

Abstract

The textile industry is one of the most important sectors of Pakistan. It contributes significantly to the country's GDP, exports as well as employment. It is, in fact, the backbone of the Pakistani economy. Production processes not only generate heavily polluted wastewater, but also waste heat, solid waste and exhaust gas. Generally, textile mills produce mixed wastewaters in large quantities, up to 600 m³ per kg fabric, that are characterized by high organic load. The release of colored compounds into the environment is undesirable not only because of their color, which may affect photosynthesis of aquatic plants, but also because many dyes and their breakdown products may be toxic and/or mutagenic to life. In order to secure the environment from the adverse impacts of untreated industrial effluent, it is necessary that all the wastewater must be treated as an integral part of their production before discharging the wastes into the receiving streams or rivers. Since, Pakistan is facing an acute shortage of energy; therefore, encouraging the technologies like anaerobic digestion, will not only prevents the water pollution but it can help to tackle the problem of energy crises to a certain extent. For the treatment of textile mills effluent the anaerobic technology seems to be more reliable, effective and economical. In this study actual effluent of the local textile mills was used to study the start-up of the UASB reactor under control pH (neutral) and constant temperature (mesophilic range). The OLR (Organic loading rate) was step-wise increased from 0.22 kg/m³-day to 2.98kg/m³-day under varying HRT (hydraulic retention time), to avoid organic shocks to the reactor. It was observed that using OLR of 2.40kg/m³-day at HRT of 22hrs about 82% of COD could be reduced at neutral pH and constant temperature of 33^o C, corresponding to these conditions 0.29m³/kg-COD_{rem} of the biogas could be obtained with methane concentration of 54%. Thus this study suggests that using UASB reactor to treat textile mills effluent is technically a feasible solution and viable option.

Key words: Industrial effluent,. UASB reactor, COD, OLR, Anaerobic Digestion, HRT.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Problem Statement	2
1.2 Scope of Study	2
1.3 Study Area	2
1.4 Textile Value Chain	3
1.5 Literature Review	3
1.5.1 Liquid Effluent	3
1.5.2 Solid Waste	5
1.5.3 Emissions to Air	6
1.5.4 Noise Pollution	7
1.5.5 Hazardous Waste	7
1.5.6 Dyes and the Environment	7
1.5.7 Toxicity	8
1.5.8 Heavy Metals	8
1.5.9 Biodegradability	9
1.5.10 Bio-Elimination	9
1.5.11 Dye Degradation Products	9
1.5.12 Auxiliaries	10
1.5.13 Energy Considerations in the Textile Industry	10
1.5.14 Anaerobic Digestion	10
1.5.15 Applications	11
1.5.16 The Process	12
1.5.17 Stages	13
1.5.18 Configuration	15
1.5.19 Batch or Continuous	15
1.5.20 Temperature	16

1.5.21 Solids -----	16
1.5.22 Number of stages -----	17
1.5.23 Residence -----	17
1.5.24 Products -----	18
1.5.25 Biogas -----	18
1.5.26 Digestate -----	19
1.5.27 UASB Reactor -----	19
1.6 Objectives -----	20
Chapter 2	
MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY	
2.1 Literature Survey -----	21
2.2 Site Selection -----	21
2.3 Sample Collection -----	21
2.4 Experimental UASB Reactor -----	21
2.5 Substrate and Nutrients -----	21
2.6 Seed Sludge -----	22
2.7 Operational Conditions -----	22
2.8 Monitoring and Analysis -----	22
2.9 Wastewater Quality Parameters -----	23
2.10 Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) -----	23
2.11 Typical BOD Values -----	24
2.12 Chemical Oxygen Demand (Open Reflux Method) -----	24
2.13 Reagents -----	24
2.14 Procedure -----	25
2.15 Dissolved Oxygen -----	25
2.16 Total Solids -----	26

Chapter 3

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

3.1 Wastewater Characteristics of Textile Mills ----- 28

3.2 Startup of the Reactor ----- 28

3.3 COD Removal Efficiency ----- 30

3.4 Gas Production ----- 32

Chapter 4

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS ----- 35

REFERENCES ----- 36

List of Tables

Table 1.1 Effluent characteristics from the Textile Industry -----	3
Table 1.2 Pollution Loads from each process step for various synthetic textiles -----	4
Table 1.3 (A) Source and Type of Solid waste produced in the Textile Industry -----	5
Table 1.3 (B) Source and Type of Solid waste produced in the Textile Industry -----	6
Table 1.3 (C) Source and Type of Solid waste produced in the Textile Industry -----	6
Table 1.4 Typical Composition of Biogas -----	18
Table 2.1 Trace Nutrients and Their Concentration -----	22
Table 2.2 Characteristics of Seeded Sludge -----	22
Table 2.3 NEQS for Different Parameters -----	27
Table 3.1 Waste water Characteristics of Textile Mill Effluent -----	28

List of Figures

Figure 1.1 Textile Value Chain -----	3
Figure 1.2 Key Process Stages of Anaerobic Digestion -----	13
Figure 1.3 Systematic Diagram of UASB Reactor -----	20

List of Graphs

Graph 3.1 Time Course of pH versus COD Removal -----	29
Graph 3.2 Time Course of pH Versus VFAs -----	29
Graph 3.3 Time Course of pH versus Biogas yield -----	30
Graph 3.4 Time Course of % COD removed versus HRT -----	31
Graph 3.5 Time Course of % COD removed versus OLR -----	31
Graph 3.6 Time Course of % COD removed versus VFAs -----	32
Graph 3.7 Time Course of Biogas Yield -----	33
Graph 3.8 Time Course of Methane Composition -----	33