

Search for Toxic Trace Elements in *Rosa rugosa* Thunb. By Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis: Accumulation and Responses to Exposure

Kirill Tkachenko

Peter the Great Botanical Gardens of the Komarov Botanical Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, str. Prof. Popov, 2, 197376 St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Alla Kapelian

Peter the Great Botanical Gardens of the Komarov Botanical Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, str. Prof. Popov, 2, 197376 St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Elizaveta Varfolomeeva

Peter the Great Botanical Gardens of the Komarov Botanical Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, str. Prof. Popov, 2, 197376 St. Petersburg, Russian Federation

Marina Frontasyeva (Corresponding author)Sector of NAA and Applied Research, Division of Nuclear Physics, Frank Laboratory of Neutron Physics, Joint Institute of Nuclear Research, str. Joliot-Curie, 6, 141980 Dubna, Moscow Region, Russian Federation
Email: marina@nf.jinr.ru**Inga Zinicovskaia**

Sector of NAA and Applied Research, Division of Nuclear Physics, Frank Laboratory of Neutron Physics, Joint Institute of Nuclear Research, str. Joliot-Curie, 6, 141980 Dubna, Moscow Region, Russian Federation

Dmitry Grozdov

Sector of NAA and Applied Research, Division of Nuclear Physics, Frank Laboratory of Neutron Physics, Joint Institute of Nuclear Research, str. Joliot-Curie, 6, 141980 Dubna, Moscow Region, Russian Federation

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Abstract

Species of the genus *Rosa* L. are widely used in urban gardening, and they are of considerable interest as plants accumulating heavy metals in an urban environment. Literature data are ambiguous about whether these species accumulate trace and toxic elements. Its fruits are used as medicinal raw materials in folk and official medicine. The purpose of the study is to determine whether this type of wild rose accumulates toxic metals (as well as various macro- and microelements), if so, which ones and in which organs, and to what extent raw materials of the plant can be used. For the first time, multi-element instrumental neutron activation analysis at the reactor IBR-2 of FLNP JINR in Dubna, Russia, was applied to examine accumulation of major and trace elements in various organs of *Rosa rugosa* Thunb. (Rosaceae family), namely, roots, leaves, fruits and seeds. A total of 33 elements (Al, Ca, Cl, I, Mg, Mn, V, As, Br, K, La, Na, Mo, Sm, U, W, Ba, Ce, Co, Cr, Cs, Fe, Hf, Ni, Rb, Sb, Sc, Sr, Ta, Tb, Th, Yb, and Zn) were determined. Samples were taken in the summer-autumn period of 2020, both in the city of St. Petersburg and on the coast of the Baltic Sea, Russia. This research found no critical accumulation of trace and toxic elements in different organs of *R. rugosa*, but revealed quite high accumulation of Fe and Co in urban transport highway area.

Keywords: Wrinkled rosehip, Heavy metals and metalloids; Pollutants; Multi-element instrumental neutron activation analysis.

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1. Introduction

In the spectrum of pollutants in the urban environment, trace toxic elements, among them heavy metals (HMs), occupy a significant place, since (without undergoing significant physical, chemical and biological degradation) they are accumulated in the surface layer of soils and remain available for root absorption by plants for a long time. Furthermore, they are actively involved in the migration processes along trophic routes.

Different plant species accumulate trace toxic elements and remove them differently from the cycle of substances; therefore, it is necessary to create multi-species plantations with high biological resistance, allowing the effective improvement of the quality of the surrounding urban environment. Dynamics of the metal content is individual for each plant species growing in different urban environments [1-11].

Trace elements, heavy metals and metalloids, such as Fe, Mo, Cu, Mn, Zn, Co, S and B, are necessary for the normal course of physiological processes in the life of plants, animals and humans. They are involved in the processes of photosynthesis and respiration, the synthesis of proteins and fats, are part of enzymes, and affect plant metabolism, but only if they are present in amounts measured in thousandths of a percent of the dry mass [12]. In this case, they are called trace elements. However, at high concentrations, they also have a toxic effect on

biochemical and physiological processes, causing inhibition of plant growth and development, and a decrease in the productivity of pollen and seeds [13].

Heavy metals such as Cd, Hg, and Pb have a negative effect on plants even at low concentrations [14]. According to the classification of N. Reimers, metals with a density of more than 8 g/cm³ should be considered heavy. Thus, heavy metals include Pb, Cu, Zn, Ni, Cd, Co, Sb, Sn, Bi, Hg. In works devoted to the problems of environmental pollution and environmental monitoring, today more than 40 metals of the periodic system of D. I. Mendeleev with an atomic mass of more than 50 atomic units are classified as heavy metals: V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Mo, Cd, Sn, Hg, Pb, Bi, *etc.*, since we are talking about element concentrations that are dangerous for living organisms.

