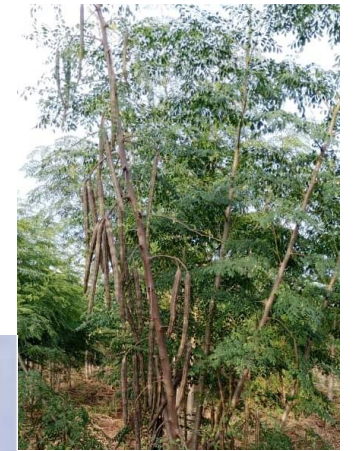


Moringa-Based Green Circular Economy: A Contribution of Curiosity-Driven and Applied Research of the Miracle Tree

By

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PROFESSORIAL INAUGURAL LECTURE
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Outline of Presentation

- Introduction – Why Moringa-based circular economy?
- Basic and Applied Research
- Moringa Seeds Circular Economy
- Moringa Leaves Circular Economy
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgements

Moringa Species

M. oleifera

M. arborea

M. borziana

M. concanensis

M. drouhardii

M. hildebrandtii

M. longituba

M. ovalifolia

M. peregrina

M. pygmaea

M. rivaie

M. ruspoliana

M. stenopetala

M. peregrina

M. oleifera from Iran

M. oleifera from Botswana

M. stenopetala,
Cimbebasia, Windhoek



M. ovalifolia, Namibia



M. stenopetala



M. oleifera



M. ovalifolia



Why Moringa?

Seedlings



Cuttings



1. Easy to Grow



2. Fast Growing



Why Moringa?



20/01/2021



15/04/2021



01/06/2021



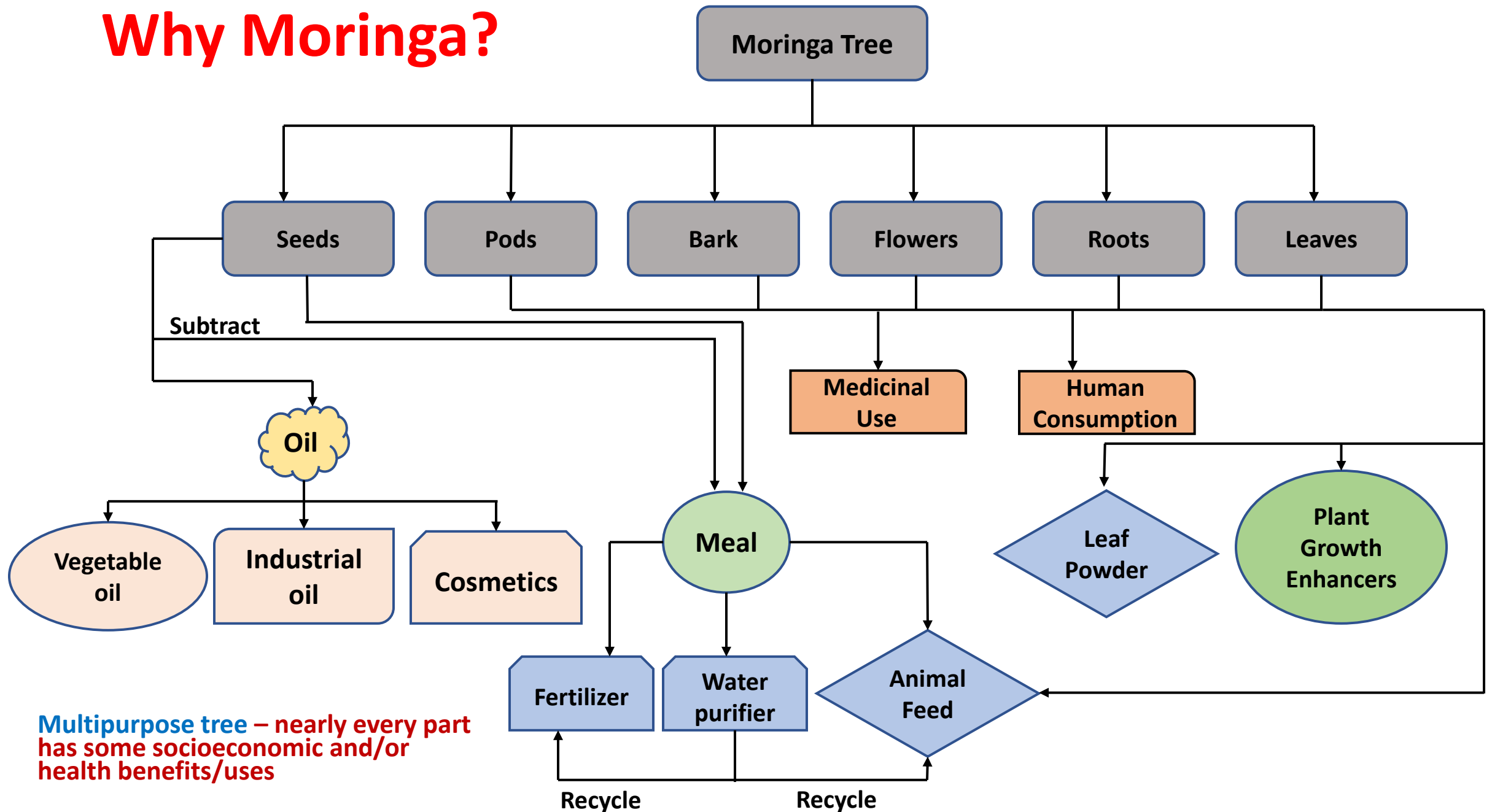
24/10/2021



10/11/2021

Easily blossoms!!

Why Moringa?



Maze of Moringa Uses

Malaria

Cosmetics

Disease Prevention, e.g. Covid-19

Water Purification

Blood pressure

Nutrition • **Disease Prevention** • Ointment • Alley Cropping • Fertilizer Erosion Control • **Water Purification** • **Cosmetics** • Textile Printing • Insecticide • Fungicide • Lubricants • Tanning Leather • Dye • Fiber Products • Fences • Ornamentation & Shade • Wind Barrier • Cane Juice Clarifier • **Honey Production** • Clarifier • Condiment • **Cooking Oil** • **Food** • Traditional medicine: Anemia • Anxiety • Asthma • Blackheads • Blood impurities • Blood pressure • Bronchitis • Catarrh • Chest congestion • Cholera • Colitis • Conjunctivitis • Cough • **Diabetes** • Diarrhea • Dropsy • Dysentery • Eye and ear infections • **Flu** • Fever • Glandular swelling • Gonorrhea • Headaches • Hysteria • Intestinal worms • Jaundice • Lactation • **Malaria** • Pain in joints • Pimples • Pregnancy • Psoriasis • Respiratory disorders • Scurvy • Semen deficiency • Skin infections • Sore throat • Sores • Sprain • Stomach ulcers • Tuberculosis • Tumor • Urinary disorders • **Wounds** • **Biodiesel** • **Plant Growth Enhancer** • **Food** • **Arthritis**

Diabetes

Why Moringa?

such as sweeping the streets and collecting garbage on a daily basis. They were paid between NS650 and NS700 per month for their services. If they worked overtime (on Saturdays and Sundays) some workers could make at least NS900 per month. The decision to terminate the contracts of the temporary workers comes after an internal investigation into allegations of maladministration and corruption at the town found

the of temporary workers go to comply with the recommendations of the investigation. He said this is aimed at ensuring that the municipality maintains good corporate governance and best management practices. Simvula said other recommendations contained in the report of that investigation would also be implemented. The concerned investigation conducted by the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development in 2019 revealed widespread maladministration,

cited from owners and transferred to municipal workers. The report further unmasks various schemes through which municipal bosses have been paying themselves irregular housing and vehicle allowances without owning houses and vehicles, among other things. The targeted workers staged a demonstration last week to express their disappointment with the move to terminate their contracts. They are claiming they are entitled to be employed on permanent

which is representing the concerned workers, has also expressed disappointment with the municipality's decision. Nanlo's Evilastus Kaaronda yesterday said the municipality was acting in bad faith, as it failed to provide an opportunity for negotiations with the workers. Kaaronda said Nanlo has advised the workers to file a case with the

Office of the Labour Commissioner. "Grootfontein is being mismanaged. These people have rightful expectations. That recommendation is in contradiction with the Labour Act," he said.

Source: Johns Hopkins University; Ministry of Health and Social Services; South Africa Department of Health; Zambia Ministry of Health

Epembe water woes continue

• ANNA SHINANA

THOUSANDS of people in the Ohangwena region are forced to resort to unhygienic methods of accessing water, such as digging wells, to take care of their most basic human needs.

The water crisis at the Epembe constituency affects about 14 837 inhabitants.

"People still have no access to clean water. The situation is bad," says concerned community member Jason Fillipus. "People need water. The Epembe council must make sure that water is given to the inhabitants in their jurisdictions."

"How do these people sleep at night when others have no access to clean water? Yet they promised to fight and bring services to their people," laments Fillipus.

Water from wells is shared by both

humans and animals. This precarious situation came about after water provisions were cut due to an accumulated debt owed to the Directorate of Rural Water Supply (DRWS) which has not been settled.

Families that utilise the government-provided water points are required to pay a certain fee each month to keep the taps running, with committees tasked to collect fees. A lack of cooperation amongst villagers has been observed, however, as some pay up while others fail to do so.

Epembe is a constituency in the Ohangwena region, on the Angolan border. Several villages such as Eenhenni, Etapa, Onhinda, Omuhongo, Onaame and Onamundidi are located in the constituency.

"This is unbearable owing to the fact that Namibia is a dry country and people and animals have nowhere to get water," charges concerned community leader Thomas Fillemon.

The community is appealing to the government to show them some mercy.

"Government parastatal NamWater must write off the debt incurred by our people. We need long-term solutions for the water scarcity experienced in the region. Most people are poor and unemployed, and can't afford to pay for water. Government should also rehabilitate all boreholes left after road construction from Oshikunde up to the Ohangwena and Kavango border so that people in the surrounding villages can benefit from them," pleads community member Alufeusa Eliud.

Ohangwena region governor Walde Ndevasiyya confirms that the region is in dire need of financial resources to address the ongoing problem of water shortages.

"Most constituencies in the region



File photo

UNHYGIENIC ... People at the Epembe constituency of the Ohangwena region draw water from a well at Onhinda village.

do not have reliable sources of potable water and many people depend on salty and contaminated water from ageing boreholes," Ndevasiyya says. "The community should be patient,

their concerns have been noted by the government. We know that there is a crisis where water is concerned. We just need them to be a bit more patient," he adds.



VACANCY / Are you the one?



