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# Soil contaminations in landfill: a case study of the landfill in Czech Republic

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## Abstract

Phytotoxicity test was determined to assess ecotoxicity of landfill soil. *Sinapis alba* L. was used as heavy metals bioindicator. Soil samples 1–8, which were taken from the landfill body, edge of the landfill body and its vicinity meet the limits for heavy metals Co, Cd, Pb, and Zn specified in the applicable legislation. Hg and Mn threshold values are not established in legislation, but values have been determined for the needs of the landfill operator. For heavy metals Cr, Cu, and Ni sample 2 exceeded the threshold values, which attained the highest values of all the samples tested for Cr, Cu and Ni. For Cr and Ni the values were several times higher than values of the other samples. The second highest values for Cr, Cu, and Ni showed sample 6 and 7. Both samples exceeded the set limits. An increase in plant biomass was observed in plants growing on plates with soil samples, but no changes in appearance, slow growth or necrotic lesions appeared. Ecotoxicity tests show that tested soils (concentration of 50 %) collected from the landfill body, edge of the landfill body and its vicinity reach high percentage values of germination capacity of seeds of *Sinapis alba* L. (101–137 %). At a concentration of 25 %, tested soil samples exhibit lower values of germination capacity; in particular samples 3 to 8, yet the seed germination capacity in all 8 samples of tested soils range between 86 and 137 %.

## 1 Introduction

Land degradation caused by human activities creates significant adverse effects on the environments and ecosystems worldwide (Thomaz and Luiz, 2012; Bai et al., 2013; Li et al., 2013; Chen et al., 2015) and solid waste is an important and emerging environmental problem. It was estimated that 0.5–4.5 kg per person per day of solid waste is produced in different regions of the world (Bakare et al., 2005; Swati et al., 2014). The most common ways to manage such waste disposal are landfills and incinerators. Actually up to 95 % total municipal solid waste (MSW) collected is disposed of in landfills





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worldwide (El-Fadel et al., 1997; Swati et al., 2014) and landfilling is the major MSW disposal method used in modern cities (Wong et al., 2015). Landfills were thought to be the safe disposal method of MSW but it is true only for properly engineered landfill sites. An engineered landfill site allows final disposal of solid waste in a secure manner by minimizing the impacts on the environment as modern landfills are often lined with layers of absorbent material and sheets of plastic to keep pollutants from leaking into the soil and water (Swati et al., 2014).

The improper management of waste disposal raises public concern over potential harmful effects to local communities and the environment. These concerns probably become more pragmatic when recent intensive studies demonstrated increased human health risk caused by exposure to toxic chemicals, such as dioxins and related compounds, and heavy metals in these dumping sites (Agusa et al., 2003, Minh et al., 2003). Landfills containing hazardous materials are under critical observation today for potential hazards, resulting in the need for thorough risk analyses along with the soil and groundwater that have been contaminated with chemicals leaching from landfills. Several reports have been published which are documented on the leachate characterization and its effect on groundwater pollution (Boels and Fleming, 1993) but little information is available on the effect of landfills on the soil contamination (Hernández et al., 1996) and its toxicological effects.

Soil pollution by heavy metals has become a critical environmental concern due to its potential adverse ecological effects. Heavy metals occur naturally at low concentrations in soils. However, they are considered as soil contaminants due to their widespread occurrence, acute and chronic toxicity (Youn-Joo, 2014).

More recently high concentrations of heavy metal(loid)s, such as As, Cd, Cu, Pb, and Zn in soils have often been reported in number of countries. For example, significant adverse impacts of As on human health have been recorded in Bangladesh, India, and China and it is claimed that millions of people are potentially at risk from As poisoning (Bhattacharya et al., 2012). Similarly, Cd accumulation in the offal of grazing animals in New Zealand and Australia made it unsuitable for human consumption and affected





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access of meat products to overseas markets (Loganathan et al., 2008). Similarly, there have been concerns about urban development of horticultural sites which contained toxic levels of metal(loid)s such as As, Cu, and Pb in soils resulting from excessive use of fungicides and herbicides that are rich in these metal(loid)s (Pietrzak and Uren, 2011).

Plants can be used as bioindicators for toxicity assessment in aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems (Gorsuch et al., 1991). The present research was aimed at assessing the soil pollution at the landfill site (in operation) and in the vicinity of a MSW landfill site. The main objective of this study was characterization of soil samples issued from a landfill located near Klatovy, in south-western Czech Republic, in relation to their content of heavy metals. The other objective was to recommend some sensitive plant to assess phytotoxicity effect on one vegetal specie. White mustard (*Sinapis alba* L.) was selected as the test plant species due to their sensitivity to a wide range of contaminants. To assess phytotoxicity of landfill soil a laboratory study was conducted.

