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This Conference aims also to strengthen knowledge and research initiatives on emerging challenges to the water, agriculture, environment and energy to update the stakeholders, researchers and professionals on recent challenges in the water, agriculture, environment and energy sciences and finally to highlight research initiatives undertaken in the Morocco, and improve effective cooperation between Moroccan and Foreign researchers in the WA2EN fields.

The Water, Agriculture, Environment and Energy "WA2EN" Conference is organized by the Phemac Prima project in collaboration with the "Maroc Biotech Association".

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# **Water & Environment**

## VALORISATION DES LIXIVIATS DE LA DÉCHARGE CONTRÔLÉE DE LA VILLE DE FÈS

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**Résumé:** Les lixiviats contiennent différents types de matières organiques et inorganiques qui peuvent polluer les milieux aquatiques s'ils ne sont pas correctement traités. Le choix et l'efficacité des techniques de traitement dépendent des caractéristiques des lixiviats, ces caractéristiques changent d'une région à l'autre et en fonction du temps et des saisons. L'objectif de cette étude est la valorisation des lixiviats de la décharge contrôlée de la ville de Fès, suite à la réalisation des tests de traitabilité de ce lixiviat en contrôlant les différents paramètres d'analyse. Pour pouvoir choisir la technique adaptée au type de lixiviat à valoriser. Dans notre cas pour le lixiviat de la décharge contrôlée de la ville de Fès, les caractéristiques physico-chimiques sont réalisées concernant la DCO, la DBO<sub>5</sub>, la MES, l'Azote total et le Phosphore, ces caractéristiques montrent la richesse des lixiviats en éléments nutritifs qui peuvent la rendre valorisable. Aussi, une forte présence d'éléments métalliques est détectée ce qui montre que les ordures ménagères sont mélangées avec les rejets industriels ce qui peut nous mener sur une voie de valorisation industrielle. La caractérisation des lixiviats de la décharge contrôlée de la ville de Fès a montré le potentiel de ce produit d'être valorisé.

**Mots-clés:** Lixiviat de décharge, caractéristiques physico-chimiques, valorisation, éléments nutritifs.

**Investigating the effects of soil heavy metal contamination from the abandoned Zeïda mine in the Upper Moulouya Basin, Morocco. An airborne dust pollution in semi-arid climate conditions.**

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**Abstract:** The practice of Mining, which can be traced back to the dawn of civilization, yields critical minerals and metal ores that form the backbone of numerous industrial domains. However, it also engenders notable ecological harm and imposes dangers to adjacent populations. The Zeïda mine in Morocco was a significant producer of lead for a period of 13 years, generating massive quantities of waste in the form of tailings that were exposed to natural weathering processes. To evaluate the impact of Mining activities on the surrounding soil ecosystems of the inactive mine, a comprehensive study was conducted utilizing physical and chemical examinations to determine soil contamination. Samples were procured from agricultural regions and assayed for Pb, Zn, Cu, Co, Cd, and As through ICP-MS (aqua regia extraction) analysis. The study results indicate that the soil in close proximity to the tailings had higher levels of metal when compared to reference soil with no contamination. The tests also revealed high levels of alkalinity, varying electrical conductivity and organic matter, and the presence of specific minerals like carbonates, quartz, orthoclase, and muscovite. Lead minerals (cerussite and wulfenite) were found in 3 soil samples, while illite and kaolinite dominated as clay minerals. Descriptive and multivariate statistics were applied to analyze metal distribution patterns. The results, when compared with international standards, exhibited high concentrations of heavy metals, especially Pb, Zn, Cu, As, and Cd of anthropogenic origin, with correlations observed between As, Cu, Cd and Pb, and Zn, indicating a common origin and similar transport behavior.

**Keywords:** ICP, MS, XRD, Potentially toxic elements, Environment, Zeïda mine, Soils.

## Analysis of the water quality used in the cooling of solar panels

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**Abstract:** The main objective of this work is to ensure the quality of water used to cool photovoltaic panels in dry areas; characterized by an arid and semi-arid climate (Morocco). It should be noted that the research that has been done in this context of cooling panels by using water does not take into consideration the quality of water, knowing that the latter can affect the performance of these panels. A water sample was collected, then it is analyzed in the laboratory before comparing the results to the Moroccan standards of drinking water treatment. The results of the study proved that water is very efficient and suitable for cooling solar panels, in particular, it does not cause any deposit of salts and limestone above them, that can plug the panels, especially since this region (Daraa Tafilalet), knows a very high heat above 25 °c on all in summer, this requires cooling to avoid any loss of efficiency.

**Keywords:** Quality analysis, energy, photovoltaic panels, groundwater.

## EFFET DE L'EPANDAGE DES MARGINES BRUTE SUR GERMINATION, CROISSANCE ET D'EVELOPPEMENT DE LA FÈVE (VICIA FABIA)

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### Abstract

L'oléiculture assure une activité agricole intense au Maroc et permet l'approvisionnement des unités de trituration. Les margines d'olives représentent la masse restante considérée comme résidu de la trituration des olives, leur élimination incontrôlée pose des problèmes sociaux, économiques et environnementaux majeurs. Ces problèmes sont attribués à la richesse de ces effluents en matière organique, salinité et en particulier en polyphénols. Dans ce contexte, l'idée de la valorisation des margines comme biofertilisant organique en agriculture a été proposée comme une alternative prometteuse pour la restauration de la fertilité des sols et l'amélioration de la production agricole. C'est dans cette perspective que nous sommes proposées de réaliser ce travail de recherche afin d'évaluer l'effet de différentes doses des Margines et des solution saline sur le comportement d'une variété locale de la fève (*vicia faba*) afin de déterminer l'implication de la salinité des margines dans la phytotoxicité. Les analyses ont porté sur les paramètres morphologiques, physiologiques, biochimiques et de déterminer l'effet des margines sur le stade de la germination des graines. Les résultats obtenus ont montré que l'épandage des margines à des taux élevés entraîne une réduction significative des paramètres étudiés. Nous avons constaté que le degré de la phytotoxicité dépend de la concentration des margines et du temps et du stade phénologique ; plus le dose augmente plus la phytotoxicité est importante et se manifeste par une séquence de changement morphologique et physiologique et biochimique par une progression et un retard de croissance, une inhibition de germination, une accumulation du proline et sucre soluble. En effet, l'alimentation des sols agricoles par les margines où le besoin en eau est ressenti reste une solution praticable vue de leur apport en éléments fertilisants et comme source hydrique mais à condition que cette opération soit contrôlée et maîtrisée en respectant les doses à appliquer.

**Keywords:** Margines, Biofertilisant, Phytotoxicité, Paramètres Morphologiques, Physiologiques, Biochimiques, *Vicia faba*

## LA SECHERESSE CLIMATIQUE : ETUDE DE L'EVOLUTION DES PHENOMENES DES SECHERESSES AU NIVEAU DU BASSIN VERSANT DE SOUSS-MASSA (SUD DU MAROC)

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**Résumé:** Le bassin versant de Souss-Massa est situé au centre-ouest du Maroc avec une superficie de 27 800 km<sup>2</sup>. Il est limité par les montagnes de l'Anti-Atlas au sud et du Haut Atlas au nord, l'océan Atlantique à l'ouest et le massif de Siroua à l'est. La région de Souss-Massa a un climat semi-aride à aride typique. La variation des précipitations est très importante dans le temps et dans l'espace, montrant une nette décroissance des précipitations depuis les montagnes vers les plaines. La température moyenne annuelle varie entre 14 et 18 °C dans le Haut Atlas et l'Anti-Atlas, avec 20 °C sur la plaine. La température maximale journalière atteint 49°C, et la température minimale journalière descend atteint -3°C. Dans cette étude nous nous sommes appuyés sur une méthode statistique pour déterminer et analyser l'évolution des phénomènes des sécheresses dans le bassin versant de Souss-Massa au niveau de deux stations à partir d'une analyse quantitative de l'indice pluviométrique standardisé SPI d'une série pluviométrique de 51 ans, au cours de la période 1966-2017. L'analyse des résultats de l'indice pluviométrique standardisé de deux stations montre une alternance entre les années humides et des années sèches avec une dominance des années sèches bien remarquable. Nous ne pouvons pas lier cette sécheresse uniquement à l'aspect naturel puisque l'homme joue également un rôle important dans l'impact de ce bassin par ses exploitations agricoles, industrielles et domestiques.

**Mots clés :** Bassin versant, Souss-Massa ; Température moyenne annuelle ; Température journalière ; sécheresse et indice pluviométrique standardisé

## INONDATIONS MEDITERRANEENNES EN MILIEU URBAIN: CAS DU GRAND BERKANE

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**Abstract:** Le Maroc fait partie des pays méditerranéens fréquemment touchés par les inondations. Elles ont causé des dégâts humains et matériels dans de nombreuses régions du pays : les inondations catastrophiques de la vallée de l'Ourika en 1995, de la plaine de Martil en 2000, de la région de Mohammadia, Berrechid et Settat en 2002, et de la région de Berkane en 2004, 2010, et 2012, 2022 entre autres. Le développement durable et la gestion intégrée des catastrophes naturelles présentent au-jour d'hui la part prédominante dans les discours politiques publics. Dans ce contexte, la cartographie et la modélisation des zones susceptibles aux inondations sont cruciales pour le développement durable. Notre étude est lancée en vue d'améliorer les connaissances sur le risque d'inondation au niveau de la ville de Berkane pour une meilleure gestion du territoire et pour contribuer au développement durable de la ville. Le matériel et les méthodes utilisées pour l'élaboration de cette étude consistent en une étude bibliographique des caractéristiques géologiques, climatiques et hydrologiques. L'analyse et l'interprétation des données géologique, hydrologique, de la télédétection et l'occupation du sol ont permis de déterminer les mécanismes de la circulation des eaux superficielles, présentés à l'aide d'une simulation faite par le logiciel Iber afin d'établir la cartographie de l'aléa en fonction de la vitesse et de la hauteur de la tranche d'eau. Les résultats de la modélisation sur Iber, ont permis de définir l'intensité de l'aléa qui est un paramètre important du risque d'inondation de la ville de Berkane, qui menace la population ainsi que les infrastructures qui relient les deux bords de la rivière.

**Keywords:** Berkane, aléa, Inondation, Modélisation, Iber software.



## **Benthic foraminifera: a promising monitoring tool for the marine ecological status in the T'etouan coast, north west Morocco**

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**Abstract:** This study investigates the potential use of benthic foraminifera as an assessment tool for the marine ecological status in the T'etouan Coast of North West Morocco. Sediment samples were collected from various depths along the Martil coast, and analyzed for their faunistic composition, as long as their corresponding abiotic parameters (pH, total organic carbon, % carbonates, and granulometry). Biocenotic indices were calculated and compared in the different samples, followed by the principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Cluster Analysis, allowing the identification of the main factors controlling the distribution patterns of the benthic assemblages. The study found that the foraminiferal density and species assemblages were primarily influenced by the organic charge and sediment grain size variations caused by the continental contribution of Oued Martil. These findings provide valuable insights into the potential use of benthic foraminifera as a tool for assessing the ecological status of marine ecosystems in the Moroccan Mediterranean coasts.

**Keywords:** Benthic foraminifera, Ecological status, Moroccan Mediterranean coasts

## IMPACT DU CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE ET ANTHROPIQUE SUR LES RESSOURCES EN EAUX DU CAUSSE EL MENZEL, MOYEN- ATLAS, MAROC

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**Résumé :** Les paysages karstiques du Moyen-Atlas comptent parmi les environnements les plus riches en terme hydrologique, écologique et géologique. Ils fournissent une variété de ressources naturelles de grande valeur économique, dont les plus importantes sont l'eau, le sol et les ressources forestières. L'un des exemples les plus spectaculaires qui offre une telle variété de richesses naturelles est le Causse El Menzel. Ce plateau karstique carbonaté révèle à la fois une importante superficie forestière comme le cas de la Réserve Royale de Ghomra et des ressources karstiques en eaux dont les plus importants sont les grandes sources de Aïn Sebou (2500 l/s comme débit moyen). Aïn Timedrine qui alimente le principal cours d'eau du Maroc Oued Sebou a une couverture pédologique qui couvre les grandes dépressions karstiques du Causse et servent la végétation naturelle et la production agricole (culture du blé, d'oliviers, grenadiers, pommiers, pruniers...). Toutefois, les 20 dernières années l'impact du changement climatique avait prévu que les températures augmenteraient de 2 à 4 °C et que les précipitations diminueront de 53%. Combiné aux activités anthropiques liées à la sur exploitation des eaux sans mesures appropriées et la pollution ont perturbé le système hydrologique du Causse en provoquant une véritable pénurie d'eau avec une baisse spectaculaire du niveau des eaux souterraines et un épuisement des eaux de surface dans plusieurs secteurs tels que : Quaçbat Ben Yazgha, El Menzel.... Cette situation mettra en péril la sécurité de l'eau dans la zone. Nous pensons qu'une politique urgente de mobilisation et de protection des ressources en eau par une gestion participative peut permettre d'économiser l'eau pour les générations futures et de soutenir la production agricole.

**Mots clés :** Karst, Eau, surexploitation, Causse El Menzel, Moyen-Atlas, Maroc.

## Cartographie de l'aléa d'inondation dans la commune d'Ain Beni Mathar, cas du bassin versant d'Oued El-Hai

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**Résumé:** Dans cette dernière décennie la relation du changement climatique avec les risques d'inondation est désormais un sujet familier et très tendance. Les changements climatiques augmentent la concentration dans le temps des précipitations, causant des inondations intenses longues et fréquentes dans le pays. Dans cette perspective vient l'objectif de notre étude qui repose sur l'évaluation et la cartographie du risque d'inondation dans la commune d'Ain Beni Mathar. Ain Beni Mathar fait partie des Hauts plateaux septentrionaux du Maroc, elle est caractérisée d'un climat aride, elle est limitée au nord par les Monts de Jerada et Jbel Bni-Bouyala, à l'Est par la frontière algero-marocaine, au sud par le Haut Atlas oriental et à l'Ouest par les plateaux de Rekkam et la crête majeure des hauts plateaux. Elle est drainée par un réseau hydrographique important dont le cours d'eau principal est celui de Oued El-Hai. Lors des pluies intenses, la ville de Ain Beni-Mathar est exposée aux risques d'inondations causées par d'Oued El-Hai. Cela cause la mise hors services de la route provinciale R606 traversant Ain Beni-Mathar ainsi que la détérioration des biens de la population avoisinante. Devant cette situation alarmante nous avons entamé une étude des inondations dans cette zone afin de cartographier l'aléa, la vulnérabilité et le risque hydrologique. Afin de protéger la population d'Ain Beni-Mathar et ses biens contre les inondations, nous avons commencé par une étude hydrologique du bassin versant générateur des crues, en calculant ces caractéristiques morpho-métriques à l'aide du SIG ainsi que le calcul des débits de crues d'Oued El-Hai par la méthode SCS et la cartographie de l'occupation du sol. Par la suite nous avons recours à la simulation 2D des crues de différentes périodes de retour via le logiciel Iber 2.5. L'occupation de sol nous a permis de voir l'influence du sol sur la réponse hydrologique ainsi que la simulation des crues, nous a permis de cartographier l'aléa inondation en fonction de la vitesse d'écoulement et de la hauteur du niveau d'eau de l'Oued selon trois classes d'aléa, faible, moyenne et forte. Cette étude nous a donné aperçu sur le fonctionnement hydrologique du bassin versant de l'Oued El-Hai, caractérisé d'une surface qui dépasse les 4000 km<sup>2</sup>, par la suite la simulation 2D des crues selon les différentes périodes de retours et il s'est avéré que l'inondation prend plusieurs valeurs selon les zones.