24/10/2013



29/10/2013

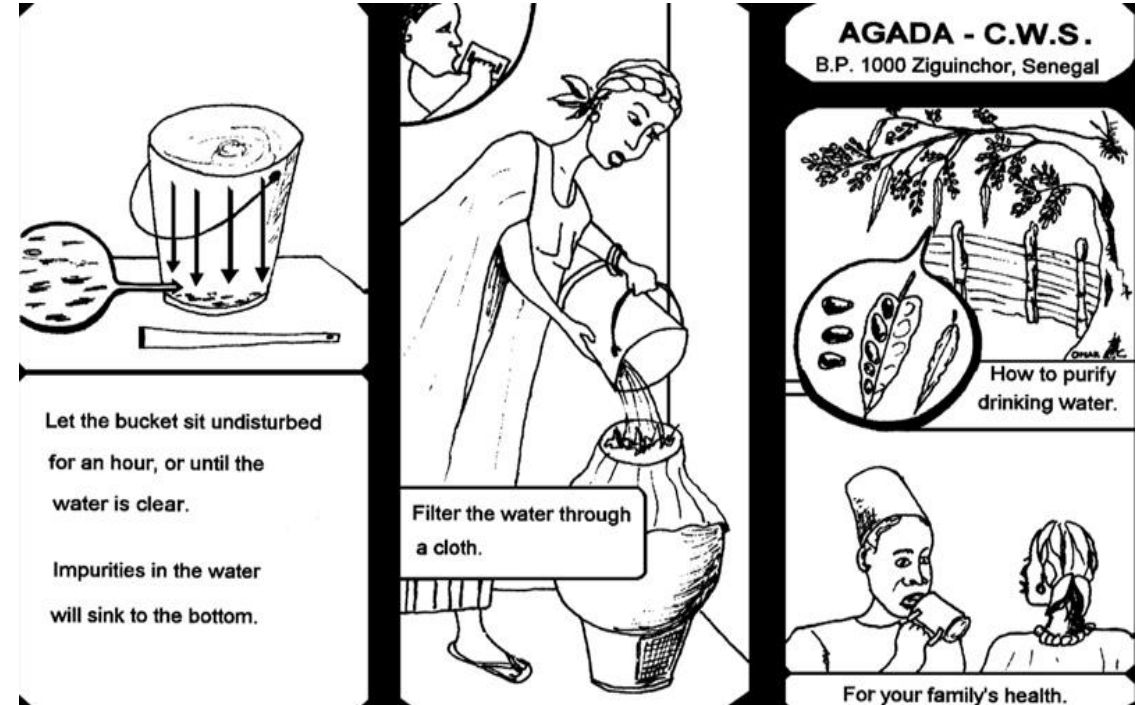
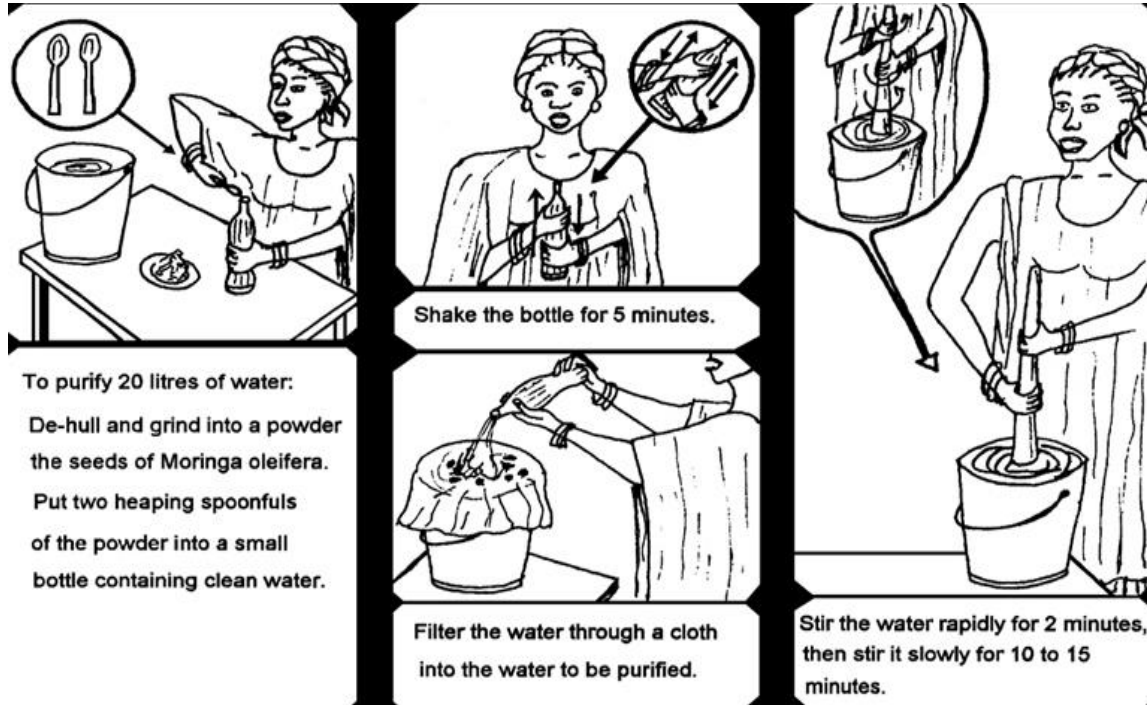
Why should Namibia have such headlines when it has the environmental conditions for the mirage tree?

Three Basic EVILS of Water Crisis

- Too Much (= Flooding)
- Too Little (= Drought)
- Too Dirty (= Pollution)

Water is Life, Sanitation is Dignity

Historical water treatment process using Moringa seeds



Why and how does it work?

Water Treatment



Moringa tree



Seed pods



Moringa Seeds



Seed kernels



Grinding and sieving the seed powder



Seed powder



3 Prototypes



?

?



Coca Cola Tapwater - Windhoek

BASIC RESEARCH EXPERIMENTAL WORK

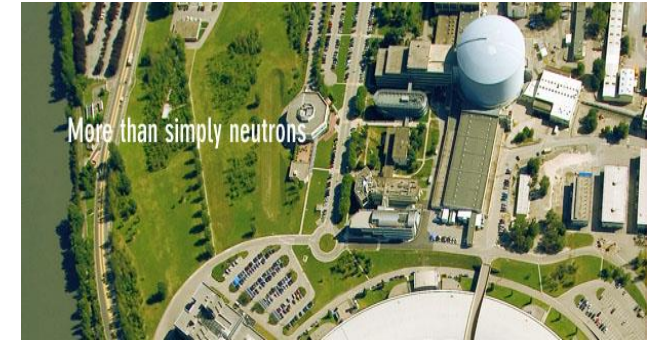
- Extraction and purification of seed proteins
- UV-Vis spectroscopy
- FTIR spectroscopy
- Density measurements
- Capillary viscometry
- Amino acid composition
- Elemental analysis
- Surface tension measurements
- Steady-state fluorescence spectroscopy
- Circular dichroism (CD) spectroscopy
- Zeta potential measurements
- Dynamic light scattering
- **Neutron reflection and Neutron Scattering**
- etc.



ISIS Rutherford Appleton Laboratory
Harwell Oxford, UK



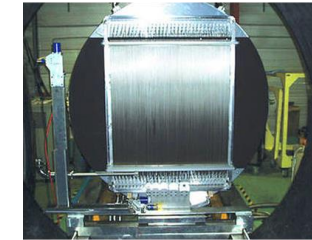
NIST Center for
Neutron Research,
MD, USA



Institut Laue-Langevin,
Grenoble, France



30 m SANS, NIST Center for Neutron
Research (NCNR), Maryland, USA



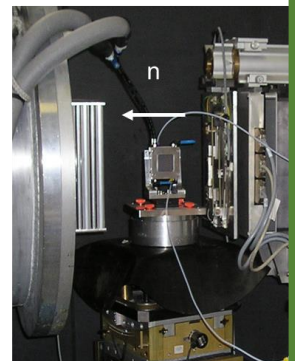
D22 and D11, ILL, Grenoble, France



SANS2D – ISIS, Rutherford, UK



BT5 USANS, Loading Samples,
NIST Center for Neutron Research,
Maryland, USA



D17 reflectometer
ILL, France



Moringa tree



Dry pods



Seeds



De-shelling



Seed kernels



Grinding



Seed Powder

Extraction of oil



Moringa Seed Oil



Seed Cake

Extraction with water

Filtrate

Precipitation with ammonium sulphate

Solid

Dissolution with water and dialysis (12-14 kDa)

Dialysate

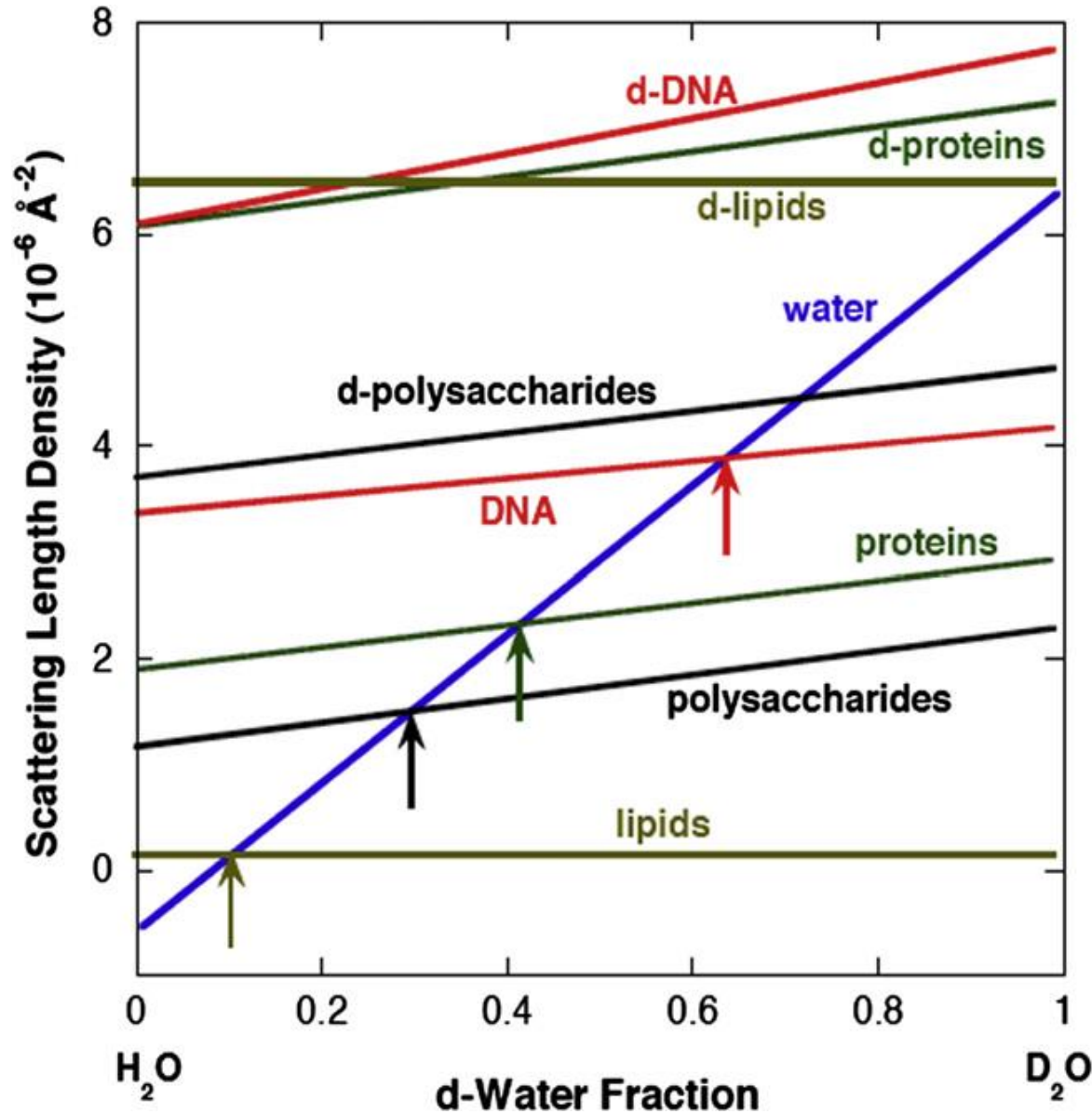
**Adsorption on CM column
Elution with sodium chloride
Dialysis (12-14 kDa)
Freeze Drying**



Moringa seed proteins powder



Neutrons and Contrast Variation in Action



When the monster came, Lola remained undetected. Harold, of course, was immediately devoured.