## 2 Material and methods

### 2.1 Site description

The investigated landfill (Štěpánovice, 49°26′15.934″ N, 13°16′55.352″ E, ca. 405 m a.s.l.) is located in Pilsen Region, western part of the Czech Republic. It started operating during 1996 with an authorized volume of 569 000 $m^3$, at the moment, it is being used to dispose mixed municipal waste. The landfill is formed by three sub-landfills: landfill A (closed in 2003, area 8750 $m^2$); landfill B (working from 2003, area 26 000 $m^2$); landfill C (that will work after closing part B). The total volume of both (A, B) parts of the landfill is 289 000 $m^3$. Planned service life of the facility is up to year 2018 (Vaverková and Adamcová, 2014a).

Every day, up to 37.5 tonnes of waste is authorized for landfilling after careful analysis: the disposed waste includes municipal solid, non-hazardous wastes and the ma-





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terial for landfill cover. Wastes may include scraps of paper, plastics and metals, packing, spent tires, textile products, building materials, ashes from MSW incinerators, polluted terrain from environment reclamation, etc. Particular details of waste composition, waste quantity stored on landfill and landfill gas management are not presented in this article. Detailed information and data were described in other articles (Vaverková and Adamcová, 2014a, b, c).

The landfill site is located over an impermeable natural clay layer; bottom and side boundaries may vary according to the period of cultivation, however they generally include several protective layers, such as a compact clay layer (100 cm), geotextile membranes, gravel (50 cm), geomembranes (2.5 mm) non-woven fabric (1200 g $m^{-2}$), pulper products.

Landfill covers (top and side) are formed by a waste layer (terrain) to stabilize the surface, drainage systems, compact clay (20 cm), soil bentonite and a vegetative soil layer (up to 100 cm). A grassy mantle and/or forestation with local vegetation will complete the recovery of the environment after closing of each parcel. Systems for leachate treatment, and gas recovery, collection and treatment are in operation. The landfill is situated in the north part of widely opened valley directed towards W–E. The landfill is surrounded to the N and S by a vegetation belt dominated by *Pinus sylvestris*. The hilly landscape in the western part of the study area is used for agriculture, as well as the eastern lowland. The climate of the area is typically inland, with mean annual rainfall over 582 mm and mean annual temperature of 8.0 °C (Vaverková and Adamcová, 2015).

### 2.2 Sample collection

Soil samples were collected from landfill site at depth 10 cm (Fig. 1). They were collected in sterilized plastic containers. Freeze and grounded soil samples were homogenized by sieving through a stainless steel 0.2 mm sieve, and stored in sealed containers at −4 °C until analysis. The materials were analyzed for the content of heavy metals (Hg, Cd, Pb, Cu, Zn, Co, Ni, Cr, Mn). The examined samples were brought to the testing





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laboratory (Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Faculty of Agronomy, Mendel University in Brno) for analyses.

Figure 1 provides sampling points where soil samples were collected. In total 8 sampling points were determined. Samples collected from sampling points 6, 7 and 8 were used as blind samples. Samples from sampling points 4 and 5 were collected directly from the landfill body and samples 1, 2 and 3 were taken from the edge of the landfill body. The allocations of sampling sites were chosen on the basis of the authors' decision and on the grounds of mutual comparison of the landfill body and its borders with the nearest vicinity of the landfill (agriculturally utilized soil and forests).

### 2.3 Sample processing and chemical analysis

A microwave digestion (Ethos SEL, Milestone, Italy) was used for isolation of analytes from solid samples. Soil samples were air-dried and sieved. A fraction < 2 mm was used for the analysis. 200 ± 0.1 mg of dried and homogenized soil samples was used for partial digestion in the microwave oven using 3 mL of concentrated $HNO_3$ and 9 mL of concentrated HCl at 200 °C and 1000 W for 30 min. The soil digests were adjusted to the final volume of 25 mL with deionized water.

Electrotermal atomic-absorption spectrometer (AAS ZEEnit 60, Analytic Jena, Germany equipped with Zeeman correction) was used under the recommended conditions specified by the manufacturer for determination Cd (228.8 nm), Pb (283.3 nm), Co (240.7 nm), Cr (359.3 nm). The wavelengths are given in parentheses. 1 % $Pd/Mg(NO_3)_2$ was used as modifier.

Flame atomic-absorption spectrometer (AAS ZEEnit 60, Analytic Jena, Germany equipped with Zeeman correction) was used under the recommended conditions specified by the manufacturer for determination Cu (324.7 nm), Zn (213.8 nm), Ni (232.0 nm), Mn (279.5 nm). Acetylene-air flame was used for determination of analytes. The wavelengths are given in parentheses.

