

ACCUMULATION OF SOME HEAVY METALS IN WATER AND AQUATIC MACROPHYTES OF EUPHRATES RIVER

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ABSTRACT

Some heavy metals including; Co, Cu, Cd, Pb and Fe were measured in water and roots, shoots and leaves of three aquatic macrophyte species namely; *Phragmites australis*, *Potamogeton pectinatus* and *Ceratophyllum demersum* to evaluate the degree of pollution in Euphrates River during Mar. 2012 to Feb.2013. Concentration of the studied heavy metals in dissolved and particulate phases ranged between (76-137.75 $\mu\text{g/l}$ & 582-749.5 $\mu\text{g/g}$) for Fe, (0.91-2.21 $\mu\text{g/l}$ & 12.02-17.33 $\mu\text{g/g}$) for Cu, (1.54-4.30 $\mu\text{g/l}$ & 9.74-12.6 $\mu\text{g/g}$) for Cd, (0.85-2.66 $\mu\text{g/l}$ & 0.00-0.41 $\mu\text{g/g}$) for Co and (4.83 – 7.92 $\mu\text{g/l}$ & 0.41-0.7 $\mu\text{g/g}$) for Pb, respectively. The highest concentration of heavy metals was detected in submerged and leaves of aquatic macrophytes. The results showed that the heavy metals concentration in Euphrates River were within the permissible limits with significant local heavy metal pollution, and the heavy metals concentration in macrophytes were remarkably high but varied among plants species.

Keyword: : Heavy metals, Water, Aquatic macrophytes, Bioaccumulation, Euphrates River.

INTRODUCTION

Heavy metals have become the first source of environmental pollution, and these heavy metals are difficult to remediate and accumulated in toxic concentrations (Malar *et al.*, 2014).

Heavy metals might be produced from rocks, soils and sediments as natural sources, but mainly originated from industrial activities (El-Bourae *et al.*, 2010). The existence of heavy metals in aquatic environments causes serious negative impacts on plant and animal life (Akpore *et al.*, 2014; El-Amier

et al., 2015).

Aquatic macrophytes play main role in equilibrium in water body and in maintaining the aquatic system. The aquatic plants maintain high tolerance to high levels of heavy metals and accumulated them in very high concentration (Begum and Krishna, 2010; Zurayk *et al.*, 2001; Cardwell *et al.*, 2002). Many studies deal with the concentration and accumulation of heavy metals in water and aquatic macrophyta and used these plants as bioindicator of heavy metals pollution (Kara, 2005; El-Bourae *et al.*, 2010; Voica *et al.*, 2012;

Malar *et al.*, 2014; Hassan *et al.*, 2010 ; Salman *et al.*, 2010; Salman and Hussain, 2012; Salman *et al.*, 2015).

The aim of this study is to determinate the spatial and temporal variation of some heavy metals and accumulation of them in water and some aquatic macrophytes in Euphrates River (Al-Abasyia branch), middle of Iraq.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The studied area was about 32 km represented by four sites along Euphrates River (Al-Abbasyia branch) during Mar. 2012 to Feb. 2013. Samples of water and aquatic

plants were collected from study sites. Heavy metals were analysed in two phase of water (dissolved & particulate), dissolved heavy metals was measured according to APHA (2003) and particulate phase according to Sturgeon *et al.* (1982). Heavy metals in water measured by using Flame Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer FAAS (model SHIMADZO, AA-7000, Japan).

Aquatic plants samples were collected from the same site and kept in polyethylene bags and transported to lab. All samples dried and digested according to Orson *et al.* (1992). Finally, heavy metals measured by FAAS (model SHIMADZO, AA-7000. Japan).

