

# Use of a hybrid Biofilm- Suspended biomass Membrane Bioreactor for the treatment of wastewaters



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*Associate Professor*

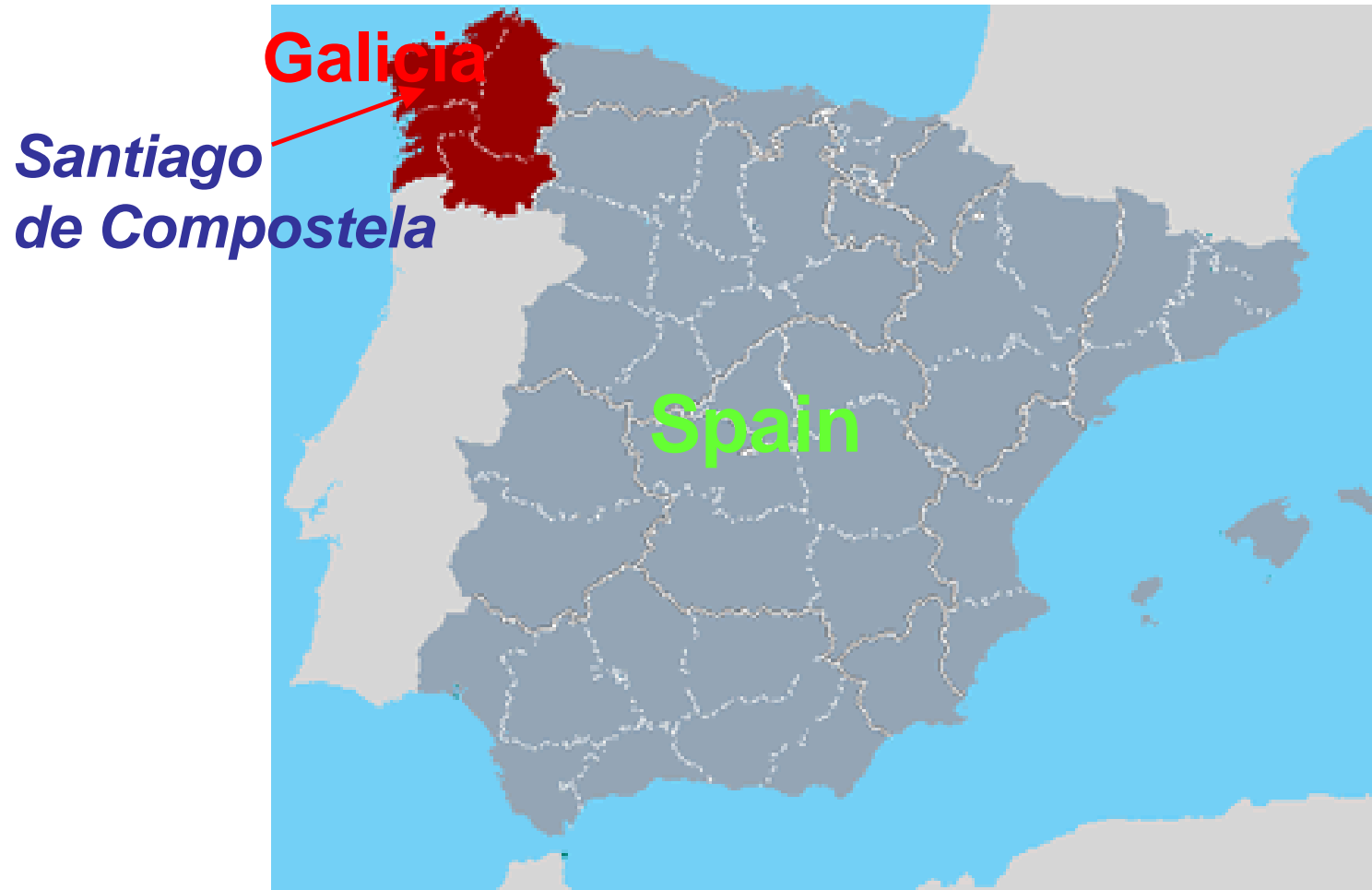
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# Where I come from ?



# Where I come from ?



*Santiago de Compostela*



# Where I come from ? : Galicia



# Group of Environmental Engineering and Bioprocesses



Head: Prof. Dr. Juan M. Lema  
Department of Chemical Engineering  
University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain)  
[www.usc.es/biogrup](http://www.usc.es/biogrup)



# STAFF



8 Professors

3 Full Professors

5 Associated Prof.

5 Technicians

1 Technological Manager

6 Post-docs

27 PhD Students



- + Application of enzymes and fungi to the degradation and production of compounds
- + Development, operation and control of wastewater treatment technologies
- + Environmental Management: Life Cycle Assessment and carbon footprint
- + Biological treatment of gaseous waste streams

# *Development, operation and control of wastewater treatment technologies*

- ✚ Removal of micropollutants contained in municipal wastewater
- ✚ Removal of nitrogen
- ✚ Membrane bioreactors
- ✚ Monitoring, control and operation of anaerobic digesters
- ✚ Aerobic granulation
- ✚ Recovery of phosphate as struvite