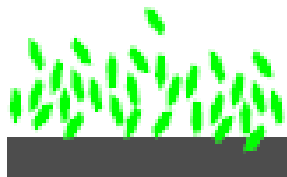
NUST/UB
(Moringa seeds proteins
research)



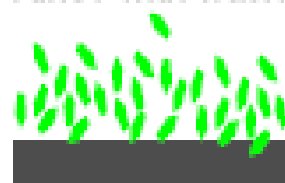
ILL, Grenoble, France

Adsorption of Protein from *M. oleifera* Seeds to a Silicon oxide and Sapphire Surfaces Studied by Neutron Reflection

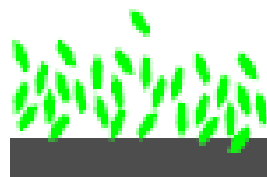
Protein Adsorbs



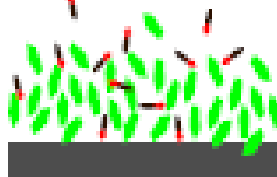
Rinse with water



Protein Adsorbs



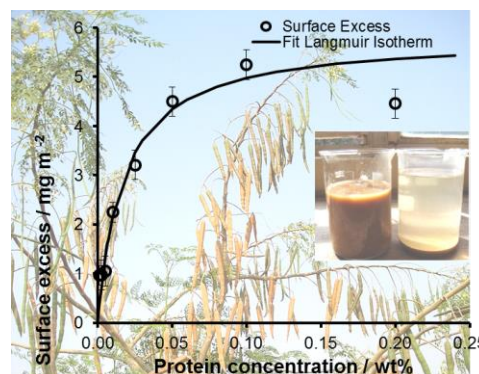
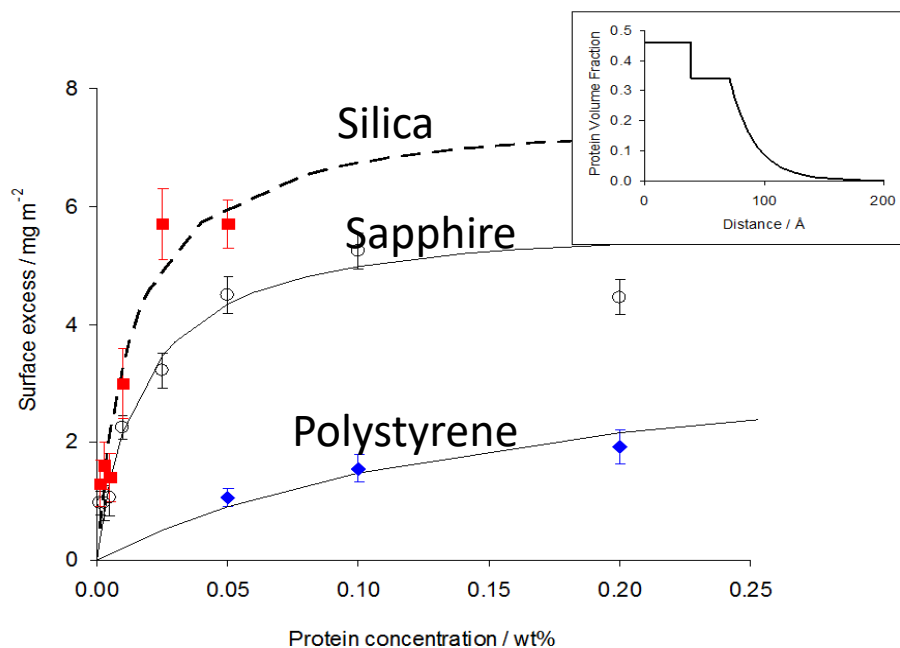
Add CTAB



Rinse with water

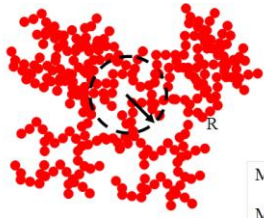


Al₂O₃

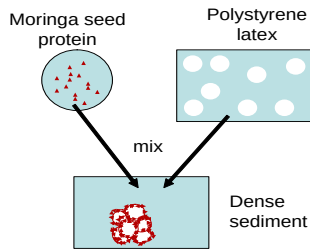


- Kwaambwa, Hellsing & Rennie, *Langmuir* 2010, 26, 3902-3910.
- Kwaambwa et al., *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*, 2015, 448, 339-346.

Fractal Dimensions of Flocs Caused by Different Materials

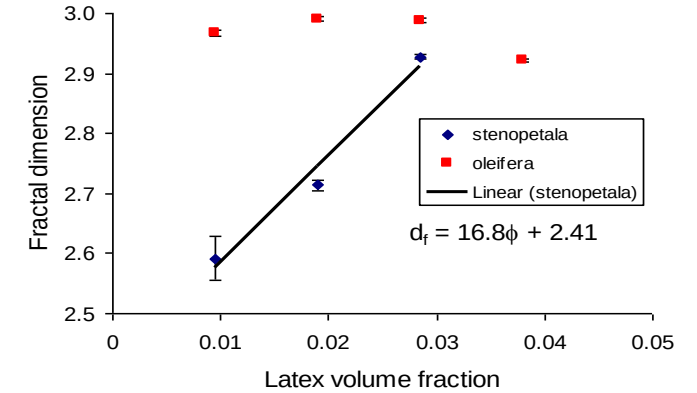
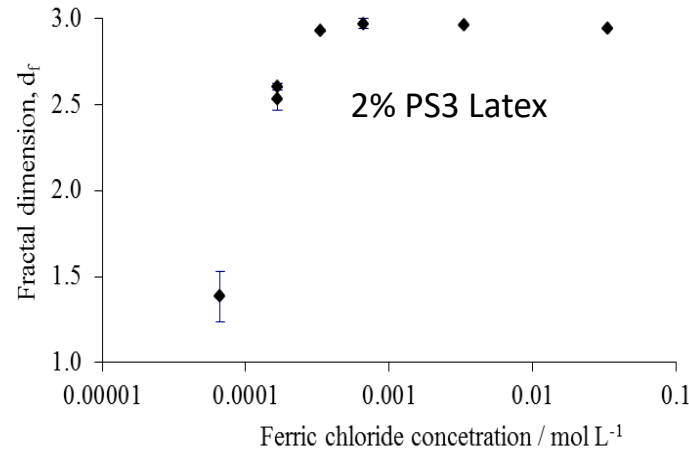


Mass fractal
 $M \sim R^d$

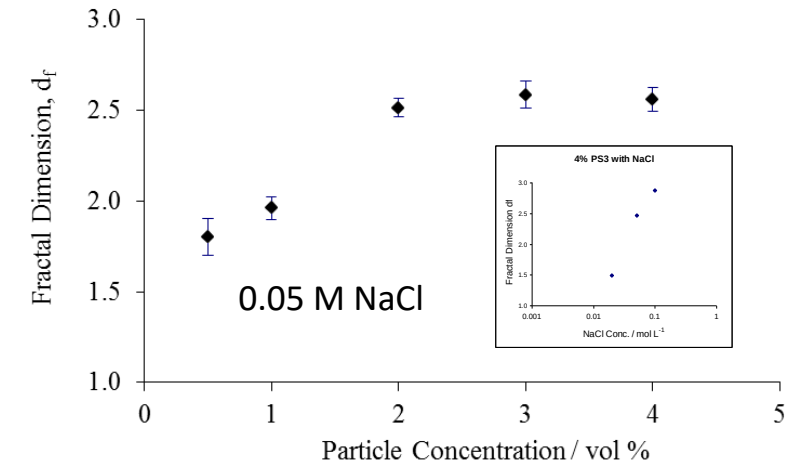
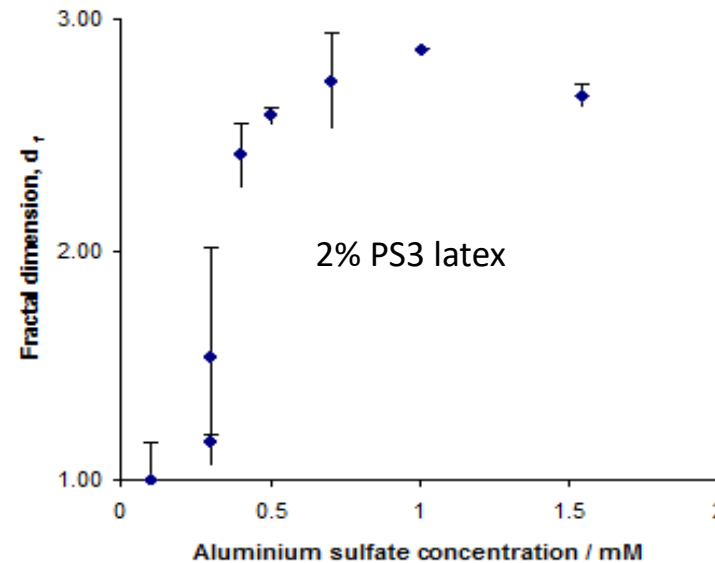
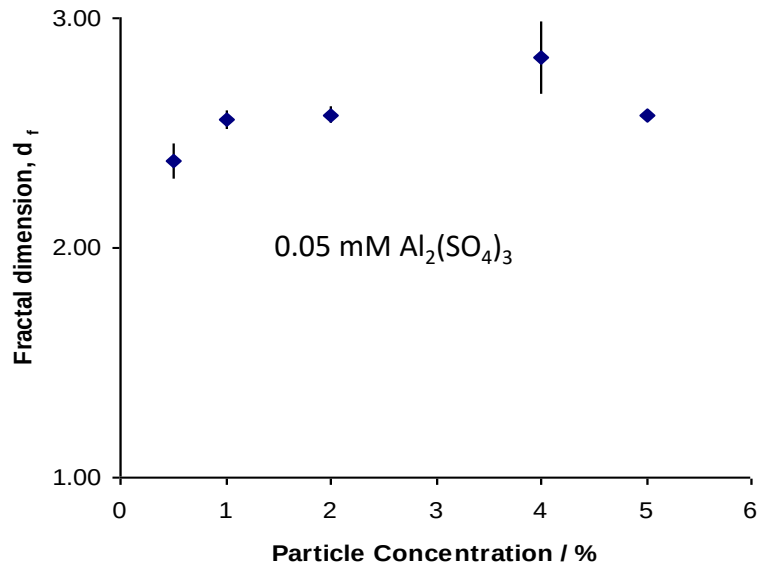


