Evaluation of the Efficacy of Phytochemical Treatment of Surface Waters Based on Powder Extracts of Almond Seeds Moringa Oleifera Lam in Kenge, DRC

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Abbreviations: CMI: Minimal Inhibitory Concentration; BMPs: Best Management Practices; MICs: Minimum Inhibitory Concentrations; CDOM: Colored Dissolved Organic Matter; TSN: Neomycin Tripecase Sulfite

ABSTRACT

Rural and peri-urban populations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are particularly confronted with serious problems of drinking water supply. As a result, people rely on drinking water sources that have not been confirmed by chemical testing. This is the cause of several water-borne diseases in children and adults. In this study, the surface waters of the City of Kenge were treated with almond seed powder from Moringa Oleifera Lam to test its effectiveness and evaluate its antibacterial activity. The physicochemical qualities of these waters were determined using a 340i multi-parameter analyzer. Bacterial enumeration was performed by the technique of incorporating water into a solid medium. Almond seed doses of M. Oleifera Lam were used as physical means to evaluate efficacy. The results obtained show that a zone of inhibition of bacterial activity of the order of 21 mm for Staphylococcus aureus, 16 mm for Salmonella typhi and 10 mm for Escherichia coli, on average. This confirms the virtues of the antibacterial activity of M. Oleifera Lam, which is also nicknamed “plant-pharmacy” or “tree of life”, when this plant is added to water.

Summary

In rural and peri-urban areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), populations are particularly confronted with serious problems of drinking water supply. As a result, people rely on drinking water sources that have not been confirmed by chemical testing. This is the cause of several water-borne diseases in children and adults. In this study, the surface waters of the City of Kenge were treated with almond seed powder from Moringa Oleifera Lam to test its effectiveness and evaluate its antibacterial activity. The physicochemical qualities of these waters were determined using a 340i multi-parameter analyzer. Bacterial enumeration was performed by the technique of incorporating water into a solid medium. Almond seed doses of M. Oleifera Lam were used as physical means to evaluate efficacy. The results obtained show that a zone of inhibition of bacterial activity of the order of 21 mm for Staphylococcus aureus, 16 mm for Salmonella typhi and 10 mm for Escherichia coli, on average. This confirms the virtues of the antibacterial activity of Mr. Oleifera Lam, which is also nicknamed “plant-pharmacy” or “tree of life”, when this plant is added to water.

Introduction

“Water is life,” it is said, but the quality of water is just as essential as that of food consumed by the population to ensure their good health and achieve good socio-economic returns. Several studies highlight the quality of water as one of the vectors of parasitic,
bacterial and viral diseases of poisoning and sanitary disorders, especially since it can carry all kinds of inert and living substances, some may be harmful to the human body [1,2] (WHO 2006). Thus, if the water resources are poorly managed, the lack of drinkability or the toxicity of the water can lead to a degradation of the human health and to the decrease of the yields of the populations, and this because of the infections induced by the consumption contaminated drinking water. These problems are at the root of the vulnerability of development due to waterborne diseases in some areas of the world (Figure 1). As a result, people rely on drinking water sources to satisfy their daily needs, without any chemical test attesting to the drinkability of these waters.

This practice is at the root of many deadly waterborne diseases in both children and adults. Hence the need for a study to both evaluate the potability of water and the effectiveness of an ingenious or biochemical treatment that would be within reach of poor Kenge households in order to improve the quality of water drinking water supply in rural and peri-urban areas. This study aims specifically to evaluate the physicochemical and microbiological (bacteriological) quality of water sources. This will be mainly to determine the effective dose of drinking water treatment based on almond powder extracts from the seeds of Moringa Oleifera Lam. Subsequently, a chemical screening will measure the effect of the antibacterial activity of the almond powder of this plant.

**Assessment of Drinking Water Supply in Kenge**

**Servicing and Drinking Water Management System in Kenge**

The City of Kenge has water supply infrastructures whose management is exclusively granted to REGIDESO, without any legal mechanism of professional, associative and community controls being involved (Figure 2). A recent study found that the majority of respondents (45.5%) did not know that they had the right to be involved in managing the water supply in the study area. This was mainly explained by the centralist policies of water supply and sanitation existing since colonial times, the low awareness and dissemination of information on the recent decentralization of the water sector, the failure of village projects -assaini, school-sanitized and university-sanitized, as well as a low level of education of most respondents [3]. It is important to note that, the absence of a public-private partnership at REGIDESO level and the virtual failure of community management of drinking water supply systems in rural areas (village-sanitation projects and school-sanitation) are the basis for continued water rationing for affected populations and the low coverage of water supply estimated at about 34% between 2010 and 2015, while access to improved sources of drinking water has, in some cases, reached about 57% in rural areas and 61% in peri-urban areas in 2015 [3].

