

# EFFECT OF COPPER AND MERCURY ON GROWTH PARAMETERS IN *LEMNA MINOR*

Smita Pathak and Abha Agarwal

Department of Botany, Bareilly College, Bareilly (U.P.)

Smita\_111pathak@yahoo.com

**Abstract :** The ability of aquatic plants to accumulate heavy metals from water is well documented. In this study, duckweeds plants (*Lemna minor*) were exposed to different concentrations of Cu and Hg. Various growth parameters (fresh weight, dry weight and growth index) in different seasons (summer and winter) were studied. The effect of all concentrations on plant parameters was toxic. The plant growth was decreased as the concentrations of heavy metals were increased. The results suggest that the *L. minor* can be effectively used as phytoremediator for waste water polluted with more than one heavy metal at moderate concentrations.

**Keywords :** Cu and Hg, Heavy metal, *Lemna minor*, Plant-toxicity, Phytoremediation

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