This takes into account their biological activity, toxicity to living organisms, and their participation in natural and technogenic processes [15]. Heavy metals are able to enter the human and animal organisms through the food chain, which poses a threat to life [16].

Sources of heavy metal pollution can be natural and anthropogenic in origin. Natural sources include rocks, volcanic eruptions, cosmic dust, soil erosion, evaporation from the surface of the seas and oceans, dust storms and forest fires [17-19]. No more than 20% of the total content of elements that are accumulated in the surface horizons [20] are due to natural technogenic processes.

The main sources of heavy metals are anthropogenic ones. These are coal mining, metallurgical enterprises, chemical industry and the energy complex. Emissions from various vehicles, especially play an ever-increasing role in environmental pollution with heavy metals. Pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers used in agro-technical activities, which contain these elements, are also important sources of pollution [7, 21]. Heavy metals are predominantly dispersed chemical elements, so the entire earth's surface is exposed to them, namely: the soil cover, hydrosphere and atmosphere [22, 23].

The strongest anthropogenic impact on the environment and population is in large industrial cities, such as St. Petersburg. The report on the environmental situation in St. Petersburg in 2018 (2019) states: "Total emissions of pollutants into the atmospheric air of the city of St. Petersburg from stationary and mobile sources increased by 40% over the period from 2008 to 2017. An increase in emissions is observed for all pollutants except SO₂. The contribution of emissions from road transport to the total emissions of pollutants in St. Petersburg varied from 73% in 2008 to almost 85% in 2017, which is associated with an increase in the number of motor vehicles (ATS), especially cars" [24].

Despite the high anthropogenic load and the accumulation of heavy metals in urban ecosystems, there are plant species that can grow and develop for a long time without serious violations of physiological processes [7].

This ability to grow under conditions of soil and air pollution with heavy metals is provided by a complex system of mechanisms that limit the flow of excess amounts of heavy metals into plants, and a system of mechanisms that reduce their toxic effect. The restriction of the entry of HMs ions into cells occurs in the rhizosphere due to the release of various chelators by the root cells, as well as the sorption of HMs by the cell wall.

The system of mechanisms for reducing the toxic effect of HMs includes cellular resistance mechanisms and the antioxidant system of the cell. The cell resistance mechanism is provided by the work of the cell wall and plasmolemma, which delay the entry of HMs into the cell, and also contribute to the removal of their excess from the cell [25].

An important role in plant resistance to HMs is played by the antioxidant system of the cell. Its antioxidants are carotenoids, ascorbic acid, and phenols [26, 27]. In relation to toxic and HMs, different types of plants have both selective accumulation and different resistance. Species sensitive to HMs are of practical importance for the bioindication of contamination. Species resistant to toxic and HMs are important for landscaping and phytoremediation [7, 28].

In the landscaping of St. Petersburg, wrinkled rosehip (wrinkled rose) *Rosa rugosa* Thunb is used everywhere in different parts of the city. *Rosa rugosa* is found in yards, parks, along highways and railways in the form of single plantings, clumps and hedges [29-31].

In different areas of the city, the concentrations of toxic and HMs in the soil and atmosphere differ depending on the degree of remoteness from the industrial facility and the intensity of the traffic flow.

Rose hips are found in all districts of the city and, according to phenological surveys, bloom and bear fruit well everywhere [29]. This condition characterizes the wrinkled rose as a species resistant to pollution by HMs under conditions of high technogenic load. It can be assumed that one of the significant mechanisms that ensure resistance is the antioxidant system of the cell. All organs of wild rose wrinkled – roots, branches, leaves, fruits – contain flavonoids, carotenoids and ascorbic acid [32]. In Russian folk medicine, and in China, they are used as medicinal raw materials: roots, leaves, buds, flowers, fruits (gepanthium) and seeds (nuts) [33-36].

In St. Petersburg, plants are affected by salt used to clean sidewalks and roadways from snow and ice. This dirty snow-salt mixture is dumped on plantings along the roads. Rose wrinkled withstands such salinity. Obviously, it is resistant to soil salinity, since it is found along the sea coast in places of natural growth (southern Kamchatka, Sakhalin, the Kuril Islands, Primorsky Krai, North China, Korea, Japan).

