

Assessment of heavy metal Levels in the Environment, Egypt

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Abstract: The air pollution in Cairo is a matter of serious concern. Particulate and heavy metals are particularly high air pollutants. Soil represents a huge sink for heavy metals ions, which can then enter the food chain through plants or leach into ground water. The present study was designed to investigate heavy metals in the environment. Samples were collected from three compartments, air, soil, and the selective cultivated plant (cucumber), at three different districts of Egypt, and their contents of heavy metals, including Lead (Pb), Copper (Cu), Zinc (Zn), Aluminum (Al) and Cadmium (Cd), were analyzed. The six heavy metals were selected from points of public concern. The concentrations of heavy metals were determined using atomic absorption. The study showed differences in metal concentrations according to the plant part (root, leaf, and fruit).

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