**Figure 1:** Cartographie des collines et vallées de la Ville de Kenge (Google, 2018).

**Figure 2:** Équipement électromécanique de repompage d’eau de la REGIDESO, Kenge (Auteurs, 2018).

Thus, the vast majority of the population gets their supplies of any water that is easily and freely accessible from unprotected sources (freshwater sources, open wells, rivers and other surface water bodies). However, stagnant rain and swamps are used for purposes other than human consumption (beverage and cooking). Needless to say, water supply systems are critical and critical for social well-being, economic production and growth, and environmental sustainability in all countries [4]. As the human population grows, the water supply is threatened both in quality and quantity because of the high demands on energy, irrigation and industrial production [5]. The urban demand for irrigation and the drainage of municipal and industrial wastewaters start the quality of fresh water available in the wild for human and animal consumption. These contaminated waters pollute rivers and threaten ecosystems. Hence the need for integrated management of water resources in all their different uses, according to socio-economic and environmental objectives, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [6]. This means that the Congolese government will consciously have to include water resources development in its agenda while placing particular emphasis on collective control over available resources and monitoring the quality of drinking water so as to ensure a systematic allocation of water resources equitable for all for their sustainable (long-term) use by future generations [7] (UNEP and WHO, 2011).

**Monitoring the Quality of Drinking Water**

Water quality monitoring studies aim to explain the inherent and apparent optical properties of specific particles in a water body, including turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, fluoride, temperature, the potential of hydrogen (pH) as well as the presence...
of algae and microbes (bacteria and viruses). These suspended or dissolved particles in water determine these inherent physical and chemical, biological, and optical properties that are a guarantee of water quality [8].

**Monitoring the Physical and Chemical Properties of Water:** Long-term monitoring of water quality is the standard and observed measurement in aquatic environments of the state and trends in physical, chemical, biological and optical properties of water. In fact, the quality of water determines its “potability” according to the precise objectives of water production, thanks to the quality biochemical tests (WHO, 1986, 2004). These provide the necessary information on the health and drinking water storage capacity of rivers over a period of time to detect changes in water quality [7,9]. Monitoring of standards such as those issued by WHO allows monitoring of this water quality in springs and taps to detect biological and chemical threats that define the boundary conditions for subsequent treatment of water supply as well as early warning measures deemed necessary in case of unexpected contamination (WHO, 2003). For example, water quality monitoring is a programmed process of sampling, measuring and recording and/or signaling various water features in order to assess water quality (Figure 3).

![Figure 3: Énergie électromagnétique et systèmes de télédétection (Zhou, 2013).](image)

The quality of the water changes over time as its constituents absorb and reflect the visible light of the sun. The most important constituents reflect sunlight or carry its inherent optical properties such as absorption, diffusion and transfer: These are zooplankton, phytoplankton and their pigments (Chla), suspended particles (MES), colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM), viruses, bacteria and detritus, as well as mineral particles from sediments, erosion [10,11]. Their optical behavior and the combined attenuations of all other constituents of water are described by the inherent optical properties (IOP) of water, which define the diffusion and absorption of light in aquatic environments. This alteration of visible light can be spatially controlled and used for monitoring water quality, monitoring biological events such as eutrophication and sediment transport to plan dredging activities, water and water treatment [8]. In addition, water quality monitoring using remote sensing combined with biochemical quality testing of strategic samples collected in situ can play a crucial role in determining the current status of water quality conditions. water in an aquatic ecosystem. It can anticipate, mitigate and even avoid future water disasters [12].