Note:

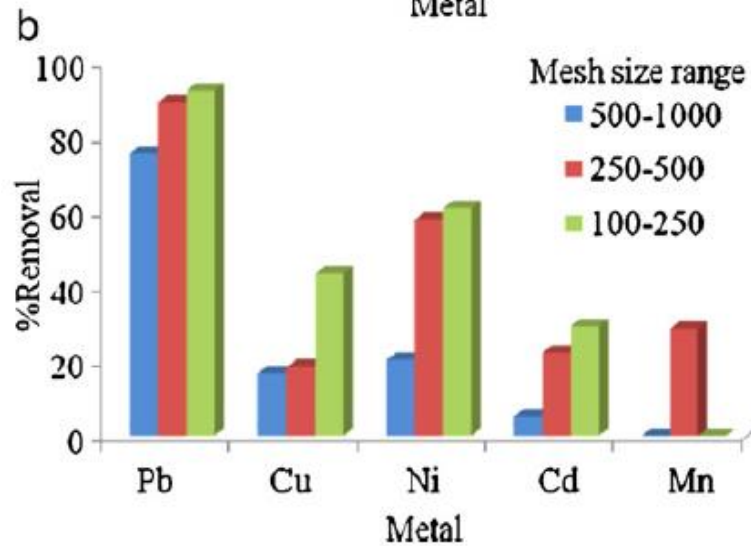
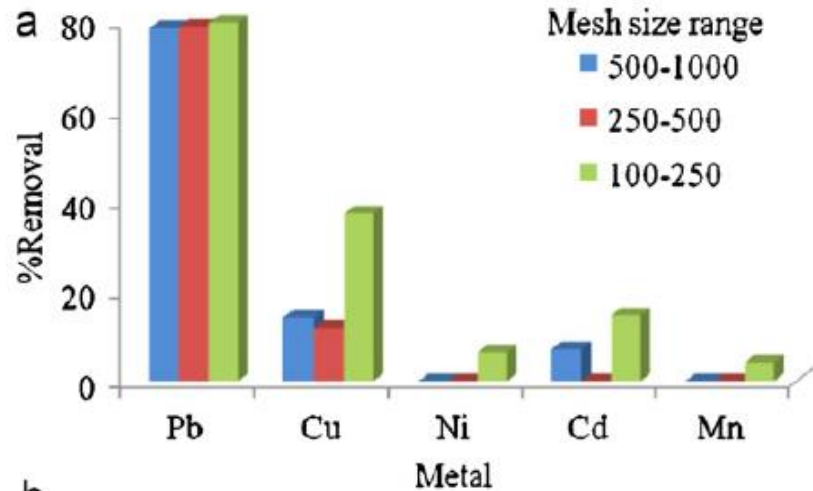
- Moringa induced fractal dimensions approach the theoretical maximum of 3
- Cf: Conventional ionic flocculents give flocs with flow dimensions in the range 1.75 to 2.3



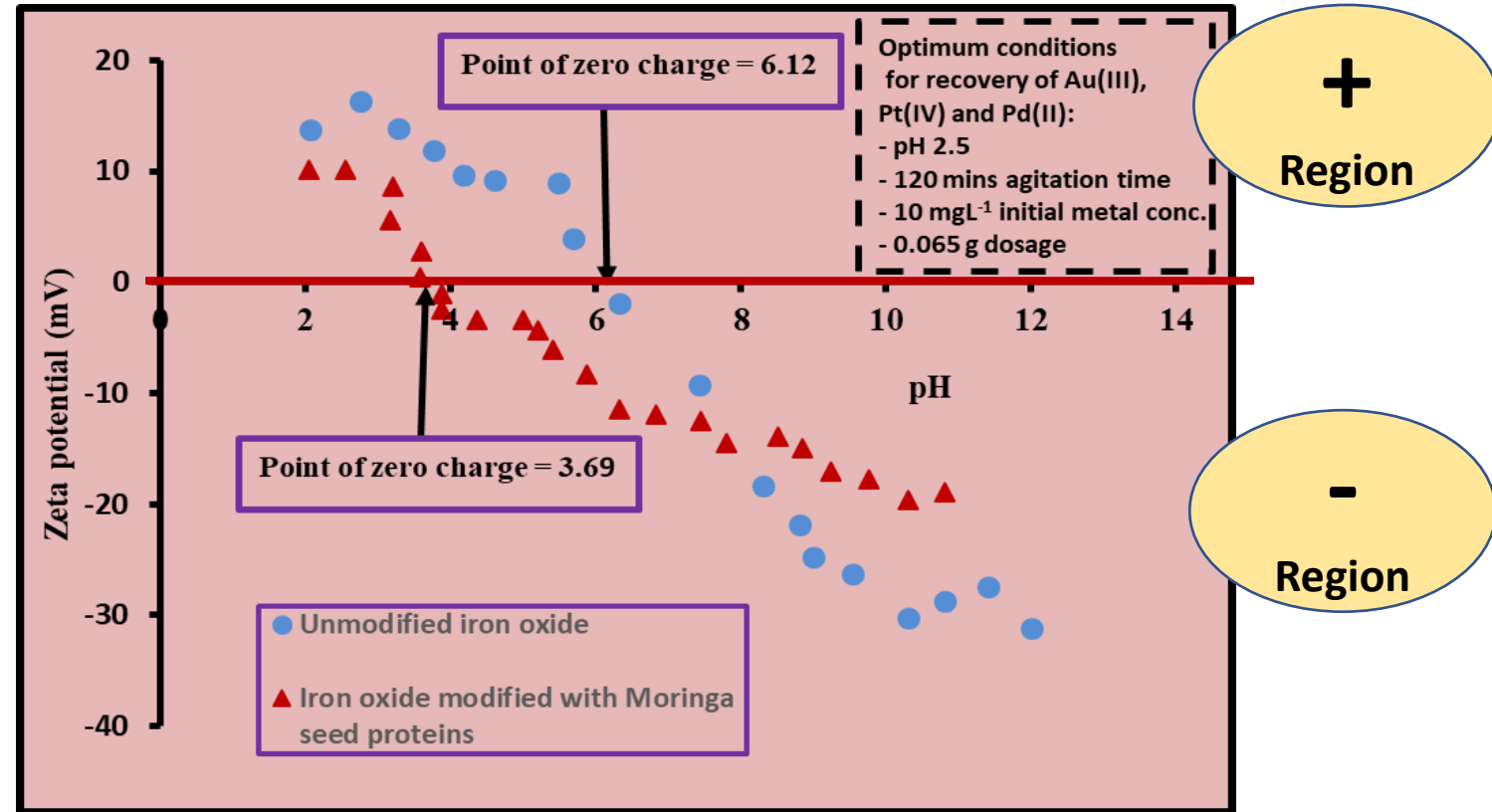
Fractal dimension for samples with mass fraction 2 mg/mL of Moringa



Heavy metals removal¹



Precious metals or Platinum Group Metals (PGMs) interaction & removal



Maximum recoveries:

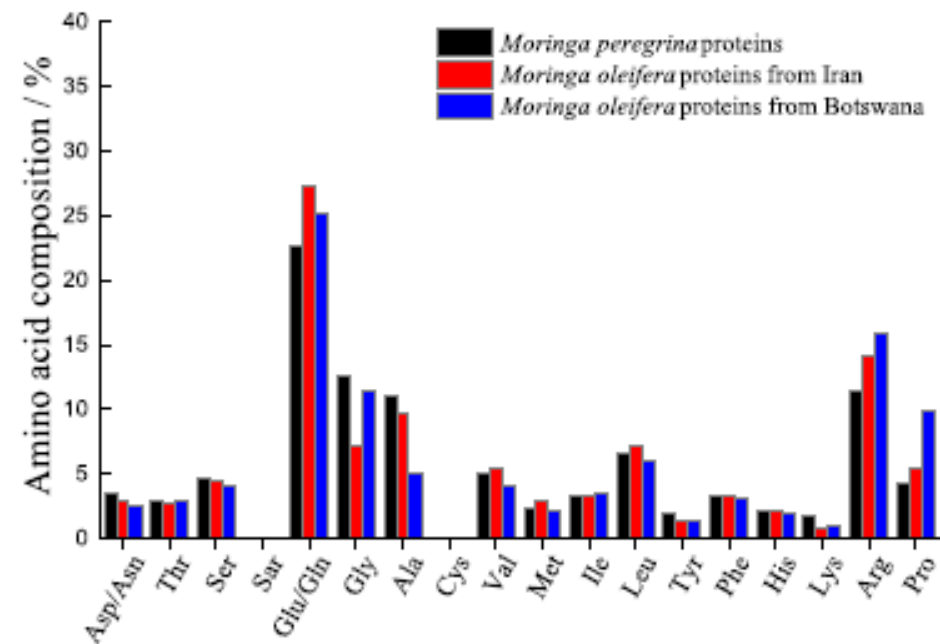
- Gold - 99.8%
- Platinum - 87.7%
- Palladium - 72.7%

1. Kwaambwa et al, *Analytica Chimica Acta* 730 (2012) 87– 92

2. M.O.N. Amuanyena, M. Kandawa-Schulz & H. M. Kwaambwa, *J. Biomaterials & Nanobiotech.*, 2019, 10, 142-158

Possible explanation of the Moringa proteins-heavy metals interaction from determined amino acids composition