In the work of Maslennikov, *et al.* [7], it is noted that wrinkled rosehip accumulates heavy metals (Mn, Fe, Zn, Sr) in leaves more actively than all other shrubs, the total content of which reaches 867 mg/kg with predominant accumulation of iron – 81.0-83, eight%.

Thus, *Rosa rugosa* is an important species for urban landscaping, not only as a highly ornamental shrub, but also as a species with significant biological stability, capable of accumulating HMs and removing them from the cycle of substances, which can effectively improve the quality of the urban environment.

The native range of *Rosa rugosa* includes northern Japan (Hokkaido and Honshu south to 35 N; Ohwi, 1965), the Korean Peninsula [37], north-east China (on the coast and islands of southern Liaoning province and eastern Shandong province, where it is classified as an endangered species; [38], and the Russian Far East (Kamchatka north to 55 N, Sakhalin, Kuriles, Khabarovsk region, and Primorye region) [39].

The observed increase in element concentrations and alterations in microbial community structure suggests that invasion of *R. rugosa* may threaten nutrient-poor habitats of coastal dunes. Changes in the soil environment may hinder remediation of these valuable habitats after invader removal [40]. The distribution of *R. rugosa* is determined by both natural and anthropogenic factors, higher anthropogenic disturbance and slightly higher nutrient loads adjacent to houses, roads and the beach explain increased establishment and clonal growth of the species [41, 42].

It has proven easier to identify types of habitats that are relatively invulnerable, such as islands and riverbanks. Factors thought to render habitats invulnerable include low intensities of competition, altered disturbance regimes and low levels of environmental stress, especially high resource availability. These factors probably often interact; the combination of altered disturbance with high resource availability may particularly promote invulnerability. When biotic factors control invulnerability, non-natives that are unlike native species may prove more invasive; the converse may also be true [43-45].

Flowers of plants, including roses, are popular in the restaurant business for decorating (not only the table, but also dishes,) including as edible plants [46-48]. And in this regard, among other things, it is very important to know what elements are in those parts of plants that are eaten by humans.

The phytochemistry of *Rosa rugosa* of the secondary metabolites identified are listed and aspects of their chemistry are discussed.

The metabolites are grouped according to structural classes and include hydrolysable tannins (contained in the leaves and petals), catechin derivatives (roots), flavonoids (leaves), 2-phenoxychromones (leaves), monoterpenes (floral parts, leaves), sesquiterpenes (leaves, especially from glandular trichomes) and triterpenes (leaves and roots).

R. rugosa can provide biological responses strictly related to relevant environmental pollutants, such as heavy metals. The quality of pollen from plants growing in rural and urban areas significantly changed, depending on the different levels of major contaminants such as Pb or Cr. The bioassay based on *R. rugosa* pollen quality seems to be a potentially early and effective monitoring test for heavy metal pollution, which today is still a primary cause of concern to relevant environmental pollutants, such as heavy metals [3, 49-51].

On the other hand, the species of genus *Rosa*, as a source of a large number of biologically active compounds, has long been used in traditional and folk medicine world-wide for the treatment of various types of arthritis including rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. The active constituents of *Rosa* spp., such as flavonoids, triterpenoids, flavonoids, and phytosterols. Leaves, bark of stems and roots, flowers, fruits, seeds and essential oils of *R. rugosa* are used to develop new drugs against various human diseases.

The *Rosa* genus is a treasure waiting for further exploration by researchers interested in the development of safe and effective anti-arthritis and anti-cancer agents [52-60].

Non-destructive multi-element reactor instrumental neutron activation analysis happened to be most efficient analytical technique for the purpose of both remediation and medicinal-plant studies [61, 62].

2. Material and Methods

2.1. Study Area

Geographically, the Leningrad region located in the north of the Eurasian continent is part of the Baltic basin. Is the location with humid climate and multiple lowlands the main factor that determines the characteristics of the soils of this area.

These factors, including geomorphology, and the presence of various lower horizons, directly affect features formation vegetation. On the territory of the city of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region, predominantly podzolic soils are distributed, located in lowlands and spruce conifers. It is a loamy, highly acidic soil with sand, clay, and loam as its parent rock. A significant problem of the Leningrad region is the pollution of important territorial areas with industrial waste.

According to the latest results of agrophysical and ag-rochemical analyzes, soil degradation is steadily occurring [63-66].