**Research Materials and Methods**

**Description of the Study Environment**

The City of Kenge is the capital of Kwango Province. It is located at 5° S latitude, 17° East longitude, and an average elevation of 555 m above sea level [13]. The city was built as a relay city between Kinshasa the capital (275 km) and the city of Kikwit, in the province of Kwilu, on the national road No. 1. Following the classification of van Köppen, Kwango Province in general and the town of Kenge in particular is located in tropical savanna-type AW3 (tropical savanna) (Figure 4). The town of Kenge rests on plateaux intersected by deep valleys and hills with sandy soils in a predominantly savannah configuration interspersed with forest galleries along streams (Figure 1 above). Its population is estimated at 183,290 inhabitants and it covers an area of 2,230 km², a density of 82 inhabitants per square kilometer divided into 15 districts [14].
Research Materials

The plant material used for our study consisted of almonds of Moringa oleifera seeds harvested from the Kenge Savannah. The latter were dried at 40°C in a Memmert brand oven and crushed using a mortar and pestle to obtain the powder that was used to prepare extracts for various analyzes in the laboratory MARSAVCO. Three bacterial isolates (Escherichia coli, Salmonella typhi and Staphylococcus aureus) from the bacteriology laboratory of University Clinics Kinshasa (CUK) were used and stored in a Whirlpool brand refrigerator at 4°C. The following culture media were used for enumeration of Streptococci, Faecal and Total Coliforms, Total Sprouts and Clostridiums: Nutrient Agar or Columbia Agar (PCA), Neomycin Trypcase Sulfite (TSN), and MacConkey. These media were prepared in an Erlenmeyer flask and poured into petri dishes under the Polon Promieniowanie Szkodliwe Dla WzrokwIskory laminar flow hood. A Garmin GPS was used to collect geographic coordinates of water samples from six sites (S1 to S6) including Binene, Five, Lisengi, Mibu, Munoko and Ville (Figure 5).
Research Methods

This study is naturally based on an experimentation of the Moringa Oleifera Lam virtues for the treatment of spring water in the City of Kenge and its surroundings. Measurements of temperature, salinity, conductivity, hydrogen potential (pH) and dissolved oxygen \((O_2)\) were taken at each site using a 340i Multi-parameter analyzer. Chemical screening has identified different chemical and microbiological groups. The chemical analyzes were made from the aqueous and organic phases using the techniques used by Pareck [15]. The microbiological analyzes mainly focused on the technique of enumeration of microorganisms in solid medium during the rainy (Pl) and dry (Se) seasons, with or without the application of the almond powder treatment of Moringa seeds. oleifera Lam. The experimental analysis of the efficacy of M. Oleifera Lam was evaluated across three treatment groups (T1, T2 and T3) versus one control (T0) in the six selected water intake sources. The different treatment doses were prepared at different concentration levels:

- **a)** TO: Control Threshold (Dose-Control)
- **b)** T1: Lower threshold (Dose = 187.5 \( \mu \)g / ml)
- **c)** T2: Normal threshold (Dose = 375 \( \mu \)g / ml)
- **d)** T3: Upper threshold (Dose = 562.5 \( \mu \)g / ml)

Then, the researchers proceeded to the preparation of the extracts used for maceration and then frozen them for lyophilization. The disk method and the determination of the Minimal Inhibitory Concentration (C.M.I) were used for the evaluation of the antibacterial activity. Statistical tools were finally used to analyze the data. It consisted mainly of descriptive statistics of the physical and biochemical properties of previously measured treatments, including temperature, conductivity, hydrogen potential (pH) and dissolved oxygen, NO3-, CO-, HCO3-, S032-, PO43-, total hardness, Cl-, Alkalinity, \( T_\Delta \), and salinity. Then, the analysis of variance (ANOVA) was tested at 5% significance level (\( P < 0.05 \)) using MSTAT-C Software [16]. ANOVA was used to estimate significant levels of water quality between the six sampling sources (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5 and S6), before and after the application of the three phytochemical treatments (T1, T2 and T3) vis-à-vis the control dose (T0).

The final result was interpreted in terms of the variation of significant differences in the improvement of the biochemical quality of water for human consumption as a result of Al Oleifera Lam’s almond powder treatment. the residual presence or loss of several pollutants and sediments in the treated water: This analysis also made it possible to observe the signs of degradation of these water sources and their watersheds due to the negative impact of erosion processes and the sustained pollution of water by human, animal, agricultural and industrial waste. This has made it possible to recommend Al Oleifera Lam Almond Powder as one of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) to ensure the quality of drinking water for human use and to reduce incidence of waterborne diseases in the City of Kenge.