Total mercury content in soil samples was measured by one purpose atomic absorption spectrometer AMA 254 (Advanced Mercury Analyzer) controlled by WinAMA





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software (both Altec, Prague, Czech Republic). The homogenized solid samples were weighted (100 ± 0.1 mg) into pre-cleaned combustion boats and inserted into the AMA254 analyzer. During analysis the sample was dried at 120 °C for 90 s and thermally decomposed at 550 °C for 180 s under an oxygen flow. Selectively trapped mercury was subsequently released from the gold amalgamator by a brief heat-up and finally quantified (measuring cycle, 60 s) as $Hg^0$ by the cold-vapor AAS technique at 253.65 nm.

LODs (limit of detection) of methods were 0.1 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Hg, 0.02 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Cd, 0.38 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Pb, 3.08 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Cu, 3.70 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Zn, 4.92 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Co, 9.00 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Ni, 0.70 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Cr, and 12.10 $\mu g\,kg^{-1}$ for Mn. The results were in good agreement with the certified values.

### 2.4 Test plant species

The test species were white mustard (*Sinapis alba* L.). They were selected because they are known to be sensitive to board range of chemicals. White mustard is ideal for studying soils and soil extracts (Gerencsér et al., 2010; OECD Guideline 208 for the Testing of Chemicals, 2003). Seeds were surface-sterilized by soaking for 2 min in a commercial sodium hypochlorite (2 %) solution to which a few drops of Tween-20 had been added. Then they were rinsed twice in sterile distilled water. Damage or empty seeds hulls were discarded.

### 2.5 Phytotoxicity test

The earthen pot experiment was performed under laboratory conditions (Fig. 2). The earthen pots (height of 10 cm and a diameter of 11 cm) were loosely filled with 200 g of medium, than 100 seeds of white mustard were scattered on to the surface, covered with thin layer of silica sand and covered with a glass plate (to avoid evaporation). The possible toxicological effect was assessed according to CSN EN 13 432 on growth of dicotyledonous plants. The medium was specialized soil for germination and plant





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growth, enriched with soil samples (25 %, 50 % w/w). Reference soil was composed from peat and silica sand. Plants were grown under controlled conditions for 21 days. Humidity at level of 70 ± 25 % of water absorption capacity was maintained to be constant. The toxicity tests were conducted at ambient laboratory temperature of 22±10 °C, continuous light was used. Values obtained from two simultaneously conducted experiments were averaged and presented (germination capacity, plant biomass).

## 3 Results and discussion

From the chemical analysis of solid samples with atomic absorption, the leaching values of metals varied over a wide range as follows: Hg (0.0300–0.0663 mg kg$^{-1}$), Cd (0.0600–0.2044 mg kg$^{-1}$), Pb (2.5703–8.5287 mg kg$^{-1}$), Cu (32.43–58.62 mg kg$^{-1}$), Zn (25.67–41.97 mg kg$^{-1}$), Co (2.953–12.712 mg kg$^{-1}$), Ni (32.65–140.03 mg kg$^{-1}$), Cr (64.06–190.73 mg kg$^{-1}$) and Mn (547.52–701.39 mg kg$^{-1}$). The average metal leaching values found in this study are shown in Table 1.

Figure 3 shows the graphically evaluated results of heavy metal content in individual soil samples, with marked limit values for those heavy metals for which the limits are established in the Decree of the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic No. 13/1994 Coll., as amended, laying down the details of agricultural land fund protection.

For heavy metals Cd, Pb, Zn, and Co, none of the eight examined soil samples did exceed the limits specified in the Decree, as shown by the charts listed on Fig. 3. For Cu, Ni, and Cr some of the collected soil samples exceeded the limits established in the relevant legislation. For Cu, the maximum limit for this heavy metal is 50 mg kg$^{-1}$. Samples that exceeded the limit for Cu were as follows: sample 2 (58.62 mg kg$^{-1}$), sample 6 (51.24 mg kg$^{-1}$), and sample 8 (50.20 mg kg$^{-1}$). For Ni, the maximum limit is set at 25 mg kg$^{-1}$. This threshold value was exceeded by all 8 soil samples; the highest value was measured in sample 2 (140.03 mg kg$^{-1}$). The maximum allowed value for Cr (40 mg kg$^{-1}$) was exceeded by all 8 samples, with sample 2 showing the highest value (190.73 mg kg$^{-1}$). No limit values are established for Mn and Hg presence in the





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soil. After the levels of heavy metals in collected soil samples were determined, the phytotoxicity was tested.

