Waste disposal of small wine and liquor agroindustry into tributaries of the Soturno and Jacuí rivers, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

Presencia de relaves de la pequeña agroindustria de vinos y licores en afluentes de los ríos Soturno y Jacuí, Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil.

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ABSTRACT

The reduction of water quality typically starts in small streams and rivers; tributaries interconnected to major rivers. In this regard, this study aimed to investigate waste disposal of small wine and liquor agribusinesses by monitoring the water quality of two streams, tributaries of the Soturno and Jacuí rivers, located in the Quarta Colônia region the state of Rio Grande do Sul (RS), Brazil. We began monitoring water quality in July 2008 and continued uninterruptedly until May 2009. We collected water samples at three different locations (source, upstream, and downstream) in triplicate, totaling 162 samples. We investigated 24 variables that makeup chemical, physical and biological parameters of water quality. With the results, we concluded that the diffuse sources of pollution in the “Liquor stream” are associated with wastewater of small agribusinesses and nearby residences, in contrast, the source of the “Wine stream” showed the most chemical changes in water quality, and whose diffuse sources of pollution are more associated with agricultural activity than the small agribusinesses activity. The variables of chemical and biological oxygen demand, dissolved oxygen, total iron, total manganese, and total phosphorus presented values higher than those of Class II waters in both streams. Therefore, small agribusinesses need to adequately dispose of the waste in order to meet existing legislation comprehensively.

Key words: Food, waste, treatment, legislation.

RESUMEN

La reducción de la calidad del agua por lo general comienza en pequeños arroyos y ríos; afluentes que están interconectados para llegar a los principales cauces. Este estudio tiene como objetivo investigar la disposición de residuos en la pequeña agroindustria de vinos y licores en afluentes del Río Soturno y Río Jacuí. Las corrientes que reciben los residuos de las actividades agroindustriales (licores y vinos), ubicado en la región de la cuarta colonia de inmigrantes italianos en Rio Grande do Sul (Brasil) fueron monitoreadas. Este proceso comenzó en 07/2008 y continuó ininterrumpidamente hasta 05/2009. Las muestras de agua fueron recolectadas en tres puntos diferentes (al este, aguas arriba y abajo) por triplicado, por un total de 162 muestras. Se investigaron 24 que componen los parámetros químicos, físicos y biológicos de la calidad del agua. Con los resultados, concluimos que las fuentes difusas de contaminación en la “Corriente de licor” están asociadas con aguas residuales de pequeños agronegocios y residencias cercanas, en contraste, la fuente de la “Corriente del vino” mostró la mayor cantidad de cambios químicos en la calidad del agua, y cuyas fuentes difusas de contaminación están más asociadas a la actividad agrícola que a la pequeña actividad agroindustrial. Las variables de demanda química y biológica de oxígeno, oxígeno disuelto, hierro total, manganeso total y fósforo total presentaron valores superiores a los de las aguas Clase II en ambos arroyos. Por lo tanto, las pequeñas empresas agrícolas deben eliminar adecuadamente los desechos para cumplir de manera integral la legislación existente.

Palabras clave: Alimentos, residuos, tratamiento, legislación.

Introduction

The different realities of production systems and different loads of contaminants released into the environment have been of concern to the scientific community. For this reason, in recent years, growing concern over water quality has been observed, A significant number of institutions and researchers...
have been engaged in searching for information aimed at understanding the various relationships and interrelationships of production systems in varied ecosystems, as well as waste disposal into bodies of lentic and lotic water in light of growing environmental pollution (Menezes et al., 2014; Fia et al., 2015; Pereira et al., 2016). Pinheiro et al. (2014) proposed changes in the patterns of water quality in a river basin occur due to diverse factors and their relationships.

Activities of food production and processing of vegetable or animal raw materials may become efficient causes of pollution, point and diffuse water contamination sources. The source points of water pollution are those in which waste from the discharge point is visible, while diffuse sources do not have a specific pollutant discharge point (Andrade et al., 2016).

