ARSENIC CONTAMINATION AND MOBILIZATION ACROSS ALLUVIAL PLAINS OF DISTRICT GUJRAT, PAKISTAN



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2017

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A thesis submitted to Bahria University, Islamabad in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of BS in Environmental Sciences

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ABSTRACT

The current research was conducted to investigate the impacts of irrigation well water on the irrigation soil quality of the flood plain areas of Gujrat district. During October 2016, a total of 15 wells samples were collected along the flood plain areas of River Chenab and Jehlum which are located at Gujrat district. The samples were analysed on-sites for Physio-chemical parameters (That is PH electrical conductivity, sulphates, Nitrates, Fluorides, Iron and Arsenic). All these parameters were analysed on site with the help of portable instruments. The results were compared with the standard values of WHO Permissible limit for irrigation water; also NEQS (National Environmental Quality Standards). From the result it was found that Physical parameters (i.e. Arsenic and Iron), some of them were well above the standards. Therefore, it was concluded that some of the samples were not found to be fit for the irrigation purposes. This was because Arsenic is transferred from irrigation water and paddy soil to different parts of the rice plant with different patterns of distribution. Thus, ground water enriched with Arsenic affects the paddy soil and rice crops. By applying various statistical techniques, we concluded that irrigation well water contaminated with Arsenic has a profound effect on the irritation soil of the flood plain areas of Gujrat District.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praises to Him for the strength and blessings endowed upon us in completing this thesis.

We are thankful to our supervisor Mr.Asif Javed, Senior Assistant Professor; Earth and Environmental sciences Department, Bahria University, Islamabad, for his valuable guidance. His constructive comments and suggestions throughout the research work have contributed to the successful and timely completion of this research study.

We would like to thank Professor. Dr. Tahseenullah Khan, Head of Department Earth and Environmental Sciences Department Bahria University, Islamabad for his constant encouragement. We would also like to thank Mr. Khubaib Abuzar, Senior Assistant Professor Earth and Environmental Sciences Department Bahria University Islamabad his assistance in research work.

Our special thanks to Mr. Imtiaz Lab attendant, Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, Bahria University, Islamabad for the utilization of their laboratory amenities and Mr. Zakir Rumi MS student of Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, Quaid e Azam University, Islamabad. Last, but certainly not the least we would like to convey our sincere gratitude to our brothers and sisters for their constant support, prayers and encouragement.

ABBREVIATIONS

WHO World Health Organization

RMS Rocky mountain system

DCH Dhaka Community Hospital

DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid

ITS Industrial testing system

UNICEF United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization

GIS Geographic information system

PMD Pakistan meteorological department

SD Standard deviation

SPI Standardized precipitation index

USGs United states geological survey

WMO World meteorological organization

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