**Mots clés :** Aléa ; Inondation ; Oued Mesakhsa ; Iber2.5

## AMELIORATION DES PERFORMANCES DE LA STATION DE DESSALEMENT DE L'EAU DE MER D'AL HOCEIMA PAR LA METHODE AMDEC

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**Abstrat:** L'insuffisance des ressources hydriques et le besoin en eau potable constitue le souci majeur par nombreux pays, notamment pour la Maroc qui a connu une augmentation importante en besoin hydrique sous la pression de la croissance démographique, le développement économique ainsi que les conditions climatiques. Pour y remédier, le Maroc a lancé un programme ambitieux d'installation des stations de dessalement de l'eau de mer avec la technique d'osmose inverse dans des zones semi arides. Ainsi, la station de dessalement de l'eau de mer d'AL HOCEIMA a démarré en Juin 2020. Dans le but de maintenir le bon fonctionnement de la station et d'améliorer la fiabilité des processus, on a mené une étude pour la détection d'éventuels dysfonctionnement des procédés de la station susceptibles d'altérer la qualité d'eau dessalée. Pour ce faire, on a opté pour une analyse qualitative et quantitative par la méthode AMDEC-processus. Cette dernière permet de recenser les défaillances qui peuvent affecter la fiabilité d'un procédé. A la lumière des résultats obtenus on a élaboré un plan d'amélioration qui s'appuie sur des actions correctives à court termes et préventives à moyenne et à long terme afin de maintenir le bon fonctionnement de la station et d'améliorer la fiabilité des processus.

**Keywords:** Dessalement; Amélioration; Performances; AMDEC; L'eau.

## E'valuation de la fiabilit'e des produits de pr'ecipitation satellitaires pour les 'etudes climatiques et hydrologiques dans le bassin Haut Dr'aa, sud du Maroc.

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**Abstract:** Les r'egions arides et semi-arides, comme le sud du Maroc, sont confront'ees 'a une disponi- bilit'ed limit'ed de donn'ees de pr'ecipitation, ce qui repr'esente un obstacle important pour les 'etudes climatiques et hydrologiques. Les produits de pr'ecipitation satellitaires (PPS) peuvent 'etre utilis'es pour pallier cette lacune de donn'ees. Dans cette 'etude, nous avons 'evalu'ed directement la fiabilit'ed des donn'ees des PPS (TRMM 3B42-V7, GPM 3IMERGDFV6 et CHIRPS) en les comparant aux mesures au sol dans le bassin Haut Dr'aa, afin d'estimer les caract'eristiques des pr'ecipitations. Les PPS ont 'egalement 'et'ed 'evalu'ees de mani'ere in- directe pour leur capacit'ed 'a simuler l' 'ecoulement 'a l'aide de deux mod'eles hydrologiques (HEC-HMS et GR4J). L'analyse a 'et'ed effectu'ee en utilisant la m'ethode point 'a pixel, et nous avons utilis'ed plusieurs crit'eres de performance pour comparer les r'esultats (NSE, R2, PBIAS, RSR, POD et FAR). Nos r'esultats montrent que les trois produits ont des diffi- cult'ed 'a reproduire avec pr'ecision la quantit'ed de pr'ecipitations journali'eres, avec des valeurs de (R2 < 0.5) et des valeurs de PBIAS > 25% qui t'emoignent d'une surestimation des pr'ecipitations. Cependant, l' 'evaluation de l'efficacit'ed hydrologique des diff'erents PPS a montr'ed que les simulations r'alis'ees avec le mod'ele HEC-HMS en utilisant les donn'ees de pr'ecipitations TRMM et GPM ont montr'ed des performances satisfaisantes lors de la cali- bration et de la validation. En revanche, les simulations effectu'ees avec le mod'ele GR4J ont donn'ed des r'esultats non acceptables. De plus, les simulations forc'ees avec CHIRPS ont pr'esent'ed des performances m'ediocres, avec des valeurs plus faibles de NSE et de R2, ainsi que des erreurs PBIAS 'elev'ees. Par cons'equent, les PPS peuvent 'etre utilis'es comme alter- native utile pour combler le manque de donn'ees de pr'ecipitation dans le bassin Haut Dr'aa. Toutefois, il est essentiel d'effectuer une 'evaluation rigoureuse de leur pr'ecision avant de les utiliser pour des applications hydrologiques et climatiques.

**Keywords:** Pr'ecipitation, GPM 3IMERGDF, V06, TRMM 3B42, GR4J, Haut Dr'aa, HEC, HMS

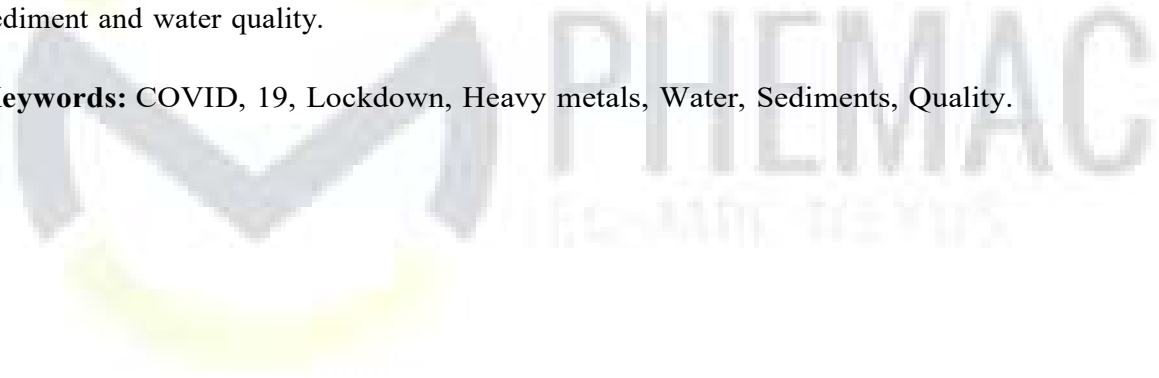
## The effect of COVID-19 lockdown on water quality and sediment release in Morocco's Sebou River

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**Abstract:** The global spread of COVID-19 has dramatically reduced industrial activity, road transport, and tourism in a relatively short period of time. Overall, the limited interaction between humans and nature during this critical time appears to be a time of recovery for nature and the environment. However, the implementation of the lockdown could lead to improvements in surface water and sediment quality. The current study's main goal is to determine the levels of physicochemical variables and heavy metals in Sebou River sediments and water samples during and before the lockdown period. Heavy metal concentrations in sediments and watersheds show significant differences before and after the confinement period. The reduction in industrial activity during the lockdown period reduced the amount of wastewater, resulting in significant improvements in sediment and water quality.

**Keywords:** COVID, 19, Lockdown, Heavy metals, Water, Sediments, Quality.



# CARTOGRAPHIE ET ANALYSE DE LA VARIABILITE SPATIO- TEMPORELLE DES EAUX SOUTERRAINES DE LA NAPPE PHREATIQUE DE SAÏSS PAR UNE APPROCHE GEOSTATISTIQUE

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**Résumé:** Comprendre, analyser et étudier le comportement des systèmes aquifères est essentiel pour toute décision de gestion et pour une exploitation optimale et rationnelle des ressources en eau. L'outil de base de cette analyse est la carte régionalisée du niveau piézométrique. Il sert généralement de référence aux études hydrogéologiques et environnementales. Il permet, entre autres, la compréhension de la morphologie, de la géométrie et de l'hydrodynamique de l'aquifère. Dans la zone d'étude qui est la plaine de Saïss au Nord du Maroc, l'eau souterraine est la source principale d'approvisionnement en eau pour les besoins domestiques, agricoles et industriels. Les mesures des niveaux des eaux souterraines issues des puits d'observation constituent une source d'information précise permettant l'analyse de l'état des ressources en eau. Malheureusement, ces séries ne sont pas toujours continues dans le temps et dans l'espace et contiennent généralement des lacunes pour diverses raisons. Par conséquent, une modélisation précise du niveau des eaux souterraines dans les emplacements non suivis est nécessaire pour une meilleure planification et gestion. Dans la première étape de cette étude, on a testé et comparé huit méthodes d'interpolation géostatistiques à savoir des méthodes déterministes et probabilistes pour l'interpolation spatiale des données piézométriques de la nappe phréatique de la plaine de Saïss. Dans la deuxième étape, les séries chronologiques des données piézométriques collectées sur le terrain sont souvent incomplètes du fait de défaillances lors de l'acquisition des mesures. Cela compromet le traitement de l'information. Des approches, dites d'imputation, sont alors à appliquer pour consolider ses séries avec des données manquantes. Dans cette étude, l'outil XLSTAT 2022 a été utilisé pour compléter les séries temporelles des piézomètres sur une période de 20 ans. Enfin, on a analysé l'évolution spatiotemporelle des ressources en eau de la nappe phréatique de Saïss par le suivi de son niveau piézométrique. Cette analyse de la variation de la profondeur de la nappe entre 2000 et 2020 a permis de constater qu'en général le niveau de la nappe a baissé au NW et au centre par contre il s'est amélioré ou il est resté constant dans les autres zones.

**Mots-clés :** Eau souterraine, Evolution spatiotemporelle, Géostatistique, XLSTAT, Nappe de Saïss.

## Utilisation de la télédétection radar pour l'étude du problème de l'envasement des barrages, cas du barrage Abdelkarim el khattabi à la région d'el Hoceima au Maroc

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**Abstract:** Le problème de l'envasement des barrages est parmi les phénomènes écologiques et géologiques qui nécessitent des fortes interventions de la part des gouvernements des pays comme le cas du Maroc qui a donné suivi et intérêt au barrage Abdelkarim el khattabi au nord du royaume, car il assure l'alimentation en eau à une large portion de la population et aux activités d'agriculture, et d'autre part il protège les terrains contre les inondations. Les interventions se faisaient à travers des études diverses finies par des recommandations de mise en place des aménagements convenables depuis les années quatre-vingts. La télédétection radar est un fort moyen aux études naturelles, et essentiellement à la quantification et la modélisation des phénomènes écologiques, géologique, et atmosphériques... On a utilisé ce nouveau outil pour déterminer les mouvements des sédiments et des déchets dans la partie qui entoure le barrage de Abdelkarim el Khatibi du bassin versant d'oued nekor, dans le cadre d'estimer le taux de l'envasement, grâce aux données sentinel-1 et par le processus DINSAR (Différence de phase des images SAR (Synthetic-aperture radar)). Les résultats obtenus représentent des cartes d'instabilité de terrain entre deux dates différentes de prise de vue de satellite, avec des valeurs positives (soulèvement) et autres négatif (retrait) en degré variable d'une zone à une autre. Ces résultats présentent des moyens supplémentaires aux études de problème de l'envasement des barrages en déterminants les zones vulnérables aux déplacements des sédiments. Le calcul de l'interférométrie radar par des images récentes de sentinel-1 offre une caractérisation, à partir de l'espace, des zones limitants du barrage, que soit le retrait ou le soulèvement et à une échelle millimétrique par la cartographie des régions de changement de surface. Radar ; DINSAR ; sentinel-1 ; barrage Abdelkarim el Khatibi ; envasement ; retrait; soulèvement.

**Keywords:** Radar, DINSAR, sentinel, 1, barrage Abdelkarim el Khatibi, envasement, retrait, soulèvement.



## Use of coagulation-flocculation process for the treatment of real tannery wastewater from Fes city (Morocco)

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**Abstract:** This study aims to investigate the feasibility to apply a coagulation-flocculation process to treat the tannery wastewater (TWW) of Fez city (Morocco). Three types of coagulants are assessed: ferric chloride ( $\text{FeCl}_3$ ), and alum ( $\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$ ). Optimum conditions in terms of the removal of chemical oxygen demand (COD), heavy metals, colour and turbidity contents are determined, using a standard jar test apparatus. Optimum coagulant dosages of 6 g  $\text{FeCl}_3$ .l-1 and 0.6 g  $\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$ .l-1 are obtained. Ferric chloride allows to remove 46% of COD, 51% of turbidity, 80% of colour with a low sludge volume generation (20%). When the optimum coagulant dose of  $\text{FeCl}_3$  is applied a 59% of COD, 98% of turbidity, 80% of colour are removed with less sludge volume generation (21%). Regarding the analysis of metallic elements, the results show that a substantial elimination of heavy metals is reached, particularly of Cr. These results show that coagulation-flocculation could be used as a promising process for the pretreatment of the tannery wastewater from fez city.

**Keywords:** tannery wastewater treatment; Coagulation, Flocculation

## Étude des séquences de sécheresse dans le bassin Guir

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**Résumé:** La pénurie d'eau est un risque majeur qui s'accroît par la croissance perpétuelle de la demande en eau dans les différents secteurs usagers et l'impact de la sécheresse. À l'état actuel, le Maroc souffre de la pénurie d'eau en raison de la diminution des précipitations dans le contexte du changement climatique auquel le monde est témoin. Face à cette situation, il est nécessaire dans un premier temps d'étudier la sécheresse en surveillant et en analysant leurs séquences, et appliquer par la suite une politique de gestion d'eau adaptée à l'état étudié afin d'assurer la durabilité des ressources en eau et d'atténuer les impacts de la sécheresse. Le présent travail est établi pour caractériser la sécheresse météorologique dans une zone oasienne qui est le bassin versant Guir qui fait partie du grand bassin versant Guir-Ziz-Rhreis, en tenant compte la vulnérabilité des ressources en eau des zones semi-arides.

**Mots clés :** sécheresse, température, bassin hydraulique, changement climatique, précipitation, bassin Guir



## SYNTHESIS OF FUNCTIONALIZED PHOSPHINE OXIDES: APPLICATION TO TRACE METAL ION DETECTION IN WATER

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### Abstract

The concept of sustainable development becomes an important benchmark of our societies, it appears necessary to have the means to fight against water pollution by heavy metals. In this work, fluorescence is used as a method of detection of metal ions in water. 1-4 We have carried out the synthesis and the study of complexation of new fluorescent structures based on phosphine oxides containing crown ethers.