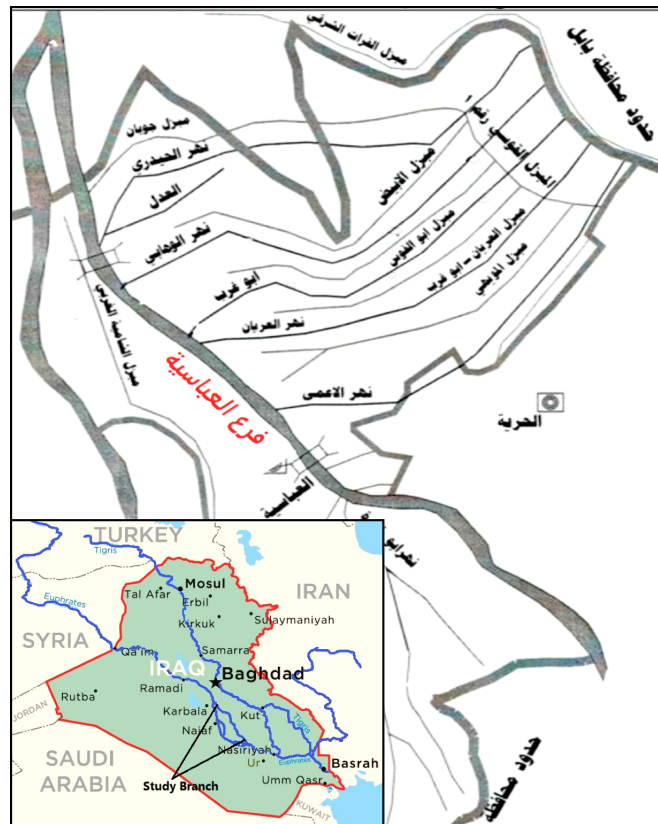


Fig. (1) : Map of Iraq showing Euphrates River and Al-Abasyia branch

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The concentrations of heavy metals are illustrated in Figure (2). The highest concentration of heavy metals Fe (137.75 $\mu\text{g/l}$), Cu (2.21 $\mu\text{g/l}$), Co (2.66 $\mu\text{g/l}$) and Pb (7.96 $\mu\text{g/l}$) were recorded in February 2013, whereas Cd expressed the highest value (4.30 $\mu\text{g/l}$) in July 2012. On the other hand, the lowest value was recorded in March (76.0 and 1.54 $\mu\text{g/l}$) for Fe and Cd, in April (0.85 and 4.83 $\mu\text{g/l}$) for Co and Pb, but Cu (0.91 $\mu\text{g/l}$) in September 2012, respectively. The results showed a significant variation among different months, this variation may be due to many factors such as water flow, waste water discharge, temperature run off pesticides and pollutants from adjacent area (Abdel-Baki, 2011; Salman and Hussain, 2012). This study recorded high concentration of heavy metals during winter while they recorded low concentration during summer may be due to a variations in many properties of water such as temperature, pH (Li *et al.*, 2013) or to amount of particulates (Faragallah *et al.*, 2009) and the density of phytoplankton (Atici *et al.*, 2008).

The concentrations of particulate heavy metals are shown in Figure (3). The highest concentration of particulate phase Fe (749.50 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and Pb (0.70 $\mu\text{g/g}$) were recorded in January 2013, whereas the lowest value (582.0 and 0.41 $\mu\text{g/g}$) were analyzed in July

2012. Cu and Cd expressed the highest value (17.33 and 12.78 $\mu\text{g/g}$) in February 2013, while, the lowest value (12.02 and 9.74 $\mu\text{g/g}$) were obtained in May and September 2012, respectively. On the other hand, Co expressed the highest value (0.41 $\mu\text{g/g}$) in November 2012, while the lowest value (0.01 $\mu\text{g/g}$) was recorded in May and September 2012.

The result showed the concentration of heavy metals in particulate phase was higher than their concentration in the dissolved phase may be due to the increase of particulate matter which include living and non-living components (El Bouraie *et al.*, 2010) or to drifting of particulate matter from catchment area, effluent of sewage and industrial and agriculture wastes (Kara, 2005). Heavy metals in particulate phase effected by many physical and chemical properties of water such as temperature, pH, salinity, organic matters and water velocity (Karaer *et al.*, 2013).

Aquatic systems are more sensitive to pollution by heavy metals than terrestrial ones (Malar *et al.*, 2014), Aquatic macrophytes are well known in concentrating and accumulating heavy metal in aquatic system (Kara, 2005). The concentration of heavy metals in different parts of three species of aquatic plants are listed in Tables (1- 5).

