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Performance of Conventional Activated Sludge to Remove Nitrogen Compounds from Tomato Factory Wastewater Received: 24 Oct 2011

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Today discharge of raw or treated wastewater containing nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus compounds) to the surface water causing an Utrification phenomenon, will be due to excessive growth of algae in the receptive water source. Each of the of wastewater treatment system, providing principled design and operation can be reduced nutrients to standard level [1]. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of conventional activated sludge systems to remove nitrogen compounds from wastewater of Kermanshah Rojintak tomato factory and comparison of the final effluent quality with discharge standards to water resource and reuse it in agricultural irrigation in term of nitrogen compounds are considered.

Kermanshah Rojintak tomato factory with capacity of 2200 tons per day produce the desired products. The factory has two wastewater treatment plant of a conventional activated sludge system with a capacity $3000 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$, which in tomato produce and harvest season(peak season), only the first treatment plant with a capacity of $1200 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$ is active.

In this study, a cross sectional study, the weekly intake of raw wastewater and effluent of first treatment plants (total 48 samples) and second wastewater treatment plant (total 30 samples) during peak and non-peak season were taken. In each of the samples, the parameters NH_4 , NO_3 and NO_2 according to standard procedures of water and wastewater examinations was carried out [2].

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The results showed that the removal rate of parameters in the peak season, the first treatment plant 64.5, 64.25 and 64.44% and the second treatment plant 56.25%, 56.59% and 56.79% was obtained respectively. While in non-peak season, removal efficiency of first treatment plant in theses parameters respectively 68%, 63.2% and 68% was achieved. Gohil et al. study found that the removal efficiency parameters NH₄, NO₃ and NO₂ from a wastewater of tomato factory by Up flow anaerobic sludge blanket (UASB) was 85%, 20% and 68%, respectively [3].

Comparison of results related to treated wastewater effluent of Kermanshah Rojintak tomato factory with mentioned case will show that efficiency of wastewater treatment plant of Rojintak factory in removal of NO₃ was better but less efficient in removing NH₄ and was similar efficient in removing NO2. According to the results, we can say which in non-peak season, Exception ammonia parameter there is no limitation about effluent discharge into receptive water source but in the peak season there is this limitation. According to the environmental Protection Agency Guidelines of Iran associated with nitrogen compounds for agriculture reuse there is no certain limitation, so the treated wastewater effluent of Kermanshah Rojintak tomato factory used without any problems in agriculture irrigation. Corresponding author: kio.sharafi@gmail.com

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