**Keywords:** water pollution, fluorescent, phosphine oxides and detection



## Water Feature Extraction and Change Detection Using SAR image

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**Abstract:** Synthetic aperture radar (SAR) is a remote sensing technology that is highly effective in monitoring the earth's surface continuously, even under adverse weather conditions. Water mapping based on SAR imagery has gained increasing attention in recent years, as it can be a cost-effective way to monitor floods and droughts. However, speckle noise in SAR data can make it difficult to interpret and reduce the accuracy of change detection algorithms. Numerous methods have been proposed to map water extent and monitor flood changes using SAR images, with supervised and unsupervised learning approaches being the two broad categories. While supervised learning requires the availability of ground truth information to generate a training set for developing a classification model, unsupervised learning does not require any prior knowledge and can handle complex and diverse data without labeled samples. Therefore, unsupervised methods have become the mainstream in change detection tasks, and this paper focuses on developing an unsupervised approach to address the challenges in SAR image analysis. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have been successfully applied to remote sensing image change detection due to their ability to automatically extract multi-level image features. However, traditional CNNs have limitations and shortcomings that can restrict their applications. For example, they may struggle to learn spatial hierarchies between features and can potentially result in the loss of valuable spatial information. To address these limitations, Capsule Networks (CapsNets) have been proposed, which aim to achieve translation equivariance by encoding hierarchical relationships between entities. CapsNets consist of multiple layers of capsules, with each capsule representing a small group of neurons that encode instantiation parameters such as position, size, orientation, texture, and deformation. In this work, a Multidimensional Parallel Capsule Network is proposed for SAR image change detection. This architecture is designed to extract richer and more robust features while modeling their hierarchical relationships. The main contributions of this work include the development of a novel architecture for SAR image change detection, as well as the demonstration of its effectiveness through experimental evaluation. The proposed method shows promising results and can be a valuable tool in monitoring floods and droughts.

## Hydrological Modeling for Water Resource Management in Data-Scarce Regions: A Case Study of the Upper Ziz Basin, Morocco

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**Abstract:** Multiple conceptual hydrological models, namely IHACRES, MORDOR, GR4J, and GR2M, are applied in this work to predict the discharge at the Upper Ziz basin’s outflow in southeast Morocco. Due to the limited number of rain stations, daily models were only applied to the sub-basin of Foug Tillichet to reduce precipitation spatialization error. The monthly model GR2M, however, was applied to the larger sub-basin of Foug Zaabel using the monthly time series from 2000 to 2014. For the daily models’ calibration and validation, the time frames ranged from 2000 to 2016; for the monthly models, they ranged from 2000 to 2014. It was found that as the beds are shifting from one event to another, flow estimations made using rating curves are questionable. However, the monthly measurements appear to be accurate, as is demonstrated by the monthly model’s successful replication of the observed discharge, notably for the Foug Zaabel station, which is regarded as the reference station. The monthly model performed the best, with an NSE of 80% and 77% for the calibration and validation periods, respectively. These results highlight the importance of conceptual hydrological models as useful tools for the integrated management of water resources in areas with limited data. Particularly, the successful implementation of the monthly GR2M model demonstrates its potential as a trust-worthy and efficient method of runoff prediction. As a result, using conceptual models in combination with other data sources can be extremely important for ensuring the sustainable management of water resources in places such as the Upper Ziz basin.

**Keywords:** Rainfall, runoff, Oued Ziz, water management, GR2M, GR4J



# **Agriculture & Energy**

## Exploring Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria in the Date Palm Tree Rhizosphere of Southern Morocco's Oasis Ecosystem

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**Abstract:** In arid and semi-arid regions, sustainable agriculture is challenging due to limited water availability, high temperatures, and soil salinity. Plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) can potentially alleviate these challenges by enhancing plant growth and mitigating the impact of biotic and abiotic stresses. This study aimed to explore the potential of PGPR in the date palm tree rhizosphere of southern Morocco's oasis ecosystem. 98 bacterial strains were isolated and screened for their morphological and physico-chemical properties, including tolerance to high temperature, pH, salinity, and drought stress. Results showed that 74 (76 %) strains were thermotolerant (55 °C), 94 (96%) strains were tolerant to a 10% concentration of NaCl and 68 (70%) were tolerant to a 15% concentration of NaCl. Regarding pH tolerance, 84 (85%) strains were acid tolerant, and 90 (92%) strains were basic tolerant. Under osmotic stress concentrations, applied with 55% of D-sorbitol, 5 isolates (5%) were categorized as highly sensitive, 3 (3%) as sensitive, 31 (32%) as tolerant, and 59 (60%) as highly tolerant. These results suggest that the rhizospheric bacterial strains can thrive in the harsh environment of the oasis, and can help enhance plant growth in arid and semi-arid regions, where water is a limiting factor. Building on these initial screening results, the study will further investigate the plant growth-promoting and biocontrol traits of the selected PGPR candidates. Specifically, the study will investigate nutrient solubilization, production of secondary metabolites, and enzymes. These traits can have a significant impact on plant growth and health. This work highlights the potential use of plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) from date palm trees in southeastern Morocco's oasis ecosystem for sustainable agriculture practices in arid and semi-arid regions. The study's findings could help enhance crop productivity, improve soil health, and mitigate the impact of biotic and abiotic stresses on agriculture. Future research will focus on investigating the mechanisms of action of selected PGPR candidates and their interactions with the plant and soil microbiome.

**Keywords:** PGPR, date palm, biocontrol, salinity, drought

## Nematicidal activity of *Moringa oleifera* and *Chamaemelum nobile* against citrus nematode *Tylenchulus semipenetrans*

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**Abstract:** *Tylenchulus semipenetrans* is among the most damaging obligate plant parasitic nematodes (PPNs) in citrus. The use of chemical nematicides have successfully been used to lower down the population of *T. semipenetrans*, but the repetitive use of these compounds can be environmentally harmful requiring the implementation of ecological strategies. The present study aimed at assessing the biological control potential of essential Oils (EOs) of two aromatic and medicinal plants (AMP), *Moringa oleifera* and *Chamaemelum nobile*, against the citrus nematode *T. semipenetrans* in terms of juvenile J2 mortality and eggs hatch inhibition. Obtained results showed that the both EOs exhibited high toxicity against *T. semipenetrans*. At low EOs concentration (5 µl/ml), the percentage of J2 mortality ranged from 5.78% to 11.9% recorded in *Moringa oleifera* and *Chamaemelum nobile*, respectively, after 24h of incubation. However, at high EOs concentration (20 µl/ml), J2 mortality reached 100% after 96 h for both EOs. Eggs hatch inhibition increased with increasing EOs concentration and incubation period reaching complete eggs hatch inhibition after 144h of incubation at EOs concentration of 20 µl/ml. As a result of this study, EOs of the AMP studied, could be used as healthy nematicidal products that are highly effective against *T. semipenetrans*.

**Keywords:** Citrus nematode, *Tylenchulus semipenetrans*, Plant Essential Oil, Healthy nematicide.



## EVALUATION DES IMPACTS DU CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE SUR LE NEXUS WEF”

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**Abstract:** L'eau, l'énergie et l'alimentation sont les trois composantes fondamentales de toute l'économie. Elles ne sont pas indépendantes l'une de l'autre. NEXUS WEF (Eau, énergie et sécurité alimentaire) a pour objectif de créer des synergies entre les secteurs et les ressources pour une gestion intégrée de l'ensemble et la réalisation d'une croissance inclusive et durable. Cette démarche est conçue pour évaluer aussi comment la production et l'utilisation de ces ressources peuvent contribuer au changement climatique, et comment le changement climatique peut affecter les systèmes de ressources. Un certain nombre d'interdépendances cruciales et sectorielles font l'objet d'une étude au Maroc que ce soit en raison des limites des ressources en eau, en énergie ou de la pénurie alimentaire en période de sécheresse. Les ressources en eau sont très vulnérables aux changements climatiques générant la chute des eaux pluviales et l'augmentation de la fréquence des événements extrêmes (crues, inondations et sécheresses). L'agriculture est le secteur le plus dépendant des ressources hydriques, notamment, l'alimentation. La demande en énergie dans l'agriculture (par exemple, pour le pompage de l'eau) est également en forte augmentation et reste principalement satisfaite par les ressources fossiles, dont notre pays est un principal importateur. L'utilisation rationnelle de l'eau et de l'énergie est cruciale à la sécurité alimentaire. Par notre travail, nous visons à clarifier les liens de fonctionnement entre ces systèmes et leurs interactions par le biais des modèles de systèmes climatiques, d'utilisation des terres, d'énergie et d'eau (CLEW). Nous évaluons la façon dont l'approche NEXUS est conçue pour maximiser les synergies et réduire les compromis, et améliorer l'efficacité des ressources.

**Keywords:** Nexus WEF, Changement climatique, CLEW, Eau, Energie, Sécurité alimentaire

# CHARACTERIZATION OF ZIZIPHUS LOTUS' ACTIVATED CARBON: ISOTHERMAL STUDY AND METHYLENE BLUE'S ADSORPTION KINETICS

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**Abstract:** This study aims to prepare activated carbon from the cores of this interesting biomaterial, for the first time to the best of our knowledge, according to a manufacturing process based on its chemical and thermal activation. The cores of *Ziziphus lotus* (Nbeg) were chemically activated by sulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, 98%) for 24h with a mass contribution (1:1), and then carbonized at a temperature of 500 C for 2 hours. The obtained activated carbon was characterized by scanning electron microscopy, X-ray diffraction, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy and specific surface measurement. The characterization results showed an important porosity (pore sizes ranging from 10 to 45µm), a surface structure having acid groups and carboxylic functions, and a specific surface of 749.6 m<sup>2</sup>/g. Results of the MB adsorption showed that this process is very fast as more than 80% of MB is adsorbed during the first 20 minutes. In addition, increasing the contact time and temperature improves the MB removal process efficiency. Moreover, this adsorption's kinetic modeling follows the pseudo-second order model. Furthermore, Data on the adsorption isotherm showed a maximum adsorption capacity of 14.493 mg/g and fit better with the Langmuir model. The thermodynamic parameters (G<sub>0</sub>, S<sub>0</sub> and H<sub>0</sub>), indicate that the adsorption process is endothermic and spontaneous. Therefore, *Ziziphus lotus* can be used as a low-cost available material to prepare a high quality activated carbon having a promising potential in the wastewater treatment.

**Keywords:** Adsorption, activated carbon, kinetics, methylene blue, isotherm.

## Potential of rhizobacteria isolated from *Opuntia ficus-indica* in improving plant growth and resistance to water stress

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**Abstract:** Researchers have projected that droughts would become more severe and frequent world-wide as a result of global warming. This problem is a limiting factor for agricultural output. A creative way to deal with abiotic stress is plants inoculation with plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR). The major goal of this work is to find bacteria that can boost plant growth under both normal and severe circumstances by having PGP potential and being resistant to water stress. Thus, 75 bacteria were isolated from *O. ficus-indica*'s rhizosphere. These isolates were tested for resistance to various degrees of water stress caused by polyethylene glycol 6000 as well as for PGP trait characterization using a variety of in vitro methods. The findings showed that the bacterial isolates displayed different PGP traits. 21.33% of the isolates exhibited organic phosphate solubilization, 60% were capable of fixing atmospheric nitrogen, 62.66% produced ammonia and demonstrated antagonistic activity against the phytopathogenic fungus *Fusarium solani*, and 73.33% produced siderophores. Other abilities included the ability to produce hydrocyanic acid (22.66%), indole acetic acid (45.33%) and exopolysaccharides (52%). The findings also revealed varying degrees of resistance to water stress, with variances amongst isolates (30.67% of the isolates were susceptible to water stress, while 17.33%, 26.67%, 14.67%, and 10.66% exhibited resistance to osmotic pressures of -0.05, -0.15, -0.49, and -1.76 MPa, respectively). The results were statistically analyzed, and 26 possibly effective isolates were chosen. The rhizospheric bacteria discovered in this study show intriguing potential for application as inoculants for enhancing the development of plants, including *O. ficus-indica*, in a variety of environmental conditions.

**Keywords:** *Opuntia ficus indica*, Plant growth promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR), growth promotion, rhizosphere, water stress

## SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF ACTIVATED CARBON DERIVED FROM OLIVE POMACE FOR LI-ION BATTERIES

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**Abstract:** L'obtention de matériaux d'électrodes en carbone à partir de ressources de biomasse a suscité l'intérêt des chercheurs pour le développement durable de dispositifs de stockage d'énergie électrochimiques à haute performance. Dans ce travail, le grignon d'olive est utilisé comme matière première abondante pour préparer des anodes en carbone dur pour les batteries Li-ion grâce à un processus en deux étapes : activation chimique par l'acide phosphorique H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> comme agent d'activation et suivie d'une pyrolyse à 500 °C. Les échantillons électroniques ont été caractérisés et testés comme électrode négative pour batteries li-ion afin d'étudier l'influence de l'activation chimique et de l'étape de pyrolyse sur les propriétés du carbone dur et sur leurs performances chimiques. Les électrodes en grignons d'olive crus et activées ont fourni une capacité réversible de 57 mAh/g et une rétention de capacité de 84% après 25 cycles, et pour l'électrode de carbone pyrolysé, les résultats électrochimiques sont encore au stade expérimental du cyclage pour déterminer la capacité de charge et de décharge. Par conséquent, une telle valorisation des grignons d'olive qui reste disponible et sous-utilisée, est susceptible de susciter l'intérêt des différentes filières industrielles, ce qui peut contribuer à la protection de l'environnement et à la maîtrise de l'énergie.

**Keywords:** olive pomace, hard carbon, anode, Li, ion batteries.

## Determination of the optimal fertilization rate by a new bioorganic fertilizer to enhance the nitrate and betanin contents in red beetroot (*Beta vulgaris L. ssp. vulgaris*)

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**Abstract:** The aim of this research was to investigate the effect of different rates of a new bioorganic fertilizer on nitrate and betanin contents in red beetroot. A field trial was conducted using the randomized complete block design with 6 treatments and six replications: (T1= inorganic fertilizer, NPK 20-45-25 ha<sup>-1</sup>, T2= Bio-Organic Fertilizer "BOF" at 10%, T3= BOF at 20%, T4= BOF at 30%, T5= BOF at 60% and T6= unfertilized control). The nitrate content of harvested red beetroot was analytically measured, while the quantification of betanin was determined spectrophotometrically. Statistical analysis of soils treated with 20 and 30% of BOF significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) increased the betanin contents of red beetroot by 16 % compared to the conventionally grown samples. In contrast, organically and conventionally growing red beetroot had similar average nitrate levels. In light of the crucial role of BOF rates, high levels of macro and micronutrients in the soil negatively affect all quality parameters of red beetroot.