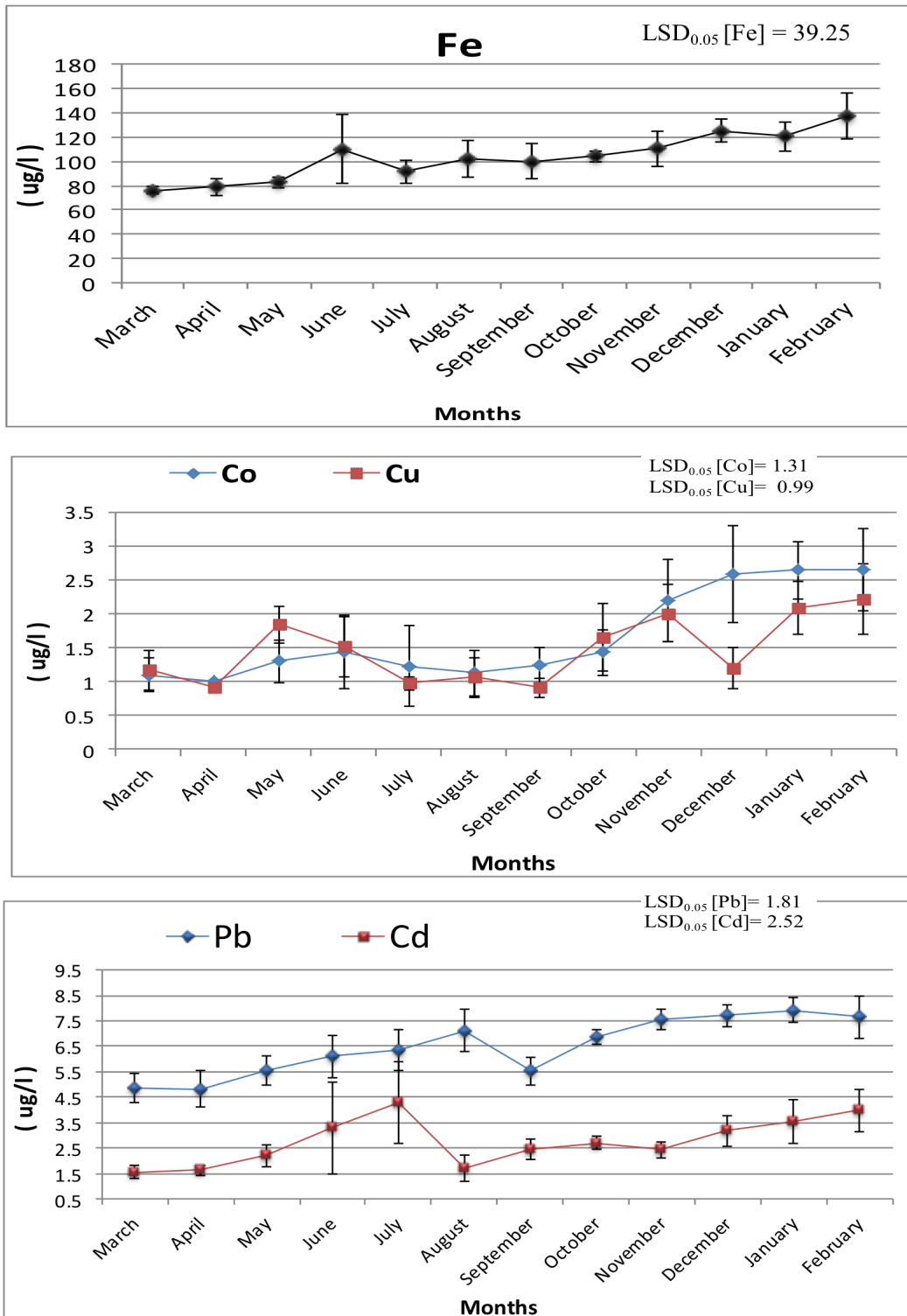


Fig. (2) : Concentration of some heavy metals in dissolved phase of water in study sites during Mar. 2012 – Feb. 2013.

