

# Investigation of Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Potential of Pure and Nano Particles Doped Biochar

M.N. Anwar<sup>1,\*</sup>, A. Fayyaz<sup>1</sup>, N.F. Sohail<sup>1</sup>, M. Baqar<sup>1</sup>, M. Iftikhar<sup>1</sup>, M. Rehan<sup>2</sup>, M. Waqas<sup>3</sup>, A.S. Nizami<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Sustainable Development Study Center (SDSC), Government College University, Lahore, Pakistan.

<sup>2</sup>Center of Excellence in Environmental Studies (CEES), King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

<sup>3</sup>Department of Environmental Sciences, Kohat University of Science and Technology 26000, KPK, Pakistan.

Corresponding author: [naveedanwarenv@gmail.com](mailto:naveedanwarenv@gmail.com) (M. N. Anwar)

Presenting author: Dr. Abdul-Sattar Nizami

**Abstract:** Ever growing population, excessive use of fossil fuel, extravagant deforestation and many other anthropogenic activities are playing a devastating role in climate change. As a result, the alarming value of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) concentration, 409 ppm, has been observed. Climate change is leading to consequences of melting of ice, sea level rise, and an increase of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which have increased the intensity and frequency of heat waves, droughts, and fires all around the world. Among the various solutions that can combat the issues of climate change, carbon sequestration has emerged as a promising solution in recent decades. Application of some techniques of nanotechnology in wastewater treatment and carbon sequestration are the major developments. The nano-doped biochar and pure nano-particles can play an essential role in capturing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>.

This paper aims to examine the efficiency of biochar, nanoparticles and nano-doped biochar under the umbrella of carbon sequestration both at laboratory and field scales. Titania doped biochar was prepared by using titanium isopropoxide while iron doped biochar was prepared by using iron sulfate and iron chloride salts. Pure nanoparticles were produced by the sol-gel method. XRD, SEM, and TEM analyzed the physical characteristics of nanoparticles. Composite of these biochar and pure nanoparticles were added for the growth of peas (*Pisum sativum L.*) to manifest the effect of nanoparticles on its carbon capturing efficiency. After the experimental period of two months, the results were obtained by the titration method to test the carbon emission ratio of the soil having treatments. The results have demonstrated that carbon absorption ratio of nanoparticles > nano-doped biochar > pure black plum biochar. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was conducted to assess the efficiency of the different concentrations of iron-doped biochar and control biochar for absorption of CO<sub>2</sub>. The results have shown that doped biochar can play a significant role to reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.

**Keywords:** Environmental nanotechnology; Carbon dioxide Sequestration; Biochar; Climate Change; Nanoparticles