In this context, rural agro-industry activities have also been identified as point and diffuse sources of contamination of water bodies, given the growing number of small rural businesses, especially in the state of Rio Grande do Sul (RS).

Overall, the impact on water quality of a particular water body by wastewater will depend on its concentration, frequency, and also its physical, chemical, and biological characteristics (Lima et al., 2016). In this regard, Costa and Ferreira (2015) suggested that the main sources of water pollution are plant decomposition and soil erosion, domestic and industrial wastewater, and animal waste, pesticides, and fertilizers. The diffuse contribution of substances different from agroindustry activity, especially those residuary of no-till areas, residences, rejected in natural drainage systems such as streams and rivers, contribute to reduced self-purification capacity of a hydric system (Souza et al., 2014). Vinasse and wastewaters from cleaning of equipment used to produce concentrated and diluted juice and liquors, together or separately, can reduce the self-purification capacity of lotic environments.

According to Ahmed et al. (2013); Zúñica et al. (2013) and Ortegón et al. (2014), vinasse, besides having the ability to reduce the self-purification capacity of the liquid medium, also causes oxygen depletion, pH reduction, and increased biochemical oxygen demand, among other things. Therefore, water quality monitoring through the assessment of physical, chemical, and microbiological parameters is fundamental.

In this regard, this study aimed to analyze the water quality of two streams, which are tributaries of the Soturno and Jacuí rivers, focusing on waste disposal of small wine and liquor agroindustry.

**Material and Methods**

The study took place in the Quarta Colônia region located between the plateau and central depression of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, limited by the Alto Jacuí, Baixo Jacuí and Vacacai-Vacacaí-Mirim basins. The economy of this region is characterized by family farming activities, such as vegetables and fruits, rice, soybean, and tobacco, and small agroindustry of liquors, juices, wines, sausages, and preserves. The climate is Cfa according to the Köppen classification. The average annual minimum temperature is $\approx 15^\circ$C, and the average annual maximum temperature is $\approx 25^\circ$C. The average annual rainfall is $\approx 1750$ mm. The soils in this region are young, very fragile, and distributed in fairly rugged terrain.

We randomly chose two small agribusinesses whose industrial products were of plant origin to evaluate the impact of their industrial activity on the water quality of two streams of the Soturno and Jacuí rivers. The first small agribusiness we selected is located in the city of São João do Polêsine (liquor production), which disposes its waste into what we called the “Liquor stream” (a tributary of the Jacuí river). The second agribusiness (wine production), located in the city of Ivora, disposes its waste into the “Wine stream” (a tributary of the Soturno river).

**Waste treatment**

The liquor business’s main products are juices and liquors, generating wastewater from the aseptic treatment of raw materials and cleaning of the equipment. Wastewater is released in the shared treatment system of domestic waste, which consists of septic tanks. The main industrial products of the wine business are wines and cachaça (traditional Brazilian liquor), and it generated significant quantities of solid and liquid waste. Waste from vinasse and water from the aseptic treatment of raw materials and cleaning of the equipment and the premises are disposed onto the soil properties and later drained into the “Wine stream”.
Conducting of the collections

Water sampling during the experiment was carried out from September 2008 until May 2009. Table 1 shows the locations of the collection in more detail, and the number of samples taken in each stream.

Analytical procedures

Water sampling of the different streams and their respective locations were assessed by routine laboratory analytical principles described in Table 2, except for the variables that make up the chemical parameters of dissolved oxygen (DO) and water temperature, which were evaluated in situ.

Laboratory tests were determined in triplicate (n = 3) and accompanied by a blank analytical test. The parameters obtained here were compared to the values recommended by Resolution Nº 357 (2005) of the National Environment Council (Conselho Nacional do Meio Ambiente - CONAMA).

Statistical analysis

The values of the variables of chemical, physical and biological parameters were subjected to statistical analysis.

Descriptive analysis was based on average indicators (\(\bar{x}\)), standard deviation (\(\sigma\)), standard error (\(\pm\)), minimum and maximum values, and amplitude. The Tukey test determined the comparison of each variable’s means at 5% probability [Statistic software version 7.0 (STATSOFT, 2004)]. Afterward, the values of the 24 variables investigated were treated based on \(\log_{10}\) to linearize data. The standard values were subjected to Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) and Bartlett sphericity tests at 5% significance (BioEstat Software, version 5.0).