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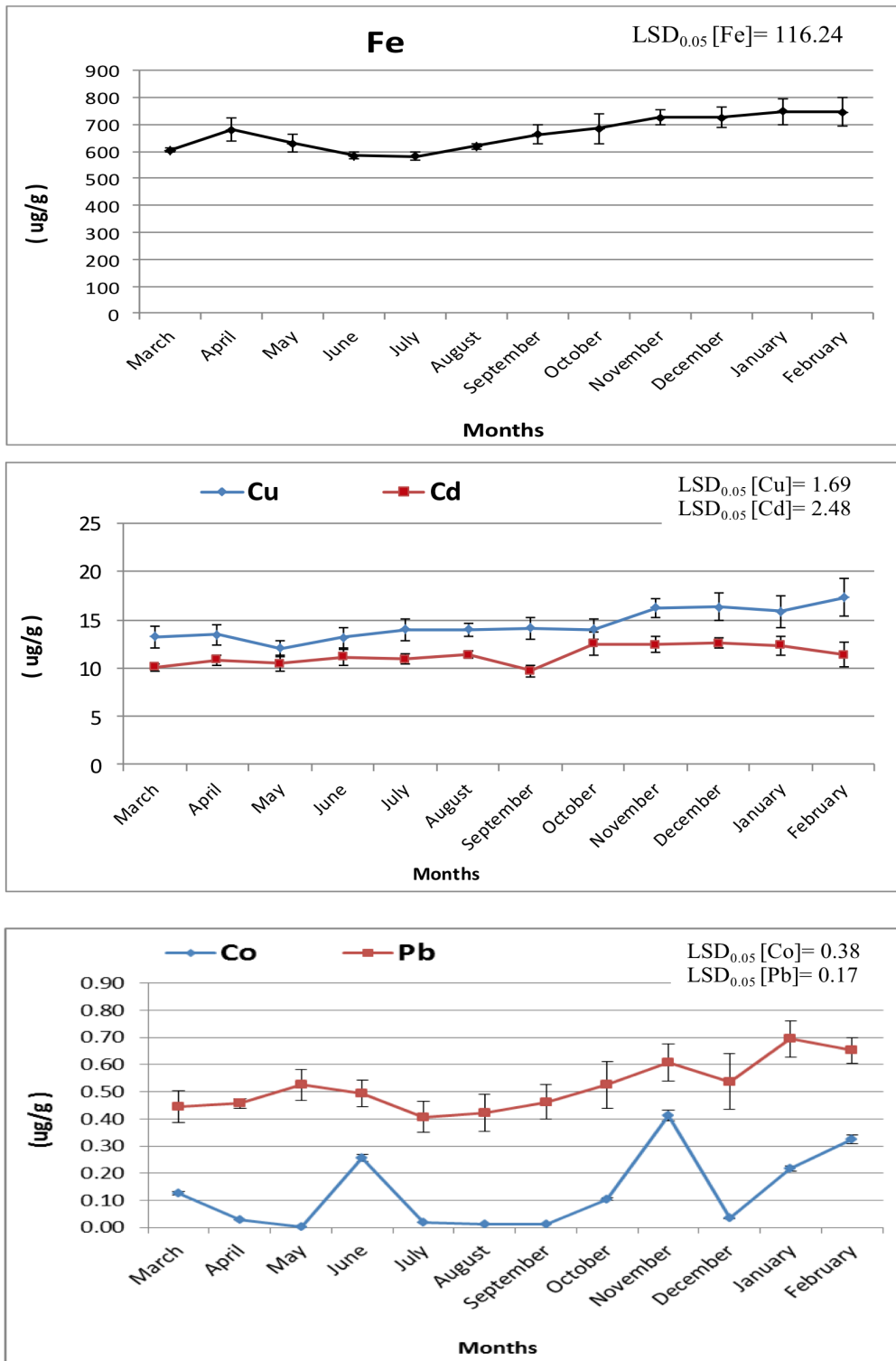


Fig. (3) : Concentration of some heavy metals in particulate phase of water in study sites during Mar. 2012 – Feb. 2013.

The highest Cu concentration (16.55 and 16.5 µg/g) was recorded in rhizome and stem of *Phragmites australis*, respectively in September, April, 2012, whereas the leaves expressed the highest value (15.5µg/g) in February. 2013. In case of *Potamogeton pectinatus* the highest value (28.75, 20.65 and 24.5 µg/

g) for root, stem and leaves were observed in June, August and March, respectively. However, *Ceratophyllum demersum* expressed the highest concentrations (15.55µg/g) for leaves in January. 2013. But the stem showed the highest content (20µg/g) in May and November, 2012 (Table 1).

Table (1) : Cu (µg/g) concentration in the parts plant during study 2012-2013 in four sites.

Month	Year	Aquatic Macrophyta							
		<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex. Steud.			<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i> L.			<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> L.	
		Rhizome	Stem	Leaves	Root	Stem	Leaves	Stem	Leaves
March	2012	11.63±0.72	13.48±1.39	15.38±0.52	9.88±0.52	10.50±2.29	24.50±6.06	13.50±0.87	15.00±0.01
April		13.23±0.35	16.50±2.18	11.65±3.15	10.50±0.50	10.50±0.29	17.75±1.30	16.50±2.02	10.00±2.89
May		7.78±2.99	7.90±3.06	12.60±1.29	20.25±5.63	11.10±0.64	12.75±0.14	20.00±0.00	10.50±3.18
June		13.53±0.53	11.70±0.44	11.30±0.90	28.75±10.61	12.35±0.95	12.00±1.15	8.00±0.01	8.10±3.23
July		13.90±0.35	8.28±3.16	9.05±1.71	10.13±0.13	15.00±2.89	13.25±0.43	7.88±0.13	9.33±3.85
August		11.65±2.26	8.78±3.45	10.20±1.65	15.00±2.89	20.65±5.40	13.25±0.43	8.00±0.01	9.68±4.23
September		16.55±1.08	9.90±2.43	10.18±3.63	15.75±2.53	16.40±2.08	14.50±0.29	16.00±0.02	10.60±3.12
October		13.78±1.58	12.63±2.49	9.84±4.60	14.55±2.65	10.93±0.92	12.25±2.74	16.00±0.01	11.65±3.67
November		12.85±2.40	13.1±2.54	14.80±1.68	15.85±2.41	12.00±1.15	15.00±0.58	20.00±0.01	11.90±2.78
December		10.38±2.66	11.95±0.69	11.20±2.89	11.93±1.44	10.00±0.00	15.00±0.58	12.00±0.02	11.25±3.61
January	2013	14.53±0.73	10.78±3.15	12.78±2.59	11.50±0.74	12.30±2.57	14.50±0.29	12.00±0.02	15.55±1.33
February		11.18±2.94	11.70±0.44	15.50±1.74	11.25±1.25	10.50±0.50	14.40±0.23	12.00±0.01	15.00±3.37
Annual mean		12.58	11.39	12.04	14.61	12.69	14.93	13.49	11.55
<i>F-value</i>		1.49	1.08	0.75	1.99	2.30	2.84	46.1	0.6
<i>P-value</i>		0.18	0.4	0.69	0.06	0.03*	0.009**	0.000***	0.82
<i>LSD</i> _{0.05}		5.29	6.79	7.13	11	5.99	5.77	1.83	9.02

