Contents

Chapter 1 Multi-element analysis of plant and soil samples 1
S. Ayrault

1 Introduction 1
2 Formulating the question 2
3 The steps of the analysis and associated errors 4
3.1 Sampling 6
3.2 Cleaning 6
3.3 Drying, homogenisation and storage 7
4 Trace element determination 9
4.1 Direct measurements 9
4.2 Destructive methods 13
5 Choosing the analytical method 20
5.1 Optimal detection limits 22
5.2 Detection limits in environmental samples 22
5.3 Comparative evaluation 24
6 Quality control 24
7 Concluding comments 28

Chapter 2 Exploratory multivariate data analysis of soil and plant multi-element data 33
K. Heydorn

1 Introduction 33
2 Statistics and chemometrics 35
3 Strategy 41
3.1 Autoscaling 41
3.2 Outliers 41
3.3 Clusters 43
3.4 Replicates 44
3.5 Trends 45
3.6 Dimensionality 45

3.7 Selection of variables 47
3.8 Back to square one 47
3.9 Classification 47
4 Definition of a project 48
4.1 One factor at a time 48
4.2 Several factors at a time 50
5 Description of a project 51
5.1 Overview 51
5.2 Individual sample types 53
6 Conclusion 67

Chapter 3 Processes and factors regulating the behaviour and uptake of trace elements in the rhizosphere **69**
M. Arienzo

1 Introduction 69
2 The rhizosphere 70
3 Geochemical forms of trace elements in the rhizosphere 71
4 Processes affecting the behaviour of trace elements in the rhizosphere 72
4.1 Cation exchange capacity 72
4.2 Adsorption 73
4.3 Trace element association with oxides and hydroxides 74
4.4 Trace element association with organic substances 75
4.5 Mobilisation of trace elements 77
5 Factors affecting the uptake of trace elements in the rhizosphere 78
5.1 Abiotic factors 81
5.2 Biotic factors 84
6 Conclusions 90

Chapter 4 Metal and arsenic bioavailability and uptake by hyperaccumulator plants **97**
E. Lombi & A.L. Nolan

1 Introduction 97
2 Phytoavailability of trace metals in soils 98
2.1 Aqueous-phase metal speciation 98
3 Phytoavailability of arsenic in soils 109
3.1 Forms of arsenic in soils 109
4 Metal and arsenic uptake by hyperaccumulator plants 111
4.1 Rhizosphere processes 111
4.2 Metal uptake by hyperaccumulators 114
4.3 Arsenic uptake by hyperaccumulators 116
5 Conclusions 117

Chapter 5 Copper 129
N.W. Lepp

1 Introduction 129
2 Bioavailability of soil copper 130
3 Plant copper uptake 133
4 Copper transport within the plant 134
5 Copper toxicity in plants 135
6 Copper tolerance 137
7 Copper indicators and accumulators 138
8 Soil copper contamination from fungicides 138
9 Remediation of Cu-contaminated soils 139
10 Conclusions 141

Chapter 6 Arsenic in plants, soils and foodstuffs 149
M. Anke

1 Introduction 149
2 Arsenic in the earth's crust 150
2.1 Arsenic in rocks 151
2.2 Arsenic in soils and its bioavailability 151
2.3 Arsenic in water 153
3 Arsenic in plants 154
3.1 Influence of the geological origin of soil 154
3.2 Influence of plant age 155
3.3 Influence of species and plant organs 156
3.4 Arsenic in green foodstuffs and in beverages 156
3.5 Essentiality of arsenic for plants 160
3.6 Toxicity of arsenic for plants 160
3.7 Metabolic transformation 162
4 Conclusions 163

Chapter 7 Cadmium 171
T. Punshon, A.L. Neal & B.P. Jackson

1 Introduction 171
1.1 Status of Cd as a potentially toxic element (PTE) 172
2 Cd and the soil 174
2.1 Anthropogenic sources of Cd to soil 174
2.2 Sorption of Cd to pure mineral phases 175
2.3 Measuring Cd bioavailability 178
2.4 Cd species in the soil and soil solution 179
3 Cd and bacteria 180