Later, the data were summarized by factor analysis. We considered the factors that accumulated variance > 60% of the dataset. The load factor adopted as determining a factor started at \(\geq 0.5\) because of the high variation of water quality parameters in rivers of natural drainage.

Results

The results of chemical, physical, and biological parameters of water investigated in the agribusinesses streams will be presented and discussed next.

“Liquor stream”

The values of EC, COD, Turbidity and \(C_{\text{total}}\) obtained in P1, P2 and P3 of the “Liquor stream” presented statistical differences by Tukey test (p-value < 0.05). We observed that EC values were lower in P1 (\(\bar{x} = 50.00; \sigma = 7.50\) and P2 (\(\bar{x} = 62.00; \sigma = 6.21\)) (Table 3). In relation to COD, there is a high amount of oxygen consumed to oxidize the organic matter found in P2 (\(\bar{x} = 128.22; \sigma = 58.98\)) and P3 (\(\bar{x} = 143.71; \sigma = 87.66\)).

This increase in COD values in P2 and P3 were 320.63% and 359.36%, respectively. Additionally, in order to relate COD values with BOD, we observed low values, which correspond to 2.28 (P1), 2.50 (P2), and 2.86 (P3). BOD values obtained were between 17.5 and 51.25 mg\textsuperscript{–1}, which shows a high amplitude of 33.75 mg\textsuperscript{–1} (Figure 1).

Table 1. Planning and location of water sampling in the streams. Quarta Colônia, RS.

| Locations          | Sample/Month | Latitude      | Longitude     | Altitude (m) | Altitude* | Distance/Slope |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| Small family agribusiness - Liquors |              |               |               |              |           |                |
| Source (PL1)       | 3x9          | -29.651466**  | -53.529805    | 250          |           | 97             | 1000/10        |
| Before (PL2)       | 3x9          | -29.652913    | -53.525855    | 155          |           | 53             | 500/11         |
| After (PL3)        | 3x9          | -29.653030    | -53.525680    | 153          |           |                |                |
|                     |              |               |               |              |           |                |                |
| Small family agribusiness – Wines |              |               |               |              |           |                |
| Source (PW1)       | 3x9          | -29.513975    | -53.514258    | 252          |           |                |                |
| Before (PW2)       | 3x9          | -29.516561    | -53.514805    | 213          |           | 53             | 500/11         |
| After (PW3)        | 3x9          | -29.517908    | -53.514527    | 199          |           |                |                |

* Altitude, distance and slope values represent the difference between values at the source and waste disposal point of the agroindustry. **Garmin 76 Cx ± 3 m.
Table 2. Parameter of quality of water, methods analytic and limits preconized through legislation Brazilian. 2016.

