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Evaluation of the atmospheric contamination using leafy lichens as bioindicators by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (Pahs) - A case study

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In this contribution, we have exploited the ability of leafy lichens to capture and accumulate organic pollutants in the atmosphere to assess the level of air pollution. Three different regions of the governorate of Bizerte namely Zarzouna, El Alia and Sejnane were considered. The air quality on these areas has been evaluated using collected lichen species as bioindicators of atmospheric contamination by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). A throughout morphological study was firstly carried out and a wide variety of lichen species were identified. Further more, elementary analyzes were conducted to determine and characterize the pollutants accumulated in each of the species. During this work, PAHs have been fully analyzed through high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC). As far as we know, this is the first research work devoted to using lichens as bio-indicators of atmospheric deposition of PAHs, in Tunisian regions.

Biography

Karima Tabbabi has completed her PhD on the 23 December 2017 from the Faculty of Sciences of Bizerte – Tunisia, University of Carthage. Shee is a researcher teacher and a postdoctoral resercher at the higher institute of applied sciences and technology of tunis.