

# EDITORIAL

Dear readers, we release with great satisfaction the first issue of volume 14 of our periodical, Environmental Engineering: Research and Technology.

This edition from the beginning to the end presents researches in the important theme of solid waste: the first one evaluates the process of natural regeneration of three irregular dump areas located in the city of Várzea Grande/MT, comparing them to a control area; the second one is an account that investigates the possibility of producing ethanol from lignocellulosic residues (biomass), a great attraction for Brazilian farmers; the seventh one discusses the composition, fate and ways of using discarded tires in an environmentally friendly manner; the tenth one verifies the generation of wood residues in the furniture factories of the municipality of Palmas/TO; and the twelfth one analyzes the management of health service waste in the public primary healthcare units of the city of Aparecida de Goiânia/GO.

Two papers deal with effluent treatment: the third one that studies the efficiency of an economic septic tank for rural sanitation, built in the Horto Aimorés settlement in Pederneiras/SP; and the eighth one that evaluates the efficiency of a system of treatment of liquid swine effluents installed in the Federal Institute of the South of Minas Gerais, Inconfidentes Campus.

Two studies were carried out on the theme "water": the fourth one that analyzes the performance of the SODIS solar disinfection technique, using a commercial solar heater to evaluate the efficiency of inactivation of the causative agents of diseases in groundwater samples in the rural area of the municipality of Santa Fé do Sul/SP; and the ninth one that estimates the water demand for the cattle herd in the watershed of the Lontra river, Araguaina microregion in the State of Tocantins.

Three articles investigate different and important aspects of our flora: the fifth one is an account that suggests the use of the Mesa Rugged Notepad device as a tool to assist in the elaboration of tree inventories; the sixth one is a study that compares the performance of three different methods of extracting fruit acids, including the use of low-frequency ultrasound; and the eleventh one is a post-harvest soil quality evaluation of the sunflower crop using mineral fertilization, ground and whole peanut hulls.

To conclude the last and thirteenth paper proposes the production of "Chevrotin" cheeses of goat, bovine and mixed milk using the prebiotic inulin associated with the probiotic *bifidobacterium lactis*, an innovation of biotechnology in the search for healthier foods.

The results, as well as the themes and work proposals cited here, are all very interesting and certainly they will be of great use to the scientific community and also to our readers. It is worth checking!

We thank our collaborators and wish you all a great reading!

*Profa. Ursula Luana Rochetto Doubek*

**Editorial Council**