

Waste Water Treatment by using Root Zone Technology using *Canna Indica* Plant

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Abstract: Wastewater treatment is a critical process to mitigate the adverse environmental impact of contaminated water. Traditional treatment methods often prove to be expensive, energy-intensive, and may involve the use of harmful chemicals. In recent years, alternative approaches that utilize natural systems, such as constructed wetlands, have gained significant attention. One such innovative technique is the use of root zone technology, which harnesses the capabilities of plants to treat wastewater effectively. This study focuses on utilizing *Canna indica*, a versatile plant species known for its ability to thrive in aquatic environments, in the root zone technology for wastewater treatment. The research aims to evaluate the effectiveness of *Canna indica* in removing various pollutants and improving the overall quality of wastewater. The experiment will be conducted by setting up a series of treatment units consisting of a water holding tank, a root zone bed filled with sand and gravel, and planted with *Canna indica*. Wastewater samples will be collected at different stages of the treatment process to analyze the removal efficiency of key contaminants, including organic matter, nutrients, heavy metals, and pathogens. Physicochemical parameters such as pH, dissolved oxygen, and temperature will also be monitored to assess the overall performance of the system. The results obtained from this study will provide valuable insights into the efficacy of *Canna indica* in wastewater treatment. It is expected that the root zone technology using *Canna indica* will demonstrate efficient removal of pollutants, as the plant's roots act as a natural filter and microbial growth in the root zone aids in the breakdown and removal of organic matter. Additionally, the plant's uptake of nutrients can help reduce eutrophication in receiving water bodies. The findings of this research could have significant implications for wastewater treatment, particularly in areas where conventional treatment methods are not feasible due to financial or infrastructural constraints. The use of root zone technology with *Canna indica* has the potential to provide a cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and sustainable approach to wastewater treatment, contributing to the conservation and preservation of water resources.

Keywords: Wastewater treatment

I. INTRODUCTION

Wastewater treatment is a global challenge, and conventional methods have drawbacks like high energy consumption and costs. An alternative approach gaining attention is root zone technology using *Canna indica*, a plant species with water purification abilities. *Canna indica* is adaptable to aquatic environments and can tolerate varying water qualities. *Canna indica*'s large root biomass and extensive surface area make it ideal for wastewater treatment. Its root system acts as a natural filter, trapping suspended solids, while the rhizosphere promotes the growth of beneficial microorganisms. These microorganisms aid in the degradation and removal of organic matter and nutrients through processes like adsorption and microbial metabolism.

Canna indica also has the ability to uptake and accumulate heavy metals, aiding in their removal from wastewater. Its extensive root system enhances oxygen transfer, creating aerobic conditions that favor the growth of bacteria involved in breaking down complex organic compounds. Using *Canna indica* in root zone technology offers several advantages. It reduces reliance on energy-intensive and chemical-based methods, providing a sustainable approach to wastewater

treatment. Additionally, incorporating *Canna indica* in constructed wetlands or filter beds enhances the aesthetic value of treatment facilities.

The objective of research in this field is to evaluate *Canna indica*'s efficacy in removing pollutants like organic matter, nutrients, heavy metals, and pathogens from wastewater. The findings will contribute to understanding its potential in water resource management and expand its application in wastewater treatment. Overall, wastewater treatment with root zone technology using *Canna indica* shows promise as a cost-effective and environmentally friendly approach to mitigate water pollution and preserve water resources

II. ROOT ZONE TECHNOLOGY

Root zone technology, also known as constructed wetlands or vegetated filter beds, is an innovative approach to wastewater treatment that utilizes the natural abilities of plants and their associated microorganisms to remove pollutants from contaminated water. This technique involves creating a carefully designed system where wastewater is directed through a planted bed of specially selected vegetation, typically wetland plants or reeds.

The concept behind root zone technology is to mimic and enhance the natural processes that occur in wetland ecosystems. Wetlands are known for their ability to effectively treat and purify water by utilizing a combination of physical, chemical, and biological processes. The plants and their root systems play a crucial role in this purification process.

In a root zone technology system, the plants serve as a natural filter for the wastewater. As the water flows through the root zone, the plants' roots and the surrounding substrate (such as gravel, sand, or soil) act as a physical barrier, capturing suspended solids and particulate matter present in the water. The root zone al Root zone technology has been successfully applied in various wastewater treatment scenarios, including domestic wastewater, agricultural runoff, industrial effluents, and decentralized wastewater treatment systems. It has proven to be effective in removing a wide range of pollutants, including organic matter, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), heavy metals, and pathogens. However, the design and implementation of root zone technology systems must consider site-specific conditions, local regulations, and treatment goals to ensure optimal performance.