Results and Discussion

Results of the Study

**Assessment of Physico-Chemical Parameters:** The results for the temperature, pH, conductivity, and dissolved oxygen in water collected from the Kenge City Springs are shown in Figure 6. Statistically speaking, the values measured for the 4 parameters do not show a significant difference between the different sources at the 5% significance level. However, an examination of this figure shows that the temperature values vary from one source to another. For the analyzed sources, the calculated average is 26.3\(^\circ\) C and the variances are not significant, since all the sources have values that oscillate between 25.7 and 27.6\(^\circ\) C. As for pH, its values show that all these sources are acidic (pH < 7) with an average of 5.6. Only sources S2 and S6 have values below average, respectively 4.9 and 5. As for the conductivity, it varies between 15 and 30 \( \mu \)s / cm. The Binene and Lisengi sources showed values below 20 \( \mu \)s / cm while the estimated values for the Munoko, Five-year, City, and Mibu sources ranged from 27, 25, 21, and 20 \( \mu \)s / cm, respectively. Finally, the dissolved \( O_2 \) was greater than 1mg / l for all sources, except for the source of Five years whose value was less than 1, or 0.83 mg / l.

Table 1 presents the results of other physico-chemical parameters related to surface water quality (NO3-, S032-, total hardness, Cl-, Alkalinity, \( T_\Delta \), and salinity).

![Figure 6: Valeurs de paramètres physico-chimiques des sources de Kenge(Auteurs, 2018).](image-url)
**Table 1:** Other physico-chemical parameters of water quality from Kenge.

| Sources | $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ (mg/l) | $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ (mg/l) | Dureté totale (mg/l) | Cl- (mg/l) | Alcalinité (mg/l) | T∆s (mg/l) | Salinité (mg/l) (ppt) |
|---------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------|------------|---------------------|
| S₁      | 1.55                     | 4.22                     | 1.9                 | 4.8        | 21.8             | 42.5       | 0.04                |
| S₂      | 0                        | 1.90                     | 0.5                 | 0.9        | 18.0             | 43.6       | 0.04                |
| S₃      | 1.55                     | 3.93                     | 2.0                 | 2.0        | 21.0             | 39.5       | 0.04                |
| S₄      | 1.55                     | 5.88                     | 2.7                 | 2.6        | 21.5             | 38.8       | 0.04                |
| S₅      | 1.55                     | 1.46                     | 0.8                 | 0.5        | 20.0             | 47.7       | 0.05                |
| S₆      | 0                        | 1.58                     | 0.5                 | 0.5        | 19.5             | 33.8       | 0.03                |

Source: Analyses effectuées au laboratoire de MARSAVCO (Auteurs, 2018).

**Microbiological Analyses**

**Enumeration of bacterial germs in sources without M. Oleifera Lam powder:** Figure 7 presents a count of germs found in samples taken from water sources during the dry season, without the almond powder of Moringa Oleifera Lam seeds being applied (Table 1) & (Figure 7). Statistically, the ANOVA test shows a significant difference in the enumerated total seed counts ($p < 0.05$) between all water sources and sources S4 (Mibu) and S5 (Munoko). Germs counted at source Munoko (S5) reveal a more acute pollution of 99.5 for streptococcus. No significant difference was detected for the presence of total coliforms and the rest of the germs in all sources. Figure 8 presents a count of germs found in samples collected from Kenge water sources during the rainy season, without the almond powder of Moringa Oleifera Lam seeds being applied. Statistically, the ANOVA test ($p < 0.05$) showed no significant difference between the enumerated organisms (total coliforms, streptococci and total germs) for some sources. The counted germs reveal a more severe pollution at the source City (S6) or 82.50 for streptococcus. However, a significant difference in total sprouts was found between the source City (S6) and the other sources, the source S6 recording 130 total germs. Comparing the populations of sprouts observed during the two seasons (rainy and dry), no significant difference appeared. Nevertheless, the presence of bacterial germs in the water indicates that several sprouts swarm in all sources during the dry season, especially for total coliforms and streptococci, while total sprouts are more numerous during the spring season. Note however that the presence of certain germs, such as faecal coliforms and Clostridium, was not at all apparent; no trace occurred on all of the sources collected (Figure 8).

