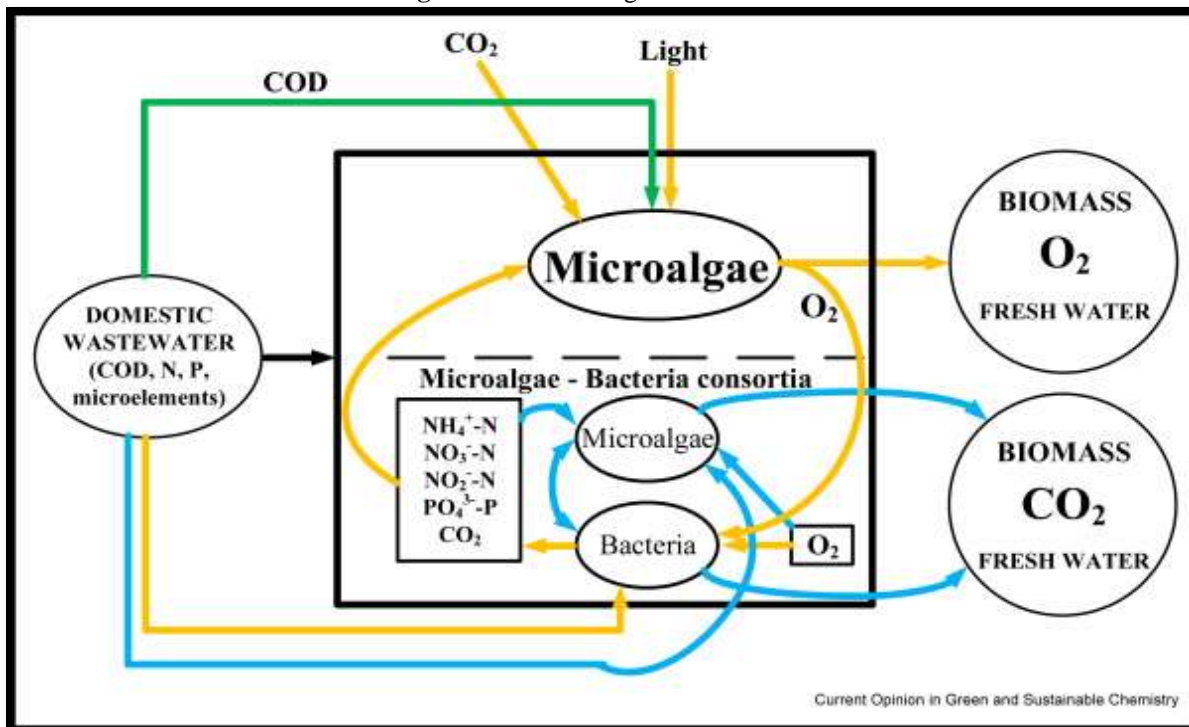


Figure 3.2: - Microalgae In Wastewater.



Bioremediation of Aquaculture Wastewater

Aquaculture is the fastest growing food production sector, and it was considered an environmentally sound practice. Traditional polyculture includes farm waste as intensive modern farming involves higher usage of inputs.

The aquaculture farms or the hatcheries produce waste that are categorized by:

- residual food and faecal matter.
- metabolic by-products.
- residues of biocides and biostats.
- fertilizer derived wastes.
- wastes produced during moulting
- collapsing algal blooms

The recent approach to improve the water quality in aquaculture involves the application of microbes/enzymes to the ponds. Bio mediators lower the accumulation of slime in the pond bottom and oxygen penetration level into the sediment for a better environment.

A successful bioremediation involves:

- 1) Nitrification leads to low rate of ammonia concentration.
- 2) Optimize the denitrification to reduce the nitrogen levels in the pond.
- 3) Hydrogen sulphide can be reduced by maximizing sulphide oxidation.
- 4) Maximize carbon dioxide to reduce the accumulation.
- 5) Maximize the initial productivity that stimulates the production of the secondary crops.
- 6) Maintaining a stable environment for successful bioremediation.

Biosorption-

Utilising cutting-edge biotechnological techniques like bioaccumulation, biosorption and heavy metals are eliminated from wastewater. Economical, extremely accurate, highly efficient, produces minimal sludge or chemicals, requires no additional nutrients, regenerates itself, and is environmentally benign. It depends on the solution's dose, pH, temperature, and initial dye concentration because of the variety, flexibility, and adaptability of many microorganisms, including bacteria, yeast, and protozoa.

Phytoremediation-

An emerging technique called in situ bioremediation uses microbes related to higher plants to remove pollutants. Numerous deeply rooted plants and trees to absorb, break down, or cleanse metal pollutants. The goals of phytoremediation technologies are petroleum solvents, heavy metals, and aromatic, chlorinated solvents. Different plant technologies are the main emphasis of this strategy.

Phytoextraction Or Phytoaccumulation

The storage and harvesting of the plants are required by using this method which helps to assemble contaminants in their roots and shoots or leaves.

Phytotransformation

Absorbed or transformed from water into more stable and less harmful forms.