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## Introduction

Hybrid Biofilm-Suspended Biomass MBR, Lab scale

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*Brine stream wastewater*

*Steam injection wastewater*

## Conclusions

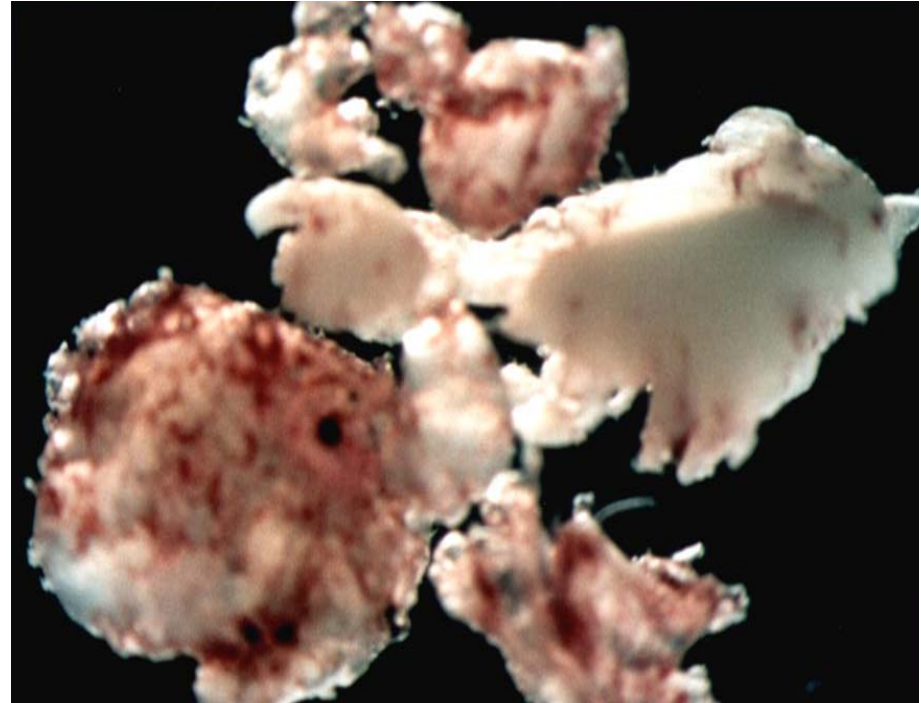
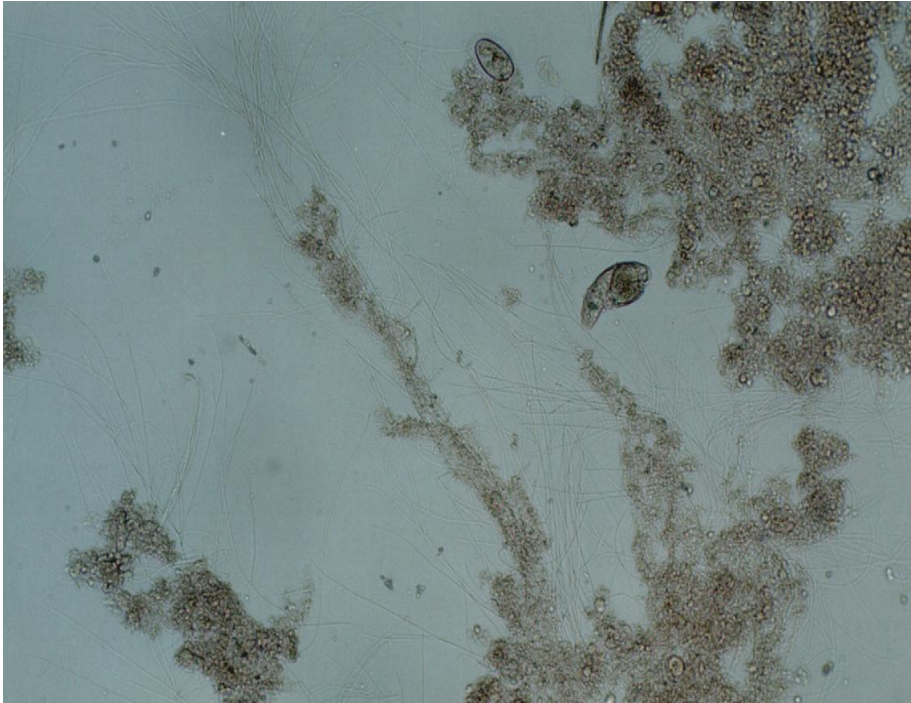
## Acknowledgements