Fourteen days from the establishment of the experiment, sprouts and the number of growing plants occurring in the earthen pots were counted. The data were plotted into tables and photographs were taken to document the course of the experiment. Germinating capacity and growth of white mustard is shown in Fig. 4. Twenty-one days from the establishment of the experiment, the counting of sprouts and growing plants was repeated, the results were recorded and photographs were taken.

Values were calculated from the obtained data (Table 2) and results were evaluated. The number of sprouts (number of growing plants) occurring on samples of examined soil and on the soil from the blank experiment was compared for all mixing ratios. Germinating capacity was calculated as a percentage of the corresponding values obtained from soils in the blank experiment.

Table 3 lists average values calculated from the results obtained after conducting the experiment (see Table 2) as well as percentages of germination capacity for each sample of examined soil.

Figure 5 shows the percentage expression of germination capacity of seeds of white mustard (25 % share of soil of samples 1–8) after 14 days from the start of the experiment and after 21 days (end of the experiment).

Maximum germination capacity of seeds of white mustard at a concentration of 25 % was achieved for sample 1, both in the period of 14 days (139 %) and after 21 days (137 %). The second highest value exhibited sample 2 (131 % after 14 days and 136 % after 21 days). The third highest values were measured for samples 3 and 8, where after 14 days the germination capacity reached 106 and 111 %, respectively; and after 21 days the germination capacity was 110 and 107 %, respectively.

Even sample 4 exhibits high values of germination capacity after 14 days (102 %) and after 21 days (103 %). The 100 % germination capacity limit was approached also by sample 5 after the period of 21 days when the seed germination capacity attained 100 %. The lowest values of germination capacity of white mustard seeds showed sam-





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ples 6 and 7. Germination capacity of sample 6 was 85 % after 14 days and 91 % after 21 days, and that of sample 7 was 80 % after 14 days and 86 % after 21 days.

Figure 6 shows the percentage expression of germination capacity of seeds of white mustard (50 % share of soil of samples 1–8) after 14 days from the start of the experiment and after 21 days (end of the experiment).

At a concentration of 50 %, all samples (Samples 1–8) reported seed germination capacity values over 100 %, once after 14 days and again after the 21 day period. The highest values of germination capacity occurred in sample 1 after 14 days (138 %) and after 21 days (133 %). The second highest germination capacity was observed in sample 5, where it reached 123 % after 14 days and 122 % after 21 days. The third place in germination capacity of white mustard seeds was occupied by sample 7 (122 % after 14 days and 119 % after 21 days).

An increase in plant biomass was observed in plants growing on plates with soil samples from the landfill body and its vicinity, but no changes in appearance, slow growth or necrotic lesions appeared. Ecotoxicity tests show that tested soils (at a concentration of 50 %) collected from the landfill body, edge of the landfill body and its vicinity reach high percentage values of germination capacity of seeds of white mustard (101–137 %) (Fig. 7). At a concentration of 25 %, tested soil samples exhibit lower values of germination capacity; in particular samples 3 to 8, yet the seed germination capacity in all 8 samples of tested soils range between 86 and 137 %.

The analysis of the variance is listed in Table 4. One-way $p$(ANOVA) was calculated using the *Maple* software. $p$ value determines the significance level, where it is possible to reject the hypothesis that both models used are equivalent. $p$ value is compared with a pre-chosen constant (most commonly 0.05) and when it is smaller, the equivalence of the models is rejected. Three cases where the assumption is that the behaviour of the samples is different from the behaviour of the blanks by 5 % significance are marked in Table 4. Four measurements were provided for each sample – two concentrations and two germination rates. 4 values of $p$ are available for each sample. Not one sample can be discarded in most cases, see Fig. 8. The values of $p$ factor (ANOVA) for





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germination after 14 days are plotted on the *x* axis of Fig. 8, the values of *p* factor (ANOVA) for germination after 21 days are plotted on the *y* axis. The green area is the requirement for equivalent germination – $h_0$ for samples and blanks positively satisfied on the standard range of significance 0.05–5 %. The pink areas indicate the failure to satisfy this condition for one of the germination rates (14 or 21) days. Sample 5 is located in this area, but it is just below the line for the 21 day germination rate, it satisfies the 14 day germination rate. Sample 1 is also located in this area for the germination rate of 21 days but only for 25 % concentration. No samples are located in the red area where hypothesis $h_0$ can be positively rejected. Due to this it is possible to consider the assumption $h_0$ are not significantly affected by the landfill.