3.1 Responses of natural soil bacterial communities to Cd 180
3.2 Bacterial resistance to Cd 181
3.3 Fate of Cd in the presence of bacteria in soils and sediments 182
4 Cd and mycorrhizal symbiosis 183
4.1 Tolerance of mycorrhiza to Cd 185
5 Plant uptake of Cd 185
5.1 Tolerance of plants to Cd 186
6 Trophic transfer of Cd 189
7 Remediation of Cd contaminated soils 191
7.1 Phytoremediation and Short Rotation Forestry (SRF) 191
7.2 Chemical sorbents 192
8 Conclusion 193

Chapter 8 Phytoremediation of lead 209
S.V. Sahi & N.C. Sharma

1 Introduction 210
2 Lead transport and accumulation in *Sesbania* 211
2.1 *Sesbania* grown in nutrient solution 211
2.2 *Sesbania* grown in soil 212
2.3 Cellular localisation of Pb in *Sesbania* 213
3 Transport pathway and mechanism 214
3.1 Physiology of Pb acquisition and accumulation 214
3.2 Lead transport pathways 215
3.3 Metal tolerance and resistance mechanisms 216
4 Improving plants for efficient phytoremediation 217

Chapter 9 Scandium 223
I. Shtangeeva

1 Introduction 223
1.1 Scandium in the earth crust 224
1.2 Geochemistry of scandium 224
1.3 Application of scandium 224
2 Analytical problems of scandium determination 225
3 Scandium in soil 227
4 Scandium and micro-organisms 229
5 Scandium in plants 232
5.1 Scandium in mosses and lichens 232
5.2 Scandium in higher plants 233
6 Relationships of scandium and other elements in plants and soil 236
7 Toxicity of scandium 238

7.1 Toxicity of scandium for wheat plants 240
8 Conclusions 242

Chapter 10 Fractionation and bioavailability of rare earth elements in soils **249**
X.-Q. Shan, S. Zhang & B. Wen

1 Introduction 249
2 Adsorption and desorption of REEs by and from soils 250
2.1 Adsorption of REEs in soils 250
2.2 Desorption of REEs from soils 252
2.3 Effect of low-molecular-weight-organic-acids on adsorption by and desorption of REEs from soils 252
2.4 Adsorption and desorption kinetics of REEs from soils 256
3 Bioavailability of REEs in soils to plants 261
3.1 Free metal ion activity model 262
3.2 Correlation methods 263
4 Subcellular location, sequestration and transport of REEs 272
4.1 Subcellular location of REEs 273
4.2 Separation and characterisation of REE-binding proteins and peptides 273
4.3 A natural perennial fern that hyperaccumulates REEs 274
5 Conclusions 277

Chapter 11 Biogeochemistry of gold: accepted theories and new opportunities **287**
C.W.N. Anderson

1 Introduction 288
1.1 Gold the most noble of metals 288
1.2 Mining gold 289
2 Geochemistry of gold 289
2.1 Solution geochemistry of gold 289
2.2 Geochemical mobility of gold 290
3 Plants as indicators of mineralisation: geobotany and biogeochemistry 293
3.1 Gold in plants: biogeochemistry 294
4 Gold in microbes and animals 296
5 Phytoextraction 297
5.1 Induced hyperaccumulation 298
5.2 Phytoextraction of gold 301
6 Geochemical explanation for induced solubility and uptake 304
6.1 Thiocyanate-induced solubility 305

6.2 Thiosulfate-induced solubility 310
7 Studies on the form and location of gold stored inside a plant 313
7.1 Distribution of gold in leaves, stems and roots 313
7.2 Storage of the metal complex 314
8 Review and conclusions: the application of gold phytoextraction 315

Chapter 12 Thorium **323**
I. Shtangeeva

1 Introduction 323
1.1 Application of thorium 324
1.2 Mineralogy of thorium 324
1.3 Geochemistry of thorium 325
2 Thorium in soils 325
3 Thorium and micro-organisms 327
4 Thorium in lower plants 330
5 Thorium in higher plants 330
6 Toxicity of thorium 335
7 Accumulation of thorium in plants and possible application of the effect for remediation of contaminated soils and wastes 337
8 Conclusions 343