**Keywords:** bioorganic fertilizer, red beetroot, betanin, nitrate

## Comparative study of functional activity and microorganism's community in agro ecological and conventional soil of tomato crops

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**Abstract:** Land management practices are widely known to influence soil quantity. In this ecosystem, telluric microorganisms participate in the biogeochemical cycles of the soil, in particular the transformation of organic matter essential for plant nutrition. The aim of this study was to assess the differences in the functional diversity and structure of microbial communities of soil from two different cultures of tomato plants in Morocco, one with conventional management and the other with agroecological practices. The soil functional diversity was assessed by evaluating the microbial metabolic capabilities using the Biolog EcoPlate™ microplate method and measuring soil enzyme activities. The microbial biomass of bacteria, actinomycetes, and fungi was evaluated by medium-based cultures. The analysis demonstrated that the soil microbial community reacts differently depending on the mode of fertilization. Recording, the biological soil exhibited a significantly upright metabolic activity (AWCD) and diversity compared with the conventional soil. Similarly, the soil activities of β-galactosidase, urease, and phosphatase and the number of bacteria, actinomycetes, and fungi were higher in the agroecological soil.

**Keywords:** Tomato, functional diversity, enzyme activity, soil management.

## Isolement et identification de bactéries issues de la rhizosphère de l'olivier du sud du Maroc : Tolérance au stress hydrique, favorisation de la croissance des plantes et potentiel antagoniste contre la verticilliose

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**Abstract:** Récemment, au vu des problèmes environnementaux mondiaux, la production alimentaire durable est apparue comme un défi important. L'utilisation des rhizobactéries dans le biocontrôle et la médiation du stress abiotique est une approche prometteuse et de plus en plus explorée. L'objectif de cette étude est d'isoler, de caractériser et d'identifier des rhizobactéries favorisant la croissance des plantes (PGPR) tolérantes au stress abiotique et possédant une activité antagoniste contre *Verticillium dahliae* Klebahn, l'agent causal de la verticilliose de l'olivier. Au total, 94 souches bactériennes rhizosphériques ont été isolées de la rhizosphère d'oliviers dans la région de Zagora au Maroc. Vingt-quatre isolats ont montré, au cours de la phase de sélection, capables d'inhiber significativement la croissance du champignon *in vitro*. En outre, ces isolats tolèrent bien la croissance face à trois principaux stress abiotiques : sécheresse ( $A_w = 0,91$ ), salinité (10% NaCl) et haute température (55 °C). Également, des caractéristiques PGP ont été révélées, telles que la solubilisation de phosphate ainsi que la production significative de sidérophores, d'acide indole-3-acétique (IAA) et d'enzymes protéases et lipases. Grâce à l'analyse des séquences de l'ADNr 16S et la MLST (Multi-Locus Sequence Typing), trois isolats identifiés comme étant *Bacillus paranthracis* (OZ-60) et *Bacillus paralicheniformis* (OZ-48 et OZ-77) ont montré des taux les plus élevés en termes de tolérance au stress, de propriétés PGP et d'activité antagoniste. Ces isolats pourraient être utiles en tant qu'approche écologique pour soutenir la durabilité de l'agriculture oléicole. Cependant, des études utilisant ces souches comme des inoculants afin de vérifier leur efficacité *in situ* sont nécessaires.

**Keywords:** Stress abiotique, Rhizosphère, PGPR, *Verticillium dahliae*, ARNr 16S, MLST

## Update of the list of medicinal plants traditionally used in the Province of Alhoceima

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**Abstract:** Morocco is a country with a long history of traditional knowledge. The vast majority of rural populations use medicinal plants as remedies for diseases. The medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) present real opportunities for development based on socio-economic valorization as local resources. The province of Alhoceima localized in the north of Morocco (Rif), is an interesting region rich in MAPs of which the tribe of Beni Ouriaghel is a part. Thus, a recent survey was conducted in the Rif Beni Ouriaghel (region of Al'Hoceima), among the rural population, between June / 2022 and March / 2023, with the aim of carrying out an inventory of medicinal plants and a collection of information relating to their therapeutic uses using a questionnaire. The series of visits carried out made it possible to inventory 70 species belonging to 34 floristic families with a predominance of the following families: Lamiaceae (44%), Asteraceae (8%), and Apiaceae (5%). 70 species are used to fight different pathologies: the digestive system (10%), Colds (8%), Influenza (8%). The leaves (54%), the stems (12%) and the aerial part (8%) are the main parts used to prepare the recipes. Alone or in combination, these parts are involved in the development of recipes by processes mainly using decoction (45%), infusion (35%) and powder (6%). The products obtained are administered mainly orally (82%) and by external applications represent 12%.

**Keywords :** Ethnobotanical survey, pharmacologic benefits, Rif, valorization, MAPs.



## Comparative analyzes of activated carbons based on different agricultural by-products

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**Abstract:** Activated carbon is considered the most efficient adsorbent of major industrial importance due to its high surface area and variable surface chemistry characteristics. However, the application of commercially available activated carbon has been limited because it is mainly derived from wood and coal. Wood and coal are natural and expensive resources. Therefore, much attention has been given to the efficient use of locally available and less expensive raw materials, from an economic and environmental point of view. Agricultural wastes and by-products are good candidates as they are renewable and inexpensive sources. The purpose of the present study is to elaborate on different activated carbon based on the straws of durum wheat, soft wheat, and barley, also Ammi visnaga, and Scolymus hispanicus, like precursors, in order to compare them. To do this, we chose the chemical activation method using phosphoric acid ( $H_3PO_4$ ) as the activating agent. The biomass samples were characterized in terms of their component analysis, constituents and proximate analysis, bulk and particle densities were also carried out for the adsorbents. The results suggest of physicochemical characterizations such as infrared analysis, scanning electron microscopy, and X-ray diffraction, suggest that, the prepared activated carbons has an outer surface full of cavities and has shown to be a promising adsorbent for the removal of organic pollutants.

**Keywords:** activated carbon, adsorbent, durum wheat straw, soft wheat straw, barley straw, Ammi visnaga, Scolymus hispanicus.

## Assessing Seasonal Variations in Water Status and Pigment Content of *Tetraclinis Articulata* (Vahl) Master Across a climatic gradient

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**Abstract:** *Tetraclinis Articulata* (Vahl) Master is an endemic tree of the western Mediterranean region. In Morocco, this tree has an important socioeconomic interest since it is used in several areas extending from carpentry to pharmacy and folk medicine. Despite its significant socioeconomic role, *T. articulata* is suffering a pronounced fragmentation of its habitat. Indeed, the distribution area went from 900000 hectares in 1984 to 566000 hectares in 2016. Climate change has become evident in Morocco. Specifically, a half-century decreases in annual precipitations. To better understand the effect of climate alteration on the *T. articulata* we conducted a comparative field experiment to assess seasonal variations of relative water content (RWC), and pigment content along a latitudinal gradient from north to south, ranging from Sub-humid to sub-Saharan climates. From a temporal sense, the lowest values of RWC, total chlorophyll, and chl<sub>a</sub>/b ratio were detected during the spring and summer seasons, while autumn and winter showed the highest values in almost all the studied sites. Comparing sites from north to south, the populations from the north show maximal values of chlorophyll and carotenoid content. In contrast, chl<sub>a</sub>/b and car/chl<sub>a</sub>+b values were more seasons dependent regardless of the tree's sites. Our results indicate that all populations exhibit similar tree behavior in response to climatic conditions (such as higher temperatures and water deficit). Notably, the southern populations of *T. articulata* appear to be more affected than the northern populations. Our study is preliminary Work, and additional ecophysiological investigations are needed to further understand the impact of climate change on the *T. articulata* populations.

**Keywords:** Relative water content; Total chlorophyll; Carotenoids; Drought.

## **Influence of extraction method on the yield and chemical composition of olive leaf extracts from three Moroccan varieties**

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**Abstract:** Olive leaves are considered to be a promising source of natural bioactive compounds such as polyphenols or flavonoids. The extraction of high-added value products is an issue of great interest with regard to their exploitation in food sustainability and circular economy. However, the content of these compounds can differ between varieties and extraction methods. In the present work, dried leaves from three Moroccan olive varieties (Moroccan Picholine, Haouzia, and Menara) were subjected to two extraction processes (maceration and Soxhlet) in order to be evaluated and compared towards the selective recovery of three bioactive compounds: total polyphenols, flavonoids, and condensed tannins. The results showed that the extraction yield obtained by the Soxhlet method ranged from 311.7 g/kg to 360.4 g/kg of dry olive leaves. As for the maceration method, the yield changed between 128.4 g/kg and 272.7 g/kg of dry olive leaves. The superiority of extraction yield from Soxhlet in comparison to maceration could be attributed to higher temperatures used in Soxhlet equipment. Analyses of variance for the three bioactive compounds revealed that the extraction method was the most important source of data variability. Mean comparisons among varieties using the Duncan test indicated that Moroccan Picholine exhibited the highest values for total polyphenols and flavonoids. Haouzia recorded the lowest value for condensed tannins while Menara had the lowest score for flavonoids. Between extraction methods, Duncan's test revealed that the maceration method allowed the release of higher amounts of polyphenols and tannins while leaf extracts obtained by Soxhlet registered the highest flavonoid content.

**Keywords:** Bioactive compounds, olive leaves, Soxhlet, maceration

## Effect of Cadmium Stress on Flag Leaf Morpho-Physiological Traits in Hulless Barely Developed in North Africa

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**Abstract:** In North Africa, barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L) is the second most cultivated cereal. In Morocco, barley is cultivated in mining sites with potential Cadmium (Cd) soil pollution, which its growth and yield can be negatively affected. Cd is a heavy metal pollutant, known as one of the most serious contaminants to accumulate in the soil, and water due to various anthropogenic activities. Cadmium toxicity decreases nutrients and water absorption and translocation, increases oxidative damage, affects the metabolism of plants, and inhibits plant morphology and physiology. This experiment was carried to study the effects of different concentrations of Cd (0, 15, 30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>) in the flag leaf of three North Africa hulless barley varieties: Assiya (Morocco), Tombari (Tunisia), and Giza130 (Egypt). Several morphological and physiological parameters were measured at vegetative stage including: Flag leaf length (FLL), Flag leaf width (FLW), Flag leaf area (FLA), Flag leaf dry weight (FLDW), water relative content (RWC), total chlorophyll content (SPAD), and Fluorescence (Fv/Fm). ANOVA analysis showed that all morphological traits (except for FLDW) were primarily affected by the variety effect (62% of total variance). In contrast, physiological traits were controlled to a large extent by the treatment of Cd (90% of total variance). Moreover, the interaction between the two factors was in general of lower importance. Comparison among varieties showed significant differences for all traits. In fact, the Moroccan variety (Assiya) displayed the highest values for physiological and morphological parameters. Concerning treatment effect, we noticed a general decrease in values of all traits from the control (0 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>) to stress 1 (15 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>) and stress 2 (30 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>).

**Keywords:** Cadmium, Hulless barley, *Hordeum vulgare* L, North Africa, Flag leaf

## Modes of Action of Biocontrol Agents and Elicitors for sustainable Protection against Bacterial Canker of Tomato

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**Abstract:** Tomato is one of the world's most commonly grown and consumed vegetables. However, it can be attacked by the Gram-positive bacterium *Clavibacter michiganensis* subsp. *michiganensis* (Cmm), which causes bacterial canker on tomato plants, resulting in significant financial losses in field production and greenhouses worldwide. The current management strategies rely principally on the application of various chemical pesticides and antibiotics, which represent a real danger to the environment and human safety. Plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) have emerged as an attractive alternative to agrochemical crop protection methods. PGPR act through several mechanisms to support plant growth and performance, while also preventing pathogen infection. We discuss the importance of bacterial canker disease and the pathogenicity of Cmm. We emphasize the application of PGPR as an ecological and cost-effective approach to the biocontrol of Cmm, specifying the complex modes of biocontrol agents (BCAs), and presenting their direct/indirect mechanisms of action that enable them to effectively protect tomato crops. Herein, we further discuss elicitors as a new management strategy to control Cmm, which are found to be highly effective in stimulating the plant immune system, decreasing disease severity, and minimizing pesticide use.

**Keywords:** bacterial canker, *C michiganensis* subsp. *michiganensis*, biocontrol, plant growth promoting rhizobacteria, elicitors, sustainable agriculture

## Agroecological concepts and alternatives to the problems of contemporary agriculture: Monoculture and chemical fertilization in the context of climate change

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**Abstract:** The modernization of agriculture has transformed natural agrarian systems into other new conventional ones, making it possible to exponentially increase agricultural production. This leads to the destruction of ecological functions, services, and has negative impacts on human health. This critical situation has given rise to a new model of agriculture called agroecology, which has emerged as a systemic approach that can understand the practices of traditional agricultural systems, as a scientific discipline that defines, classifies and studies agrosystems from an ecological and socio-economic point of view. This paper explores the major problems of agriculture, including climate change, monoculture, and chemical fertilization at the local, regional and global scale. Equally, we defined the different concepts that bring together the agroecological approach. We based on agroecology as a scientific discipline, as a practice by defining the different agroecological practices and their scale of application, as well as the politico-economic aspect of this concept. Further, we have proposed the agroecological alternatives that can remedy the three problems recorded in the first section, based on several recent studies and research that can examine whether agroecological practices have positive results on monoculture, chemical fertilization, and climate changes. However, more advanced studies, using rigorous research design, such as case controls, longitudinal studies, and surveys in regions where agriculture is their main source of income, such as Morocco, are still needed. These investigations are suggested to fill the gap of data on such areas and fields of research.

**Keywords :** Agriculture, agroecology, agroecosystem, chemical fertilization, climate change, monoculture.



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# **Agriculture**

## SITE EFFECTS ESTIMATION IN A DIFFERENT REGION OF MOROCCO USING THE STANDARD SPECTRAL RATIO

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**Abstract:** Morocco has a varied soil cover, and some areas may have thick sediments that can possibly amplify the earthquake ground motion. Estimates of site effect in Morocco using the standard spectral ratio technique are not available to date. The site effects are influenced by a variety of factors, including geology, topography, earthquake magnitude, and distance. The purpose of this article is to evaluate the site effect impacts in a different area in Morocco by identifying regions exposed to higher levels of ground motion during earthquakes. The seismic local site effects of 12 Picasso Project seismological stations installed in Morocco between 2009 and 2012 are investigated in this paper. The geology of these broadband stations varies from rock formations to soft soils. Based on the geology of the area and the spectral ratio test, the site PM21 has been chosen as the reference site. The results obtained through the conventional spectral ratio method, reveal that the amplification factor varies greatly from one place to another. High amplification is felt at lower frequencies in locations on soil sites, while lower amplification is felt at higher frequencies in locations on stiff or rock sites. These site effects may differ from those computed using horizontal to vertical ratio (HVSr), yet their knowledge is significantly inadequate to assess true nature of ground amplification. The results of this article could be used to analyze seismic risk and construct structures near station sites.