Phytovolatilisation

Certain metals, such mercury or selenium, or volatile chemical species found in groundwater, being absorbed and then released into the atmosphere.

Rhizofiltration

A technique for water remediation that reduces pollutants from moving water. Like macrophytes, another treatment is applied. Any apparatus, procedure, or set of procedures that modifies a pollutant's composition through physical or biological processes to lessen the toxicity or mobility of contaminated material is referred to as treatment technology.

The restoration of ecological harm via the optimisation of plants and fungi that can eliminate poisonous chemicals is known as bioremediation. Utilising plants and rhizophore that facilitate the recovery of contaminated soil, water,

and sludge is necessary for phytoremediation. Because of this, there are no negative effects, and they are even technologically and environmentally benign. Phytoremediation uses some of the biochemical processes that plants carry out to assist and lower the concentration of harmful substances. Fast-growing plants are ideal for phytoremediation because they produce large amounts of biomass, are tolerant of metal accumulation, and are simple to harvest. Certain plants have specialised defence mechanisms to withstand the presence of metals in their surroundings, such as limiting their aerial portions.

Chapter 5 Case Study Carried Out in Mexico

Wastewater from the tertiary treatment has untreated water that includes all degree for irrigation.

In Mexico studies have shown the effect of wastewater used for irrigation that produces on the environment. The works performed at the Mezquital valley by (Seibe and Cifuentes (1993) who evaluated the epidemiological impact on wastewater used for agriculture at irrigation state like Hidalgo. They have reported high concentration of indicator organisms that have found prevalence of ascaris, lumbricoides, entamoeba. (Chilton et al. (1996)

The conclusion which came out was that the fecal coliform concentration varies with time so there is valley in Mexico where the concentration of chromium is high, so it generates negative environmental condition due to the contamination of wastewater. Increase in the amount of contamination results in infectious diseases among the population because the wastewater is used without any purification treatment. (Castanon et al. (1995)

Irrigation has been done in the same area for about a year, so the harvesting is better that indicates the improvement of water and better soil quality ultimately resulting in agricultural production.

Case Study of Srilanka on Bioremediation of Wastewater

Sri Lanka challenges a lot of water and wastewater issues, and these issues arise because of urbanization or overpopulation which result quantitatively and qualitatively and the depletion of water resources. 90% of them are disposed of into large cities such as Columba, Galle, Jaffna and Kandy and have severe problems and having no facilities for proper discharge of waste (Abeysinghe, M.R.N. (2007)

According to UNEP (2001), septic tanks in the Colombo Metropolitan Area discharge 428 MT of wastewater into the earth. Antonio Del Casale et al. In several locations, particularly in the nation's fast urbanising districts, sewage treatment facilities are built to prevent the deterioration of water quality and to guarantee a healthy environment. Several public health authorities have established standards about the highest physical, microbiological, and chemical concentrations that can be used. Anaerobically, bacteria are difficult to recognise, and some fastidious bacteria will exhibit delayed or inadequate growth, which typically obstructs the identification process. In a mixed population the variation that is detected in a sample is intragenic.

Chapter 6 Advantages and Disadvantages of Bioremediation

Advantages

- Bioremediation is a natural process, so it is publicly accepted as a better treatment for wastewater process for contaminated water.
- Bioremediation is used as the complete destruction for a range of contaminants, and they are legally considered hazardous, so this removes the chance of liability that is associated with contaminated waste that needs to be disposed of.
- Residues including carbon dioxide, water, and cell biomass are considered harmless.
- The complete elimination of target pollutant is possible to remove the contaminants from the environment. For e.g., land, water, and air
- Bioremediation causes massive destruction to nature. It terminates the need to transport the waste which causes threat to human health that pose during transportation.
- Less expensive than the other technologies that can be used for cleaning up of hazardous waste.
- It is not only used for wastewater but as the natural ability of the microorganisms to extract chemicals from water, soil and sediment using energy.
- Less energy is required along with little or no residual treatment.

Disadvantages

Biodegradable compounds are only limited to bioremediation.

- For all complete degradation not, all compounds occursusceptible.
- Parent compounds produced are more toxic than the other compounds.
- Microbial population requires suitable environmental growth conditions that have optimum level of nutrients and contaminants present in the form of solid, liquid and gases.
- Takes longer time than other treatment options such as uprooting or removal of soil.
- The process is slow and does not remove all quantities of contaminants from the polluted site.
- It is only useful for the treatment of inorganic contaminants or any organic compound.

Conclusion:-

Bioremediation is a promising future technology for environmental cleanup, particularly in addressing water contamination caused by increased human activities, urbanization, and industrialization. This method involves using microorganisms like bacteria, fungi, and algae to break down pollutants in water, turning harmful substances into non-toxic forms, which helps in reducing costs and health risks. Bioremediation is environmentally friendly, cost-effective, and can enhance traditional waste management processes. However, it also faces challenges, such as the need for specific environmental conditions (like temperature and pH) for the microorganisms to work effectively, and some pollutants may not degrade fully, potentially creating toxic by-products. Advances in biotechnology and genetic engineering are being explored to improve the efficiency of bioremediation and monitor pollution levels in water bodies.

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