2.2. Sampling and Sample Preparation

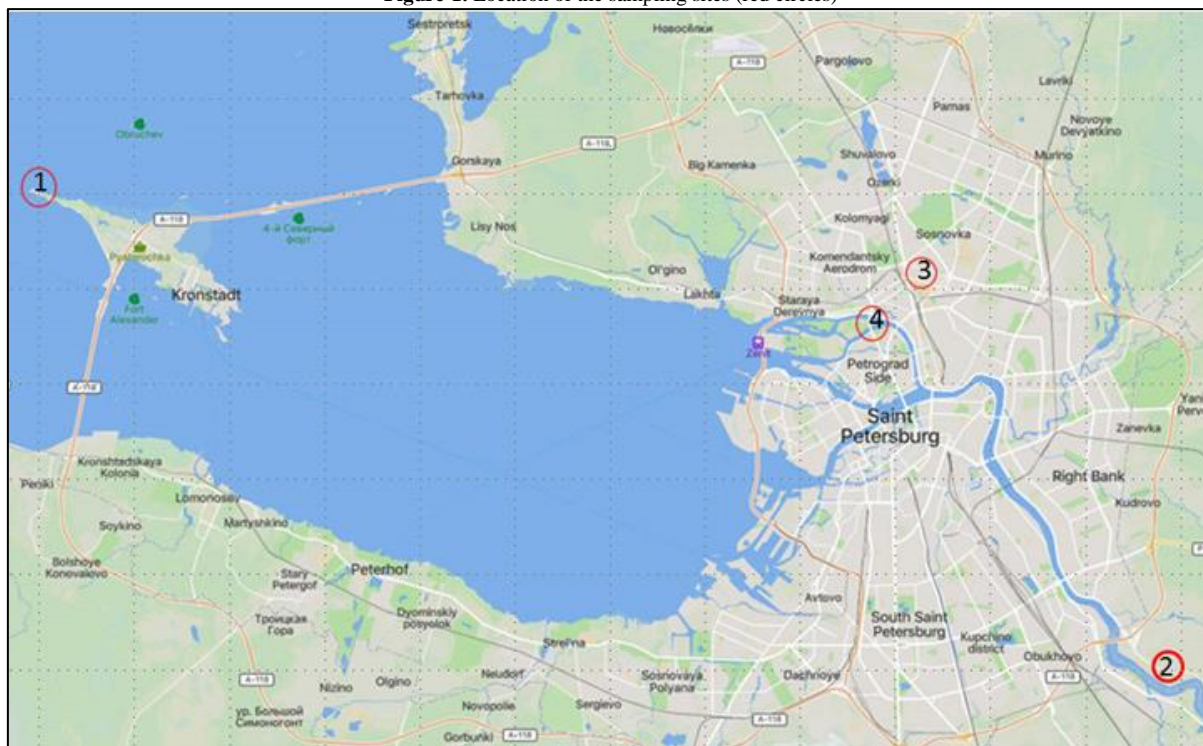
All material was collected during summer-autumn 2020 in St. Petersburg and some places around the city (Table 1 and Figure 1). The location of the *Rosa* sampling in this work – 59°57' N 30°19' E).

Table-1. Allocation of sampling sites and collection time

Place on a map	N ^o	Plant segment	Sampling site location	Month
1	1	Hypanthium	SPb, Kotlin Island, Kronstadt neighborhood, Western Kotlin	September
1	2	Seeds (nuts)	SPb, Kotlin Island, Kronstadt neighborhood, Western Kotlin	September
1	3	Seeds (white-flowered nuts)	SPb, Kotlin Island, Kronstadt neighborhood, Western Kotlin	July

1	8	Roots	SPb, Kotlin Island, Kronstadt neighborhood, Western Kotlin	September
1	9	Leaves	SPb, Kotlin Island, Kronstadt neighborhood, Western Kotlin	September
2	4	Seeds (nuts)	Neighborhood of the city of SPb, Nevsky forest park. Right bank of the Neva river	September
2	5	Hypanthium.	Neighborhood of the city of SPb, Nevsky forest park. Right bank of the Neva river	September
3	6	Seeds	SPb, transport highway, Muzhestva Square	September
3	7	Hypanthium	SPb, transport highway, Muzhestva Square	September
3	10	Leaves	SPb, transport highway, Muzhestva Square	September
4	11	Roots	SPb, Embankment of the Bolshaya Nevka river. Territory of the BIN Botanical Garden	September

Figure-1. Location of the sampling sites (red circles)



In the laboratory, root samples were washed with distilled water. Then all samples were dried until constant weight and homogenized using homogenizer (Pulverisette 6, Fritsch Laboratory Instruments GmbH, Germany) at 400 rpm provided with agate jar and agate balls. They were thoroughly cleaned after each processing to avoid any samples contamination.