**Keywords:** Site effect, Morocco, Picasso, earthquake, and spectral ratio method



## Foliar analysis: Towards a novel method for estimating nitrogen content in cherry tomato plants using NIRS, Chemometrics, and Machine Learning

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**Abstract:** Plant health and crop yield are directly affected by the variation in the nutritional status of the plant during the crop season. Therefore, optimal methods for monitoring the nutritional status of plants should be adopted to maximize their productivity while preserving its health. The primary goal of this study is to present an innovative, low-cost, non-invasive, rapid, and accurate method for monitoring plant nutritional status using leaf tissue analysis as a proxy. The technique combines near-infrared spectroscopy, chemometrics, and machine learning. In this study, several spectral pre-processing and regression algorithms were tested to accurately map the relationship between the spectral signature of plant leaf tissue and its nitrogen content. The method output was highly correlated with the output of the standard wet-chemistry method ( $R^2 > 80$ ), demonstrating that this novel method is reliable and can be used in smart agriculture as an efficient alternative for within-field monitoring plant nutritional status during the agricultural season.

**Keywords:** Machine Learning, Chemometrics, NIRS, Nitrogen, Leaf analysis.

## Analysis of Phytochemicals in *Thymus zygis* L. and *Salvia officinalis* L. from Fez-Meknes region, Morocco

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**Abstract:** Thymus and Salvia are among the most popular plants both in traditional medicine and in the culinary arts. This study has the aims to detect the chemical composition of the extracts and the powder of *Thymus zygis* L. (T) and *Salvia officinalis* L. (S) collected from the Fez-Meknes region. Two extracts were prepared: aqueous and essential oil. Phytochemical tests were performed to qualitatively evaluate the presence or absence of phytoconstituents using standard methods. The essential oils were analyzed by gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC/MS). Two powder analyses were performed: Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) analysis and elemental analysis. The drying of both plants took a similar amount of time with a noticeable loss in weight for Salvia. The phytochemical screening revealed the abundant presence of terpenoids, catechic tannins, steroids and sterols in the two plants. GC/MS analysis showed richness in carvacrol for *Thymus zygis* L. and in thujone for *Salvia officinalis* L. The analysis by FTIR showed characteristic peak readings of various functional groups in the powders, citing proteins, aliphatic compounds, carbonyl compounds and aromatic rings. In the elemental analysis, there is a high carbon content for Thymus and Salvia (T: 66.70%, S: 53.34%), followed by oxygen (T: 36.45%, S: 37.88%) and hydrogen (T: 6.08%, S: 5.61%). Altogether, this study highlights the richness of these two species in chemical compounds that can be used in the pharmaceutical industry.

**Keywords:** Elemental analysis, FTIR, Phytochemical screening, *Thymus zygis* L., *Salvia officinalis*

## High-Efficiency Adsorption of the resin by the anionic MO dye

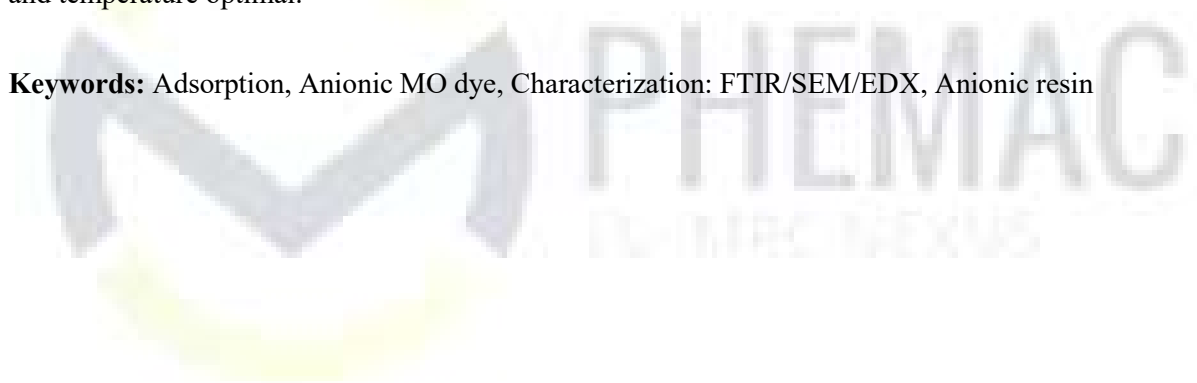
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**Abstract:** In this work, we study the removal of the anionic dye (MO) by adsorption on the resin synthetic polymer. EDX, SEM and FTIR did the characterization of the anion resin. The effects of physicochemical factors on the process adsorption ability of the anionic resin for MO dye, as well the efficiency of the polymer resin, contact time, pH imposed study on the organic solution and initial concentration of organic solution is examined. Experiments revealed that adsorption at a various mass are achieved at saturation that corresponds to the complete disappearance of the organic solution. The balance is reached at time, pH and temperature optimal.

**Keywords:** Adsorption, Anionic MO dye, Characterization: FTIR/SEM/EDX, Anionic resin



## Microbiological monitoring of the environment using the "Association Rules" approach in a hospital centre in Morocco

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**Abstract:** The hospital environment, in particular surfaces and medical devices, constitute a source of contamination for patients and healthcare professionals. This study carried out, to our knowledge, for the first time at the Taza hospital in Morocco aimed to assess the microbiological quality of surfaces and medical devices in surgical departments and to assess the disinfection procedure over time and in space. Samples were taken by swab after cleaning the hospital surface or the medical device, to isolate and identify the germs which were inoculated on semi-selective culture media and then identified by standard biochemical and physiological tests, using Analytical Profile Index Galleries (API). In addition, a model for extracting the rules of association between the sites on the one hand and the germs on the other hand was used for the sampling. The study showed that 83% of the samples were contaminated after the bio-cleaning. The most contaminated departments were male and female surgeries. 62% of the isolated germs were identified as Gram-positive bacteria, 29% as Gram-negative bacteria and 9% as fungi. Regarding the association rule extraction model, a strong association between certain contaminated sites and the presence of germs was found, such as the association between wall and bedside table and doorknob, which means that the contamination of the wall and bedside table is systematically linked to that of the door handle. The evaluation of the effectiveness of the disinfection procedure made it possible to propose renewing it every 4 hours. Microbiological monitoring of surfaces is necessary at the hospital level through the use of the association rule extraction model, which is very important to optimize the scenarios for sampling, cleaning and disinfection of the most contaminated sites. .

**Keywords:** hospital, microbiology, association rule, germs, surgery

## Enhance barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.) tolerance to drought stress using plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR)

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**Abstract:** Barley is among the most cultivated cereals in areas suffering water deficit, which impacts their growth and crop production. Here, we aimed to select plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) that have the potential to enhance barley growth under drought stress. Thus, 15 bacterial isolates were selected for drought tolerance (more than -0.49 MPa) and screened for PGP characteristics: phosphate solubilization, production of exopolysaccharides, hydrogen cyanide, ammonia, siderophores, and indole-3-acetic acid, and enzyme activities such as phosphatase, cellulase, pectinase, and chitinase. The top four isolates (MFC1, MFE3, MFF2, and MFF5) regarding PGP traits were tested on barley plants in irrigated and under drought conditions. The inoculation of barley plants by the isolates increased the indexes of plant tolerance to drought stress, such as shoot dry weight, relative water content, chlorophyll pigments content, photosynthesis efficiency (Fv/m ratio), and proline content. On the other hand, plant sensitivity indexes such as electrolytes leakage and MDA and hydrogen peroxide contents were decreased. Principal component analysis discriminates clearly between uninoculated and inoculated plants. Indeed, under stressful conditions, MFE3 showed high plant tolerance index values, making it a potent isolate. Our current study showed that the interaction between barley plants and MFE3 might lead to an effective plant-bacteria system under drought stress.

**Keywords:** plant growth, promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR), barley, *Hordeum vulgare*, drought stress

## ENHANCING CSP AND PV PLANTS EFFICIENCY WITH A NEW DYNAMIC CLEANING STRATEGY

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**Abstract:** Many suitable sites for photovoltaic (PV), concentrating solar power (CSP) or hybrid CSP/PV plants are located in arid and semi-arid regions or deserts, where the surfaces of the solar collectors are prone to the accumulation of soiling. Soiling reduces the efficiency of CSP and PV technologies and increases operation and maintenance (O&M) expenses. To mitigate the negative effects of soiling, cleaning is considered the most effective solution. However, the costs incurred for cleaning activities can potentially increase O&M costs and electricity prices. Thus, optimizing the cleaning frequency is necessary to keep the performance of the solar power plant at an acceptable level while reducing cleaning costs. This is especially important for large-scale solar power plants located in areas that suffer from water scarcity. The aim of this study is to provide an effective and reliable approach to facilitate decision making regarding cleaning requirements for PV and CSP projects during the feasibility study phase. This approach is based on real soiling measurements, ground weather data, and economic inputs, providing valuable information on the optimal cleaning frequency and corresponding costs to improve yield prediction and reduce financial risks associated with such projects.

**Keywords:** Dust accumulation, CSP, PV, Soiling monitoring, Soiling mitigation, Cleaning strategy.

## A techno-economic study of battery energy storage systems for grid-scale applications

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**Abstract:** The importance of battery systems is growing in the stationary and automotive industries as the world moves toward a more sustainable and renewable energy future. In the automotive industry, battery systems are becoming increasingly important as electric vehicles become more common. The stationary industry is also turning to batteries as a storage solution. As a technology, battery-based energy storage systems (BESS) can enhance the reliability and stability of power systems. Since renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, have been integrated more into the grid, energy storage solutions have become more important to manage these resources' intermittent and variable nature. BESS can provide grid balancing services by storing excess renewable energy generated during low-demand times and releasing it during high-demand periods. Consequently, fossil-fuel-based peaking plants are less needed, grid oscillations are reduced and grid stability is improved. Including a trend analysis of current and future energy storage technologies. The study aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of each battery technology studied (Lithium-ion, Lead-acid, Redox Flow Battery (RFB), Sodium-sulfur battery (NA-S)), their performance metrics, and cost-effectiveness for different stationary energy storage applications. The national and international market research study will identify the key players in the energy storage industry, their market share, and the growth potential of different battery technologies in various regions. In addition, the results of this study will enable energy stakeholders to make informed decisions on the most appropriate energy storage technology for specific applications and identify investment and growth opportunities in the energy storage industry.

**Keywords :** BESS, Grid-scale, stationary market, Battery technology, lithium-ion, RFB

## THE EFFECT OF AMF AND PGPR CONSORTIA ON THE TOLERANCE OF DATE PALM AGAINST FUSARIUM WILT

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**Abstract:** Moroccan date palm is one of the most cultivated palms in the world that is widely known for its fruits. Over the last century, several abiotic and biotic stresses have limited date palm expansion and cultivation. The Bayoud disease, caused by *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *albedinis* (Foa), is the most destructive vascular disease of date palm in Morocco, where it has destroyed over 12 million date palms during a century. Thus, it is a necessity to find innovative and eco-efficient solutions to suppress this soil-borne pathogen and ensure the long-term sustainability of phoeniculture. In this context, the purpose of our work is to suppress this telluric disease through the management of the pathogen by beneficial microorganisms. This study investigates the effects of single or dual inoculation of an autochthonous consortium of AMF and PGPR consortium, isolated from particular biotopes, on *Fusarium* wilt in date palm seedlings. The results show that the AMF and PGPR consortia, alone or combined, significantly reduce the disease incidence and the disease severity as well as the mortality rate of date palm plants. The synergistic effect between the consortia is reflected through the improvement of the mycorrhizal symbioses on date palm seedlings. Furthermore, the study reveals that the suppressive effects are associated with the suppression of the pathogen in the soil by antagonistic strains. This work shows that autochthonous consortia of AMF and PGPR are effective as biocontrol agents and could contribute to the suppression of date palm *Fusarium* wilt.

**Keywords:** Date palm, Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi, PGPR, *Fusarium* wilt, Bio, protection.





# Poster Sessions

## POLLUTION EFFECT ON SOIL AND SEDIMENT MICROBIAL ACTIVITY IN ICHKEUL SALINE WETLAND, TUNISIA

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**Abstract:** This study aims to characterize in the effect of anthropogenic activities on functional features of microbial communities in a saline lake, Ichkeul (Tunisia). This lake is a hydrologic network contaminated with multiple compounds from intense human activities including agriculture, mining, oil refinery and metallurgy. Analyses were investigated in transects along soil-river-lake continuum located in three stations around the Lake during summer and winter periods. Biolog® EcoPlates. (Biolog Inc., Hayward, CA, USA) were used to analyze the functional diversity of bacterial communities by means of measuring their ability to oxidize carbon substrates. This technique has been successfully adopted for studying bacterial soil communities from different soil environments. The average well colour development AWCD, substrate average well colour development S-AWCD, Shannon-Wiener diversity index ( $H'$ ) and evenness index ( $E$ ) were determined to quantify the metabolic capabilities and functional diversity. Overall, the AWCD values generally followed the same pattern with incubation time for all samples, with higher values in winter than in summer and in river and lake sediments than in soil. Analysis of Pearson's correlations between substrates metabolization and physical-chemical characteristics of the samples showed significant positive correlation ( $p < 0.05$ ) between polymers and aminoacides utilisation and OCPs, between carbohydrates and alkanes, and between amines and PHAs. While, there were significant negative correlations ( $p < 0.05$ ) between carboxylic acids utilisation and alkanes and between amines utilization and OCPs. Our data showed also that the concentration of Na and Cl ions, ie, salinity was significantly negatively correlated ( $p < 0.05$ ) with carbohydrates and amines and positively correlated with aminoacides metabolization, indicating a shift in functional diversity with salinity. The  $H'$  and  $E$  indices did not show significant differences between the analyzed samples, suggesting the adaptation of the microbial communities to pollutants and to salinity (legacy effect). The parallel use of general metabolic capabilities and functional diversity indices may improve the output information of the effects of the anthropic activities on saline lakes environment.

**Keywords:** Biolog® EcoPlates, microbial communities, saline lake, microbial metabolic responses, biodiversity.

## Phytochemical, antioxidant, antimicrobial and antiproliferative potential of *Inula Viscosa*

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**Abstract:** Medicinal plants make an important contribution to the health systems of almost all rural areas, and play a key role in the development and advancement of scientific studies by serving as a starting point for the development of new medicines. Recently, there has been a growing interest in natural antioxidants, with the aim of reducing the toxic effects of free radicals in the human body. We aimed to promote plant *Inula viscosa* recognized by its use by the local population, in the treatment of various diseases, and the demonstration of the antimicrobial, antioxidant and antiproliferative properties of its extracts. The extraction of this plant was carried out by macerating the powder of the dried leaves using different solvents of increasing polarity. Qualitative phytochemical analysis performed revealed that the leaves of this plant contain phenols, flavonoids, tannins, steroids and terpenoids. While saponins are absent in all extracts except the aqueous extract. The content of polyphenols, flavonoids and tannins of the leaves of *Inula viscosa* were determined by the Folin-Ciocalteu method, the AlCl<sub>3</sub> method and the vanillin method with HCl, respectively. The antioxidant activity was evaluated by two methods: the DPPH test, which gave the following inhibition percentages 77%, 77%, 69%, 19% for methanolic, aqueous, ethyl acetate and hexane extracts respectively. And Ferric reducing antioxidant power where the aqueous and methanolic extracts exhibit a better reducing power of iron than that of the ethyl acetate and hexane extracts. The antimicrobial activity was evaluated by agar diffusion assay against five microbial strains (*Bacillus subtilis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Proteus mirabilis*). The results demonstrated an inhibitory effect in particular on *Bacillus subtilis* and *Proteus mirabilis*, with no inhibition for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The antiproliferative test has demonstrated the power of hexanic, methanolic and ethyl acetate extracts to inhibit root growth. And this was confirmed by the technique of zymography.