# Hybrid Biofilm-Suspended biomass MBRs

*a little of history...*

# Hybrid MBR

## Suspended and Adhered Biomass





# Lab-scale, Hybrid MBR

Membrane

Aerobic chamber  
biofilms+suspended  
biomass

Anoxic chamber





**Membrane:  
Zenon ZW-1**



# Lab-scale experiments

**Wastewaters fed during the lab-scale experiments:**

**Synthetic (Readily biodegradable COD)**

**Fish-canning factories**

**Tanning factories (suspended COD ↑)**



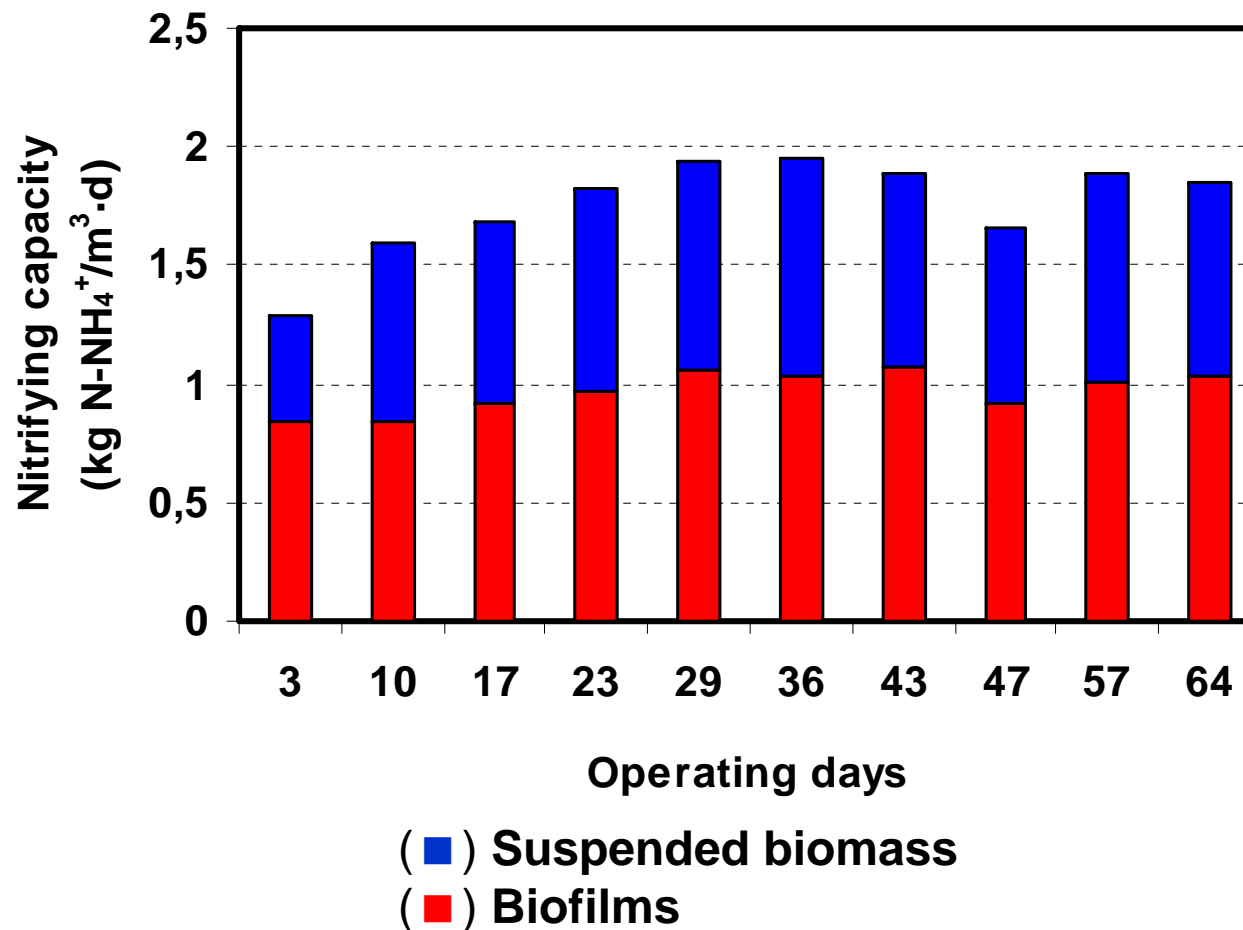
# Lab-scale experiments

## Fish canning factory ww, OLR and NLR

<b>Days</b>	<b>NLR (kg N/m<sup>3</sup>-d)</b>	<b>OLR (kg COD/m<sup>3</sup>-d)</b>
<b>0-45</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>3.2 – 4.7</b>
<b>46-68</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.1 - 2.3</b>

# Nitrifying capacity: Biofilm & Suspended biomass

## Wastewater from a Fish canning factory



# Urban Sewage

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University of Santiago de Compostela**