**Figure 7:** Population of coliforms and bacteria counted during the dry season (Authors 2018).
CT : total coliforms GT : total germs.
UFC : STr: Streptococcal colony forming unit.

**Figure 8:** Total coliform, total sprout and streptococcal population during the rain season in Kenge water sources (Authors, 2018).
Enumeration of Bacterial Germs in Sources after Application of M. Oleifera Lam: Another bacterial count was made during the two seasons in selected water sources after the application of different doses of almond powder from Moringa Oleifera Lam seeds. The results of this count are shown in Figures 9-12. Figure 9 shows the degree of bacterial load, especially total germs, after treatment with different doses of Moringa Oleifera Lam in Kenge springs during the rainy season (Figure 9). The analysis of variance (ANOVA) performed by the software MSTAT-Crèvèle significant differences between treatments doses of M. Oleifera Lam in different sources. By comparing the treatments applied (T1, T2, T3) with the control treatment (T0), the bacterial load of total germs decreases in effectiveness according to the doses of Moringa Oleifera Lam applied (T0 > T1 > T2 > T3). However, by comparing the responses of the different water sources, we note that the sources S2, S4, S5, and S6 are significantly different from the sources S1 and S3 for the dose T0, the dose of T1 and the dose of T2. S2 and S5 sources at the T3 dose are significantly different from the S1, S3 and S6 sources. Finally, there is no significant difference between the S2, S4 and S5 sources compared to the T3 dose. Nevertheless, the source S5 is the only one that is more polluted for the set of sources.

**Figure 9:** Total sprout population in Kenge water sources during the rainy season after application of doses of M. Oleifera Lam (Authors, 2018).

T0 : Control T2 : Normal dose = 375 μg / ml.
T1 : Lower dose = 187.5μg / ml T3 : Higher dose = 562.5 μg / ml.

**Figure 10:** Total sprout population in Kenge water sources during the dry season after application of doses of M. Oleifera Lam (Authors, 2018).

**Figure 11:** Total coliform population in Kenge water sources during the dry season after application of doses of M. Oleifera Lam (Authors, 2018).
It can be seen from Figure 10 that only the S5 source is more polluted and significantly different from the rest of the sources S1, S2, S3, S4, S6 for treatment doses T0, T1, T2, T3. The source S4 is also different from the source S1 as regards the dose of T0 (Figure 10). ANOVA indicates that during the dry season, statistically significant differences in bacterial loads were observed between different treatment doses and sources. The doses applied to the different treatments showed a decrease in mean bacterial load for all sources with T0 > T1 > T2 > T3. Figure 11 shows, on the one hand, that no statistically significant difference exists between the different treatments of Moringa Oleifera Lam and that, on the other hand, there are significant differences at different doses between Kenge water sources (Figure 11). The analysis of the differences between the sources according to the applied doses indicates that the source S5 is the most polluted and significantly different from the sources S1, S4 and S6 for the control treatment (T0). Source S5 is also different from all sources for T2 treatment. However, no significant difference was reported between all sources for T3 and T1 treatment, with the exception of source S2 for T1 treatment. Nevertheless, the analysis confirms that the bacterial load in the sources decreases with the applied doses of M. oleifera Lam (T0 > T1 > T2 > T3).

The analysis of differences in total coliform populations counted during the rainy season in the sources (Figure 12) as a function of applied Oleifera Lam doses shows that only the S5 source is more polluted and significantly different from the S1, S4 and S1 sources. S6 for treatment T0. The source S5 remains different from all the other sources after the application of the processing T2. No significant difference has been detected between all the sources except for the sources S3 (case of T0), S2 and S4 (case of T1) and the sources S1, S2, S4, S5 and S6 (case of T2). Finally, there is no significant difference between the sources with respect to the dose of T3; only the source S2 is less polluted on all of the doses applied (Figure 12). ANOVA shows statistically significant differences between sources, on the one hand and no statistically significant difference between treatments of Moringa Oleifera Lam doses in the sources. And, the bacterial load represented by total coliforms decreases with the efficacy of the doses of M. oleifera Lam applied according to the treatments and this in comparison with the control treatment (T0 > T1 > T2 > T3). In summary, enumeration during the rainy season for total sprouts clearly expresses a higher bacterial load than dry season sprouts and total coliforms during the two seasons (Figure 13). Treatment with a dose of Moringa Oleifera Lam is carried out in a growing way (Figure 13).
Phytochemical Analysis: The identification of the major chemical groups contained in the seed kernel of M. Oleifera Lam harvested in Kenge reveals the only presence of alkaloids. Table 2 shows the results of this chemical screening of the almond powder of Moringa seeds. Oleifera Lam harvested in the City of Kenge (Table 2).

