



Institute of Chemical Process
Fundamentals of the CAS



UNIVERSITY OF
CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY
PRAGUE



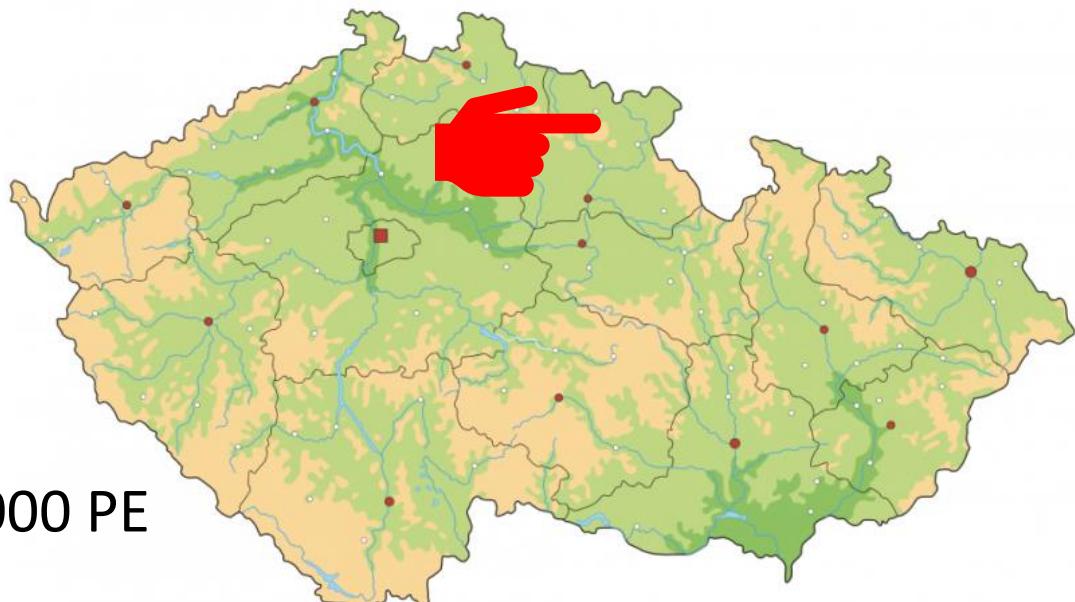
Organic micropollutants in sewage sludge and sewage sludge biochar from a full-scale pyrolysis plant in the Czech Republic

Jaroslav Moško

Matěj Hušek

Michael Pohořelý

Pyrolysis unit – WWTP Bohuslavice - Trutnov



- 52 000 PE
- Pyrolysis unit
 - P500 KSF by PYREG
- Sludge biochar production: ca 400 t/year
- > 600 °C, > 10 min



Fuka, J., Kos, M., Pohořelý, M., 2021. Sušení a pyrolyza na ČOV Trutnov – první výsledky zkušebního provozu. SOVAK 30, 24–28.

Hušek, M., Moško, J., Pohořelý, M., 2022. Sewage sludge treatment methods and P-recovery possibilities: Current state-of-the-art. J. Environ. Manage.

315, 115090. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2022.115090>.

Pohořelý, M., Moško, J., Hušek, M., Komárek, M., Vítková, M., Cajthaml, T., Čechmánková, J., Vácha, R. Ověřená technologie pro odstraňování organických polutantů z čistírenských kalů procesem. Proven technology, March 2023.

Content of selected micropollutants

• Pharmaceuticals

- *test* **6 162 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)**
 - *field experiment* **2 224 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)**
- 
- < LOQ (biochar)
 - < LOQ (biochar)

Acesulfame
Acetaminophen (Paracetamol)
Amitriptyline
Atenolol
Atorvastatin
Caffeine
Carbamazepine
Carbamazepine 10,11-epoxide
Cetirizine

Citalopram
Clarithromycin
Diclofenac
Erythromycin
Fluconazole
Furosemide
Gabapentin
Hydrochlorothiazide
Ibuprofen

Iomeprol
Ketoprofen
Lamotrigine
Metoprolol
Mirtazapine
Naproxen
Omeprazole
Paraxanthine
Saccharine

Sulfamethazine
Sulfamethoxazole
Sulfanilamide
Sulfapyridine
Telmisartan
Tramadol
Triclosan
Trimethoprim
Venlafaxine

Content of selected micropollutants

- Endocrine disruptors

- *test* **1 620 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)**
 - *field experiment* **840 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)**
- 
- < LOQ (biochar)
 - < LOQ (biochar)

17alpha-Estradiol
17beta-Estradiol
Bisphenol A (BPA)
Bisphenol F (BPF)
Bisphenol S (BPS)

