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Antibiotics in Water and Wastewater and Their Effects on Microbial Communities

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Message from the Guest Editor

Nowadays, it is impossible to imagine the modern world without chemical agents, including antibiotics, which in the 20th century were considered a miraculous discovery of medicine. However, the consequence of their widespread use and abuse, as well as improper and nonintended use, is their presence and spread in the environment, particularly in aquatic ecosystems. Their durability and mobility in the environment allow them to penetrate from sewage treatment plants and household and agricultural sewage, along with surface runoff, into natural waters, including shallow and deep circulation groundwater. Although the observed concentrations of antibiotics are often not harmful to humans, their sublethal concentrations contribute to increasing bacterial resistance to these substances and alter the microbial community's composition. It has been demonstrated that an inflow of a variety of contaminants into water resources, including antimicrobial agents and/or allochthonous microorganisms, is a worldwide problem. [...]

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antibiotics_wastewater



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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