Separation into tissues of plant organs was not performed; whole parts of plants were used for analysis: leaves were separated (without division into leaf blade and petioles), roots (without separation of the bark, central cylinder), gepantia, and seeds (nuts). only in fruits. From 50 to 100 g of fresh raw material were taken for analysis.

Further, about 0.3 g from each sample were packed in polyethylene bags for determination of elements with short-lived isotopes and aluminum cups for determination of elements with long-lived isotopes.

2.3. Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis (INAA)

The analytical procedures and the basic characteristics of the pneumatic system employed at the IBR-2M (pulsed fast reactor) reactor are described in detail elsewhere. Two types of irradiation were carried out. One is a short irradiation for 3 min to determine short-lived isotopes (Al, Ca, Cl, I, Mg, Mn, and V).

Samples were measured immediately after irradiation for 15 min. A long-irradiation of 4 days was used to analyze for long-lived radionuclides. After irradiation the samples were re-packed and measured twice: first after 4 days for 30 min to determine As, Br, K, La, Na, Mo, Sm, U, and W and after 20 days for 1.5 h to determine Ba, Ce, Co, Cr, Cs, Fe, Hf, Ni, Rb, Sb, Sc, Sr, Ta, Tb, Th, Yb, and Zn.

The gamma spectra of induced activity were measured with an HPGe detector with a resolution of 1.9 keV for the ^{60}Co 1332 keV line. The processing of spectra data and calculation of elemental concentrations were performed using Genie-2000 (Camberra) and software developed in FLNP JINR.

2.4. Quality Control of the Results Obtained

To ensure the quality of the results a set of reference materials: OBTL-5 (Tobacco leaves), SDC1 (Misa Schist), 1549 (Non-fat milk powder), 1632c (Trace elements in coal), 528 (phosphorous-rare earth elements uranium ore), 1566b (Oyster Tissue), 667 (ESTU-ARINE SEDIMENT), FFA1 (Fine Fly Ash), and 2711a (Montana Soil) were irradiated in the same conditions with samples. Certified and measured values of elements content in reference materials are presented in Table 2.

Table-2. Certified and measured values of elements in reference materials

Element	Reference material	Certified value	Uncertainty	Measured value	Uncertainty
Al	528	29805	2.1	30674	7.1
As	FFA1	53.6	5	54.7	7.3
Ba	1632c	41.1	3.9	41.7	5.9
Br	1632c	18.7	2.1	21	4.5
Ca	SDC1	10000	5	10137	8.8
Ce	FFA1	120	5.8	119	6.2
Cl	1566b	5140	1.9	4715	1.2
Co	667	23	5.7	22.2	5.4
Cr	667	178	9	177	6.8
Cs	1632c	0.59	1.7	0.58	4.6
Fe	667	48900	2.2	47616	5
Hf	FFA1	6.09	7.4	5.98	4.6
I	1549	3.38	0.6	3.4	1.9
K	FFA1	22000	10	22564	9.8
La	FFA1	60.7	6.6	60.5	4.7
Mg	SDC1	11739	5.9	10140	9.1
Mn	1566b	18.5	1.1	18.01	9.4
Mo	FFA1	17	15	17.2	14
Na	2711a	12000	8.3	12052	7.7
Ni	1632c	9.32	5.5	9.17	11
Rb	2711a	120	2.5	122	6.5
Sb	FFA1	17.6	14.2	17.7	7.5
Sc	2711a	8.5	1.2	8.4	5.2
Sm	667	4.66	4.3	5	8.8
Sr	2711a	242	4.1	245	9.1
Ta	FFA1	2.11	7.6	1.98	3.6
Tb	FFA1	1.36	10.1	1.38	4
Th	1632c	1.4	2.1	1.39	4.7
U	1632c	0.51	2.3	0.53	7.2
V	OBTL-5	4.1	9.9	4.07	13.3
W	FFA1	10.5	10.5	10.5	11.1
Yb	FFA1	4.24	4.5	4.24	8.3
Zn	667	175	7.4	177	4.2

3. Results and Discussion

The results of our study are presented in Table 3. The obtained values are in lines with the similar indexes and do not differ statistically according to Duncan test at $p < 0.05$.