Daidzein
Equilin
Equol
Estriol
Estrone

Ethinylestradiol
Genistein
Norethindrone
Norgestrel
Zearalenol

Content of selected micropollutants

- **Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)**

- *test* **7 430 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)** 
- *field experiment* **9 500 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)** **< LOQ (biochar)**
- **< LOQ (biochar)**

Fluoranthene
Benzo(b)fluoranthene
Benzo(k)fluoranthene
Benzo(a)pyrene
Dibenzo(a,h)anthracene

Benzo(g,h,i)perylene
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene
Fenanthrene
Antracene
Pyrene

Benzo(a)antracene
Chrysene
Naphtalene
Acenafetene
Fluorene
Acenafethylene

Content of selected micropollutants

- **Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB)**

- *test* **34.3 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)**
 - *field experiment* **53.6 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)**
- 
- < LOQ (biochar)
 - < LOQ (biochar)

Congeners

28, 52, 101, 118, 138, 153, 180

Content of selected micropollutants

- Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

• test	101 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)		< LOQ (biochar)
• field experiment	923 ng g⁻¹ (sludge)		< LOQ (biochar)
c4/PFBA	perfluoro-n-butanoic acid	PFOSA	perfluoro-1-octanesulfonamide
c5/PFPeA	perfluoro-n-pentanoic acid	33 FTA	fluorinated telomer acid (3:3)
c6/PFHxA	perfluoro-n-hexanoic acid	11 CIPF3OUDS	potassium 11-chloroeicosafuoro-3-oxaundecane-1-sulfonate
c7/PFHpA	perfluoro-n-heptanoic acid	NaDONA	sodium dodecafluoro-3H-4, 8-dioxanonoate
c8/PFOA	perfluoro-n-octanoic acid	FRD903 GenX	2,3,3,3-tetrafluoro-2-(heptafluoropropoxy)propanoic acid
c9/PFNA	perfluoro-n-nonanoic acid	nMet FOSAA	n-methyl-perfluoro-1-octanesulfonamidoacetate
c13/PFTrDA	perfluoro-n-tridecanoic acid	nEt FOSAA	n-ethyl-perfluoro-1-octanesulfonamidoacetate
c14/PFTeDA	perfluoro-n-tetradecanoic acid	42 FTS	fluorinated telomer sulfonate (4:2)
PFBS	perfluoro-1-butanesulfonate	62 FTS	fluorinated telomer sulfonate (6:2)
PFHxS	perfluoro-1-hexanesulfonate	82 FTS	fluorinated telomer sulfonate (8:2)
PFHpS	perfluoro-1-heptanesulfonate	102 FTS	fluorinated telomer sulfonate (10:2)
PFOS	perfluoro-1-octanesulfonate		

Hušek, M., Semerád, J., Skoblia, S., Moško, J., Kukla, J., Beňo, Z., Jeremiáš, M., Cajthaml, T., Komárek, M., Pohořelý, M.. Removal of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and organic fluorine from sewage sludge and sea sand by pyrolysis. *Biochar* 6, 31, (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42773-024-00322-5>

Mitzia, A., Böserle Hudcová, B.B., Vítková, M., Kunteová, B., Hernandez, D.C., Moško, J., Pohořelý, M., Grasserová, A., Cajthaml, T., Komárek, M. Pyrolysed sewage sludge for metal(loid) removal and immobilisation in contrasting soils: Exploring variety of risk elements across contamination levels. *Science of the Total Environment* 918, 170572, (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.170572>

Organic fluorine content

Hušek et al. Biochar (2024) 6:31
https://doi.org/10.1007/s42773-024-00322-5



ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Open Access



Removal of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and organic fluorine from sewage sludge and sea sand by pyrolysis

Matěj Hušek^{1,2}, Jaroslav Semerád³, Sjarhei Skoblia⁴, Jaroslav Moško^{1,2}, Jaroslav Kukla⁵, Zdeněk Beňo⁴, Michal Jeremiáš², Tomáš Cajthaml^{3,5}, Michael Komárek⁶ and Michael Pohořelý^{1,2*}

Table 5 PFASs content in dry sludge and sludge-char from Bohuslavice-Trutnov WWTP (in dry matter)

	PFPeA	PFHxA	PFHpA	PFOA	PFNA	PFDA	PFUdA
Dry sewage sludge [ng g ⁻¹ DM]	2.3±0.2	9.2±0.6	1.5±0.3	0.7±0.9	2.7±0.1	8.0±1.9	5.3±1.5
Sludge-char [ng g ⁻¹ DM]	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ
	PFDoA	PFTrDA	PFTeDA	PFHpS	PFOS	5:3 FTA	10:2 FTS
Dry sewage sludge [ng g ⁻¹ DM]	12.5±0.2	4.9±0.4	4.4±0.3	2.9±0.7	11.7±0.3	32.5±14.3	1.9±0.2
Sludge-char [ng g ⁻¹ DM]	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ	<LOQ
Σ PFASs ₁₄ in sewage sludge [ng g ⁻¹ DM]		100.6±12.0					
Σ PFASs in sludge-char [ng g ⁻¹ DM]		<LOQ					
Organic fluorine concentration in sludge [ng g ⁻¹ DM]		100.5±9.1					
Organic fluorine concentration in sludge-char[ng g ⁻¹ DM]		<LOQ					