* The values are the mean of those recorded in the 4 sites .

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The highest Pb concentration ($0.77\mu\text{g/g}$) was recorded in rhizome and stem of *Phragmites australis*, respectively in September, July, 2012, whereas the leaves expressed the highest value ($7.64\mu\text{g/g}$) in January, 2013. In case of *Potamogeton pectinatus* the highest value (13.20 and $17.78\mu\text{g/g}$) for root and leaves in May, 2012 whereas stem expressed the highest value ($15.66\mu\text{g/g}$) in February, 2013, *Ceratophyllum demersum* expressed the highest concentrations (3.32 , $3.95\mu\text{g/g}$) for stem and leaves in January, 2013 (Table 2).

The highest Cd concentration (33.45 and $34.8\mu\text{g/g}$) was recorded in rhizome and stem of *Phragmites australis*, respectively in February, 2013 whereas the leaves expressed the highest value ($37.98\mu\text{g/g}$) in November, 2012 (Table 3). In case of *Potamogeton pectinatus* the highest value (48.375 , 38.375 and 38.05

$\mu\text{g/g}$) for root, stem and leaves were observed in September, November, 2012 and January 2013, respectively. However, *Ceratophyllum demersum* expressed the highest concentrations (38.375 and $47.625\mu\text{g/g}$) for stem and leaves in January, 2013.

The highest Co concentration (15.06 and $7.72\mu\text{g/g}$) was recorded in rhizome and stem of *Phragmites australis*, respectively in October, 2012, whereas the leaves expressed the highest value ($7.57\mu\text{g/g}$) in November, 2012. In case of *Potamogeton pectinatus* the highest value (7.63 , 7.45 and $7.96\mu\text{g/g}$) for root, stem and leaves were observed in October, March, 2012 and January 2013, respectively. However, *Ceratophyllum demersum* expressed the highest concentrations ($7.30\mu\text{g/g}$) for stem in June, 2012. But the leaves showed the highest content ($7.92\mu\text{g/g}$) in August, 2012 (Table 4).

Table (2) : Pb ($\mu\text{g/g}$) concentration in the parts plant during study 2012-2013 in four sites.

Month	Year	Aquatic Macrophyta								
		<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex. Steud			<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i> L.			<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> L.		
		Rhizome	Stem	Leaves	Root	Stem	Leaves	Stem	Leaves	
March	2012	0.55±0.14	0.61±0.08	0.73±0.07	0.45±0.17	0.72±0.06	0.57±0.14	1.66±0.28	2.04±0.54	
April		0.66±0.08	0.66±0.04	0.75±0.06	0.62±0.07	0.66±0.05	0.63±0.11	1.42±0.32	2.38±0.93	
May		0.66±0.01	0.75±0.03	0.75±0.08	13.20±12.43	15.62±14.86	17.78±16.91	1.86±0.54	2.52±0.71	
June		0.65±0.04	0.67±0.03	0.66±0.05	0.65±0.07	0.70±0.07	0.58±0.09	1.99±0.63	2.69±1.33	
July		0.74±0.06	0.77±0.03	0.65±0.08	0.43±0.15	0.48±0.18	0.63±0.08	1.43±0.37	2.79±1.32	
August		0.68±0.08	0.73±0.03	0.44±0.18	0.50±0.15	0.57±0.17	0.45±0.20	1.63±0.29	2.71±1.48	
September		0.77±0.06	0.70±0.04	0.53±0.11	0.62±0.20	0.54±0.18	0.41±0.10	1.67±0.30	2.75±1.53	
October		0.33±0.16	0.75±0.06	0.48±0.17	0.77±0.12	0.67±0.02	0.71±0.04	1.69±0.75	1.86±0.87	
November		0.69±0.04	0.72±0.03	0.71±0.03	0.74±0.08	0.61±0.19	0.64±0.09	2.26±0.90	3.15±1.55	
December		0.62±0.03	0.77±0.07	0.60±0.11	0.79±0.08	0.58±0.17	0.77±0.04	2.24±0.61	2.82±1.18	
January		2013	0.57±0.14	0.76±0.02	7.64±6.85	0.65±0.12	0.53±0.16	0.50±0.09	3.32±0.25	3.95±1.85
February			0.56±0.07	0.75±0.02	0.63±0.12	0.47±0.17	15.66±14.85	0.64±0.16	2.65±1.07	3.57±1.50
Annual mean		0.62	0.72	1.21	1.66	3.11	2.02	1.98	2.77	
<i>F-value</i>		1.69	1.2	1.05	1.03	0.93	1.04	0.47	0.24	
<i>P-value</i>		0.12	0.32	0.43	0.45	0.52	0.44	0.91	0.99	
<i>LSD</i> _{0.05}		0.25	0.13	5.68	10.3	17.4	14	1.76	3.67	