Table-3. The content of major and trace elements in different parts of *Rosa rugosa* obtained in the present study by instrumental neutron activation analysis and literature data

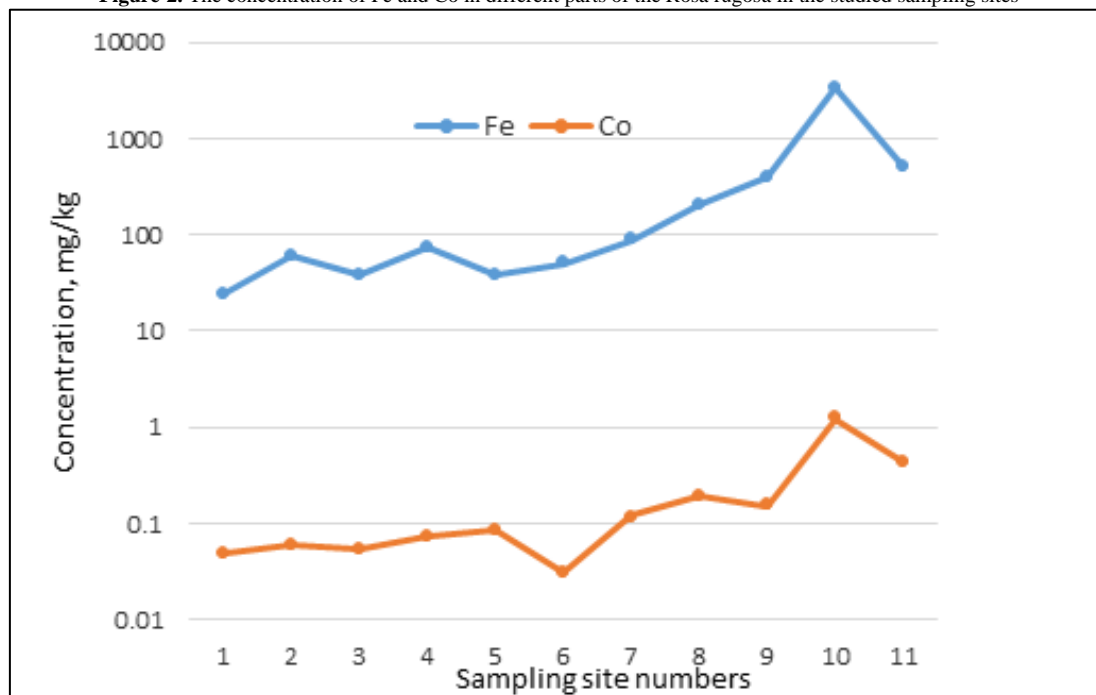
Sampling site Elements	1 Western Kotlin	2 Western Kotlin	3 Western Kotlin	4 Nevsky forest park	5 Nevsky forest park	6 Muzhestva Square	7 Muzhestva Square	8 Western Kotlin	9 Western Kotlin	10 Muzhestva Square	11 Botanical garten	Reference Plant (Markert 1992)
Na	214 / 8.1	53 / 9	36 / 10.3	31 / 10.3	104 / 8.6	88 / 8.7	266 / 8.1	92 / 8.7	227 / 8.2	950 / 7.8	1390 / 7.7	150
Mg	770 / 9	560 / 9.2	570 / 9.3	360 / 9.9	700 / 9.2	480 / 9.6	780 / 9.1	390 / 10	760 / 9.3	1130 / 9.2	510 / 9.8	200
Al	35 / 7.8	26.4 / 8	26.3 / 8	29.2 / 7.9	48 / 7.6	151 / 7.3	96 / 7.4	265 / 7.2	580 / 7.2	2470 / 7.1	440 / 7.2	80
Cl	240 / 12.9	83 / 13.6	65 / 14.1	46 / 14.8	230 / 12.9	44 / 14.7	260 / 12.8	68 / 14	1100 / 12.5	1470 / 12.4	270 / 12.8	200
K	39000 / 9.3	7700 / 9.7	8100 / 9.8	4700 / 10.2	29200 / 9.4	5100 / 10.2	30900 / 9.4	4900 / 10.2	13000 / 9.7	16500 / 9.5	2600 / 11.7	19 000
Ca	7700 / 18.1	2900 / 18.4	2700 / 18.4	3900 / 18.3	8700 / 18.1	3600 / 18.3	8600 / 18.1	4100 / 18.3	22000 / 18	32000 / 18	5700 / 18.2	1 000
Sc	<0.00732	<0.00472	<0.00429	0.0086 / 23.2	<0.00943	0.0075 / 23.3	0.021 / 14.9	0.039 / 9.1	0.097 / 6.7	0.78 / 5.3	0.132 / 6	-
Ti	<17.4	<15.1	<15.3	<16.1	<21.6	<15	<16.3	<16.8	<32	275 / 8.4	49 / 19.5	50.1
V	<0.0493	<0.0396	<0.037	<0.0393	<0.056	<0.0464	0.096 / 20.7	0.21 / 14.9	0.46 / 13.2	4.6 / 9.8	0.97 / 10.6	0.5
Mn	24.2 / 9	32.5 / 8.8	35 / 8.8	39 / 8.8	68 / 8.7	23.5 / 9	9.7 / 9.5	16.9 / 9.1	97 / 8.7	59 / 8.7	32.8 / 8.9	200
Fe	24 / 22.4	60 / 11.6	39 / 15.1	74 / 10.4	38 / 17.7	50 / 13.8	88 / 10.8	206 / 7.2	398 / 6.5	3370 / 5.2	510 / 5.9	150
Co	0.048 / 15.5	0.061 / 12.4	0.054 / 13.3	0.074 / 11.9	0.084 / 11	0.031 / 21	0.12 / 9.2	0.194 / 7.7	0.152 / 8.8	1.23 / 5.7	0.436 / 6.4	0.2
Ni	<1.01	<0.622	<0.599	1.56 / 17.6	4 / 14.1	<0.602	<0.979	<0.746	0.96 / 29.4	3.6 / 14	0.97 / 25.1	1.5
Zn	17.6 / 4.7	24.2 / 4.5	24.7 / 4.5	21.9 / 4.6	33 / 4.4	20.3 / 4.6	14.9 / 4.9	114 / 4.1	30.3 / 4.5	51.4 / 4.2	32 / 4.4	50
As	<0.01	0.03 / 16.5	0.023 / 18.6	<0.01	0.024 / 25.4	0.014 / 27.8	<0.01	0.046 / 11.9	0.046 / 17.7	0.212 / 8.4	0.111 / 9.4	0.1