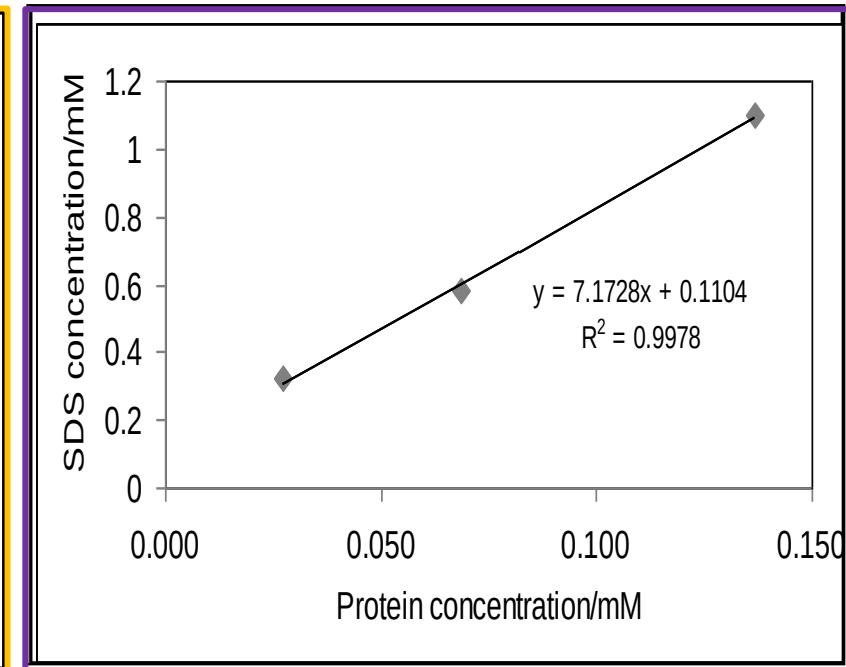
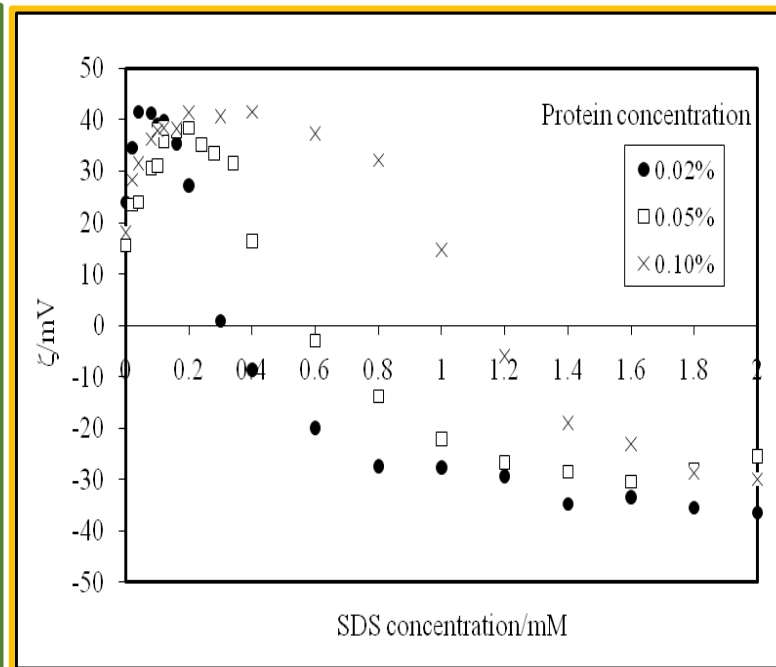
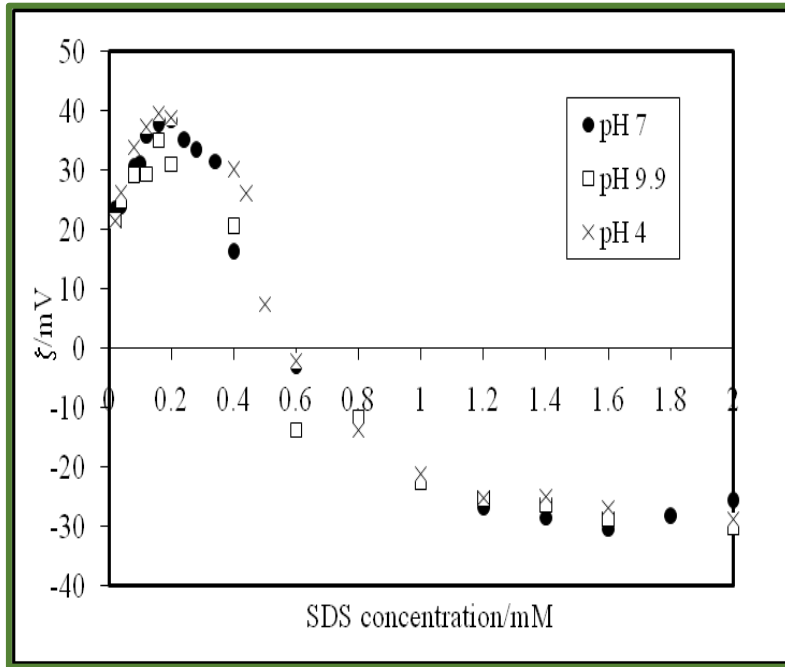
Component	Concentration nmol/mg			Mole fraction , X		
	Moringa oleifera 2009	Moringa oleifera 2012	Moringa Stenopetala 2012	Moringa oleifera 2009	Moringa oleifera 2012	Moringa Stenopetala 2012
Aspartic Acid	230.16	210.29	233.16	0.0294	0.0258	0.0285
Threonine	168.77	162.92	209.99	0.0215	0.0200	0.0256
Serine	334.80	345.62	370.19	0.0427	0.0425	0.0452
Glutamic Acid	1818.16	1989.17	1722.62	0.2319	0.2444	0.2103
Proline	552.48	593.66	534.57	0.0705	0.0729	0.0653
Glycine	972.33	896.55	1565.20	0.1240	0.1101	0.1911
Alanine	440.20	447.29	329.28	0.0561	0.0550	0.0402
Half-Cystine	479.81	557.04	490.50	0.0612	0.0684	0.0599
Valine	320.81	314.67	268.17	0.0409	0.0387	0.0327
Methionine	137.58	160.02	155.01	0.0175	0.0197	0.0189
Isoleucine	246.53	253.91	242.33	0.0314	0.0312	0.0296
Leucine	424.05	452.77	440.49	0.0541	0.0556	0.0538
Tyrosine	97.43	85.26	104.91	0.0124	0.0105	0.0128
Phenylalanine	233.72	219.50	189.09	0.0298	0.0270	0.0231
Histidine	149.75	148.24	146.86	0.0191	0.0182	0.0179
Lysine	72.34	54.58	153.71	0.0092	0.0067	0.0188
Tryptophan	28.31	27.06	14.26	0.0036	0.0033	0.0017
Ammonia	1742.16	1819.49	1617.79	0.2222	0.2235	0.1975
Arginine	1132.73	1221.14	1020.25	0.1445	0.1500	0.1246
Sum	7839.95	8139.68	8190.60	1.0000	1.0000	1.0000



Point of zero charge (PI)

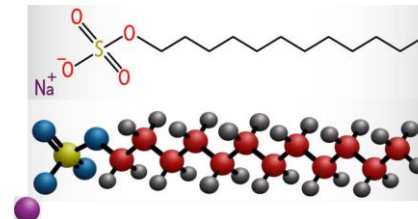
- Calculated pI for aspartic acid and glutamic acid is approx. **3**
- pH < 3 Amino acids are positively charged
- pH > 3 Amino acids are **negatively charged**.
- Proteins are positively charged below pH 10, and hence can easily take up heavy metals (positively charged).

Zeta Potential Measurements



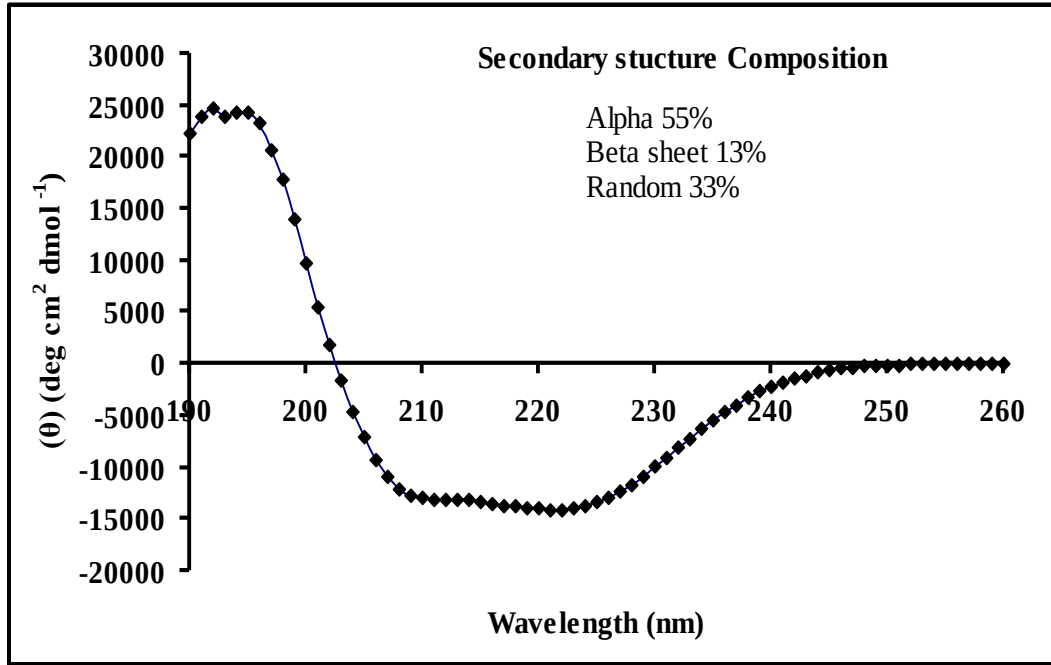
- Effect of SDS concentration, pH and protein concentration on zeta potentials of the protein in water
- Mol. Wt. of protein of 7307 was estimated from amino acid composition using the Protein calculator v3.3 (<http://www.scripps.edu/cgi-bin/cdputnam/protcalc.html>)
- Maximum in zeta potential not as result carboxyl group
- Determination of SDS molecules associated with each protein molecule at $\xi = 0$
- Slope = 7 SDS molecules per protein molecule
- From amino acid sequencing by Gassenschmidt *et al.* and Broin, *et al.* reported **8** different negatively charged amino acid residues

Broin, M *et al.* *Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* 2002, 60, 114-119
Gassenschmidt *et al.* *Biochim. Biophys. Acta.* 1995, 1243, 477-481.