* The values are the mean of those recorded in the 4 sites.

Table (3) : Cd ($\mu\text{g/g}$) concentration in the parts plant during study 2012-2013 in four sites.

Month	Year	Aquatic Macrophyta								
		<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex. Steud.			<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i> L.			<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> L.		
		Rhizome	Stem	Leaves	Root	Stem	Leaves	Stem	Leaves	
March	2012	29.08±6.07	24.78±3.66	31.65±6.81	27.40±8.15	35.20±13.37	29.85±6.91	30.70±5.47	46.63±12.80	
April		29.13±7.39	29.45±4.31	32.70±7.65	28.20±8.34	36.28±16.47	30.98±7.91	35.65±5.44	42.90±7.34	
May		28.33±6.48	28.95±8.93	34.13±7.13	25.70±9.71	33.23±17.30	27.80±5.87	32.85±5.22	46.50±12.60	
June		28.80±7.75	31.80±10.92	31.18±4.92	30.25±9.86	31.68±11.22	27.95±5.90	34.13±6.18	44.78±12.87	
July		32.38±10.15	25.15±4.54	30.58±5.32	29.60±9.88	33.53±17.04	25.68±1.29	36.13±8.79	37.73±5.80	
August		24.80±4.13	31.75±10.80	35.95±10.26	35.33±11.89	36.78±15.59	34.10±10.94	30.20±2.10	40.75±8.24	
September		28.48±7.72	31.18±11.25	30.13±5.57	48.38±12.35	26.50±12.80	31.28±7.73	34.83±6.21	46.58±13.22	
October		33.15±10.04	24.68±4.74	32.78±4.34	28.55±10.28	34.68±16.61	32.05±4.97	35.00±6.42	47.58±12.53	
November		25.75±3.65	31.85±10.73	37.98±9.63	33.88±12.44	38.39±15.02	29.05±5.73	35.25±8.32	42.78±7.58	
December		28.90±4.58	29.78±8.55	35.33±3.33	28.00±10.63	32.70±7.41	31.85±4.68	35.18±8.06	45.30±13.07	
January		2013	30.80±8.36	30.55±9.78	35.10±5.11	28.03±7.96	33.15±11.12	38.05±9.74	38.38±10.90	47.63±11.90
February			33.45±10.53	34.80±11.69	31.10±4.76	31.23±7.81	33.70±10.87	31.03±4.99	37.55±7.43	39.15±5.28
Annual mean		29.42	29.56	33.22	31.21	33.81	30.80	34.65	44.02	
<i>F-value</i>		0.05	0.06	0.07	0.16	0.03	0.08	0.04	0.05	
<i>P-value</i>		1	1	1	0.1	1	1	1	1	
<i>LSD</i> _{0.05}		35.69	39.19	32.79	43.1	54.41	33.32	34.11	44.63	

* The values are the mean of those recorded in the 4 sites .

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Table (4) : Co ($\mu\text{g/g}$) concentration in the parts plant during study 2012-2013 in four sites.