Table 2: Chemical Screening of the almond powder of the seeds of Mr. Oleifera Lam.

| Screening Chimique | Réactifs     | Résultats |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------|
|                     | Extrait Aqueux |           |
| Alcaloïdes         | Drangendroff  | +         |
| Anthocyanes        | HCl à 20%     | -         |
| Quinones libres    | Borntrager    | -         |
| Saponines          | Test de la mousse | - |
| Tanins             | FeCl₃ à 2%    | -         |
|                     | Extrait Organique | - |
| Quinones liée      |              | -         |
|                     | Extrait Alcoolique | - |
| Flavonoïdes        | Shinonda      | -         |

Table 3: Strains susceptibility to M. Oleifera Lam extracts.

| Germes Bactériens | Isolats | Concentration testée à différentes doses (µg/ml). |
|-------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
|                   | 2500    | 2000 | 1500 | 1000 | 500 | 250 | 125 | 62,5 | 31,25 | 15,63 | 7,83 |
| Escherichia coli  | e₁      | -    | +    | +    | +    | +   | +   | +    | +     | +     | +    |
|                   | e₂      | -    | +    | +    | +    | +   | +   | +    | +     | +     | +    |
| Salmonella typhi  | s₁      | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -   | -    | +     | +     | +    |
|                   | s₂      | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -   | -    | +     | +     | +    |
| Staphylococcus aureus | st₁ | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -   | -    | +     | +     | +    |
|                   | st₂ | -    | -    | -    | -    | -   | -   | -    | +     | +     | +    |

Assessment of Antibacterial Activity: The evaluation of the biological activity of the aqueous extracts of the seed kernel powder of Moringa Oleifera Lam first focused on the determination of the minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) of variant bacterial strains from 7.83 to 2500 µg / µl of the aqueous extract of M. oleifera Lam (Table 3). The results shown in Table 4 present the evaluation of the biological activity of the aqueous extracts of M. Oleifera Lam seed kernel powder on the basis of the diameter of the growth inhibition zone of the bacterial strains tested. In general, the diameters of inhibition increase with the concentration of the aqueous extracts (Table 4). Based on the results in Table 4, it appears that only strains of Salmonella typhi and Staphylococcus aureus are sensitive to extracts of M. Oleifera Lam, whereas Escherichia coli strains are resistant up to 2,000 µg / µl of concentration. It can then be concluded that the determination of the susceptibility of the strains by the diffusion method presents an important zone with Staphylococcus aureus strains (concentration of 1500 µg / ml, on average 21 mm in diameter) and strains of Salmonella typhi (concentrations ranging from from 1.500 to 93.75 µg / µl, which is 16mm in diameter on average). But resistance is present at the extracts of 48.875 and 23.45 µg / ml for these two strains. Escherichia coli strains exhibit sensitivity to aqueous extracts of the seed kernel powder of M. Oleifera Lam from a concentration of 1500 to 187.5 µg / ml.

Table 4: Antibacterial activity of Moringa Oleifera Lam.
Some parameters affecting water quality yielded averages of 5.6 (for pH), 26.7° C (for temperature), 21 μs / cm (for conductivity) and 1.16 mg / l (for dissolved oxygen). The highest pH values have been reported in S1 and S3 sources. This could be justified by the type of equipment used, the ecological positions of the water sources and their exposure to light, in addition to the geological specificities of the water sources. source rocks from these sources.

These phenomena have been observed by Musibono [17], Malik and Hamdi [18], and Salama and Verhoef [8] who confirmed the effect of sunlight on some physical parameters of spring waters and their acidity during the rainy season. With increased season variability and climate change, more acid rain can be expected and thus the effectiveness of most traditional surface water treatment techniques will be reduced [3]. By comparing the bacteriological values of the water quality of the sources of the City of Kenge with the standards of the European Union and those of the WHO, we note that these sources contain a significant number of microbial populations, presented in the different (Figures 1-13) previously illustrated. This could be justified by the flow of wastewater and pollutants from the soil, slopes, erosions, and hygienic facilities that are upstream of each source.