Summary

screening test

	pharmaceuticals 36	ED ₁₄	PFAS ₃₇	PAH ₁₆	PCB ₇
sludge (ng g ⁻¹)	6 162	1 620	101	7 430	34
biochar (ng g ⁻¹)	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ
removal rate (%)	≈ 100	≈ 100	≈ 100	≈ 100	≈ 100

field experiment

	pharmaceuticals 36	ED ₁₄	PFAS ₃₇	PAH ₁₆	PCB ₇
sludge (ng g ⁻¹)	2 224	840	923	9 500	54
biochar (ng g ⁻¹)	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ	< LOQ
removal rate (%)	≈ 100	≈ 100	≈ 100	≈ 100	≈ 100

Legislation in force for sludge and product from pyrolysis

	Regulation	Cd	Cu	Ni	Pb	Zn	Hg	As	Cr	AOX ⁽¹⁾	PCB ⁽²⁾	Sum PAH ₁₂ ⁽³⁾	pathogens
[mg kg ⁻¹ _{DM}]													
sludge-char	474/2000 Coll., Annex 1, paragraph 1, d). ⁽⁴⁾	5.00	–	–	100	–	0.50	30.0	100	–	–	20.0	NO
sludge	273/2021 Coll., Annex 38	5.00	500	100	200	2,500	4.00	30.0	200	500	0.60	10.0	YES

(1) Halogenated organic compounds,

(2) sum of 7 congeners: 28+52+101+118+138+153+180,

(3) sum of 12 PAU: sum of anthracene, benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(ghi)perylene, phenanthrene, fluoranthene, chrysene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, naphthalene, pyrene.

(4) Amendment on October 2020

Implementing Regulations

- Regulation No. 474/2000 Coll. of the **Ministry of Agriculture** on the specification of requirements for fertilisers.
- Regulation No. 273/2021 Coll. on details of waste management. (**the Ministry of the Environment**)

Comparison with current Czech legislation

	Regulation	Cd	Pb	Hg	As	Cr	Sum PAH ₁₂
ash from mono-combustion of biomass, products from pyrolysis	474/2000 Coll., Annex 1, paragraph 1, d).	5.00	100	0.50	30.0	100	20.0
Trutnov WWTP sludge-char	–	0.46	57.2	0.003	2.94	74.1	< 0.50 sampling date: 02.07.2021

Sum 12 PAU – sum anthracene, benzo(a)anthracene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, benzo(ghi)perylene, phenanthrene, fluoranthene, chrysene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, naphthalene, pyrene.

- analysis for sludge-char certification done by certified laboratory Laboratoř Morava, s.r.o.

End-of-waste status: step by step

WWTP Bohuslavice - Trutnov - timetable

Occupancy permit: 22.10.2021

Decision of the ÚKZÚZ: 07.03.2022

Decision of KHS: 23.03.2022

MPO statement: 27.04.2022

Consent of the Regional Veterinary Administration: 29.04.2022

Sending the application to KUKHK: 16.05.2022

Statement of the town of Trutnov: 25.05.2022

Protocol of the local inquiry (KUKHK): 17.06.2022

Decision of the KUKHK: 04.07.2022



**Fertiliser Register –
Karbofert T1**

ÚKZÚZ	=	Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture
KHS	=	Regional Hygiene Station
MPO	=	Ministry of Industry and Trade
KUKHK	=	Regional Office of Kralovehradecky Region

Contact details



Institute of Chemical Process
Fundamentals of the CAS



UNIVERSITY OF
CHEMISTRY AND TECHNOLOGY
PRAGUE

Dr. Jaroslav Moško, Ph.D.

Research Group of Waste Management and
Sustainable Technologies

Rozvojová 1/135
165 00 Prague 6
Czech Republic
Web: <https://www.icpf.cas.cz/en/department/department-of-environmental-engineering/>

mosko@icpf.cas.cz

Department of Power Engineering

Technická 5
166 28 Prague 6
Czech Republic
Web: <https://uen.vscht.cz/research/58693>

moskoja@vscht.cz



Thanks to **HST Hydrosystémy s.r.o.** for their cooperation and thanks to the colleagues from the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague and the Institute of Microbiology of the CAS for the development of this work.