Root zone technology is a sustainable and environmentally friendly approach to wastewater treatment that harnesses the natural purification abilities of plants and their associated microorganisms. It offers an alternative to conventional treatment methods by utilizing natural processes and reducing the reliance on energy-intensive and chemical-based processes. As the demand for efficient and eco-friendly wastewater treatment solutions continues to grow, root zone technology provides a promising option for the sustainable management of water resources

III. ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS



Nutrient Removal and Eutrophication Control

Wastewater often contains high levels of nutrients, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, which can lead to eutrophication in receiving water bodies. *Canna indica* has a remarkable ability to uptake and accumulate nutrients from wastewater, thereby reducing nutrient loads and minimizing the risk of eutrophication. This process helps maintain a balanced ecosystem and promotes the health of aquatic plants and animals.

Reduction of Water Pollution

Wastewater contains various pollutants, including organic matter, suspended solids, heavy metals, and pathogens. Root zone technology using *Canna indica* effectively filters and removes these pollutants through physical, chemical, and biological processes. The plants' root systems physically trap suspended solids and particulate matter, while the associated microorganisms in the root zone contribute to the degradation and removal of organic matter and contaminants. By treating wastewater at the source, root zone technology helps prevent the discharge of polluted water into natural water bodies, thereby protecting aquatic Ecosystem and safeguarding human health.

Improvement of Water Quality

The implementation of root zone technology using *Canna indica* results in improved water quality. The treatment process effectively removes pollutants, reducing turbidity, odor, and color in the wastewater. The removal of organic matter and pathogens helps eliminate potential sources of waterborne diseases and ensures the safety of water resources. Additionally, the reduction of heavy metals and other toxic substances in the treated wastewater minimizes the risk of contamination and the negative impacts on aquatic organisms and wildlife.

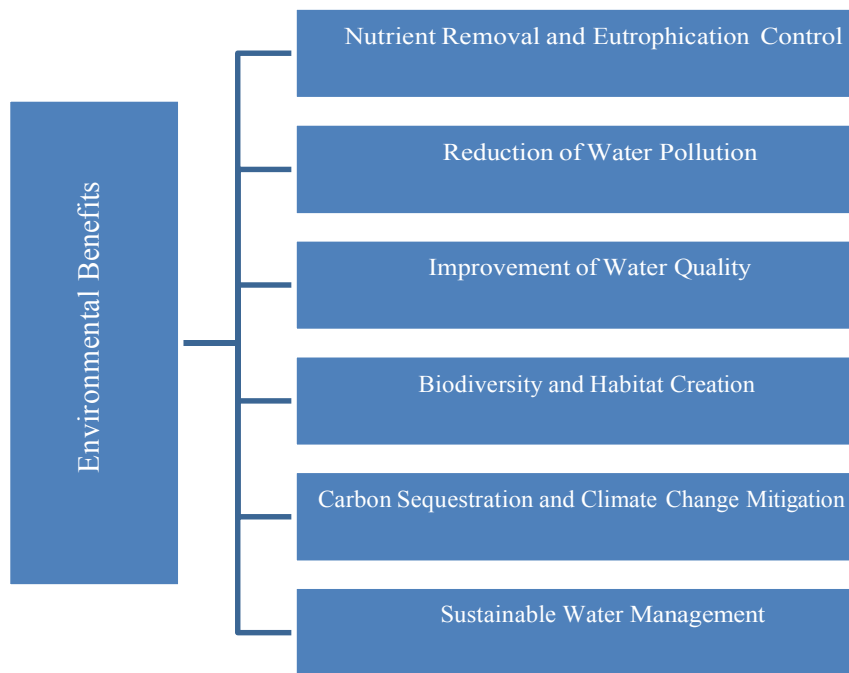


Fig 2

Biodiversity and Habitat Creation

Root zone technology systems incorporating *Canna indica* plants can serve as habitats and contribute to biodiversity conservation. The presence of wetland vegetation attracts and supports diverse species of plants, insects, birds, and other wildlife. These constructed wetlands can provide nesting sites, foraging areas, and shelter for various organisms, contributing to the overall ecological balance and biodiversity in the surrounding environment.

Carbon Sequestration and Climate Change Mitigation

Wetland plants, including *Canna indica*, have the capacity to sequester carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and subsequent storage in their biomass and root systems. The establishment of root zone technology systems enhances carbon sequestration, helping mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.

Sustainable Water Management

Root zone technology using *Canna indica* promotes sustainable water management practices. The treated wastewater can potentially be reused for non-potable purposes such as irrigation, industrial processes, and groundwater recharge. This approach reduces the reliance on freshwater resources, conserves water, and supports the principles of a circular economy by utilizing wastewater as a valuable resource.

IV. CONCLUSION

The use of root zone technology with *Canna indica* plants for wastewater treatment shows great potential. The study demonstrated that *Canna indica* effectively removes pollutants and enhances water quality. The plant's roots act as natural filters, while microbial activity aids in breaking down organic matter. Additionally, *Canna indica*'s nutrient uptake reduces eutrophication. This eco-friendly and cost-effective approach offers a sustainable solution, particularly in areas where conventional methods are impractical. Further research is needed to optimize the system's design and operational parameters. Overall, root zone technology using *Canna indica* has the ability to contribute to water resource conservation and provide a cleaner environment.

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