These results are consistent with those found by Folkard [19], Koffi [20], WHO (2004, 2006 and 2010), who state that surface waters are the main sources used in rural and peri-urban areas (villages and cities.). To provide food for households and for other uses. The quality of these waters depends on the nature of the soil, the regime of rain and other precipitations, the surrounding vegetation, and especially the proximity of agglomerations. Regarding the effectiveness of the kernel kernel of M. Oleifera Lam, the different doses showed sufficiently effective in reducing the bacterial population to different superficial sources of Kenge. These results are consistent with those of Faby et al. (1993) cited by Chantrel and saint sauveur [21] who suggested that Moringa Oleifera Lam powder does not seem to replace alumina sulphate but the two coagulants put together appear more effective and greatly reduce the rate of bacteria including the total and faecal coliforms as well as faecal streptococci that are sometimes not even identified.

**Discussion of Results**

**Physico-Chemical Parameters:** The experimental conditions of the physicochemical parameters of the surface water taken from the various sources of the City of Kenge indicate that the 6 sources meet the standards of a drinking water, except for the pH which was considered to be rather too acidic (average < 7). In general, the most remarkable physicochemical parameters were PO43-, SO32-, total hardness, Cl-, alkalinity, salinity, pH, temperature, conductivity and dissolved oxygen as confirmed by Aminot and Kerouel (2004).). Some parameters affecting water quality yielded averages of 5.6 (for pH), 26.7° C (for temperature), 21 μs / cm (for conductivity) and 1.16 mg / l (for dissolved oxygen). The highest pH values have been reported in S1 and S3 sources. This could be justified by the type of equipment used, the ecological positions of the water sources and their exposure to light, in addition to the geological specificities of the water sources. source rocks from these sources.

| Source | s1 | s2 | s3 | s4 | s5 | s6 |
|--------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Salmonella typhi | 15 | 12 | 10 | 7  | 7  | -  |
| Staphylococcus aureus | 20 | 14 | 12 | 10 | 8  | -  |

**Phytochemical Analysis:** The major chemical groups presumed to be endowed with very prominent pharmacodynamic properties have been described after the phytochemical screening of the seed kernel powder of Moringa Oleifera Lam. The qualitative analysis of this powder indicates that anthocyanins, free quinones, saponins, tannins, flavonoids, bound quinones and terpenoid as well as steroids are absent; only alkaloids are present (Koffi et al, 2009). These results are confirmed by Folkard [19], Foild [22], Fuglie [23] and Anwar et al. [24] that states leaves, pods, seeds and young branches of Moringa Oleifera Lam are consumed and contain no toxic substances or tannins in large quantities. This virtual absence of all chemical groups could be explained by, among other things, the origin, the season and the time of day for the harvest, the habitat, but also the physiology of the plant [25].

**Evaluation of Antibacterial Activity:** It appears from the analysis of the biological activity of drugs or extracts derived from the almond seeds of Moringa Oleifera Lam that the strains of bacteria used are sensitive to the powder of kernel seeds of Mr. Oleifera Lam based Inhibition zone diameters. Since strains of Staphylococcus aureus and Salmonella typhi, respectively, have longer inhibition zone diameter averages of 21mm and 16mm, they are, of course, more sensitive than Escherichia coli strains of average inhibition zone is close to 10mm. In general, for all strains, the inhibition zone diameters observed vary as a function of the concentration of the powder used (Leclerc et 1995). Ericsson & Sherries [26] justify the reduction of the inhibition zone diameter of the Escherichia coli strain from 93.75 μg by multiple factors which generally modify, in particular, the nature of the culture medium, the incubation time, the diffusion power of the powder and the number of germs. The almond extracts of the seeds of M. Oleifera Lam thus have a proven antibacterial action on gram + and gram- bacteria. But the sensitivity of tested germs should vary not only with the concentration of the powder but also and especially with the bacterial species.

The tests performed in this study did not allow an accurate determination of minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) but were in agreement with those obtained by the disc method and allowed more classification of the strains used by their order of
sensitivity. Escherichia coli, Salmonella typhi, and Staphylococcus aureus), as evidenced by the CMI estimates shown below:

(i) Escherichia coli: C.M.I would be > 2000 and ≤ 2500 μg/ml.