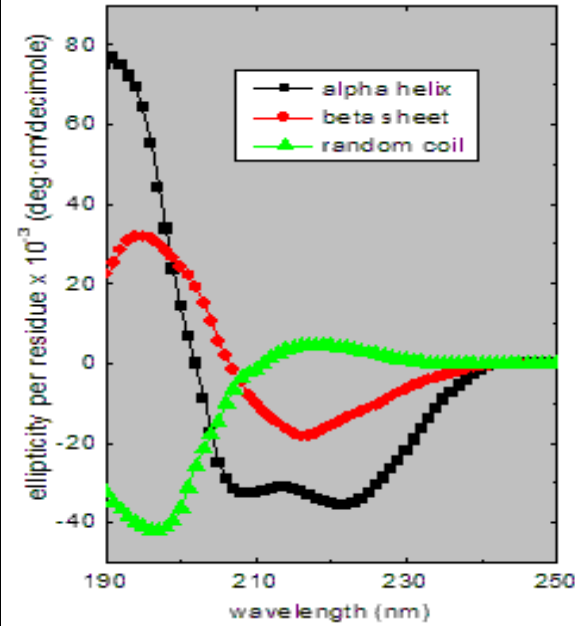


Sodium dodecylsulfate (SDS)

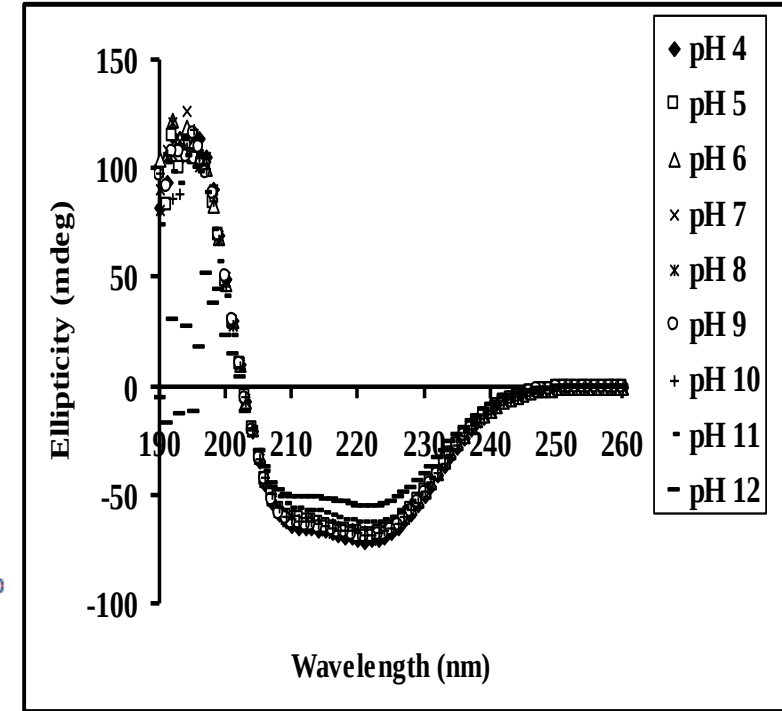
Circular dichroism (CD) of Moringa seed proteins



A

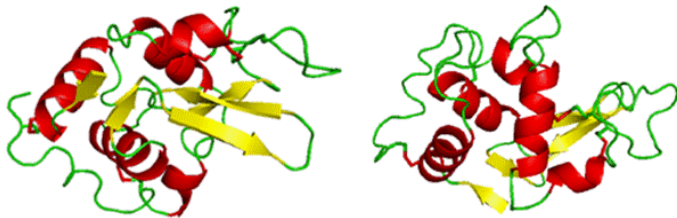


B



C

A: CD spectrum of aqueous *Moringa oleifera* seed coagulant protein (0.5 mg/mL) and the content of its secondary structures calculated using DICHROWEB K2D online program; **B:** Typical spectra for poly-lysine standard in three different conformations; **C:** Effect of pH on CD of the coagulant protein



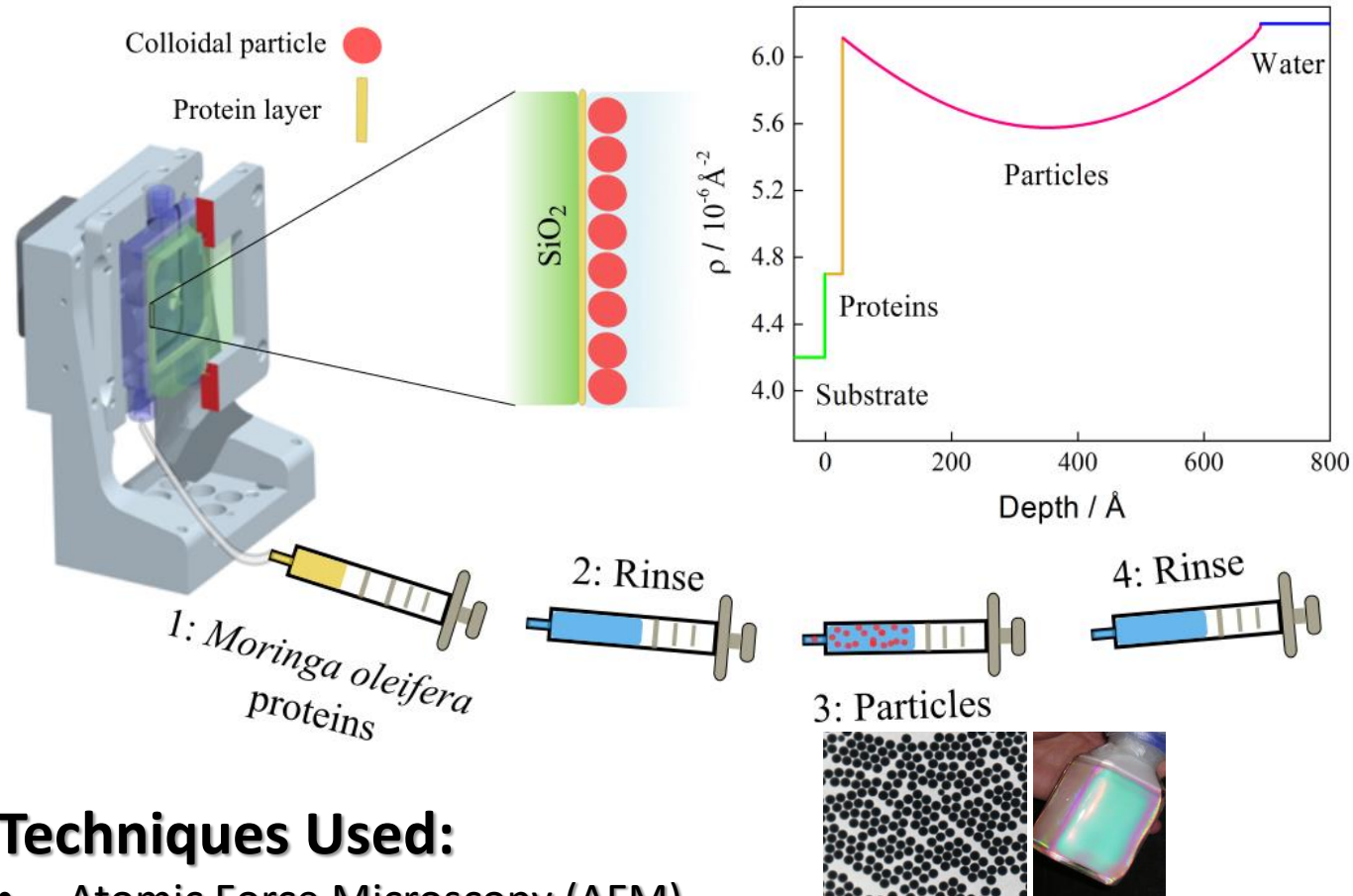
Red: α -Helix

Yellow: β -Sheet

Green: Random coil

- Relies on the differential absorption of left and right circularly polarised radiation by chromophores which either possess intrinsic chirality or are placed in chiral environments.
- Rapid evaluation the secondary structure, folding and binding properties of proteins.
- **Secondary structure - α -helix (55%), random coils (33%) and b-sheet (13%)**
- **Protein lost the tertiary (3D) structure at pH 11 and 12**

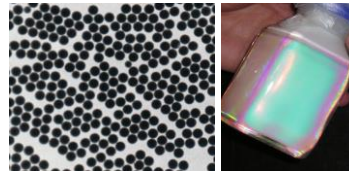
Sticking particles to solid surfaces using *MO* proteins as a glue



Techniques Used:

- Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)
- Quartz crystal microbalance (QCM-D)
- Neutron Reflection

Monodispersed Polystyrene particles
TEM Size: 721 nm



Sticking particles to solid surfaces using *Moringa oleifera* proteins as a glue[☆]

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^b Namibia University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Health and Applied Sciences, Private Bag 13388, 13 Storch Street, Windhoek, Namibia

^c Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Harwell, Didcot OX11 0QX, United Kingdom

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 Moringa oleifera
 Surface scattering
 Adhesion
 Quartz

ABSTRACT

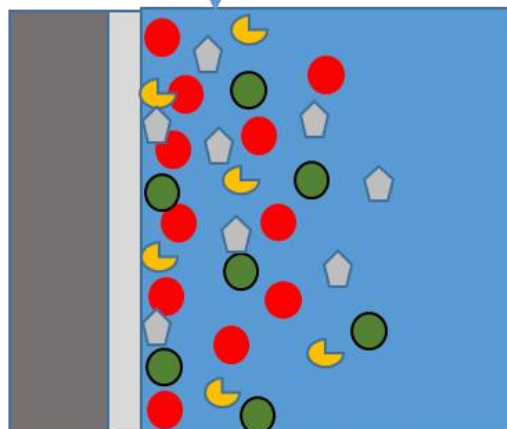
Experimental studies have been made to test the idea that seed proteins from *Moringa oleifera* which are novel, natural flocculating agents for many particles could be used to promote adhesion at planar interfaces and hence provide routes to useful nanostructures. The proteins bind irreversibly to silica interfaces. Surfaces that had been exposed to protein solutions and rinsed were then exposed to dispersions of sulfonated polystyrene latex. Atomic force microscopy was used to count particle density and identified that the sticking probability was close to 1. Measurements with a quartz crystal microbalance confirmed the adhesion and indicated that repeated exposures to solutions of *Moringa* seed protein and particles increased the coverage. Neutron reflectivity and scattering experiments indicate that particles bind as a monolayer. The various results show that the 2S albumin seed protein can be used to fix particles at interfaces and suggest routes for future developments in making active filters or improved interfaces for photonic devices.

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Moringa seed crude protein extract

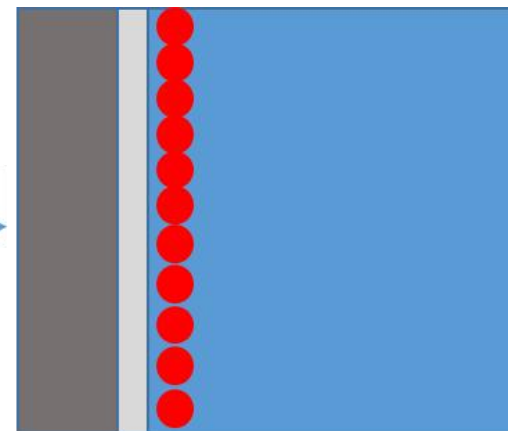
Adsorption



Dense layer adsorption on silica and alumina

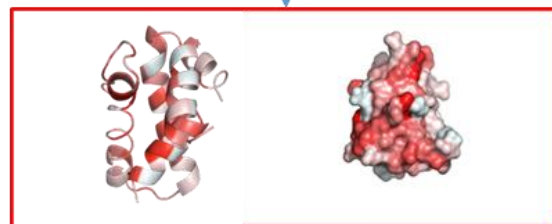
Mo-CBP3 purified protein fraction, which constitutes the largest single protein fraction from the seed extract

Adsorption



Monolayer adsorption on silica

Isoform extracted and crystallized



Crystal structure of Mo-CBP3-4

Crystallographic structure of MoCBP3-4 (helix and surface representation) showing the polar versus non-polar areas of the protein.

