

Review manuscript:

Viability of hydrocarbon-degrading bacterial consortium immobilized on different carriers

1) SECTION INTRODUCTION

“Not all materials qualify as carrier or support materials for immobilization. For a material to be suitable for immobilization, the material must be insoluble, cost-effective, readily available,..” Rewrite and improve this sentence.

“The features of these materials that have encouraged their use are their hydrophilic nature, biodegradability, cost effectiveness and biocompatibility. However, natural organic carrier materials may not be suitable for certain applications.” Could you please, give some example?

2) SECTION MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Isolation of Hydrocarbon-Degrading Bacteria

How many soil samples was used? For what purpose the authors heated soil samples at 40C?

2.2 Screening of Carriers

Please, how this screening was performed? Please, clarify it and mention the reference.

2.2.2 Immobilization (by adsorption) of bacterial consortium on the carriers

2.3 Enumeration of Total Culturable Heterotrophic Bacteria Hydrocarbon-Utilizing Bacteria

These subsections are confusing.

What consortium is this?

The experiment described in 2.3 used the carriers?

Do the authors consider to identify the strains?

3) SECTION RESULTS

In general, in this section improve the text structure well as the figures and their legend

Hydrocarbon-utilizing bacteria- biodegradability test using turbidometric technique – Please, improve and quote the reference.

Chemical composition of the carrier materials- Is there any influence in the chemical composition of materials as an efficient carrier?

As depicted in the graphics, what do authors mean with 103,6% survival?

How do the authors can explain corn cob, soya bran and saw dust as best carriers? Please, improve the results and the discussion.