**Keywords:** *Inula viscosa*, Antioxidant activity, Antimicrobial activity, antiproliferative activity

## Analyse chimique, caractérisation phytochimique et quantification des composés phénoliques des différents extraits des fleurs et stigmates du *Crocus Sativus* L. (Safran) au Maroc

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**Résumé:** Le Maroc est le quatrième producteur mondial du Safran (*Crocus Sativus* L.). Cette épice, reconnue comme la plus chère au monde, est fréquemment utilisée dans différents domaines tels que la médecine, la cosmétique et la cuisine. L'objectif de notre étude est la valorisation de cette plante à travers l'analyse biochimique de ses extraits, la caractérisation phytochimique, ainsi que la quantification des composés phénolique en utilisant la chromatographie en phase gazeuse couplée à la spectroscopie de masse (GC-MS), des réactions colorimétriques en tube et des analyses spectrophotométrique Les résultats ont révélé la présence des tanins, des flavonoïdes, d'huiles essentielles, des iridoïdes et de composés réducteurs dans les deux extraits, avec une abondance au niveau des stigmates. En revanche, nous avons observé l'absence des anthocyanines, saponosides, protéines, lipides, mucilage et des glycosides cardiaques. Les taux de polyphénols totaux se situent entre  $3.769 \pm 1.24$  et  $28.106 \pm 0.63$  mg EAG/g MS, les flavonoïdes totaux étaient compris entre  $2.948 \pm 0.05$  et  $25.502 \pm 0.02$  mg EQ/g MS, et les taux de tanins condensés se situaient entre  $1.981 \pm 0.57$  et  $21.065 \pm 0.43$  mg EC/g MS avec une abondance des principes actifs au niveau des stigmates. L'analyse par GC-MS des extraits a révélé la présence des esters, des cétones, des acides carboxyliques, des alcanes et des alcènes. Les conclusions tirées mettent en évidence l'abondance du *Crocus Sativus* L. en composés bioactifs, ce qui souligne l'intérêt pour son utilisation dans les domaines médicaux, pharmaceutiques et cosmétiques.

**Mot clés :** *Crocus Sativus* L., caractérisation phytochimique, composition chimique, molécules bioactives, GC-MS, Maroc.

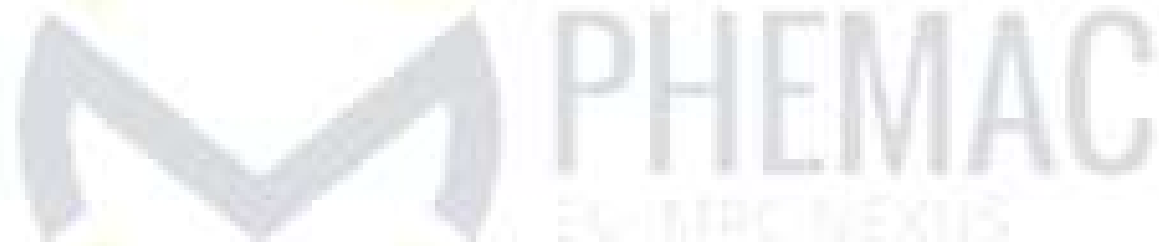
## THE EFFECT OF SHADING ON THE MICROCLIMATE OF A CANARIAN GREENHOUSE IN THE CHTOUKA REGION

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**Abstract:** Nowadays, the use of photovoltaic (PV) energy in greenhouses has become an important solution and an appropriate option to achieve the goals of environmentally sustainable agri- culture, the integration of photovoltaic panels on the greenhouse structure is one of those applications of photovoltaic technologies in agriculture. However, the shading produced by the photovoltaic panels has good effects during the summer period on the microclimate of the greenhouse. In this sense, our study was conducted to evaluate the shading effects induced by photovoltaic panels on the microclimate of the Canary Islands greenhouse in which 40% of the roof surface was covered with flexible photovoltaic panels in a checkerboard format.

**Keywords:** Greenhouse, Photovoltaic panels, microclimate, Solar radiation.



## BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF TWO ESSENTIAL OILS ON SOME POST-HARVEST FUNGAL PATHOGENS

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**Abstract:** Post-harvest losses include all losses of agricultural products, mainly food, along the agricultural value chain from the crop in the field to the consumer's plate. Losses of agricultural products are an important problem in the post-harvest chain. During this storage period many fruits are subject to multiple post-harvest rots. In order to study biological control methods against phytopathogenic fungi of strawberries (*B.cinerea*) and oranges (*P.digitatum* and *P.italicum*) after harvest, tests on the antifungal activity of the essential oil of artemesia herba alba and Pistachia lentiscus were carried out. The essential oil, obtained by hydrodistillation was analyzed by several methods. The extraction of essential oils of Artemisia herba-alba was performed by hydrodistillation and analyzed by GC-MS. The majority constituents were chrysanthenone, camphor,  $\alpha$ -pinene,  $\alpha$ -thujone and  $\beta$ -thujone. In the essential oil of *P. lentiscus* leaves and twigs, germacrene D and myrcene are the dominant compound. The investigation of the antifungal activity of the essential oil of artemesia herba alba and Pistachia lentiscus was carried out in vitro using the agar diffusion method. For this test, three phytopathogens responsible for fruit deterioration were selected: *Botrytis cinerea*, *Penicillium digitatum* and *Penicillium italicum*. The results obtained in this study indicate that the essential oil of artemesia herba Alba and Pistachia lentiscus has bioantifungal potential as a bioantifungal preservative for the control of postharvest diseases.

**Keywords:** Keywords: essential oils, post, harvest, fungal pathogens, Antifungal activity

## Etude phytochimique, quantification des composés phénoliques et analyse GC-MS Des extraits aqueux et alcooliques des feuilles de Pélargonium Zonale

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**Abstract:** Pélargonium Zonale une plante vivace herbacée à souche ligneuse appartenant à la famille des Géraniacées genre Pélargonium, contient 280 espèces, la plupart d'entre elles sont originaires d'Afrique du Sud et cultivée commercialement au Maroc. Les feuilles de Pélargonium Zonale étaient utilisées largement en médecine traditionnelle pour traiter différentes maladies de la peau, la gorge ou comme des styptiques grâce à sa richesse en composés bioactifs et aussi dans les activités environnementales. Notre travail vise à un criblage phytochimique des feuilles de Pélargonium Zonale. La méthode d'extraction choisie est la macération par trois solvants de polarité différentes : extraits méthanolique, éthanolique et aqueux. Ce criblage phytochimique, a été réalisé par des réactions de caractérisation en tube, des techniques spectrophotométriques et par la chromatographie en phase gazeuse couplée à la spectroscopie de masse (GC-MS). Les résultats des analyses phytochimiques ont montré une présence abondante des Polyphénols, Tanins libres et Tanins catéchiques avec l'absence des Anthocyanes et Leucocyanes pour les trois extraits. La quantification des molécules phénoliques a révélé que les meilleures teneurs en flavonoïdes (1132,82 ± 0,02 mg/g MS) et en polyphénols (3,32 ± 0,54 mg/g MS) sont affirmées à l'extrait méthanolique, par contre la valeur la plus élevée des tanins condensés était détectée avec l'extrait éthanolique (28,934 ± 0,12 mg/g MS). L'analyse des échantillons par GC-MS a montré la présence des alcènes, des alcanes, des alcools de la vitamine E et des huiles essentielles. Ces résultats ont confirmé, donc la richesse de Pélargonium Zonale en principes actifs qui peuvent être valorisés dans plusieurs domaines.

**Keywords:** Pélargonium Zonale, métabolites secondaires, criblage phytochimique, chromatographie gazeuse.

## Update of the list of medicinal plants traditionally used in the Province of Taza

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Abstract: A large number of plants have very interesting biological properties, which find application in various fields, namely in medicine, pharmacy, cosmetology and agriculture. The objective of this work is to list these uses of plants used in traditional medicine in unexplored areas of the province of Taza. Thus, a recent survey was conducted in the Pre-Rif of Taza (North-East of Morocco), among the rural population, between May / 2022 and January / 2023, with the aim of carrying out an inventory of medicinal plants and a collection of information relating to their therapeutic uses using a questionnaire. The series of visits carried out made it possible to inventory 90 species belonging to 46 floristic families with a predominance of the following families: Lamiaceae (30%), Asteraceae (8%), Myrtaceae (6%) and Fabaceae (5%). 90 species are used to fight different pathologies: the digestive system (13%), Diabetes (10%), Colds (9%). The leaves (52%), the aerial part (13%) and the seeds (9%) are the main parts used to prepare the recipes. Alone or in combination, these parts are involved in the development of recipes by processes mainly using infusion (38%), decoction (29%) and powder (13%). The products obtained are administered mainly orally (76%) and by external applications represent 16%.

**Keywords :** Ethnobotanical survey, Therapeutic uses, Pre-rif of Taza, traditional medicine, plants.



## Effect of healthy eating habits on physical activity levels

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**Abstract:** Contexte : De saines habitudes alimentaires peuvent avoir un impact significatif sur le niveau d'activité physique d'une personne. Le contexte de cette relation est que la nutrition fournit l'énergie nécessaire à l'activité physique et qu'une alimentation saine peut augmenter la quantité d'énergie disponible pour l'exercice. Méthodes : Un questionnaire autodéclaré a été utilisé pour recueillir des informations complètes sur la durée, la fréquence et l'intensité d'une variété d'activités physiques. Il a également été utilisé pour décrire de saines habitudes alimentaires, pour examiner la relation entre les habitudes alimentaires et les niveaux d'activité physique. Résultats : Les résultats ont montré que les adolescents scolarisés qui ont de saines habitudes alimentaires ont tendance à être plus actifs physiquement que ceux qui ont une alimentation moins saine. Conclusion : De saines habitudes alimentaires peuvent avoir un effet significatif sur le niveau d'activité physique d'un individu. Il est donc important de promouvoir une alimentation saine pour encourager les niveaux d'activité physique et améliorer la santé globale de la population.

**Keywords:** diet, physical activity, teenagers, Morocco



## EXTRACTION ET CARACTERISATION DE LA CHITINE ET DU CHITOSANE A PARTIR DES CARAPACES DES CRUSTACES

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**Abstract:** Plusieurs millions de tonnes de déchets des crustacés sont produits annuellement dans le monde, ces déchets sont très dangereux pour l'environnement en raison de leur forte demande biologique et chimique en oxygène. Cependant, ils sont considérés comme une ressource potentielle à haute valeur ajoutée, car ils contiennent, principalement, des protéines, des minéraux et de la chitine. La chitine et le chitosane sont des biopolymères aux propriétés chimiques et biologiques intéressantes, telles que la biodégradabilité, la biocompatibilité, la non-toxicité et les activités antibactériennes et antimicrobiennes, etc. Ils ont été largement utilisés dans de nombreuses applications allant de l'agriculture à la médecine. Dans cette étude, l'extraction de la chitine et du chitosane a été effectuée en utilisant les carapaces des crevettes comme matière première, selon les étapes suivantes : la déminéralisation en utilisant l'acide chlorhydrique, la déprotéinisation par un traitement basique en utilisant l'hydroxyde de sodium dilué et la désacétylation qui consiste à convertir la chitine en chitosane par une solution concentrée d'hydroxyde de sodium à des températures élevées. La chitine et le chitosane obtenus ont été caractérisés par la spectroscopie infrarouge à transformée de Fourier (FTIR), la diffraction des rayons X (DRX) et la microscopie électronique à balayage (MEB).

**Keywords:** Chitine, chitosane, degré de désacétylation, valorisation des déchets.

## PHYSICOCHEMICAL AND GEOCHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF BOUAZZA'S MINE EMBANKMENTS AND RIVER SIDEMENTS (TAZA PROVINCE, MOROCCO)

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**Abstract:** Mining production industry generates high quantities of mine tailings often placed on the surface. They evoke sources of contamination generally mine drainage, to all environmental compartments according to their physicochemical and geochemical characteristics that show their richness in residual metals and sulphide mineral dust such as pyrite and galena. Bouaazza's mine (NE Morocco) lead and sulfides exploitation resulted the exposure of large superficies of acid discharges in the surface. To determine the impact caused by acid mine drainage in the area, samples were collected from the river sediments near the mine and from the embankments. According to the physicochemical and geochemical analyzes, it was possible to discern a pollution by acid mine drainage, with pH values of sediments reaching 5. These results indicate the high risk generated by the absence of environmental monitoring of the mining operations which threaten the environment.

**Keywords:** Acid mine drainage, Bouaazza's mine, mining discharges, pollution.

## Etude phytochimique, dosage des composés phénoliques des extraits méthanoliques des feuilles et des tiges du thymus vulgaris.

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**Abstract:** Le thym (*Thymus vulgaris*), famille des Lamiacées, est un petit arbuste vivace sous la forme d'un sous-arbrisseau ramifié, utilisé en médecine traditionnelle (infusion, décoction et macération) et en cosmétologie (huile essentielle). L'objectif de cette étude est de valoriser *Thymus vulgaris* collecté dans la région Atlas du Maroc. Le travail porte sur la caractérisation phytochimique, la quantification des polyphénols, des flavonoïdes et des tanins en utilisant des réactions colorimétriques en tube et des techniques spectrophotométrie, respectivement des extraits méthanolique des feuilles et des tiges, ainsi que l'analyse par spectroscopie infrarouge afin d'identifier les groupements fonctionnels. Les résultats révèlent la présence des polyphénols, des tanins, des flavonoïdes, des cyanidines, des anthocyanes, des huiles essentielles, des C-hétérosides et des lipoides dans les deux extraits de la plante avec plus d'abondance au niveau des feuilles. Au contraire, les saponines, les protéines, les stérols et terpènes et les stupéfiants sont totalement absents. Les taux des polyphénols totaux se situent entre 7.455 0.5 et 5.910 0.63 mg EAG/g MS, les flavonoïdes totaux entre 0.210 1.32 et 0.094 0.43 mg EQ/g MS et les tanins condensés entre 1.311 0.53 et 1.529 0.98 mg EC/g MS. L'analyse des échantillons par spectroscopie infrarouge montre la présence des groupements O-H, N-H, C-H, C-C. Ces résultats confirment la richesse de *Thymus vulgaris* en molécules bioactives permettant d'entrevoir des perspectives d'application dans les domaines médical, pharmaceutique et cosmétique.

