

EDITORIAL

In its second issue of 2007, the journal “Engenharia Ambiental: pesquisa e tecnologia” publishes ten articles – the largest number since becoming a bi-annual publication. This increase in the number of articles received from various parts of the country reflects the journal’s repercussion and consolidates its national coverage, justifying its transition to a quarterly periodical in the coming year.

This issue presents studies developed by researchers from the following Brazilian educational and research institutions: Federal University of Campina Grande (UFCG/CEEI); Federal University of Goiás (UFG); Federal Agro-technical School of Crato-CE; Federal University of Paraíba (UFPB/CCA); Agricultural Engineering Faculty, Superior Center for Technological Education, Chemical Engineering Faculty and Chemical Institute of the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP); Paulo Souza Center – SP; Brazilian Agricultural Research Company (EMBRAPA), Environmental Research, Jaguariúna – SP; Regional University Center of Espírito Santo do Pinhal (UNIPINHAL); Pontific Catholic University (PUC) of Campinas.

The most common theme in this issue is related to environmental diagnosis, including research related to the degradation of land in Boa Vista and the evolution of vegetative cover in São João do Cariri, both municipalities located in the state of Paraíba. Also featured are two studies related to water quality developed in an area of environmental protection in Jundiá and a rural area near Águas da Prata, in upstate São Paulo. To complete this theme, there is an article reporting on a diagnosis of volatile organic compounds in Espírito Santo do Pinhal – SP carried out by researchers at UNICAMP and UNIPINHAL.

Two studies report on treatment of effluents generated during the treatment of cheese whey and sanitary landfill percolation water, both developed at UNICAMP.

Physiological aspects of a native species of acerola were studied for commercial purposes in research conducted in cities in Paraíba. In another study of fruits carried out in the same state, the viability of using thermal treatment of water instead of chemical products in the process of controlling plagues that affect the sapodilla fruit was demonstrated.

The final article in this issue presents a practical approach applied in an environmental engineering program at UNIPINHAL to disseminate the concept of sustainable development, integrate disciplines in the program’s curriculum, and promote

the recuperation of the environmental quality of the Ribeirão dos Porcos, a stream located in Espírito Santo do Pinhal, through a project entitled “Água Doce (Fresh Water)”.

Once again, the journal “Engenharia Ambiental: pesquisa e tecnologia” demonstrates, with the publication of this issue, its vocation as a vehicle of communication regarding multi-disciplinary themes in the field of environmental engineering in the national context.

We would thus like to express our appreciation to all the researchers and professionals who published articles during the four years of the journal’s existence and who contributed significantly to its success. We would also like to take this opportunity to, once again, invite the environmentalist community to use “Engenharia Ambiental: pesquisa e tecnologia” as an instrument for disseminating their work.

Fábio Augusto Gomes Vieira Reis

Gerson Araújo de Medeiros

Editors