## 4 Conclusions

Phytotoxicity test was determined to assess ecotoxicity of landfill soil. Fourteen days after the establishment of the experiment, sprouts and the number of growing plants occurring in the earthen pots were counted. The data were plotted into tables and photographs were taken to document the course of the experiment. Twenty-one days from the establishment of the experiment, the counting of sprouts and growing plants was repeated, the results were recorded and photographs were taken. Results were evaluated from the acquired data. The number of sprouts (number of growing plants) on the soil samples and on the soil from the blank experiment was compared for all mixing ratios. Germinating capacity was calculated as a percentage share of corresponding values obtained from the soil in the blank experiment. Results in the tables (germinating capacity of seeds) are mean values obtained from the conducted experiment.

Plant growth test can be good protocol to assess the phytotoxicity of soil contaminated by heavy metals. White mustard is sensitive plant that can be used as heavy metals bioindicator. Soil samples 1 to 8, which were taken from the landfill body, edge of the landfill body and its vicinity meet the limits for heavy metals Co, Cd, Pb, and Zn specified in the applicable legislation. Hg and Mn threshold values are not established





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in legislation, but values have been determined for the needs of the landfill operator. For heavy metals Cr, Cu, and Ni some samples exceeded the threshold values, namely sample 2, which attained the highest values of all the samples tested for Cr, Cu and Ni. For Cr and Ni the values were several times higher than values of the other samples.

After sample 2, the second highest values for Cr, Cu, and Ni showed sample 6 and also sample 7, this one particularly for Cr and Ni. Both of these samples exceeded the set limits, but their measured values were not as high as in the case of sample 2.

An increase in plant biomass was observed in plants growing on plates with soil samples from the landfill body and its vicinity, but no changes in appearance, slow growth or necrotic lesions appeared. Ecotoxicity tests show that tested soils (at a concentration of 50 %) collected from the landfill body, edge of the landfill body and its vicinity reach high percentage values of germination capacity of seeds of white mustard (101–137 %). At a concentration of 25 %, tested soil samples exhibit lower values of germination capacity; in particular samples 3 to 8, yet the seed germination capacity in all 8 samples of tested soils range between 86 and 137 %.

*Author contributions.* D. Adamcová, M. D. Vaverková, Z. Havlíček and E. Břoušková designed the experiments and D. Adamcová and M. D. Vaverková carried them out. S. Bartoň performed the analysis of the variance. M. D. Vaverková prepared the manuscript with contributions from all co-authors.

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**Table 1.** Content of heavy metals in examined soil samples.

| Sample | Hg ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Cd ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Pb ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Cu ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Zn ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Co ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Ni ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Cr ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) | Mn ($mg\,kg^{-1}$) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0.0300 | 0.0670 | 6.5554 | 34.07 | 25.67 | 4.888 | 39.13 | 69.99 | 689.55 |
| 2 | 0.0311 | 0.1446 | 2.5703 | 58.62 | 34.20 | 12.712 | 140.03 | 190.73 | 608.67 |
| 3 | 0.0343 | 0.1446 | 5.1769 | 39.37 | 31.51 | 2.953 | 32.65 | 65.92 | 547.52 |
| 4 | 0.0663 | 0.1576 | 8.5287 | 34.25 | 39.29 | 5.825 | 36.94 | 64.06 | 610.10 |
| 5 | 0.0403 | 0.1343 | 5.1095 | 32.43 | 33.93 | 10.284 | 33.11 | 70.10 | 584.58 |
| 6 | 0.0386 | 0.2044 | 5.4088 | 51.24 | 41.97 | 6.874 | 44.05 | 86.69 | 625.12 |
| 7 | 0.0459 | 0.0600 | 5.0800 | 43.80 | 32.10 | 5.375 | 42.76 | 74.85 | 661.00 |
| 8 | 0.0312 | 0.1471 | 4.1255 | 50.20 | 31.68 | 5.469 | 37.59 | 69.94 | 701.39 |





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**Table 2.** Results for germination capacity of seeds of white mustard for examined samples. A – first performance, B – second performance.

| | Summary – germination test | |
|---|---|---|
| Sample | 14 days | 21 days |
| 1A 25 | 79 | 82 |
| 1B 25 | 91 | 95 |
| 1A 50 | 99 | 99 |
| 1B 50 | 100 | 100 |
| 2A 25 | 88 | 95 |
| 2B 25 | 72 | 81 |
| 2A 50 | 83 | 88 |
| 2B 50 | 86 | 88 |
| 3A 25 | 61 | 68 |
| 3B 25 | 68 | 74 |
| 3A 50 | 81 | 85 |
| 3B 50 | 91 | 93 |
| 4A 25 | 66 | 70 |
| 4B 25 | 59 | 63 |
| 4A 50 | 63 | 65 |
| 4B 50 | 92 | 96 |
| 5A 25 | 53 | 54 |
| 5B 25 | 68 | 75 |
| 5A 50 | 91 | 94 |
| 5B 50 | 86 | 89 |
| 6A 25 | 48 | 55 |
| 6B 25 | 56 | 62 |
| 6A 50 | 82 | 87 |
| 6B 50 | 62 | 65 |
| 7A 25 | 56 | 61 |
| 7B 25 | 41 | 50 |
| 7A 50 | 84 | 87 |
| 7B 50 | 91 | 92 |
| 8A 25 | 57 | 59 |
| 8B 25 | 78 | 79 |
| 8A 50 | 84 | 86 |
| 8B 50 | 85 | 89 |
| Blank I | 69 | 72 |
| Blank II | 75 | 78 |
| Blank III | 70 | 73 |
| Blank IV | 52 | 56 |