**Keywords:** *Thymus vulgaris*, caractérisation physicochimique, huiles essentielles, spectroscopie infrarouge.

## Environmental impact of landfill leachate: Application of Principal Component Analysis

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**Abstract:** Au Maroc, la priorité pour la gestion des déchets ménagers et assimilés a été accordée à la réalisation d'infrastructures primaires composées de décharges contrôlées et de centres de transferts dans les grandes villes et à la réhabilitation des dépotoirs sauvages. Le lixiviat de la décharge constitue une menace environnementale importante en raison de la complexité et de la variété de ses polluants. Dans ce contexte, Les objectifs principaux de cette étude portant sur lixiviat de la décharge public sont les suivants: Evaluer la qualité physicochimique et bactériologique du lixiviat et de proposer une stratégie adaptée pour améliorer la qualité du lixiviat. La caractérisation du lixiviat a montré une forte pollution organique. Ainsi que l'analyse des germes de pollution fécale du lixiviat a montré la présence de forte concentration en coliformes totaux (CT), coliformes fécaux (CF) et streptocoques fécaux (SF). Le traitement statistique des données nous a donné une idée sur la corrélation entre les différentes variables, ainsi l'analyse en composante principale (ACP) nous a permis de réduire les dimensions de notre base de données en collectant le maximum d'informations sur leurs tendances.

**Keywords:** Décharge, lixiviat, physico, chimiques, analyse en composante principale

## NITRATE TRANSPORT SIMULATION IN MENZEL BOURGUIBA AQUIFER SYSTEM (NORTHEASTERN TUNISIA)

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**Abstract:** In the Menzel Bourguiba Basin (NE Tunisia), groundwater resources are contaminated by nitrate, with concentrations that exceed the World Health Organization's international standard of 50 mg/l due to intensive agricultural activities (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations vary between 0.1 and 175 mg/l). Indeed, to understand well this severe problem, contaminant transport modeling is a perfect tool for any risk management related to groundwater quality. This study was conducted to simulate the nitrate transport in the Menzel Bourguiba aquifer system, based on the flow model calibrated in 1981 under steady-state conditions and using the MT3D code coupled with the MODFLOW program. Nitrate concentration measurements of 35 water samples from 18 wells and 17 boreholes collected during October 2019 were carried out in this simulation. The results showed a high correlation of 0.95 between the observed and the calculated concentrations. The numerical model provided a satisfactory reproduction of the nitrate distribution in the study area. It constitutes a helpful framework for the predictive modeling of future nitrate concentrations and may therefore constitute a basis for developing groundwater management plans.

**Keywords:** Modeling. Aquifer system. Contamination. Nitrate transport. Menzel Bourguiba (NE Tunisia).

## Unlocking the Potential of Digestate as a Bio Fertilizer for Sustainable Agriculture and Renewable Energy

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**Abstract:** Reusing biowastes for agricultural purposes has received increased attention in recent years because it can be a sustainable method of waste disposal as well to enhance soil fertility and crop performance with socioeconomic benefits and a promising renewable energy alternative. By combining the biodegradability of organic materials with anaerobic digestion (AD) technology, biogas, and digestate are the two major products that are produced as an outcome of a series of metabolic processes by diverse microorganisms in the anaerobic environment. Due to its significant agronomic qualities brought on by the presence of essential nutrients like nitrogen, phosphate, and potassium, the nutrient-rich digestate derived from (AD) can function as an effective bio-fertilizer for crops. Even though biogas is a potential renewable energy source that may be utilized to produce both heat and power. This study aims to investigate how digestate application affects crop growth and yield. Field trials will be conducted to determine the right/best rates and methods of application for different crops. This will entail evaluating the effects of varying digestate application rates and methods, such as concentration, volume, surface application, or soil incorporation, on crop growth, yield, and quality.

**Keywords:** : Biogas, Digestate, Anaerobic digestion, Biowastes, Bio, fertilizer, Crops, Renewable energy.

## Etude phytochimique et quantification des composés phénoliques des extraits méthanoliques et aqueux du noyau de *Persea americana* (Fuerte)

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**Abstract:** *Persea americana*, est un arbre de la famille des Lauraceae qui nous a donné le fruit d'avocat, originaire du Mexique et d'Amérique centrale, se développe dans un climat tropical à sous-tropical, et le Maroc est parmi les pays qui cultivent cet arbre. Le noyau du fruit de *Persea americana* est fréquemment utilisé en cosmétique et en médecine traditionnelle. Notre objectif est la valorisation du noyau par une caractérisation phytochimique et une quantification des composés phénoliques des extraits méthanoliques et aqueux, ainsi qu'une analyse par spectroscopie infrarouge. Les résultats du criblage ont montré la présence des flavonoïdes, des tanins, des leucoanthocyanes, des sucres réducteurs, des alcaloïdes, des saponosides et des anthocyanes avec une intensité élevée au niveau des extraits méthanoliques par rapport aux extraits aqueux. La quantification des molécules phénoliques a montré que les teneurs en Polyphénols totaux allant de ( $20.53 \pm 0.12$  mg/g MS) à ( $25.70 \pm 0.07$  mg/g MS), de ( $12.46 \pm 0.03$  mg/g MS) à ( $13.01 \pm 0.2$  mg/g MS) pour les flavonoïdes totaux, les Tanins étaient compris entre ( $3.78 \pm 0.005$  mg/g MS) et ( $4.00 \pm 1.03$  mg/g MS) et en sucres totaux les teneurs se situent entre ( $360.04 \pm 1.37$  mg/g MS) et ( $580.00 \pm 0.25$  mg/g MS) avec une abondance au niveau des extraits aqueux. L'analyse par l'infrarouge d'échantillon a révélé la présence de groupements fonctionnels tels que O-H, C=O, C-H et les halogènes. Les résultats montrent la richesse du noyau de *Persea americana* (fuerte) en métabolites secondaires ce qui nous a permis de le valoriser dans les domaines pharmaceutique et cosmétique.

**Keywords:** *Persea americana*, Fuerte, métabolites secondaire, phytochimie, Maroc



## First report of genetic relationship and diversity among Moroccan and introduced rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.) varieties as revealed by molecular markers

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**Abstract:** Rapeseed (*Brassica napus* L.) crop can be a lever for the development of oilseed sector in Morocco due to its adaptation to local conditions and its major economic and food importance. Breeding is the key to the success of this crop and judicious choice of crossing parents is a prerequisite to the success of the selection program and the development of new varieties that perform better than the old ones. In this regard, genetic variation within the existing germplasm must be explored and characterized. Therefore, the present study was carried out to investigate the genetic diversity among 22 varieties from Morocco as well as other origins, using twenty ISSR primers. The selected primers have generated a total of 319 markers. Polymorphic amplified bands varied from 8 to 18, with an average of 13 per primer. The diversity index (PIC) ranged from 0.295 to 0.509, with a mean value of 0.37 per primer, indicating a good genetic diversity level for the primers used. The average similarity coefficient was 0.31, fluctuating between 0.176 and 0.456, and the pairwise comparison of the studied varieties showed a great discriminating power of primers and a large genetic diversity among accessions. Hierarchical classification allowed identifying three groups with some phylogeographic structuring. This is the first report of molecular characterization of rapeseed germplasm in Morocco and Africa. The obtained results have important implications for management of this germplasm to conserve the existing genetic diversity and use it properly in breeding programs in Morocco as well as in other Mediterranean and African countries.

**Keywords:** *Brassica napus* L., Crossbreeding, Genetic diversity, ISSR markers, Moroccan germplasm

## Use of spirulina as an alternative to synthetic antioxidants

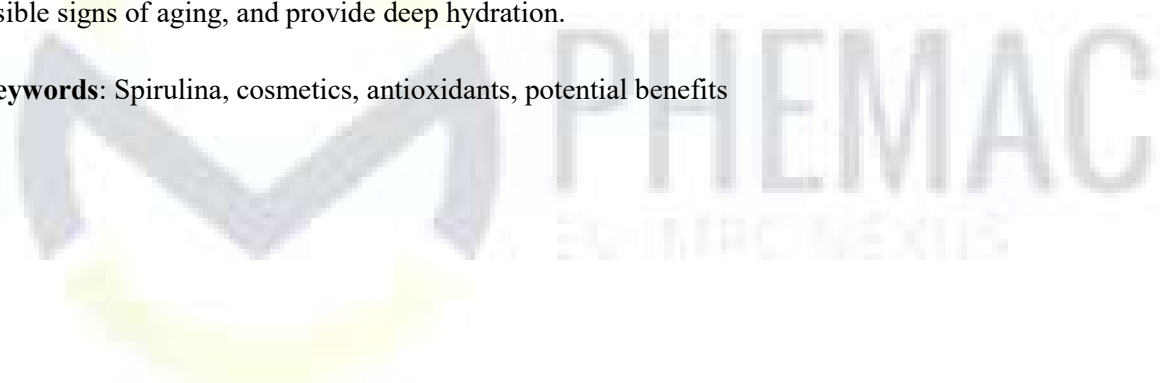
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**Abstract:** Spirulina, a blue-green alga, was the subject of this study for its antioxidant properties and potential health benefits. In addition to its nutritional properties, spirulina has also shown promising results for use in the cosmetic field. Antioxidant compounds in spirulina, such as polyphenols, flavonoids, and tannins, can help protect the skin from free radicals that can cause cell damage and promote premature skin aging. Several studies have shown that topical use of spirulina can improve skin texture and reduce visible signs of aging, such as fine lines and age spots. In terms of established nutritional composition, the spirulina studied is rich in nutrients such as fiber (1.16%), protein (68.57%), and fat (6.01%), as well as total and reducing sugars with values of 2.95 and 0.61 mg GE/100DP, respectively. It can be used to help moisturize and deeply nourish the skin, and can help reduce the appearance of large pores. In summary, spirulina has potential benefits for cosmetic products due to its high content of antioxidant compounds and nutrient-rich nutritional composition. It can help protect the skin from free radical damage, reduce the visible signs of aging, and provide deep hydration.

**Keywords:** Spirulina, cosmetics, antioxidants, potential benefits



## A techno-economic study of battery energy storage systems for grid-scale applications

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**Abstract:** The importance of battery systems is growing in the stationary and automotive industries as the world moves toward a more sustainable and renewable energy future. In the automotive industry, battery systems are becoming increasingly important as electric vehicles become more common. The stationary industry is also turning to batteries as a storage solution. As a technology, battery-based energy storage systems (BESS) can enhance the reliability and stability of power systems. Since renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, have been integrated more into the grid, energy storage solutions have become more important to manage these resources' intermittent and variable nature. BESS can provide grid balancing services by storing excess renewable energy generated during low-demand times and releasing it during high-demand periods. Consequently, fossil-fuel-based peaking plants are less needed, grid oscillations are reduced and grid stability is improved. Including a trend analysis of current and future energy storage technologies. The study aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of each battery technology studied (Lithium-ion, Lead-acid, Redox Flow Battery (RFB), Sodium-sulfur battery (NA-S)), their performance metrics, and cost-effectiveness for different stationary energy storage applications. The national and international market research study will identify the key players in the energy storage industry, their market share, and the growth potential of different battery technologies in various regions. In addition, the results of this study will enable energy stakeholders to make informed decisions on the most appropriate energy storage technology for specific applications and identify investment and growth opportunities in the energy storage industry.

**Keywords :** BESS, Grid-scale, stationary market, Battery technology, lithium-ion, RFB

## Phenological Evaluation of Four Fig (*Ficus carica* L.) Varieties Grown in Northern Morocco

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**Abstract:** The fig (*Ficus carica* L.) is a fruit tree of the Moraceae family that is extensively grown and produced in northern Morocco. This tree has an extraordinary potential for vegetative renewal and fruit production without a visible flower development. To properly planify the calendar of agronomic treatments and to standardize the phenological observations amongst scientists and producers, a precise phenological scale of the fig tree is required. The present work aims to describe the reproductive and vegetative phenological development phases of fig tree using the BBCH scale, via the determination of the main growth stages: bud development, leaf development, flowering and pollination, fruit development, fruit ripening, onset of defoliation, and dormancy period. Four Moroccan fig varieties (Fassi, Ghoudan, Nabout, and Ounk hmam) are chosen from the most cultivated Moroccan figs and periodical visits will be carried out between February and September in three sites from northern Morocco : Beni ahmed (Chefchaouen), Khlalfa (Taounate) and Brarha (Taza) to determine with accuracy the occurrence of the different phenological stages during the grown season.

**Keywords:** Fig, phenology, BBCH scale, growth stages, northern Morocco

## **An assessment of sea turtle bycatch by bottom trawlers and purse-seiners in the central Atlantic coast of Morocco (Agadir)**

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**Abstract:** The bycatch of sea turtle whether in coastal or artisanal fisheries has become a serious problem worldwide. Recently, bycatch has been increasingly receiving attention due to the significant impact it causes on these threatened species. This study aims to assess sea turtle bycatch by bottom trawlers and purse-seiners, based on a tracking survey with 10 fishermen (skippers) in Agadir port from April 2022 to Mars 2023, in the central Atlantic coast of Morocco (Agadir). Results obtained by the present study showed that loggerhead turtles, *Caretta caretta*, was the most observed and the most captured sea turtle in the fisheries. In general, fishermen release the turtles caught regardless of their physical situation (alive, almost dead or dead). This study provides general information about the status of sea turtle bycatch around Agadir revealing a widespread impact of fisheries on this species.

**Keywords :** Bycatch, sea turtles, bottom trawlers, purse-seiners, Agadir, Morocco

## Inspection of structures in the Province of Moulay Yaacoub: Scouring is the major danger

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**Abstract:** In order to preserve the heritage of engineering structures, an inspection mission was carried out to detect the various anomalies affecting the civil engineering structures of the province of Fes-Moulay Yacoub and find technical solutions to avoid the collapse of these structures. The structures concerned by the inspection are those defined in the "Instruction for the surveillance and maintenance of engineering structures", namely temporary or permanent crossing structures:

- Viaducts and bridges with a length between abutments greater than or equal to 2 m.
- Weirs and submersible inverts with a length of 10 m or more.
- Retaining structures ensuring the safety and the protection of a road
- Other special structures: tunnels and covered trenches.

During the mission, 72 structures were inspected including :

- 4 Concrete bridges;
- 64 scuppers;
- 2 masonry vaults;
- 2 sills and submersible structures.

