

Lakshika Weerasundara

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Date of Birth: 31st January, 1988

Marital Status: Unmarried

Education:

M.Phil. in **Environmental Sciences**, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, (Reading), Thesis title: Chemical characterization of atmospheric deposition in Kandy, Sri Lanka (Registered in 2015)

B.Sc. (Honors) in Agricultural Sciences and Management, **2nd Class Upper Division**, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka, 2014

Employment:

Research Assistant, National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka (November 2014 - to date)

Research Experience

- Atmospheric deposition analysis for heavy metals
- Plant heavy metal uptake, role of biochar on plant growth under heavy metal stress
- General soil nutrient analysis, soil enzyme activity analysis
- Biochar preparation, characterization and adsorption studies
- Organizing committee member: “Driving Research Towards Economy”, SLAYS 2nd International Symposium, Kandy, 13-14 November 2014

Instrumentation:

UV spectrophotometer, Microwave digester, Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS), Fourier Transform Infra-red (FTIR) spectrophotometer, Gas Chromatographic Mass Spectrophotometer (GC-MS), Ion Chromatography (IC), Ion Selective Electrodes (ISE), Fine Particulate Sampler, Gaseous Pollutant Sampler

Experience in computer software:

Scientific graphing – Origin, SigmaPlot

Statistical – SAS, R

Chromatographic software – OMNIC, GCMS solution

Publications:

Articles in SCI journals

Seneviratne M., Gunarathna, S., Bandara, T., **Weerasundara, L.**, Rajakaruna, N., Seneviratne, G. and Vithanage, M. (2016). Plant growth promotion by *Bradyrhizobium japonicum* under heavy metal stress, South African Journal of Botany (Accepted)

Vithanage, M., Herath, I., Achinthya, S.S., Bandara, T., **Weerasundara, L.**, Mayakaduwa, S.S., Kumarathilaka, M. (2016). Iodine in commercial edible iodized salts and assessment of iodine exposure in Sri Lanka, Archives of Public Health (Accepted)

Book chapters

Weerasundara, L., Vithanage, M. (2015). The challenge of vehicular emission and atmospheric deposition: from air to water. Advances in Environmental Research. Volume 47. NOVA publishers, USA

Journal articles (Under review)

Seneviratne M., **Weerasundara L.**, Rinklebe, J., Ok Y.S., Vithanage M. (2016). Phytotoxicity attenuation in *Vigna radiata* under trace metal stress at the presence of biochar and N fixing bacteria, Journal of Environmental Management

Book chapters (under review)

Weerasundara, L., Vithanage, M. Phytoremediation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) in urban atmospheric deposition using bio-retention systems. In (Eds) Snsari AA, Gill SS, Lanza G, Newman L., Phytoremediation-Management of Environmental Contaminants, Springer, Switzerland

Weerasundara, L., Nupearachchi, C.N., Herath I., Vithanage, M. Bio-retention systems for stormwater treatment and management in urban systems. In (Eds) Snsari AA, Gill SS, Lanza G, Newman L., Phytoremediation-Management of Environmental Contaminants, Springer, Switzerland

Full papers published in conference proceedings

Weerasundara, L., Vithanage, M., Ziyath, A.M., Goonetilleke, A. (2015). Heavy metals in atmospheric deposition in Kandy City; Implications for urban water resources, 6th International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management 2015, Kandy, Sri Lanka, 11-14 December 2015

Kumarathilaka, P., Jayawardana, Y., Dissanayaka, W., Herath, I., **Weerasundara, L.**, Vithanage, M. (2015). General characteristics of hospital wastewater from three different hospitals in Sri Lanka, 6th International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management 2015, Kandy, Sri Lanka, 11-14 December 2015

Jayawardhana, Y., Kumarathilaka, P., **Weerasundara, L.**, Mowjood, M., Herath, G., Kawamoto, K., Nagamori, M., Vithanage, M. (2015). Detection of benzene in landfill leachate from Gohagoda and its removal using municipal solid waste derived biochar, 6th International Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction Management 2015, Kandy, Sri Lanka, 11-14 December 2015

Mayakaduwa, S.S., **Weerasundara, L.**, Karunarathna, A., Basnayake, B.F.A., Vithanage, M. (2015). MSW derived BC for removal of Humic Acid in landfill leachate. International Conference on Solid Wastes 2015: Knowledge Transfer for Sustainable Resource Management, Hong Kong, China, 19-23 May 2015

Abstracts in international conferences

Weerasundara, W.M.L.S., Seneviratne, G., Dissanayake, P.K., Senaviratne, M., Gunarathne, H.K.S.N.S., Biosolubilization of Eppawala rock phosphate in soil by microbial biofilm, 2nd

International Symposium, National Institute of Fundamental Studies, Kandy, Sri Lanka, 13-14 November 2014

Science Popularization (Newspaper articles):

Jeewaya jeewath karawana vaayugolaye thathu. (Description of atmosphere related to living organisms) 17th March 2015. **Vijaya**

Lichen; Sobadahame Apuru Sahajeewee Sabadathawaka Prathipalaya. (Role of the lichens in the environment) 04th March 2015. **Vidusara**

Mahanuwara vaahana thadabadayata visandumak nathda? (Is there any solution for Kandy traffic jam?) 3rd May 2015. **Lankadeepa**

Gohagoda Kasala Kanden Shareerayata Ahithakara Apadrawya Gonnak. (Toxic compounds leaching from Gohagoda municipal solid waste dump site) 24th February 2016. **Ada**

Workshop participation:

IAEA/RCA regional training course on integrated soil conservation practices to mitigate soil erosion and the role of nuclear techniques, workshop organized by the Sri Lanka Atomic Energy Board. 27th - 31st July 2015, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Basic Data Analysis using R, The Department of Statistics, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka, September 2015

Chromatographic Techniques and Their Applications, Institute of Chemistry Ceylon, Sri Lanka, 26th February 2015

Integrated conference of Better Air Quality 2014 and Intergovernmental 8th Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum In Asia, UNCRD, Government of Sri Lanka, Ministry of the Environment Japan, Clean Air Asia at BMICH, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 19th - 21st November 2014

Molecular biology methods for quality control of microbial biofertilizers for an improved economy and environment in Sri Lanka, Training and workshop organized by the University of Sydney. 21st - 25th March 2014

Professional affiliations:

Life member: Soil Science Society of Sri Lanka

Additional qualifications

Diploma in English- Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka (2013)

Diploma in Computer Technology - National Youth Services Council, Sri Lanka (2003)

Passed International level of the **University Student's competency Test of Information Technology** organized by ministry of Higher Education, Sri Lanka (2014)

Participated **HSB Youth Enterprise Award 2013** organized by HSBC bank and British council

REFERENCES:

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Institute of Fundamental Studies, Kandy, Sri Lanka.

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International Centre for Applied Climate Science, University of Southern Queensland,
Australia

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I hereby certify that the above information given by me is correct to the best of my knowledge

Signature

16.03.2016

Date