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**Table 3.** Average values and percentages of germination capacity of seeds of white mustard for examined samples.

| Sample – Mean | Summary – germination test | | % number of seeds germinated | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 % | 14 days | 21 days | 14 days | 21 days |
| 1 | 85 | 88.5 | 139 | 137 |
| 2 | 80 | 88 | 131 | 136 |
| 3 | 64.5 | 71 | 106 | 110 |
| 4 | 62.5 | 66.5 | 102 | 103 |
| 5 | 60.5 | 64.5 | 99 | 100 |
| 6 | 52 | 58.5 | 85 | 91 |
| 7 | 48.5 | 55.5 | 80 | 86 |
| 8 | 67.5 | 69 | 111 | 107 |
| Blank | 61 | 64.5 | 100 | 100 |
| 50 % | 14 days | 21 days | 14 days | 21 days |
| 1 | 99.5 | 99.5 | 138 | 133 |
| 2 | 84.5 | 88 | 117 | 117 |
| 3 | 86 | 89 | 119 | 119 |
| 4 | 77.5 | 80.5 | 108 | 107 |
| 5 | 88.5 | 91.5 | 123 | 122 |
| 6 | 72 | 76 | 100 | 101 |
| 7 | 87.5 | 89.5 | 122 | 119 |
| 8 | 84.5 | 87.5 | 117 | 117 |
| Blank | 72 | 75 | 100 | 100 |





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**Table 4.** Analysis of the variance. The values in bold are smaller then 0.05 the equivalence of the models is rejected.

| | 25 % | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sample A, B | 14 days | | 21 days | |
| | Germ. | *p*(ANOVA) | Germ. | *p*(ANOVA) |
| 1 | 75, 91 | 0.091 | 82, 95 | **0.012** |
| 2 | 88, 72 | 0.654 | 95, 81 | 0.076 |
| 3 | 66, 68 | 0.811 | 68.74 | 0.074 |
| 4 | 66, 59 | 0.636 | 70, 63 | 0.398 |
| 5 | 53, 68 | 0.533 | 54, 75 | **0.045** |
| 6 | 48, 56 | 0.140 | 55, 62 | 0.601 |
| 7 | 56, 41 | 0.110 | 61, 50 | 0.055 |
| 8 | 57, 78 | 0.924 | 59, 79 | 0.075 |
| | 50 % | | | |
| Sample A, B | 14 days | | 21 days | |
| | Germ. | *p*(ANOVA) | Germ | *p*(ANOVA) |
| 1 | 99, 100 | 0.084 | 99, 100 | 0.617 |
| 2 | 83, 86 | 0.094 | 88, 88 | 0.063 |
| 3 | 81, 91 | 0.874 | 85, 93 | 0.064 |
| 4 | 63, 92 | 0.686 | 65, 96 | 0.417 |
| 5 | 91, 86 | 0.535 | 94, 89 | **0.041** |
| 6 | 82, 62 | 0.206 | 87, 65 | 0.559 |
| 7 | 84, 91 | 0.146 | 87, 92 | 0.054 |
| 8 | 84, 85 | 0.940 | 86, 89 | 0.070 |
| Blank I,II, III, IV | Germ. 14 days | | Germ. 21 days | |
| | 69, 75, 70, 52 | | 72, 78, 73, 56 | |





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**Figure 1.** Map of Štěpánovice landfill and sampling points.