It was found that the major problem of most structures is scouring which is defined as the lowering of the level of a river bed by the erosive action of the water, which will cause instability of the structures. It is caused by any flow condition except that it can be very severe during a flood, which results in the appearance of a deep pit near the piles of the Structures

**Keywords :** Scour, Bridges, Instability, Flood

## Heavy metal contamination assessment of spoil heaps in Ain Aouda mine (Taza-Morocco)

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**Abstract:** The aim of this research is to evaluate the level of heavy metal pollution found in the slag heaps located at the former Ain Aouda mine (Taza). In order to achieve this objective, a total of 20 solid samples were obtained from the study area. The ICP-AES analysis conducted revealed that these metallic waste samples contain various heavy metal(oid)s including zinc (Zn), lead (Pb), copper (Cu), arsenic (As), and nickel (Ni) exceeding the standards required by the World Health Organization (WHO). Pollution indices such as the geo-accumulation index (I<sub>geo</sub>), enrichment factor (FE), and contaminated soil pollution index (IP) were employed to estimate the degree of heavy metal pollution. The results of this study indicate that the slag heaps demonstrate contamination from multiple heavy metals, with zinc being the most prominent, followed by lead, copper, arsenic, and nickel. It is noteworthy that the degradation of the natural environment resulting from these present elements could be further exacerbated by the alteration and erosion of this stock of mining waste.

**Keywords:** Ain Aouda mine, Geo, accumulation index, Enrichment factor, Pollution index

## Salinity Effect on Morphological and Biochemical Traits in *Medicago sativa* Varieties Cultivated in Morocco

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**Abstract:** Alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* L.) is the principal cultivated forage crop in Morocco, However, salinity reduces the growth and the crop production of this plant. Here, we aimed to test the impact of two-level of salt stress (induced by NaCl) on physiological and biochemical parameters of two alfalfa varieties used by Moroccan farmers. Stress was applied gradually using tap water with NaCl until 7 dS/m and 12 dS/m. The root and shoot dry weight (RDW and SDW respectively) were measured as morphological parameters, chlorophyll a (Chl a), b (Chl b), and total chlorophyll (Chl T) contents were quantified in leaves to estimate the impact of salt stress on the photosynthesis process. Furthermore, Soluble proteins, total soluble sugars (TSS), and proline contents were quantified both in leaves and root parts. The results showed that morphological parameters and leaves photosynthetic pigment content were significantly decreased, an important significant accumulation of proline and soluble protein were recorded in roots part. Soil salinity affect various alfalfa parameters cultivated in Morocco which can threaten alfalfa production.

**Keywords:** Alfalfa, *Medicago sativa*, salt stress.



## Influence of the maturity index of olives on the chemical composition of the olive oil "Moroccan Picholine"

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**Abstract:** Olive growing is one of the oldest living crops and is widely spread throughout the Mediterranean region. It is a historical food product in an increasingly competitive international market requiring continuous research. The chemical composition of virgin olive oil is influenced by many factors, including genetic and environmental. Therefore, the stage of maturity can directly or indirectly affect the quality of the oil throughout the production process. This study aims to classify olive oils according to the stage of maturity of the olives used for their crushing and to study the impact of this indicator on the composition of polyphenols, chlorophylls and carotenoids of single variety olive oils "Moroccan Picholine". The results of this study show a progressive decrease of the total phenol content and pigment concentration as the maturity stage advances, with negative correlations between polyphenol and chlorophyll content and the maturity index (-0.92, -0.72 respectively). Principal component analysis allowed for the graphical differentiation between three groups of olive oils according to the maturity stage of the olives.

**Keywords:** Olive oil, ripeness index, polyphenols, pigments, ACP

## PREPARATION DE CHARBON ACTIF A PARTIR DES DECHETS SOLIDES INDUSTRIELS : EFFET DES PARAMETRES OPERATOIRE SUR LES CARACTERISTIQUES ET LE RENDEMENT

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**Abstract:** Depuis des décennies l'utilisation des sources d'énergie durables et renouvelables (solaire, hydraulique, éolien, biomasse, etc.) est une tendance scientifique et industrielle au Maroc, compte tenu de la demande toujours croissante en énergie. Parmi toutes les alternatives proposées, la biomasse est une source d'énergie renouvelable prometteuse en raison de son potentiel à fournir divers biocarburants et produits biochimiques de manière écologique. Le charbon actif est un matériau poreux issu de la combustion incomplète de toute matière riche en carbone. Il est considéré comme un matériau important pour différentes applications environnementales et pour une agriculture durable. Avec la croissance du charbon actif et ses nombreuses possibilités d'utilisation, plusieurs recherches ont été effectuées pour préparer le charbon actif à partir des matières premières à faible coût, respectueuses de l'environnement et facilement disponibles, notamment à partir des déchets solides d'origine végétale ou animale. L'utilisation de ces déchets pour produire du charbon actif offre une alternative durable aux sources de charbon actif traditionnelles et atténue les problèmes environnementaux causés par le rejet de ces déchets dans l'environnement. L'objectif de cette étude, est la valorisation des déchets solides industriels en les utilisant pour produire un produit à forte valeur ajoutée, qui le charbon actif. L'effet de quelques conditions opératoires sur le rendement de production et la structure du charbon actif obtenu ont été examinés, notamment l'effet de la température et du temps de calcination ainsi que l'effet de l'agent activateur. Le charbon actif ainsi obtenu a été caractérisé par la Spectroscopie Infrarouge à Transformée de Fourier (FTIR), la Diffraction aux Rayons X (DRX) et la Microscopie Électronique à Balayage (MEB). Le charbon actif produit peut être appliqué pour le traitement des eaux, la séquestration du CO<sub>2</sub>, comme amendement pour le sol ou comme une source énergétique durable.

**Keywords:** Charbon actif, valorisation des déchets, déchets solides, activation, calcination, rendement

## Effect of chromium on the physiological parameters of faba bean (*Vicia faba*)

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**Abstract:** Legumes are very old crops in Morocco. They are mainly located in regions with favor-able rainfall. During the period 20115-2016, they covered an area of 385,000 HECTARES, i.e. 3% of the UAA (useful agricultural area), including 48% of beans, 19% of chickpeas...) after cereals. In view of the importance of this species on a national scale, our subject aims to evaluatethe response of broad beans to stress by heavy metals. Chromium was chosen as the first test. Given their use in industries, especially tanneries. Heavy metals are not only a problem for air pollution: they are biopersistent, disturb ecosys- tems, deteriorate soils, surface waters, forests, crops, and accumulate in the food chain. Someare carcinogenic to humans. To better understand the subject, the relative water content and cell integrity of the control leaves and different chromium concentrations are measured the addition of this element affects the relative water content of bean leaves. The first results show that the addition of this element affects the relative water contentof bean leaves. Indeed, for a concentration of 0.06 mg/l, the relative water content does not exceed 40% against 68% with the control. Similarly, the leaf surface is reduced by 54% compared to the control.

**Keywords:** chromium stress, bean, relative water content, cell integrity

## In situ deposition of Ag nanoparticles onto CF/rGO hybrids for the Dip-catalytic hydrogenation of 4-nitrophenol into 4-aminophenol

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**Abstract:** This study was focused on the design and development of a new heterogeneous catalyst based on Canvas (CF) fabric modified with graphene oxide nanosheets decorated with silver metallic nanoparticles (CF-rGO/Ag<sub>0</sub>). PE fabrics were coated with graphene oxide (GO) nanosheets by sonication followed by in situ deposition and reduction of silver nanoparticles over the GO surface, covering the CF fabric and producing CF-rGO/Ag<sub>0</sub>. The catalytic performance of the prepared CF-rGO/Ag<sub>0</sub> was assessed during the hydrogenation of 4-nitrophenol (4-NP) in the presence of sodium borohydride (NaBH<sub>4</sub>). Experimental results indicate that PE-rGO/Ag<sub>0</sub> with a surface of 6 cm<sup>2</sup> showed the highest catalytic activity. In addition, CF-rGO/Ag<sub>0</sub> activity resulted to be comparable and significantly higher than previous reported values of silver-based catalysts. Remarkable stability values were achieved during different operating cycles without significant degradation in the catalytic activity, suggesting that CF-rGO/Ag<sub>0</sub> can be used as a strong candidate in long-lasting chemical catalytic processes.

**Keywords:** 4-nitrophenol; 4-aminophenol; graphene oxide; hydrogenation; Canvas fabric, reduction deposition

# EFFECTS OF ORGANIC AND INORGANIC MULCHING, NETTLE EXTRACT, AND MANUAL WEEDING ON WEED MANAGEMENT IN A DIRECT-SEEDED LENTIL FIELD.

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**Abstract:** Weeds represent a significant problem for agricultural production worldwide, Morocco was one of the exporting countries of lentils (*Lens culinaris* Medik), but now it is an importer to cover their needs, this transition is due to seasonal fluctuations in yield and many factors such as weed competition that have a direct impact on the yield of lentils. To address this issue, the present study was conducted at the National School of Agriculture in Meknes, Morocco, in 2021 and 2022, to investigate the effects of some ecological strategies such as manual weeding, fermented nettle extract, black plastic, and wheat straw mulch, on lentil yield and quality and weed management, as well as to find economically efficient practices adapted to the needs of the farmers of the region to manage the weeds associated with this crop. The weed flora studied was very diverse with 27 different species. Data analysis revealed a significant decrease in weed density and dry plant biomass at flowering and mature stages by more than 50%. All treatments provided effective weed management compared to the control (untreated), as well as essential economic gain, particularly hand weeding, black plastic, and wheat straw. The nettle extract treatment was less effective than the other treatments but did not show phytotoxic effects on the crop. In conclusion, the ecological practices tested in this study showed the highest yield and yield components of the lentil crop compared to the control, leading us to conclude that reducing weed infestation is useful in cropping systems where chemical or mechanical weed control is not feasible and for crops with low competitive ability against weeds.

**Keywords:** Black plastic, *Lens culinaris*, mulching, weed management, nettle extract.

## Analyse phytochimique des extraits aqueux de feuilles et de fruits de caroubier (*Ceratonia siliqua* L.) : évaluation de leur potentiel bioactif pour une utilisation durable dans l'agriculture et l'environnement

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**Abstrat:** The carob tree (*Ceratonia siliqua* L.) is a Mediterranean shrub that has been used for centuries for its therapeutic properties and medicinal qualities. In this study, we examined aqueous extracts of female and male leaves and pods from the Safi region to identify secondary metabolite components and evaluate their antioxidant activity. The male and female leaves and pods were shade dried, crushed and sieved to a fine powder to prepare a 10% infusion. We detected the presence of polyphenols, free tannins, catechic tannins, gall tannins, flavonoids, and reducing sugars in the leaves and pods. Saponins and leucoanthocyanins are absent in the pods, conversely these two components were present in the leaves of both sexes. The Folin-Ciocalteu method was used to evaluate the amount of polyphenols, tannins were quantified using vanillin reagent and flavonoids were quantified using aluminum chloride, and the concentrations are measured in mg GAE/g DM, mg QE/g DM and mg CE/g DM respectively for polyphenols, flavonoids and tannins. Concerning the determination of phenolic compounds, the leaves gave a high concentration of polyphenols compared to the pods, in fact we obtained 4.84 mg GAE/g DM for females and 4.45 mg GAE/g DM for males. The concentration of flavonoids is high in male leaves, reaching 238.2  $\mu$ g EQ/g DM, while for tannins higher in female leaves with a concentration of 4.71 mg EC/g DM. The evaluation of antioxidant power which was carried out using FRAP iron reduction method indicated that the aqueous extract of female stem leaves has higher reducing power ( $IC_{50}=25.19$   $\mu$ g/ml) than that of male stem leaf ( $IC_{50}=83.10$   $\mu$ g/ml) and pod ( $IC_{50}=33.12$   $\mu$ g/ml) but relatively low than that of ascorbic acid (Positive Control).

**Keywords :** Carob, phytochemicals, antioxidant capacity, FRAP.

## Application de la télédétection à l'analyse structurale et hydrogéologique de la dorsale calcaire (Rif interne, Maroc)

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**Résumé:** La chaîne calcaire du Rif faite l'objet de cette étude couvre une superficie de près de 1057 km<sup>2</sup>, de forme convexe vers le centre de pays, elle s'étend de la région de Sebta au nord à la région d'Al Hoceima à l'est. La zone est composée de calcaires massifs, grès et de marnes, avec des lits remaniant quelques blocs calcaires dont les âges stratigraphiques correspondent à l'Eocène moyen-supérieur et à l'Oligocène supérieur, voire au Miocène. En effet, pour d'obtenir de nouveaux indicateurs sur le potentiel hydrogéologique de la chaîne Rifaine, il a été considéré utile d'étudier les liens entre les structures et les formes de linéaments et le potentiel aquifère connu. L'analyse statistique des linéaments donne un aperçu sur la rosace des directions dominantes, la géométrie et la cinématique des réseaux de fracturations à l'échelle régionale, où nous avons pu distinguer par ordre décroissant trois directions principales : NE-SW, N-S et NW-SE :

- les failles NE-SW sont marquées par des tracés d'extensions plurimétriques, très remarquable dans les formations calcaires, et montrent un jeu décrochant dextre voir chevauchant, dont les plus importantes sont les failles de Fahies et de Jbel Moussa.
- les failles N-S sont matérialisées par des failles normales à composante décrochant senestre.
- les failles longitudinales NW-SE sont formées par des failles décrochantes dextres et des failles inverses à composante senestre.

Les travaux de terrain nous ont permis de constater que les failles NE-SW sont responsables de la rotation anti-horaire de certains massifs calcaire-dolomitiques. L'analyse des linéaments établies nous a permis de mettre en évidence trois classes de densité de réseau de failles qui suit parfaitement l'organisation des structures géologiques majeures, ainsi que nous avons constaté que le centre du chaînon présentait une forte densité, notamment les zones de jonction de failles à directions opposées, en particulier les failles décrochantes NE-SW. La méthode employée consiste à identifier les croisements et les jonctions entre les failles N-S, NW-SE et NE-SW, dont l'objectif de déterminer leurs densités qui dévarié présenter un fort potentiel d'alimentation en eau.

**Mots clés :** Télédétection, structurale, dorsale calcaire, Maroc

## **Evaluation of drought in the Mediterranean region, case study of the Upper Oum Er Rabia basin, Morocco**

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Drought is one of the most critical disasters affecting the world, regardless of the country or region. Morocco with its predominantly arid to semi-arid climate is one of the most drought-prone countries. The objective of this study is to provide an assessment of the drought phenomenon in the Upper Oum Er Rabia basin. Drought indices have proven their effectiveness and have been the subject of several studies in many areas of the world. For this purpose, a combination of remote sensing data (NDVI) from MODIS Terra and the drought indices SPI, SPEI and RDI were applied in the Upper Oum Er Rabia catchment. The trend study of precipitation, potential evapotranspiration, temperature, SPI, SPEI, RDI and NDVI was established by Mann-Kendall and Sen's Slope. Indeed, a strong correlation was found between the SPI and RDI indices for the different time steps. While NDVI has a better correlation with SPEI than with the other indices. During the period 2010-2022, the trends of precipitation and drought indices showed a critical decrease, of -44 mm/year and -0.2/year, respectively. As well as temperature, potential evapotranspiration showed an increasing trend.