Se	0.074 / 20.5	0.115 / 14.3	0.119 / 13.4	0.117 / 14.3	0.078 / 24.3	0.082 / 17.8	0.128 / 15.6	0.035 / 34.4	0.131 / 18	0.076 / 31.8	0.095 / 16.5	0.02
Br	1.33 / 4.6	1.24 / 4.6	1.27 / 4.6	0.99 / 4	1.43 / 4.6	0.72 / 4.8	0.479 / 4.3	0.584 / 4.9	2.23 / 4.6	1.7 / 4.6	1.09 / 4.7	4
Rb	58 / 16.6	12.4 / 16.6	8.8 / 16.6	18 / 16.6	94 / 16.5	11.1 / 16.6	51 / 16.6	8.3 / 16.6	17.2 / 16.6	20 / 16.6	3.6 / 16.7	50
Sr	54 / 9.2	14.7 / 10	7 / 11.7	11.2 / 10.7	32 / 9.5	18.3 / 9.7	57 / 9.1	14.6 / 10.2	176 / 9	228 / 8.9	29.8 / 9.3	50
Mo	1.2 / 30.4	1.2 / 30.4	0.92 / 30.4	0.76 / 30.5	1.1 / 30.4	0.6 / 30.5	0.78 / 30.5	0.55 / 30.5	1 / 30.5	1.4 / 30.4	0.26 / 31.2	0.5
Sb	0.0049 / 27.2	0.0049 / 16.3	0.0102 / 17	0.039 / 10.2	0.0177 / 14.2	0.0068 / 20.6	0.025 / 12	0.0205 / 12.6	0.043 / 10.4	0.65 / 7.7	0.071 / 9.1	0.1
Cs	0.049 / 8	0.0088 / 19.9	0.0102 / 16.9	0.047 / 7.1	0.267 / 4.8	0.0109 / 15.6	0.04 / 8.9	0.0299 / 8.9	0.05 / 7.7	0.117 / 5.5	0.0197 / 10.5	0.2
Ba	52 / 15.7	16.5 / 16	4.2 / 18	14.7 / 16.1	40 / 15.8	12 / 16.2	24 / 15.9	137 / 15.6	160 / 15.6	115 / 15.6	41 / 15.7	40
La	0.07 / 15.7	<0.0144	<0.0155	<0.0206	0.097 / 13.5	0.067 / 12.6	<0.0304	1.22 / 5.3	6.5 / 4.8	2.53 / 5	0.387 / 7.1	0.2
Ce	<0.334	<0.287	<0.271	<0.29	<0.367	<0.29	<0.331	1.86 / 8.4	3.41 / 7.6	4.9 / 7	0.53 / 16.8	0.5
Sm	0.0064 / 20.1	<0.0016	<0.00146	0.0035 / 21	0.0072 / 19.8	0.0076 / 19.4	0.0093 / 19.4	0.099 / 22.2	0.68 / 18.8	0.42 / 18.8	0.06 / 19.5	0.04
Tb	<0.00271	<0.00165	<0.00159	<0.00185	<0.00334	<0.00158	<0.00273	0.0152 / 8.2	0.102 / 4.4	0.0503 / 5.2	0.0086 / 10.3	0.008
Hf	<0.0119	<0.00856	<0.0078	<0.00967	<0.015	<0.00833	<0.0123	0.083 / 7.8	0.045 / 12.7	0.432 / 5.2	0.066 / 8.5	0.05
Ta	<0.0012	0.0038 / 16	<0.00122	<0.00112	<0.00143	<0.00122	<0.00141	0.0052 / 12.5	0.0116 / 9.8	0.0473 / 5.2	0.006 / 13	0.001
W	<0.0365	<0.0302	<0.0286	<0.0293	<0.0403	0.04 / 28	0.22 / 13.4	0.037 / 30.7	0.048 / 42	1.19 / 11.4	0.195 / 14.2	0.2
Th	<0.00405	<0.00316	<0.00277	0.0079 / 16.1	<0.00452	0.0194 / 8.3	0.0093 / 16	0.075 / 5.4	0.124 / 5.2	0.69 / 4.7	0.067 / 5.4	-
U	<0.00608	<0.0057	<0.00544	<0.00578	<0.00778	<0.00553	<0.00549	0.031 / 11	0.049 / 11.1	0.142 / 7.6	0.024 / 13.3	0.01

