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Letter to the editor

Dear Sir,

Recently, Kelleher *et al* published a paper entitled 'The use of fly ash from the combustion of poultry litter for the adsorption of chromium(III) from aqueous solution'.[1] In the discussion of the kinetics of adsorption they applied a pseudo-second order kinetic equation to explain their results citing a publication by Xing *et al*[2] as the source of this equation. We would like to point out that this paper does not mention the use of such an equation, furthermore the original equation was developed and first used by us.[3,4] Since then there have been many examples of the use of this equation to interpret the kinetics of adsorption of metals and dyes on a number of substrates.

REFERENCES

1 Kelleher BP, O'Callaghan MN, Leahy MJ, O'Dwyer TF and Leahy JJ, The use of fly ash from the combustion of poultry litter for the adsorption of chromium(III) from aqueous solution, *J Chem Tech Biotechnol* **77**:1212–1218 (2002).
2 Xing B, McGill WB, Dudas MJ, Maham Y and Hepler L, Sorption of phenol by selected biopolymers: isotherms, energetics and polarity, *Environ Sci Technol* **28**:466–473 (1994).
3 Ho YS, Adsorption of heavy metals from waste streams by peat, *PhD Thesis, University of Birmingham, UK* 1995.
4 Ho YS, Wase DAJ and Forster CF, Kinetic studies of competitive heavy metal adsorption by sphagnum moss peat, *Environ Technol* **17**:71–77 (1996).

Yours sincerely

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Reply from Prof BP Kelleher

Dear Sir,

We would like to thank Dr Ho for pointing out the incorrect reference in our paper and agree with him that this reference 16 should read:
Ho YS, Wase DAJ and Forster CF, Kinetic studies of competitive heavy metal adsorption by sphagnum moss peat, *Environ Technol* **17**:71–77 (1996).

Yours sincerely

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