| Parameters                          | Methods                  | Limits – CONAMA*         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     |                          | Class 1                  | Class 2                  |
| Alkalinity                          | Potentiometry            |                          |                          |
| Electric conductivity ($\mu$S cm$^{-1}$) | Conductivimetry          | $\leq 3$                 | $\leq 5$                 |
| Biological oxygen demand (mg L$^{-1}$) | Dilution/Oximetry        |                          |                          |
| Chemical oxygen demand (mg L$^{-1}$)  | Acid digestion + spectrophotometry |                          |                          |
| Toughness total (mg CaCO$_3$ L$^{-1}$) | Titulometry [Ca e Mg ]    |                          |                          |
| Dissolved oxygen (% Saturation)     | Oximetry                 | $\geq 6$                 | $\geq 5$                 |
| Temperature (ºC)                    | Thermometry              |                          |                          |
| Hydrogen potential                 | Potentiometry            | 6 the 9                  |                          |
| Ammonium (mg/N L$^{-1}$)            | Colorimetric             | 3.7 mg L$^{-1}$ for pH $\leq 7.5$ – 0.5 mg L$^{-1}$ for pH $> 8.5$ | $\leq 10.0$ |
| Nitrate (mg L$^{-1}$)               |                          |                          |                          |
| Total calcium (mg L$^{-1}$)         |                          | $\leq 0.009$             |                          |
| Total copper (mg L$^{-1}$)          |                          | $\leq 0.30$              |                          |
| Total iron (mg L$^{-1}$)            | Atomic Absorption        | $\leq 0.10$              |                          |
| Total magnesium (mg L$^{-1}$)       | Spectrophotometer        | $\leq 0.18$              |                          |
| Total manganese (mg L$^{-1}$)       | Colorimetric             |                          |                          |
| Total zinc (mg L$^{-1}$)            |                          |                          |                          |
| Total carbon organic (mg L$^{-1}$)  | Colorimetric             |                          |                          |
| Total phosphorus (mg L$^{-1}$)      | Spectrophotometer        | $\leq 0.10$              |                          |
| Total sodium (mg L$^{-1}$)          | Spectrophotometer - Photometer |                          |                          |
| Color(mg PT L$^{-1}$)               | Colorimetric             | $\leq 75$                |                          |
| Total solids (mg L$^{-1}$)          | Gravimetry (105 ºC – 0,45 μm ) | $\leq 500$              |                          |
| Total dissolved solids              | Filtration – Gravimetry  | $\leq 500$               |                          |
| Turbidity (UNT)                     | Nephelometry             | $\leq 40$                | $\leq 100$               |
| Total coliforms (NMP 100 mL$^{-1}$) | Method of multiple tubes*** | $\leq 200$              | NM                       |
| Thermotolerant coliforms (NMP 100 mL$^{-1}$) |                          |                          | $\leq 1000$              |

* National Environmental Council; **The culture medium used was enriched selective broth – pH 6.8 a 25 ºC “ Fluorocult® LMX broth (Merck, Germany)”; ***Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater (APHA; AWWA; WPCF, 2005); NM – Not mentioned.
Table 3. Mean values and standard error (±) of the chemical, physical and biological parameters of the Liquor and Wine streams. Quarta Colônia/RS.

