

**SULFIDE ELIMINATION BY USING AN AEROBIC SEQUENCING
BATCH REACTOR.**

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ABSTRACT

Several industries such as petrochemical, tanneries and photographic are producing high strength effluent containing sulfide and chemical oxygen demand (COD). Previous studies indicated that the elimination of sulfides was feasible by using physicochemical, chemical, and biological techniques. Although, physicochemical and chemical treatments have potential for high removal efficiency but it still have limitations due to high operational cost and restricted application in small scale facilities. Alternatively, biological technique could be considered as the best option due to low operational cost and flexibility in the application. Thus, this study is conducted to evaluate the feasibility of sulfide removal from synthetic wastewater by using an aerobic biological treatment in a sequencing batch reactor (SBR). The experiment was carried out by using 3.25L of SBR which was inoculated with inoculums originated from palm oil mill sludge. The synthetic wastewater was fed in the reactor and sodium sulfide was added as a source of sulfide with initial concentration between 150 and 300 mgL⁻¹. After 50 days of operation, the present SBR simultaneously removed sulfide and COD with removal efficiencies of higher than 99 and 80%, respectively. The total suspended solid (TSS) and volatile suspended solid (VSS) in the effluent were kept stable at around 120 mgL⁻¹ and 50 mgL⁻¹, respectively. In conclusion, the aerobic activated sludge technology has the ability to remove simultaneously wastewater containing sulfide and COD with high removal efficiency. Thus, application of this technology to the real wastewater from petrochemical, tannery and photographic is highly recommended.

Keywords: Sulfide removal; Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR); Palm Oil Mill Sludge; Synthetic Wastewater.

ABSTRAK

Beberapa industri seperti petrokimia, penyamakan kulit dan fotografi menghasilkan efluen yang mengandungi sulfida dan Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD). Kajian terdahulu menunjukkan bahawa penghapusan sulfida boleh dilaksanakan dengan menggunakan fizikokimia, kimia, dan teknik-teknik biologi. Walaupun, fizikokimia dan rawatan kimia mempunyai potensi untuk kecekapan penyingkiran yang tinggi tetapi ia masih mempunyai had-had kerana kos operasi yang tinggi dan penggunaan yang terhad dalam kemudahan kecil-kecilan. Sebagai alternatif, teknik biologi boleh dianggap sebagai pilihan yang terbaik kerana kos operasi yang rendah dan fleksibiliti dalam permohonan itu. Oleh itu, kajian ini dijalankan untuk menilai kemungkinan penyingkiran sulfida daripada air sisa sintetik dengan menggunakan rawatan biologi aerobik dalam reaktor sequencing batch (SBR). eksperimen ini dijalankan dengan menggunakan 3.25L SBR yang disuntik dengan enapcemar berasal daripada kilang minyak sawit. Air sisa sintetik telah dimasukkan ke dalam reaktor dan natrium sulfida ditambah sebagai sumber sulfida dengan awal kepekatan antara 150 dan 300 mg⁻¹. Selepas 50 hari operasi, masa kini SBR serentak dikeluarkan sulfida dan COD dengan kecekapan penyingkiran yang lebih tinggi daripada 99 dan 80%, masing-masing. Jumlah ini pepejal terampai (TSS) dan tidak menentu digantung pepejal masing-masing (VSS) dalam efluen telah disimpan stabil pada kira-kira 120 mg⁻¹ dan 50 mgL⁻¹.. Kesimpulannya, teknologi enapcemar diaktifkan aerobik mempunyai keupayaan untuk mengeluarkan serentak air sisa yang mengandungi sulfida dan COD dengan kecekapan penyingkiran yang tinggi. Oleh itu, penggunaan teknologi ini untuk air sisa sebenar daripada petrokimia, penyamakan dan fotografi adalah sangat disyorkan.

Kata kunci: Penyingkiran Sulfida; Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR); enapcemar kilang minyak sawit; air sisa sintetik.