***Pilot plan in the Sewage Treatment Plant  
(Bertamiráns, Galiza)***



14 1 2005



*Pilot plant*

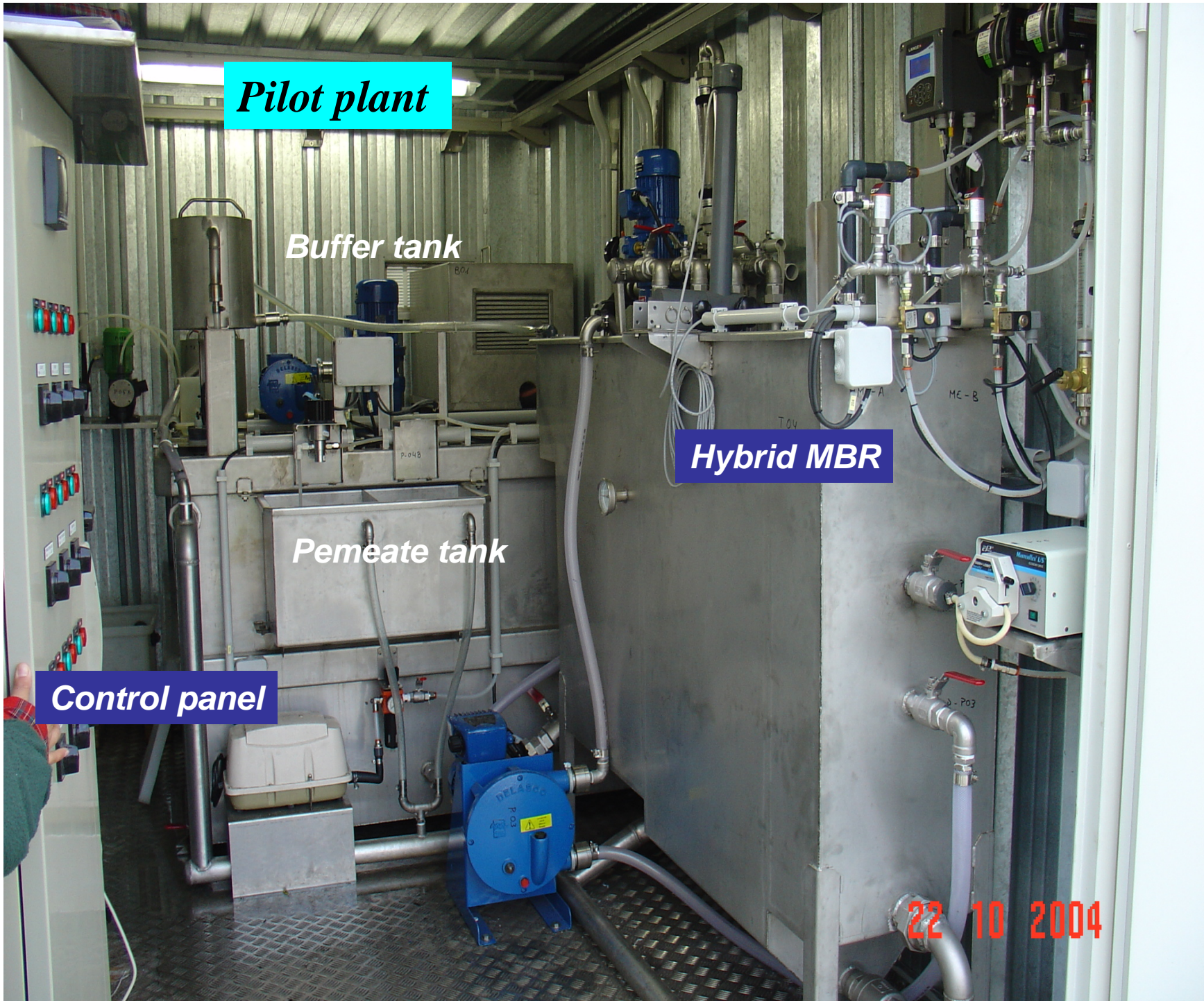
*Buffer tank*

*Pemeate tank*

*Hybrid MBR*

*Control panel*

22 10 2004





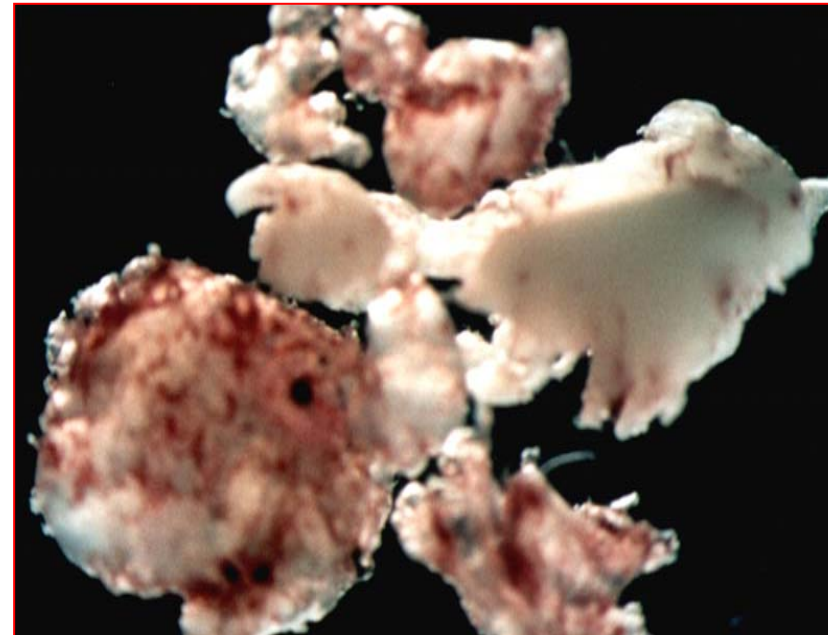
# Urban Sewage

## Support:

Granular rough particles of high density polyethylene (HDPE)