Month	Year	Aquatic Macrophyta							
		<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex. Steud.			<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i> L.			<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> L.	
		Rhizome	Stem	Leaves	Root	Stem	Leaves	Stem	Leaves
March	2012	0.45±0.16	0.26±0.09	0.39±0.16	0.43±0.19	7.45±7.32	7.36±7.08	6.79±6.57	7.08±6.81
April		1.40±1.20	0.32±0.12	0.13±0.06	0.18±0.09	0.16±0.08	0.26±0.16	0.14±0.08	7.89±7.54
May		0.36±0.12	0.14±0.09	0.20±0.06	7.66±7.32	0.19±0.06	0.35±0.19	0.29±0.11	0.28±0.09
June		0.29±0.09	0.28±0.09	0.34±0.13	0.27±0.10	0.21±0.07	0.29±0.10	7.30±7.03	0.52±0.20
July		6.83±6.46	0.36±0.07	7.85±7.58	7.09±6.51	0.29±0.10	7.18±7.01	7.26±6.95	0.43±0.15
August		0.42±0.13	0.31±0.16	0.36±0.15	0.22±0.09	0.47±0.21	0.41±0.18	0.28±0.01	7.92±7.46
September		0.43±0.16	0.27±0.08	0.48±0.15	0.50±0.15	0.31±0.14	0.24±0.08	0.20±0.05	0.26±0.06
October		15.06±9.44	7.72±7.49	6.81±6.46	7.62±7.39	7.21±7.03	7.76±7.15	6.78±6.51	0.41±8.55
November		0.25±0.08	7.32±7.06	7.57±7.31	0.22±0.08	0.43±0.16	0.29±0.11	0.27±0.08	0.41±0.18
December		0.40±0.21	0.23±0.11	0.31±0.16	0.22±0.11	0.15±0.07	0.28±0.14	0.32±0.16	0.46±0.17
January	2013	0.31±0.09	6.66±6.21	0.55±0.12	0.16±0.07	0.13±0.06	7.96±7.58	0.29±0.09	0.46±0.18
February		0.25±0.09	0.15±0.05	0.22±0.07	0.27±0.10	0.39±0.18	0.28±0.09	0.49±0.21	0.42±0.17
Annual mean		2.20	2.00	2.10	2.07	1.45	2.72	2.53	2.37
F-value		1.8	0.83	0.81	0.84	0.83	0.72	0.72	0.71
P-value		0.09	0.61	0.63	0.6	0.57	0.71	0.71	0.72
LSD _{0.05}		9.35	9.96	10.24	10.16	8.41	12.1	11.21	12.12

* The values are the mean of those recorded in the 4 sites .

Table (5) : Fe ($\mu\text{g/g}$) concentration in the parts plant during study 2012-2013 in four sites.

Month	Year	Aquatic Macrophyta								
		<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex. Steud.			<i>Potamogeton pectinatus</i> L.			<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i> L.		
		Rhizome	Stem	Leaves	Root	Stem	Leaves	Stem	Leaves	
March	2012	872.5±82.70	790.0±33.42	942.5±36.03	734.75±33.05	932.75±29.20	840.0±58.17	1032.5±68.24	1016±75.18	
April		909.75±70.48	817.5±40.08	1102.5±40.68	884.0±105.73	844.75±43.23	839.75±41.33	1073.5±48.83	942.75±103.01	
May		852.5±100.03	768.33±93.22	1097.25±78.24	846.75±106.21	800.75±87.16	964.25±55.91	1021.75±26.51	992.0±92.24	
June		884.5±35.22	925.0±105.32	969.75±113.34	890.0±91.01	967.5±51.38	992.5±41.10	1097.25±39.49	965.12±24.86	
July		765.0±47.87	865.0±95.26	982.0±44.20	862.0±53.05	1167.0±143.41	964.5±64.29	1062.0±82.75	962.0±24.10	
August		857.5±12.50	877.5±75.98	927.25±62.79	767.5±43.28	1182.5±266.50	907.5±77.82	1057.5±74.20	992.5±73.07	
September		760.0±14.58	860.0±59.72	877.5±47.50	807.5±33.01	1155±248.41	862.5±120.23	1287.5±232.86	1060.0±82.16	
October		785.0±80.57	967.5±78.67	964.75±117.48	827.5±39.45	972.5±51.05	950.0±28.28	1047.5±36.14	1277.25±196.89	
November		815.0±34.03	887.25±78.97	987.25±102.40	872.5±40.08	967.25±52.43	960.0±20.00	1089.75±41.05	3617.5±2528.76	
December		865.0±30.69	820.0±106.69	959.0±60.92	862.5±17.50	990.0±39.79	905.0±5.00	984.5±86.18	1277.0±257.98	
January		2013	872.5±46.97	919.5±40.13	885.75±83.04	938.75±16.31	926.75±47.31	1051.75±51.38	1012.25±118.30	1105.0±76.36
February			824.75±24.85	908.75±15.60	947.25±102.14	895.0±5.00	957.5±82.60	1070±50.50	977.5±63.43	1177.26±57.21
Annual mean		838.67	867.19	970.23	849.06	988.69	942.31	1061.96	1310.84	
F-value		0.76	0.61	0.74	0.95	0.97	1.65	0.75	1.02	
P-value		0.67	0.81	0.69	0.51	0.49	0.13	0.69	0.45	
LSD _{0.05}		159.54	244.93	231.35	168.41	353.47	167.59	267.42	2118.54	