Note: first value – Conc, µg/g, second value – Err, %; “-” elements not found.

Sorption of dust and aerosols containing metal particles by leaf blades depends on the size of the trapping surface - this is the first way for the elements to enter plants, the second way is absorption from the soil. However, the penetration of toxic substances from the soil through the root system depends on the protective abilities of plants. The high content of Fe and Co in comparison with the Reference Plant [67] is also due to the fact that these elements are included in the "skeleton" of plants and are associated with enzymes, proteins, participates in photosynthesis, nitrogen fixation, in redox reactions, and also associated with organelles (mitochondria, chloroplasts, enzyme systems).

Figure 2. represents dependence of concentrations on the sampling sites with different anthropogenic loadings (see Table 1, 3)

Figure-2. The concentration of Fe and Co in different parts of the *Rosa rugosa* in the studied sampling sites



Interactions between trace elements observed in the plants themselves show that they can be either antagonistic or synergistic. The largest number of antagonistic reactions is noted for Fe, Mn, Co, and Zn, which are key elements in plant physiology [68-70]. The functions of these elements are associated with absorption processes and with enzymatic reactions. From the literature data, a number of rosehip species accumulate a lot of Fe in fruits (hypanthium) [71].

Phytoremediation is also an important problem. This problem is given more importance in the world. And different types of the genus *Rosa* are the basis for cleaning urban areas from pollution. An analysis of a large number of publications shows the promise of using precisely the species of the genus *Rosa* to change the ecological situation of urban landscapes for the better in order to improve the human environment [72-83] etc.).

Fe in plants, including dog roses, increases resistance to dehydration [84]. It was found that *R. rugosa* (growing in Baikal region) plants are characterized by a higher Cu content and a low level of Mn; the hips of these plants also accumulate Fe, Zn, and Co in the sepals, leaves, stems and roots. It has been shown that rose hips, as well as the leaves and stems of *Rosa rugosa*, can serve as a potential source of Mn, Cr, and Co for the human body [85]

4. Conclusion

Various species of the genus *Rosa* need further study by researchers interested in the development of safe and effective anti-arthritic anti-cancer agents as a source of human nutrition and providing the body with important elements for a fulfilling life.

For the first time various organs of *Rosa rugosa* collected in St. Petersburg and its environs with different anthropogenic impact were analyzed by the method multi-element instrumental neutron activation analysis. There were no sharp differences in the accumulation of heavy metals in plants collected both within the city (ecologically polluted) and parks and suburbs (ecologically clean). The provision was approved that these plants accumulate Fe, Ca, K and Mg. For the collection of raw materials (primarily fruits), urban ornamental plantings of wild Roses can also be used.

The content of toxic elements in different parts of *Rosa rugosa* showed that even in urban conditions this species does not accumulate toxic elements (including HMs) in different organs, and therefore *Rosa rugosa* can be used both as a food raw material and medicinal ones.

5. Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest. The funders had no role in the design of the study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript, or in the decision to publish the results.

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