| Parameters | Location 1 | Location 2 | Location 3 | Location 1 | Location 2 | Location 3 |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| **Chemical** |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| Alc (mg L⁻¹ de CaCO₃) | 20.93 ± 1.37 | 22.34 ± 0.69 | 23.53 ± 0.82 | 69.86 ± 2.15 | 49.99 ± 5.00 | 51.50 ± 2.18 |
| EC (µSm cm⁻¹) | 51.60 ± 0.14 | 60.00 ± 1.19 | 64.00 ± 0.99 | 130.80 ± 3.45 | 73.00 ± 4.36 | 107.00 ± 3.29 |
| BOD (mg L⁻¹) | 17.50 ± 0.20 | 51.25 ± 10.16 | 50.25 ± 0.67 | 18.00 ± 0.21 | 31.8 ± 4.83 | 30.23 ± 4.77 |
| COD (mg L⁻¹) | 39.99 ± 11.78 | 128.22 ± 11.35 | 143.71 ± 16.87 | 42.70 ± 9.12 | 41.12 ± 6.65 | 61.37 ± 5.91 |
| TH (mg CaCO₃ L⁻¹) | 21.71 ± 0.84 | 26.41 ± 1.37 | 26.18 ± 1.21 | 113.08 ± 8.05 | 58.66 ± 2.60 | 65.26 ± 2.26 |
| DO (% Saturation) | 8.24 ± 0.08 | 7.86 ± 0.08 | 7.86 ± 0.09 | 7.65 ± 0.13 | 7.44 ± 0.13 | 7.37 ± 0.33 |
| pH | 6.95 ± 0.03 | 7.14 ± 0.01 | 6.97 ± 0.08 | 7.22 ± 0.03 | 7.39 ± 0.03 | 7.38 ± 0.06 |
| NH₃ (mg L⁻¹) | 0.44 ± 0.12 | 0.54 ± 0.06 | 0.54 ± 0.13 | 0.27 ± 0.03 | 0.25 ± 0.07 | 0.30 ± 0.08 |
| NO₃ (mg L⁻¹) | 1.21 ± 0.18 | 1.21 ± 0.12 | 0.72 ± 0.18 | 0.28 ± 0.05 | 0.04 ± 0.02 | 0.04 ± 0.02 |
| Ca total (mg L⁻¹) | 6.15 ± 0.28 | 7.89 ± 0.44 | 7.82 ± 0.38 | 27.85 ± 1.45 | 11.87 ± 0.14 | 15.94 ± 0.61 |
| OC total (mg L⁻¹) | 17.12 ± 2.11 | 17.40 ± 2.18 | 17.75 ± 2.43 | 41.81 ± 2.28 | 19.25 ± 2.26 | 15.90 ± 2.66 |
| Cu total (mg L⁻¹) | 0.01 ± 0.001 | 0.06 ± 0.02 | 0.02 ± 0.01 | 0.15 ± 0.04 | 0.77 ± 0.22 | 0.02 ± 0.01 |
| Fe total (mg L⁻¹) | 1.00 ± 0.16 | 0.66 ± 0.09 | 0.69 ± 0.13 | 0.69 ± 0.01 | 1.28 ± 0.01 | 1.26 ± 0.001 |
| Mg total (mg L⁻¹) | 0.13 ± 0.001 | 0.15 ± 0.01 | 0.80 ± 0.18 | 0.11 ± 0.01 | 0.13 ± 0.02 | 0.03 ± 0.001 |
| Mn total (mg L⁻¹) | 0.26 ± 0.07 | 0.08 ± 0.02 | 0.10 ± 0.02 | 3.69 ± 0.01 | 11.55 ± 0.27 | 16.48 ± 0.48 |
| Na total (mg L⁻¹) | 4.49 ± 0.39 | 5.11 ± 0.30 | 6.34 ± 0.45 | 7.57 ± 0.57 | 6.10 ± 0.41 | 6.39 ± 0.36 |
| Zn total (mg L⁻¹) | 0.07 ± 0.01 | 0.08 ± 0.02 | 0.09 ± 0.02 | 0.09 ± 0.02 | 0.13 ± 0.03 | 0.08 ± 0.02 |

**Values in the row line of the same letter do not differ statistically by Tukey test at 5% probability. **Alc- Alkalinity; EC- Electric conductivity; BOD- Biological oxygen demand; COD- Chemical oxygen demand; TH- Toughness; DO- Dissolved oxygen; pH-Potential Hydrogen; NH₃- Ammonium; NH₄- Nitrate; Ca total- Total calcium; OC total- Total organic carbon; Cu total- Total copper; Fe total- Total iron; P total- Total phosphorus; Mg total- Total magnesium; Mn total- Total manganese; Na total- Total sodium; Zn total- Total zinc; TS- Total solids; TDS- Total dissolved solids; C total- Total coliforms; C therm- Thermotolerant coliforms; nd- Not detected. Averages of 81 samples collected during the experimental period (nine months) on each stream.

We did not find BOD values within the limits recommended by the resolution for freshwater classes I and II in any of the locations sampled in this study (Table 2).

The lowest Turbidity value was observed in P2 (χ = 3.48; σ = 1.00). Although the same statistical significance represents turbidity values found in P1 and P3, we found that the value obtained at the SOURCE/SPRING corresponded to 36.06% more than in P3. Still, the most significant Turbidity expression in P1 was visually identified, which was not clearly evident in the other sampled locations.

The biggest concentrations C total were found in P2 and P3 of the “Liquor stream”. The TH values were between 21.71 and 26.41 mg L⁻¹, which confirms the soft water rating (0 to 50 mg L⁻¹).

It was found that the DO values were not differing by presenting a small amplitude which corresponded to 0.38 mg L⁻¹ (Figure 1). However, the values found in P1 (χ = 8.24; σ = 0.41), P2 (χ = 7.86; σ = 0.40) e P3 (χ = 7.86; σ = 0.47) are considered high for Class II waters Stream Liquers.