- Purified MoCBP3 binds to a silica interface and none to the alumina interface
- MoCBP3-4 isoform has antimicrobial activity

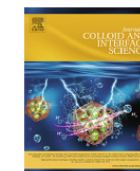
Journal of Colloid and Interface Science 554 (2019) 296–304



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Colloid and Interface Science

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jcis



Regular Article

Towards a molecular understanding of the water purification properties of *Moringa* seed proteins

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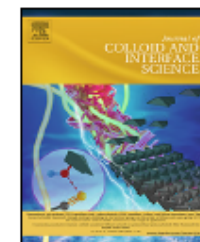




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Regular Article

Modifying the crystallization of amorphous magnesium-calcium phosphate nanoparticles with proteins from *Moringa oleifera* seeds

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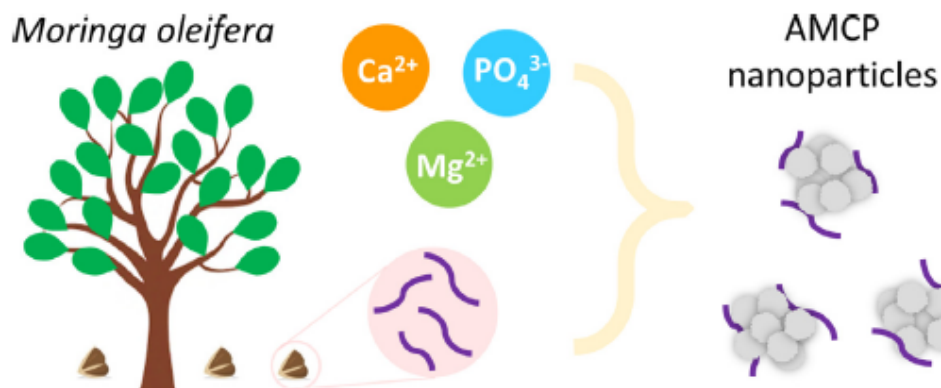
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HIGHLIGHTS

- Proteins from *Moringa oleifera* enhance the lifetime of the amorphous Mg-Ca phosphates (AMCPs);
- The stabilizing effect of *Moringa* proteins (MO) is concentration-dependent;
- The crystallization pathway of amorphous particles is affected by *Moringa* proteins;
- The nano-scale structure of amorphous phases is related to the presence of proteins.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT



Bacterial Drug Resistance

**AgNs prepared in MO
extracts**

**Antibiotics
(Ampicillin, Neomycin,
Tetracycline)**

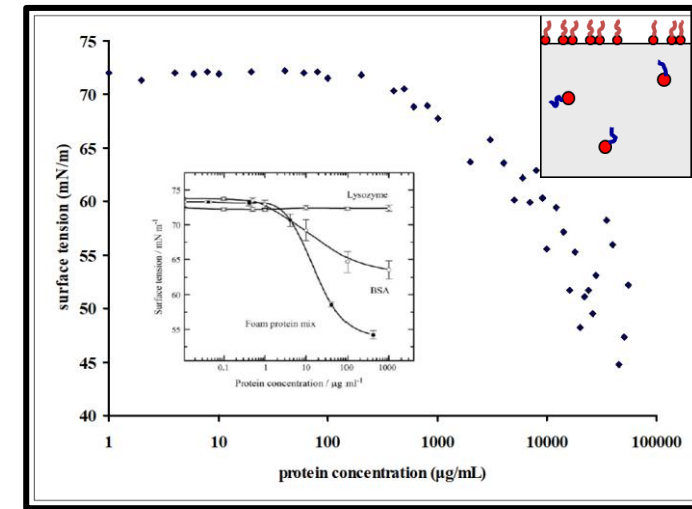
**Triple bullet Synergism against
multidrug-resistant bacterium
*Salmonella typhimurium***

**Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles
using *Moringa oleifera* extracts and
their evaluation against antibiotic
resistant strains of *Escherichia coli*
and *Staphylococcus aureus***

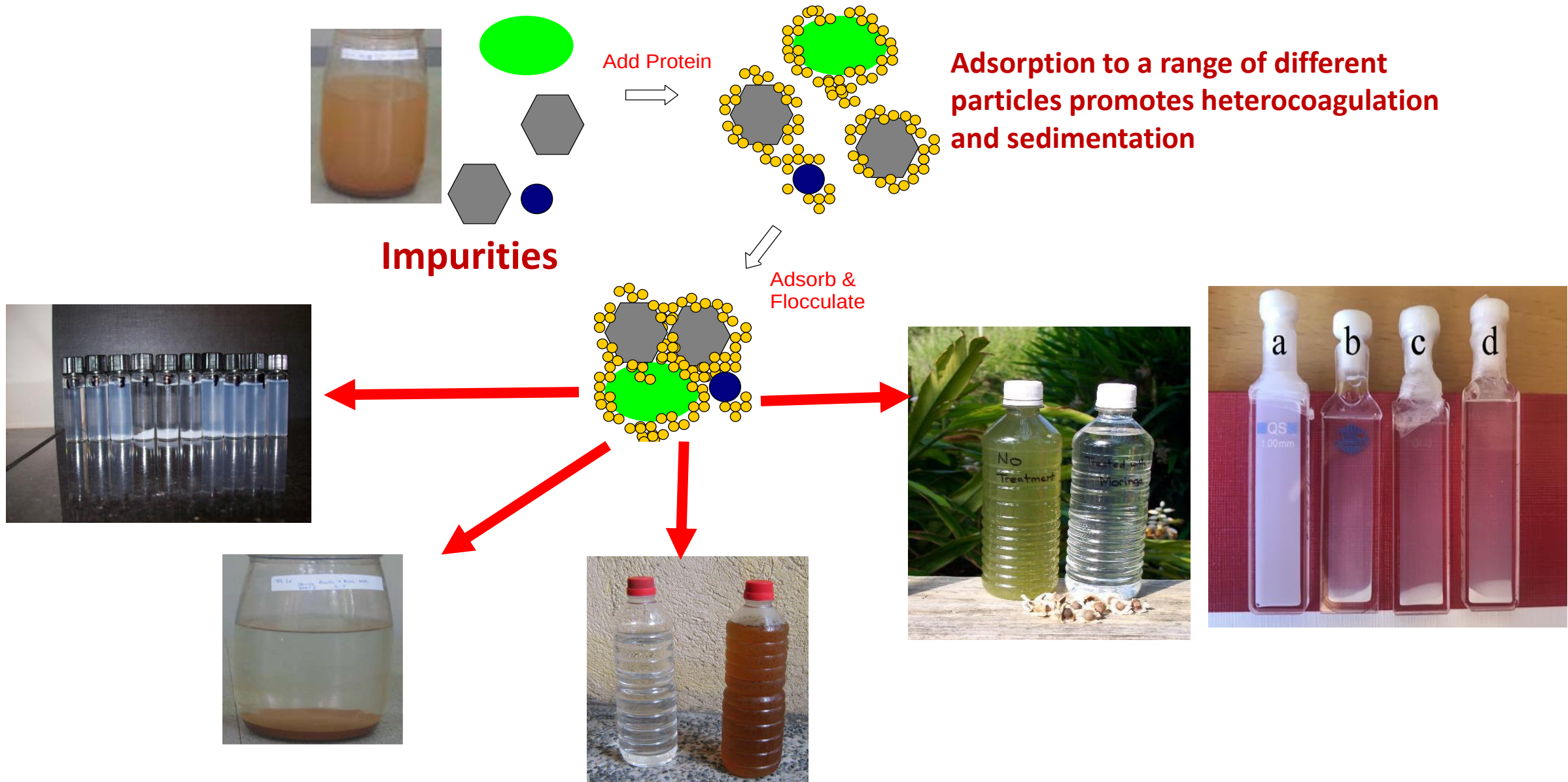
- Mo-AgNPs
- Mo-AgNPs-Penicillin G
- Mo-AgNPs-streptomycin

Peculiar Properties

- **Surface activity** - surface active but weak at low concentrations
- **Protein charge neutralisation by surfactant**
- **Protein-Surfactant (e.g. soap/detergent molecules) interaction**
(anionic > cationic > zwitterionic > nonionic)
- **Protein not sensitive to pH range 4-9 (Fluorescence, CD, zeta potential)** but pH greater than 9 affects the protein conformation. **The elimination of the pH adjusting step for the adsorption process on a large scale is favourable, because it simplifies the process and reduces total costs.**
- **Effective to relatively high salt concentration**
- **Removal of heavy metals and precious metals from water**
- **Amino acid composition**
- **Adsorbs on differences surfaces**
- **Floc structure and fractal dimension (almost limiting value of 3)**
- **Sticking particles to solid surfaces using *Moringa oleifera* proteins as a glue**
- **Slows down crystallisation of amorphous Ca-Mg phosphate nanoparticles**



Moringa Seeds and Water Treatment Mechanism



Water Treatment System Prototypes



Prototype 1

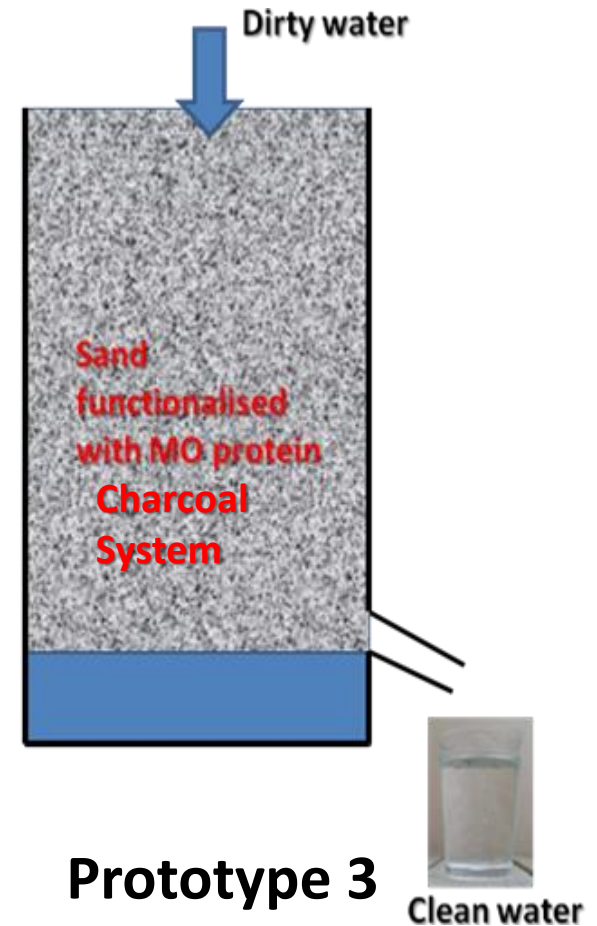


Moringa Project - Final Video - Shortcut.zip



Prototype 2

Prototype 2 Results: Reduction of turbidity (< 5 NTU) and microbial pollution indicators (total coliforms, faecal coliforms, *Escherichia coli* and *faecal streptococci*) by at least 96%.