Size 1-3 mm

Density  $0.89 \text{ g/cm}^3$





# Filtration Membranes



**MF**  
**Porous Fibers (País Vasco)**



**UF**  
**Zenon Inc. ZW-10 (Canadá)**

## Characteristics of the membranes

<b>Membrane module</b>	<b>Module</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>	<b>Operating time (d)</b>
<b>Microfiltration (MF)</b> <b>Porous Fibers (Spain)</b> <u>Pore size 0.4 <math>\mu\text{m}</math></u>	<b>A</b>	<b>3% “looseness”</b> <b>Length 350 mm</b>	<b>0-42</b> <b>54-117</b>
	<b>B</b>	<b>350 mm length</b> <b>3% “looseness”</b>	<b>43-53</b>
	<b>C</b>	<b>550 mm length</b> <b>6% “looseness”</b>	<b>118-182</b>
<b>Ultrafiltration (UF)</b> <b>Zenon (Canada)</b> <u>Pore size 0.04 <math>\mu\text{m}</math></u>	<b>ZW-10</b>		<b>0-286</b>

## RESULTS

### UF and MF Membranes:

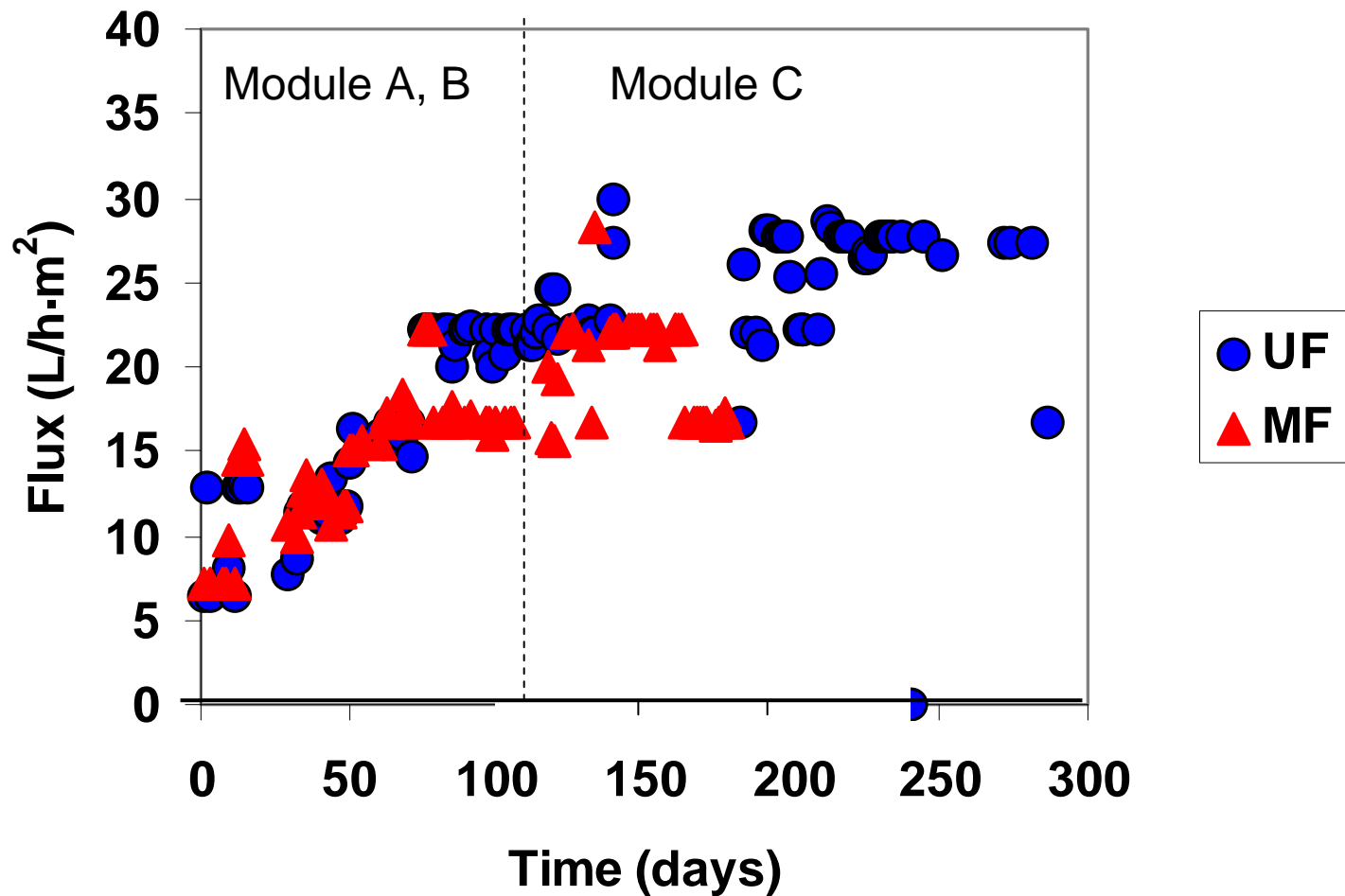
**Flux**

**Transmembrane pressure**

**Permeability**

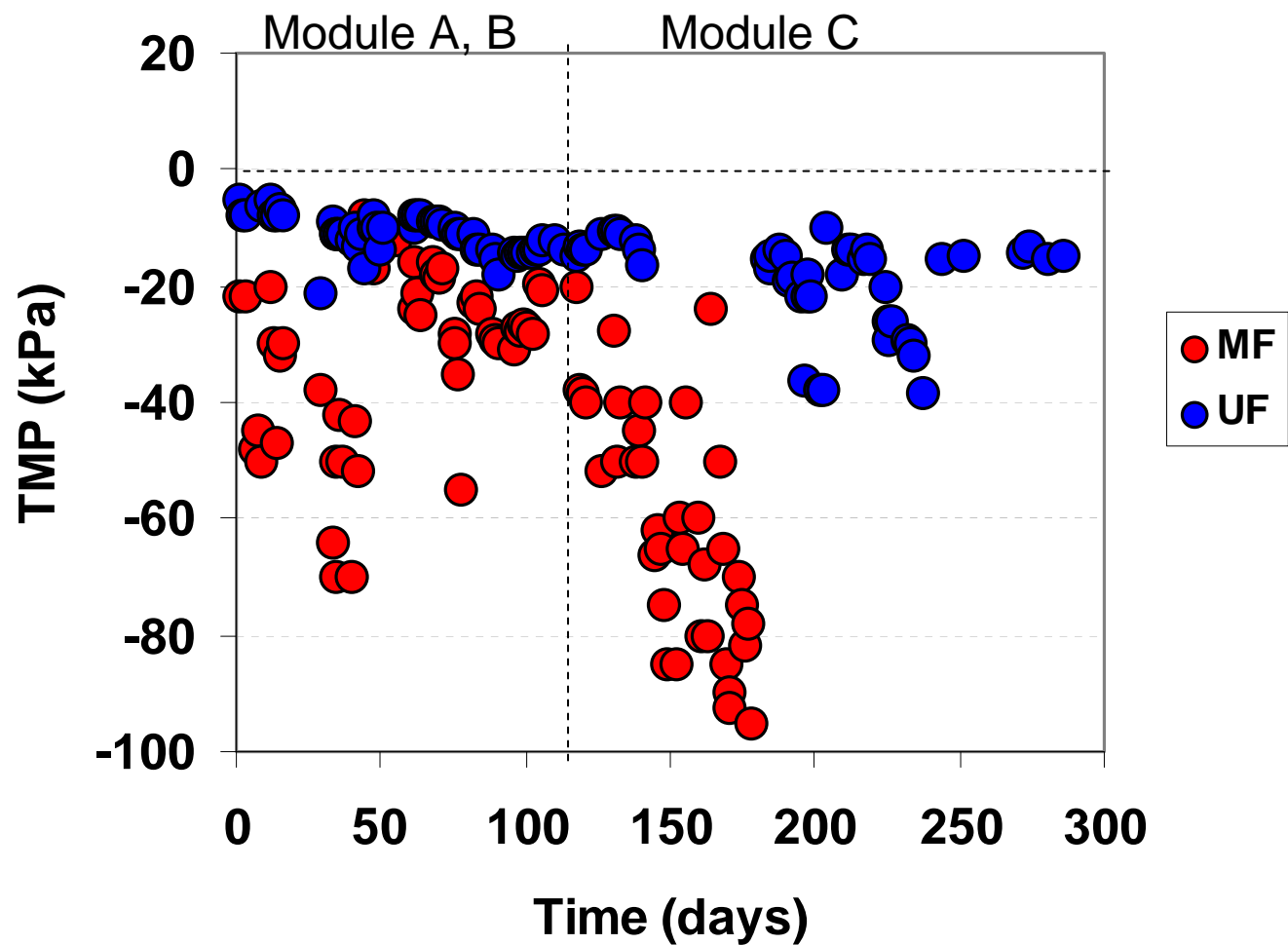
**Microscopical observations**

## Flux of permeate in UF and MF membranes

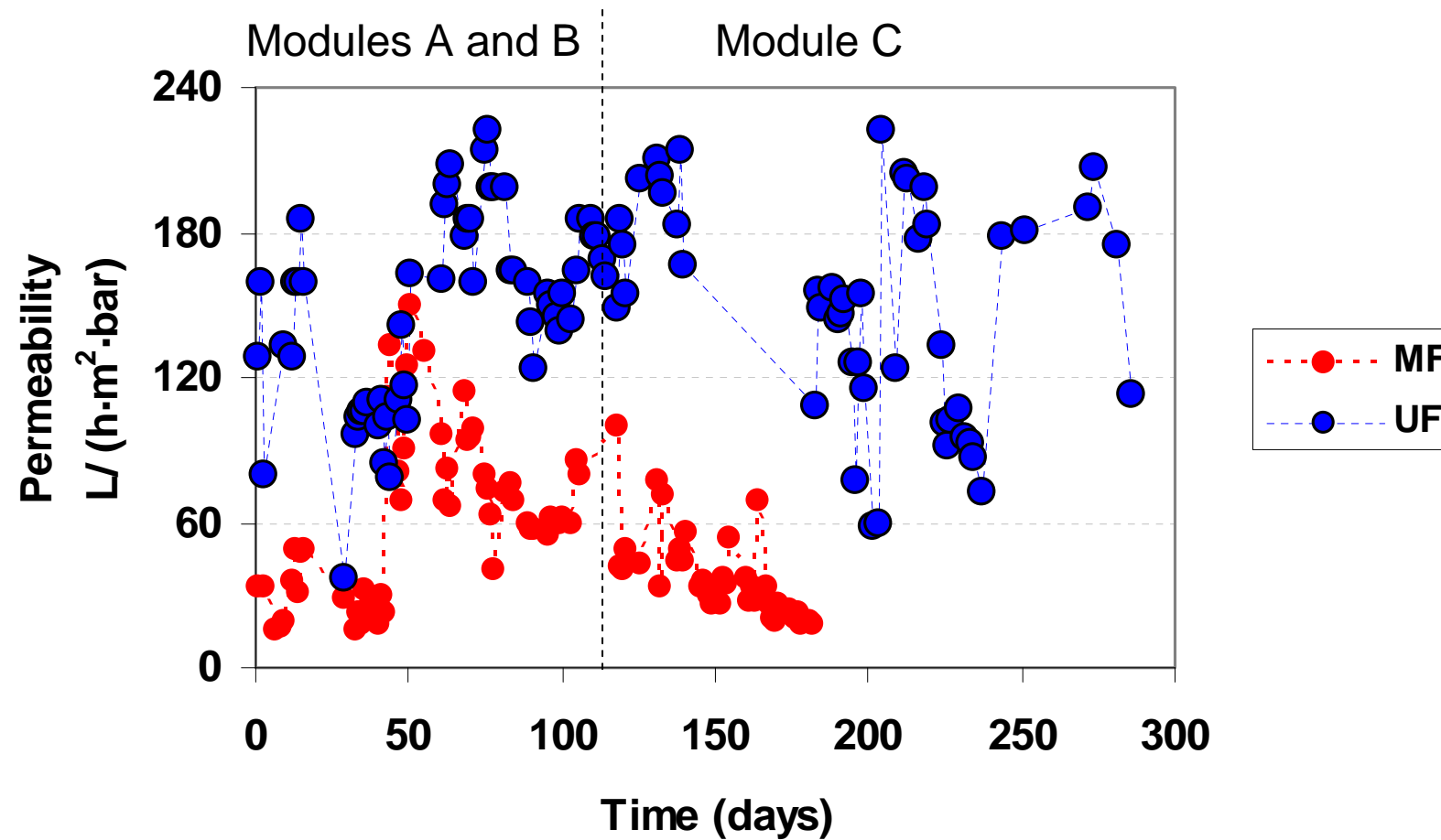




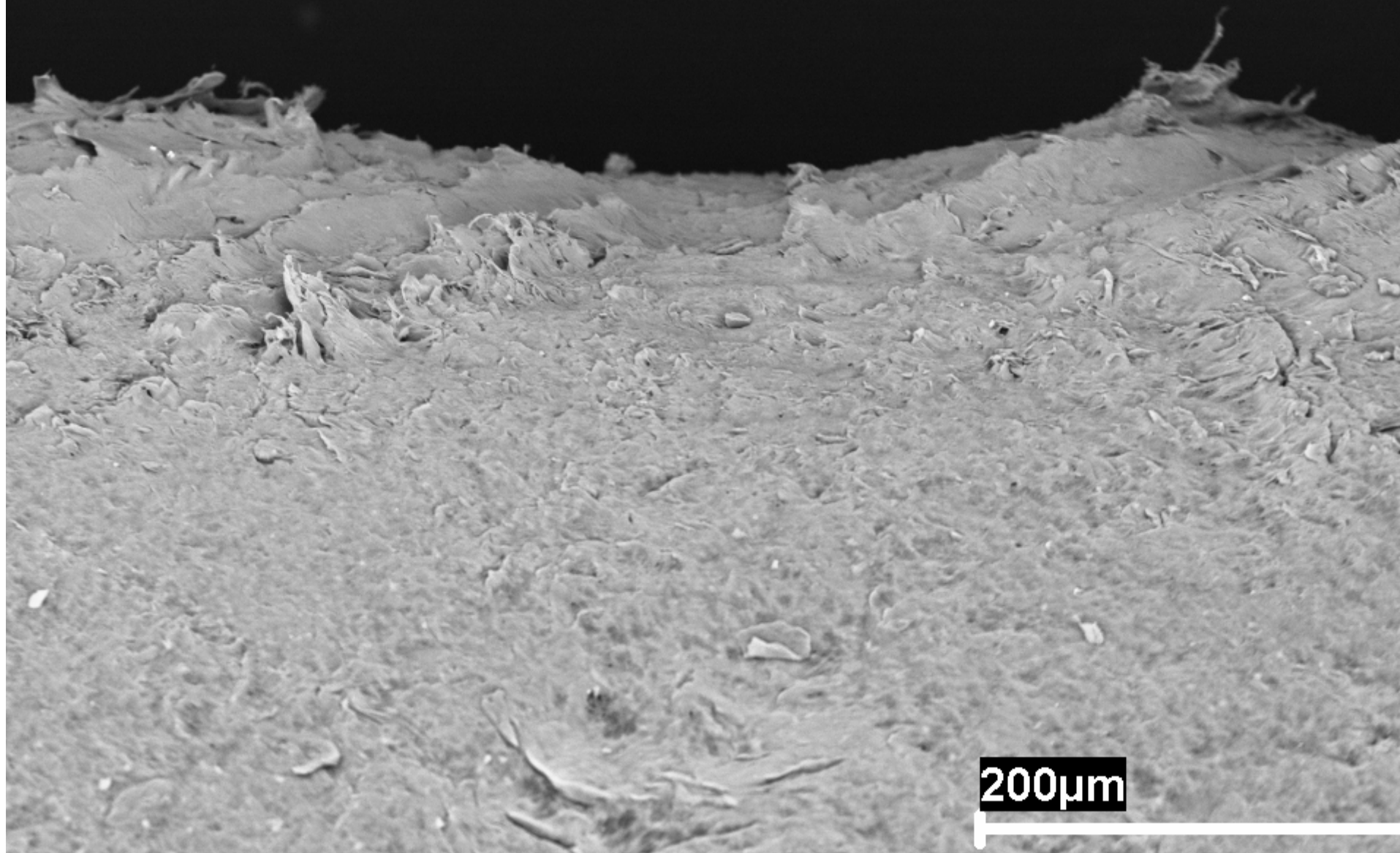
## Transmembrane Pressure (TMP)