(ii) Salmonella typhi: C.M.I would be > 62.5 and ≤ 125 μg/ml but also > 125 and ≤ 250 μg/ml.

(iii) Staphylococcus aureus: C.M.I would be > 31.25 and ≤ 62.5 μg/ml.

These results corroborate those made in 2005 by a Chinese study that demonstrated the very potent antibacterial action of M. Oleifera Lam and his ability to clarify water by coagulation [27]. Studies conducted by ECHO staff in 1985, 2002, and 2007 confirmed the effectiveness of the almond seed of Moringa oleifera Lam against Staphylococcus aureus and Pseudomonas aeruginosa bacteria that attack the skin (Ledercelet al. These studies also indicated that the seed extract of M. oleifera has the ability to inhibit the growth of Staphylococcus aureus and Bacillus subtilis but not those of Escherichia coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa (Folkard, 1997, Foild [22], Fuglie [23], Doughari JH [10], and the websites phytomania.com and moringanews.com). These antibacterial virtues found in the seed kernel powder of M. Oleifera Lam, which showed only alkaloids as a chemical group, are in contradiction with the different chemical groups that can be attributed to the antiseptic properties (tannins), detergents (saponins), antibiotics and antifungals (quinones) of the organs studied [28].

Conclusion and Recommendations

Conclusion

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the physicochemical and microbiological qualities of Moringa seed kernel powder. Oleifera Lam determines its effectiveness in surface water treatment in the City of Kenge. It was particularly important to measure physico-chemical parameters to certify the effectiveness of this treatment on the quality of surface water. By way of illustration, the pH of the various water sources has been found to be acidic and inferior to WHO standards, as well as their temperatures which, in principle, should be around 25 °C (WHO, 1994), while their conductivity and dissolved O₂ varied by source. With the increased variability of the seasons due to climate change, more acid rain could be expected and thus the reduction in efficiency of most traditional surface water treatment techniques [3]. The study has clearly demonstrated the effectiveness of plant extracts of the almond Oleifera Lam in disinfection of water. Phytochemical screening first revealed the presence of alkaloids which represent the only chemical group encountered in this plant material. Seed extracts from the plant showed demonstrated antibacterial activity [10], Koffi [20].

A zone of antibacterial activity of the order of 21, 16 and 10 mm in diameter was detected respectively for Staphylococcus aureus, Salmonella typhi and Escherichia coli. The efficacy of these almond seed doses of M. Oleifera Lam has been demonstrated during the rainy season samples where significant differences were observed between treatments and water sources. The population of total sprouts and total coliforms that have been reported may be justified by the topography of some sources and biological pollutants mainly from animal and human excrement, plant debris, and runoff water entering the river. surface of the earth. This experimental study shows that the seed kernel powder Moringa Oleifera Lam influences the effectiveness of the microbiological quality of water by reducing the number of bacterial germs. Fecal contamination indicators (fecal coliforms / gram-, fecal enterococci / gram +, Clostridium sulphite-reducing agent, etc.) have made it possible to evaluate the microbiological quality of water by revealing the presence or absence of pathogens or indicator microorganisms. But the effectiveness of Moringa Oleifera Lam treatment may depend on the nature of the seeds, the soil around the springs or where the tree is grown and the origin of the tree [29-35].

Recommendations

Given the interest of this study in the effectiveness of the seed kernel of M. Oleifera Lam on the physico-chemical and microbiological quality of surface waters and its biological activity, it is recommended that future researchers complete these studies. research by experimenting with several other detection techniques, including chromatography and spectrophotometry to isolate a molecule derived from the kernel from the seeds of M. Oleifera Lam with flocculating properties, in order to obtain an effective flocculant can replace imported chemicals (iron chlorides and others). Further research is needed to significantly improve phytochemical disinfection methods for water, which is increasingly used in developing countries through the use of Moringa Oleifera Lam seed kernel reduce the number of bacterial germs often found in our rivers and water sources. The application of Moringa Oleifera Lam seed kernels in the disinfection of tap water and bottled water could be an alternative to chlorine, aluminum sulphate and other similar products that would cost expensive and would be rare in rural areas. In short, the seeds of M. Oleifera Lam can be used effectively to produce drinking water on a family scale [36-44].

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