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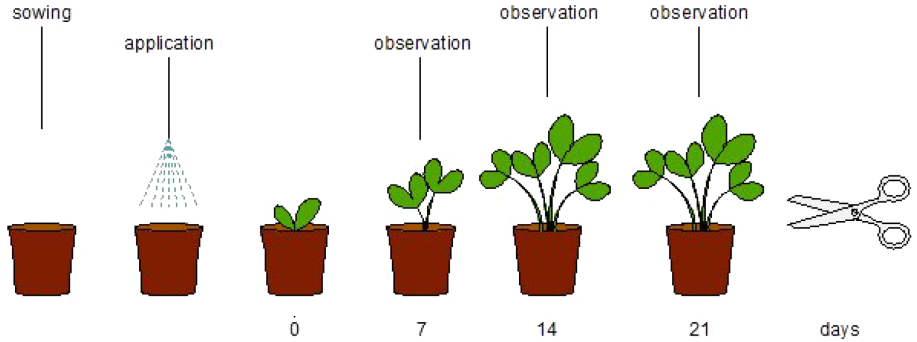


**Figure 2.** Layout of the phytotoxicity test.





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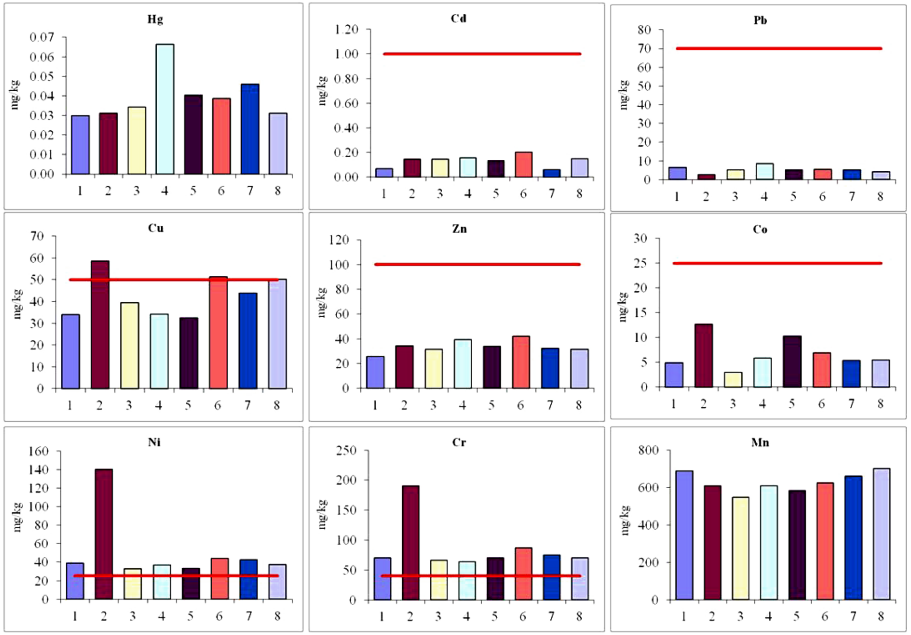


**Figure 3.** Content of heavy metals in examined soil samples. Mn, Hg – no threshold values are set in the Decree No. 13/1994 Coll.





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**Figure 4.** Samples of white mustard.





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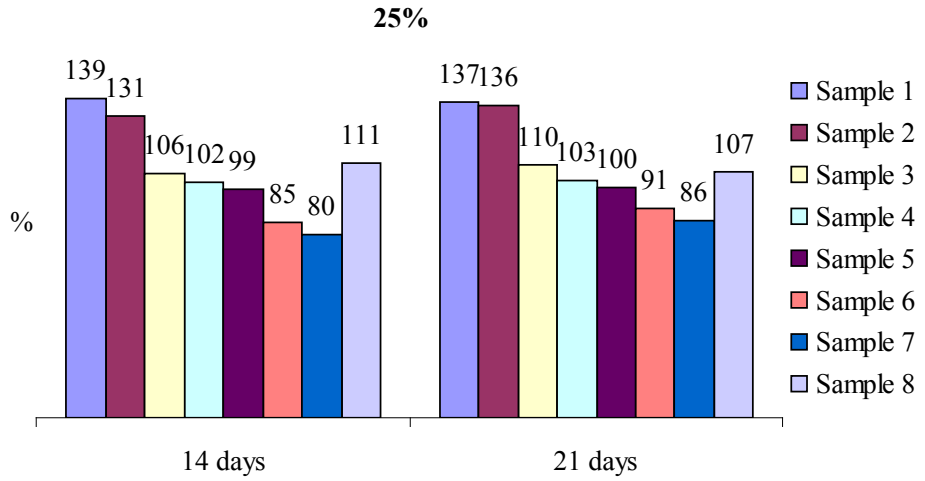