The amplitude values (0.10 mg L⁻¹) obtained for NH₃ were considered very low. In general, the chemical variables Ca total, OC total, Mg total, Na total, and...
Zn_total and the physical variable Color also showed small amplitude, showing similarity between the sampled locations.

Analyzing the P_total values of the locations, we confirmed that they are above the limits recommended by the resolution (0.10 mg\textsuperscript{-1}). Similarly, the water flow showed an increased P_total from the source to P3 with an increased amount equal to 615.38%.

Mn_total values were above those recommended by the resolution in P1 and P3 in the “Liquor stream”, and the largest amplitude was conditioned by P1 (0.26 mg\textsuperscript{-1}).

TDS values showed that a gradient was formed between P1 (x = 23.57; \( \sigma = 25.69 \)), P2 (x = 32.86; \( \sigma = 30.56 \)) and P3 (x = 74.29; \( \sigma = 86.18 \)) with an amplitude between them corresponding to 50.72 mg\textsuperscript{-1} (Figure 1).

“Wine stream”

The variables that make up the chemical and physical parameters that showed statistical differences in the “Wine stream” were Alc, EC, TH, Ca_total and Mn_total. Color and Turbidity, respectively (Table 2). Regarding these chemical variables, the highest values were found in P1, except the Mn_total.

The overall Mn_total content was lower in P1 (x = 3.69; \( \sigma = 0.04 \)) and higher in P2 (x = 11.55; \( \sigma = 1.39 \)) and P3 (x = 16.48; \( \sigma = 2.47 \)) at 313.48 and 446.61\% respectively. While the values of the physical parameters Color (x = 1.25; \( \sigma = 2.50 \)) and Turbidity (x = 0.93; \( \sigma = 0.87 \)) in P1 were among the lowest found in the study.

The values of variables DO, NO\textsubscript{x}, Mg_total, Na_total, and TS showed small amplitude (Figure 1), which were conditioned by the values obtained in P1.

We observed that the values of the variables BOD, pH, OC_total, Cu_total, Fe_total, P_total, Zn_total, and Turbidity raised the amplitude values downstream of P1 in P2.

While in the downstream FLOW of P2, we observed the highest amplitude values for the variables NH\textsubscript{4}, Color, TDS, C_total, and C_therm conditioned by values found in P3.

We should highlight that the values of P_total were between 0.03 and 0.13 mg\textsuperscript{-1}. The values found in P1 and P2 were above the limits recommended by the resolution (Table 1).

The amplitude of BOD values were high in the “Wine stream” and conditioned by the lowest value found in P1 (x = 18.00; \( \sigma = 1.08 \)), and also due to the highest value observed in P2 (x = 31.80; \( \sigma = 25.12 \)). Incidentally, the BOD value found in P1 and P3 proved superior to the values recommended by the resolution (Table 2) for Class II waters in 3.6 and 6.36 times.

The DO values for the three sampled locations were also higher than those recommended by the resolution; while the amplitude value (0.28) between locations was considered one of the smallest in this study, as shown in Figure 1.

Global analysis

After the individual analysis of the variables that make the water quality parameters, we sought a global, exploratory, and coordinated assessment since it was possible to identify the existence of high data variation in view of the standard deviation values and standard error some of the variables.

The standardized values of the 24 variables provided the correlation matrix shown in Table 4. Then the values were submitted to Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) and Bartlett tests. The KMO value was high and corresponded to 0.76, and the Bartlett test showed a high coefficient of maximum likelihood estimation (\( \Phi = 245.2735 \) and \( p_{value}<0.0001 \)). These analyses allow us to infer that the summarization of data by factor analysis is appropriate.

Figure 2 shows the values and percentage of the accumulated variation in five (5) factors (a) the plot of the scores, (b) and collection locations plotted in the factorial plan (c).

We extracted two factors: the first eigenvalue (\( \lambda_1 = 11.59 \)) loaded 48.29\% of the variance and the second eigenvalue (\( \lambda_2 = 4.96 \)) 20.66\%. Both factors accumulated 68.95\% of the variance (Figure 2a).

