



Biodegradation and Persistence [

Beek, B.,
editor

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Monografía

Biodegradation is a key phenomenon among environmental processes. Low degradation rates lead to the persistence of chemicals in the environment and, as a consequence, to delayed or long-term effects, which may be even unknown by now. The persistence of these xenobiotics has become of a great public and political concern in recent years. This is, among others, reflected by the international activities of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) which mainly deals with the problems, risk assessment and environmental management of POPs (persistent organic pollutants), PEPs (persistent environmental pollutants) and PBTs (persistent bioaccumulative toxic substances). In this volume the editor has pulled together the newest results of research on biodegradation and persistence of potential environmentally harmful substances and the complex processes involved. One main focus is on the microbial degradation, the evolution and predictability of the respective pathways and their impact on bioremediation. Additional chapters deal with sewage treatment plants, the impact of toxicants on impaired biodegradation, and with the need of a more realistic view on fate and behaviour of chemicals in the environment

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/G. Rheinheimer: Predictability of Biodegradation on the Environment - Limits of Prediction from Experimental Data -- B. Beek/S. Böhling/ C. Franke/U. Jöhncke/G.Studinger/E. Thumm: The Assessment of Biodegradation and Persistence

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