** The values are the mean of those recorded in the 4 sit .

The highest Fe concentration (909.75 and 1102.5µg/g) was recorded in rhizome and leaves of *Phragmites australis*, respectively in April 2012, whereas the stem expressed the highest value (967.5µg/g) in October 2012. In case of *Potamogeton pectinatus* the highest value (938.75, 1167.0 and 1070 µg/g) for root, stem and leaves were observed in January 2013, July 2012 and February 2013, respectively. However, *Ceratophyllum demersum* expressed the highest concentrations (1287.5µg/g) for stem in September, 2012. But the leaves showed the highest content (3617.5µg/g) in November, 2012 (Table 5).

The result showed a higher concentration of heavy metals in submerged species *C. demersum*, followed by *P. pectinatus* and then emergent species *P. australis* may be due to the submerged species have been found to accumulate relatively high heavy metal concentration when compared with emergent species in the same area (Kara, 2005).

Heavy metals showed relatively higher concentration in leaves of aquatic plants in all species under study because absorption of heavy metals directly from water or due to the ability of plants to accumulate the toxic heavy metals in vacuoles on leaves of plants. Heavy metals are toxic to aquatic macrophytes if their accumulation levels exceed the detoxification capacity of the plant tissues (Zhang *et al.*, 2007). Co heavy metal was recorded the lowest value (0.13 µg/g) compared with other heavy metals under study in leaves of *P. australis* during April, 2012.

The aquatic macrophytes vary widely in their ability to accumulate the heavy metals

due to many factors affected on them such as biomass, morphology, growth form, water quality, etc. (Mishra *et al.*, 2007). The results showed that macrophyte species *C. demersum* have the ability to accumulate the heavy metals more than other species. Hyper accumulator plants represent a resource for Phytoremediation of metal polluted sites, as they can tolerate uptake high levels of certain heavy metals that would be toxic to most organisms (Meagher and Heaton, 2005).

CONCLUSION

The results showed that the heavy metals concentration in Euphrates river (Al- Abasyia) were mainly within the permissible limits according to criteria EPA, 1995 and WHO, 1995, However, significant local heavy metals pollution problems were recorded. The heavy metal concentrations in the river's macrophytes were remarkably high, but varied among plants species. Our results suggest that use some species of macrophytes as bioindicator to monitoring the heavy metals pollution in Euphrates River.

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الملخص العربي

تراكم بعض المعادن الثقيلة في الماء والنباتات المائية في نهر الفرات

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تم قياس بعض المعادن الثقيلة وتشمل الكوبلت والنحاس والكادميوم والرصاص والحديد في الماء وكذلك في الجذور و السيقان والأوراق لثلاثة أنواع من النباتات المائية وهي: البوص *Phragmites australis* ، علاق *Potamogeton pectinatus* ونخشوش الحوت *Ceratophyllum demersum* لتقييم درجة التلوث في نهر الفرات من مارس 2012 إلى فبراير 2013. تم تقدير تركيز المعادن الثقيلة الذائبة والغير ذائبة حيث تراوحت بين (76 - 137.75 ميكروجرام / لتر و 749.5 - 582 ميكروجرام / جرام) للحديد، (0.91 - 2.21 ميكروجرام / لتر و 12.02 - 17.33 ميكروجرام / جرام) للنحاس، (1.54-4.30 ميكروجرام / لتر و 9.74 - 12.6 ميكروجرام / جرام) للكاديوم، (0.85 - 2.66 ميكروجرام / لتر و 0.00 - 0.41 ميكروجرام / جرام) للكوبلت و (4.83 - 7.92 ميكروجرام / لتر و 0.41 - 0.7 ميكروجرام / جرام) للرصاص، على التوالي. تم تعيين أعلى تركيز للمعادن الثقيلة في أوراق النباتات المائية المغمورة. وأظهرت النتائج أيضا أن تركيز المعادن الثقيلة في نهر الفرات كانت ضمن الحدود المسموح بها محليا، هذا بالإضافة الى أن تركيز المعادن الثقيلة في النباتات المائية عالي بشكل ملحوظ ولكن يختلف بين الأنواع النباتية.

JOESE 5

**ACCUMULATION OF SOME HEAVY METALS IN WATER AND
AQUATIC MACROPHYTES OF EUPHRATES RIVER**

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