In axis 1, variance was represented by the values of 13 variables [Alc and Mg_total (0.99); TH (0.98); Ca_total; Mn_total (0.92); EC (0.88); pH (0.84); Na_total (0.73); Cu_total (0.58); Zn_total (0.45); Fe_total (0.40); TS (0.22) and TDS (0.18)].

In axis 2, the arrangement in factorial plan was made up of 11 variables [C_total (–0.01); Col (–0.42); BOD (–0.43); CO_total (–0.44); Turbidity (–0.58); C_therm (–0.59); COD (–0.60); P_total (–0.63); DO, NO\textsubscript{x} (–0.80) and NH\textsubscript{4} (–0.94)] (Figure 2b).

Given the factorial analysis, we found a greater array of water quality parameters established by CONAMA in the “Liquor stream”. The variables modeled for PL1 were Turbidity, an OC_total and
Color. While in PL2 and PL3 the variables were related to the “Wine stream”.

At P1 and P3 of the “Liquor stream”, only two variables that make up the physical parameter (TDS and TS) are significantly related.

**Discussion**

**Liquor stream**

The EC values were higher in P3 of the “Liquor stream”, although we did not observe significant differences between P1 and P2. It is clear that EC increased as the water stream moved away from the source.

The COD values were higher in P2 and P3. In this case, it is possible to speculate that water quality reduction is not directly related to agroindustry activity. Even with high amplitude between the sampled locations, it was clear that the diffuse source’s contribution in this stream is greater than that of the point source. On the other hand, we observed a small value when COD is related to BOD, which reinforces the hypothesis that there is a high load of biodegradable materials deposited in the stream, greater than its self-purification capacity.

Concerning Turbidity, the values show that in the source of the “Liquor stream”, there is greater contribution of organic materials in suspension, mainly plant residues.

The highest values of C_total and C_therm in P2 and P3 are associated with the activities of agriculture and livestock, and the disposal of wastewater from residences and agribusinesses disposing of their waste in septic tanks of shared use and then deposited in the “Liquor stream”. Regarding DO, the values did not show high amplitude, but they are above the limits recommended by the resolution (Table 2).

The variations in dissolved oxygen content and the quantities of coliforms (fecal and thermotolerant)
found in the present study are similar to those found by Rixen et al. (2012). These authors warn that the deposition of organic matter in water bodies is used by microorganisms or even undergoes purely chemical oxidation. 

$P_{total}$ values are above the levels recommended by the resolution. We also observed gradient formation from P1 to P3. The addition of the total P values in P2 was low but high in P3. The reduction in water quality in the “Liquor stream” seems to be more associated with diffuse pollution. Concerning the increase of total P in water, one should give special attention to wastewater from cleaning the premises and the equipment used in the agroindustry. Typically, products such as synthetic detergents, which are used in cleaning, contain mineral compounds, especially polyphosphate and orthophosphate (Gutiérrez et al., 2015; Rocha and Pereira, 2016).

Regarding TDS, the high amplitude value was conditioned by the value found in P3. As found in other variables, a gradient also formed from the “Liquor stream” source, which is related to waste deposited in the stream after P1.

In this regard, we refer to the considerations of Nascimento et al. (2015), who investigated the water quality of the Capivari and Bacuri streams in the state of Maranhão. The authors found TS values between 76 and 588 mg·L$^{-1}$, attributing the results to erosion caused by deforestation along the streams banks and domestic waste discarded in nature.

**Wine stream**

In general, the highest values of Alc, EC, TH, and $Ca_{total}$ were found in P1. These results may be associated with anthropogenic actions in altitudes higher to those of the “Wine stream”.

The upwelling of groundwater that originated and maintained the “Wine stream” is surrounded by riparian forest remnants. However, it did not secure the lowest values for these parameters. Similarly, the riparian forest also supplies organic materials, thereby contributing to the reduction in water quality.

