Natural Plant Product Extraction and Purification Using Ionic Liquid-

Based Green Solvents

Dr Neha Aggarwal

Department of Chemistry, Gandhi Memorial National College, Ambala Cantt. 133001

Haryana

Email ID: chem.nehaaggarwal@gmail.com

Abstract

This research paper explores the environmental sustainability of ionic liquid-based green

solvents in the extraction and purification of natural plant products, with a focus on their entire

life cycle. The objectives of the study were to assess the environmental impact of ionic liquid

synthesis, energy consumption, water usage, emissions, recycling rates, policy effects, and

stakeholder perceptions. Methodologically, we conducted a comprehensive Life Cycle

Assessment (LCA) that involved primary data collection through field surveys and interviews

with key stakeholders in the ionic liquid production and usage industry across various regions

in India. The data were analyzed using specialized LCA software tools to quantify

environmental impacts.

Key findings include the identification of synthesis as a major contributor to environmental

impact, emphasizing the need for greener synthesis methods. The study revealed the significant

carbon footprint, energy consumption, and water usage during production, highlighting

opportunities for improvement. Emissions data underscored the importance of emission control

measures, particularly for greenhouse gases and volatile organic compounds. Recycling and

reuse were identified as environmentally friendly disposal methods. Policy compliance varied

among stakeholders, indicating room for stricter regulations. Stakeholder perceptions varied,

with researchers having the most positive outlook. Implications of the findings extend to

sustainable chemistry practices, emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration and the

importance of considering the entire life cycle of chemical processes. This research contributes

to a deeper understanding of green solvents and provides a foundation for promoting

sustainable practices in industrial processes, not only in India but also globally.

Keywords: Ionic Liquids, Green Solvents, Environmental Sustainability, Life Cycle

Assessment, Natural Plant Extraction, Sustainable Chemistry.