Prototype 3

Feed for Livestock and Aquaculture Industry



Features of Moringa Pellets

- Cattle feed on Moringa free from additives
- Accurate composition
- Cattle on optimum freshness in Moringa
- Natural taste of leaf pellets
- Leaf pellets free from harmful additives
- Pellets free from impurities
- Long shelf life of pellets
- High nutritional value in feed
- Feed helpful for the milk producing cows, sheep, goats, pigs and horses
- Pellets processed with advanced methodology using premium quality Moringa parts



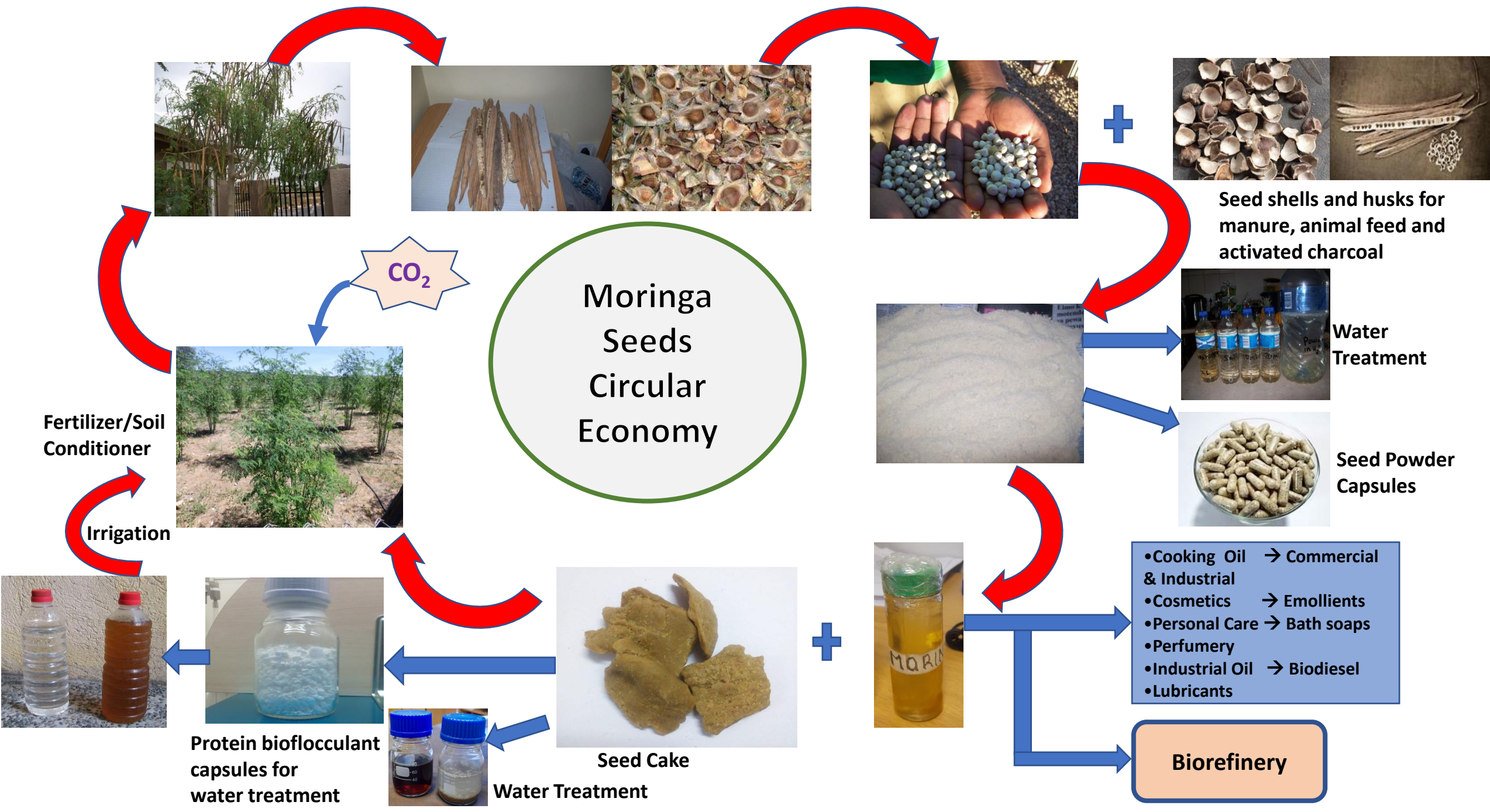
Benefits of Feeding Boer Goats with Moringa Leaf Supplement



Moringa leaf supplements had a reducing effect on gastrointestinal parasites (GIP) loads of Boer goats

Supplementing livestock, e.g. cattle, feed with the leaves and green stems of Moringa,:

- Increases weight gain (daily weight gain up to 32%)
- Enhances milk production by 43-65%
- Boosts immune system
- Improves the digestibility of food livestock eat and hence overall health and condition of your animals

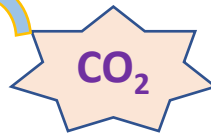




Moringa Honey



Agroforestry



Flowers



Tea Bags



Bio**stimulant** (Plant growth enhancer)



Feed for Livestock, Poultry and Fish



Leaf Powder



Leaf Powder Capsules



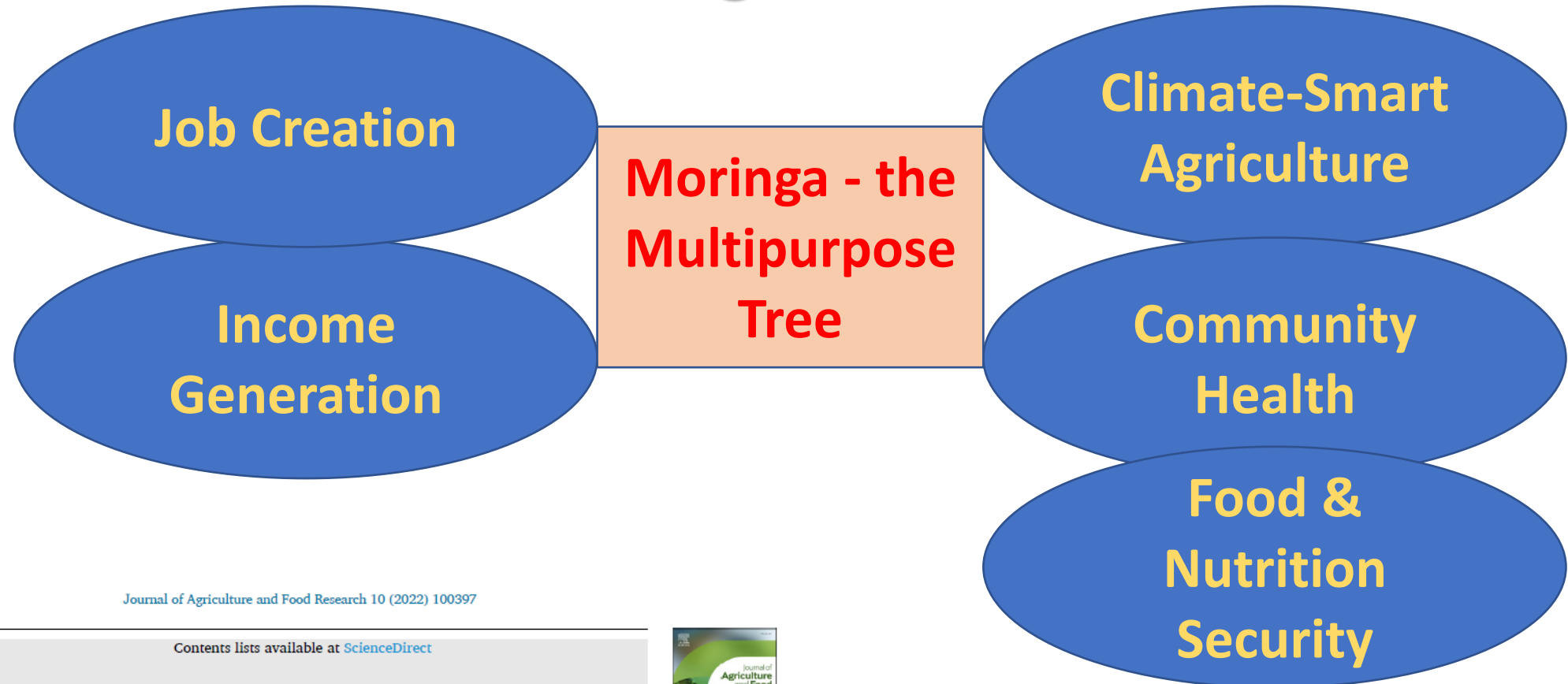
Moringa Tea



+

Waste biomass

Moringa for Life



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Moringa oleifera as a sustainable climate-smart solution to nutrition, disease prevention, and water treatment challenges: A review

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Moringa “The Mother’s Best Friend”

Conclusion – or call it “My Challenge to You”



1. From Curiosity-Driven Ideas to New Insights and Improved Applications of Moringa in Water Treatment and Materials Research
2. Value Chain: A Case of Moringa from Laboratory to the Market - Lessons Learned
3. Climate-Smart Agriculture, Improving Community Health, Income Generation and Creating Jobs

- **Get a piece of land and clear it, and we shall come a help you for free to plant Moringa and start a business!!!**
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) - systematic approach to food safety protocol, i.e. processing facility layout and processing that meet food safety standards
- Organic farming and organic certification (requirement to demonstrate a product or operation has met the legal standards to produce organic foods and organic agricultural products)
- **Agroforestry**
- **Moringa value chains: Production through processing – local/international markets**

AU Anthem

O Sons and Daughters of Africa
Flesh of the Sun and Flesh of the Sky
Let us make **Africa** the Tree of Life

My Dream Version

O Sons and Daughters of Africa
Flesh of the Sun and Flesh of the Sky
Let us make **Moringa** the Tree of Life



The Waters of Marah and Elim

Exodus 15: 22-25

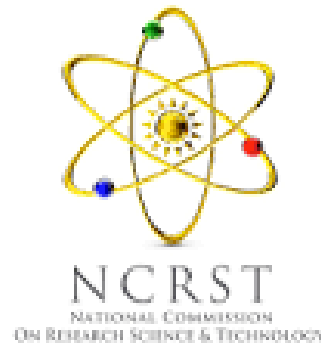
²²Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water.

²³Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they **were bitter**. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. ²⁴And the people complained against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” ²⁵So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a **tree**. When he cast *it* into the waters, the waters were made **sweet**.



Could the tree Moses used be Moringa???????

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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- Morlu Korsor, UNAM



Thank You!