**Figure 5.** Comparison of the germination capacity at a concentration of 25 %.





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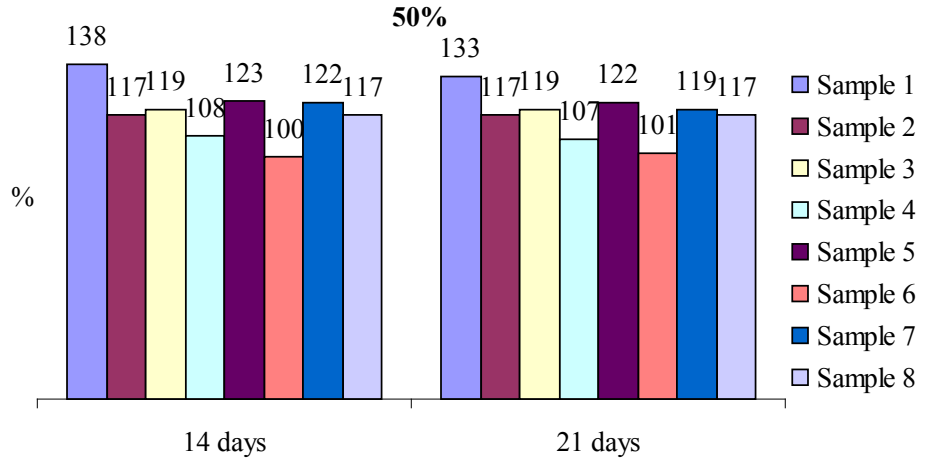


**Figure 6.** Comparison of the germination capacity of soil samples at a concentration of 50 %.





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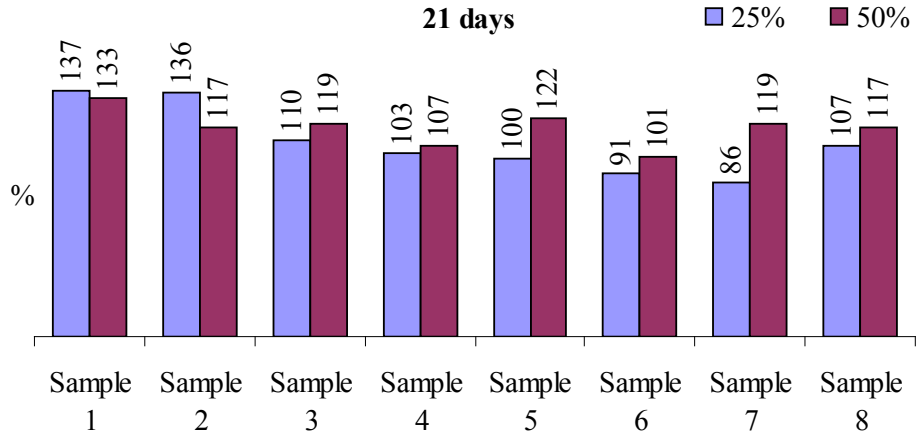


**Figure 7.** Results of germination capacity of white mustard seeds (at concentrations of 25 and 50 %).





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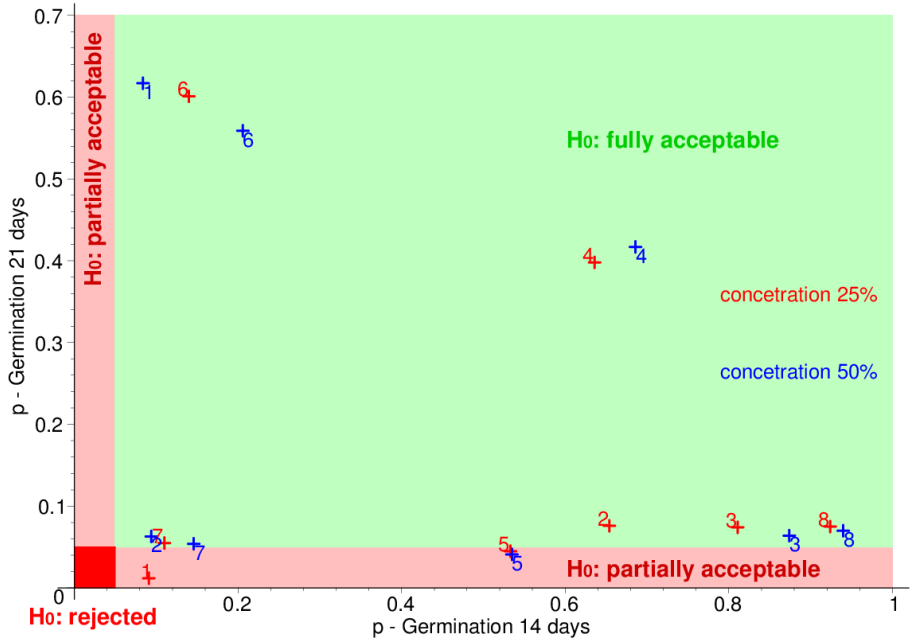


**Figure 8.** The values of *p* factor (ANOVA).





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