Furthermore, Correia et al. (2015) reported that EC values above 100 $\mu$S·cm$^{-1}$ allow us to infer that there is a presence of diffuse source contaminants. The authors investigated the water quality of the Peri-Poçu stream (a tributary of the Paraná River) and found values higher than those found in this study. They also emphasized that the diffuse contamination was due to agriculture, livestock, and industry.

Given the values of BOD, $OC_{total}$, $Cu_{total}$, $Fe_{total}$, and $P_{total}$, we found that their respective amplitude values were conditioned by the highest values found in P2. These observations are related to farming activities observed on the flanks of the “Wine stream”. We should mention that in P3, the $P_{total}$ did not exceed the limit of the resolution taken as reference in this study. Smaller $P_{total}$ values in P3 are probably associated with the remaining riparian forest, which, although being a little more than 50 m in radius.

In general, the values of DO showed a small amplitude (Figure 1), allowing us to interpret that both streams’ self-purification capacity was similar during the nine months of this study. According to Antunes et al. (2012), a water body’s self-purification capacity can significantly reduce DO values.

The reduction in water quality in this stream was caused by agricultural activity and local geology since the arrangements of crop areas are at higher altitudes, promoting widespread contamination due to natural drainage toward the stream.

Regarding $Fe_{total}$, higher values are typically observed in the water of streams nearby crops. As soil is eroded by rainwater, part of its elements translocates to the streams, raising the levels of various elements such as iron. High levels of iron and manganese are transferred into water bodies due to heavy rainfall, and as they are dissolved in water, they contribute to reaching higher Turbidity values, as shown in Table 2. These results agree partially with those found by Alves et al. (2008), who investigated the water quality of the Pirapó river in the city of Maringa (PR) and found higher Turbidity values of iron relationships and manganese, and also observed higher Color values.

**Global analysis**

The plotting of the variables EC, TDS, TS, $Ca_{total}$, $Na_{total}$, TH, Alc, and $Mg_{total}$ is found in the same quadrant. In another NEARBY quadrant, the variables $pH$, $Mn_{total}$, $Zn_{total}$, $Cu_{total}$, $Fe_{total}$ are found. Both groups were grouped in the “Wine stream”.

EC showed higher values in the “Wine stream”, as previously mentioned (P1 and P3), which was confirmed in the arrangement plotted in Figure 2b,
thus suggesting a greater contribution of diffuse sources in reducing the quality of water. Of the existing relationships, that of EC with TDS and TS stands out in the same quadrant. These results agree partially with those found by Rocha and Pereira (2016), who also found a direct relationship of Color with DS, which was not observed in this study. They also emphasized the relationship of DO with Color and Turbidity, results similar to the arrangement found in the “Liquor stream”. The arrangement of the variables Turbidity, OC\textit{total}, and Color occurred in P1 of the “Liquor stream”. The highest variation of the data justified the position of Turbidity.

The biological variables plotted C\textit{total} and C\textit{therm} are located in the same quadrant of Figure 3 and corresponded to the highest values found in the “Liquor stream”. As postulated by Nascimento and Alencar (2014), these organisms represent water contamination by animal and human feces, which are usually unduly deposited in water sources (Dias and Gazzinelli, 2014).

In the “Liquor stream”, the reduction in water quality proves to be more intense from wastewater, while in the “Wine stream”, it is associated more effectively with runoff water and the privileged local geology.

**Conclusions**

The water quality in the “Liquor stream” shows significant oscillations and impacts the environment after the source. The diffuse sources of water quality reduction in the “Liquor stream” are mainly due to wastewater from the agroindustry and nearby residences.

The “Wine stream” source shows the highest values of alkalinity, electrical conductivity, total hardness, and total calcium. The sources of water pollution are associated more effectively with agricultural activities than with agroindustry activity.

The chemical and biological oxygen demand, dissolved oxygen, total iron, total manganese, and total phosphorus presented values above those stated in resolution Nº 357 of the National Environment Council in both streams of the agroindustry.

Therefore, the small agribusinesses need to adequate their waste treatment systems, as well as reduce their diffuse sources of pollution.
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