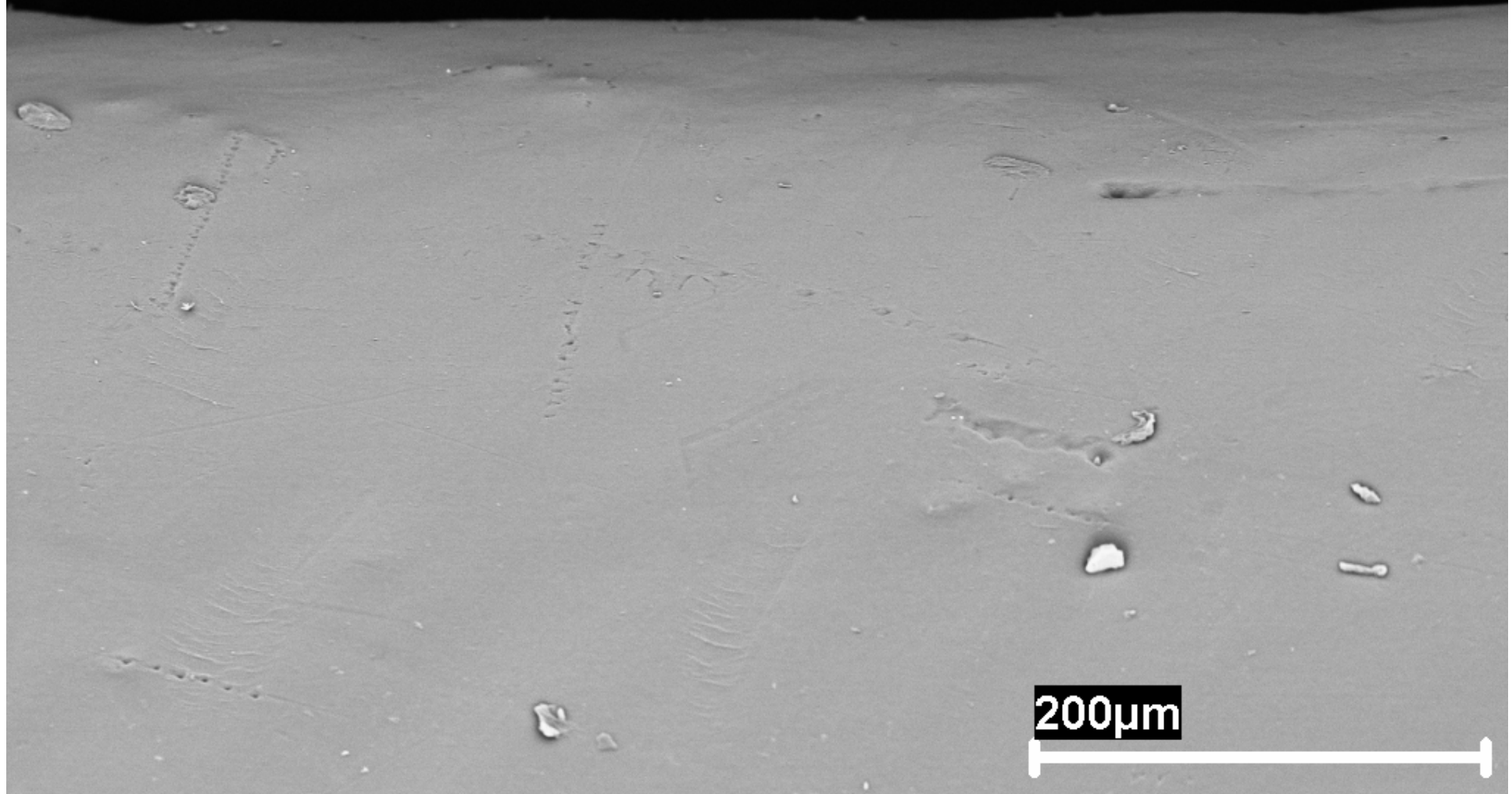
## Permeability of both membranes



## External surface MF membrane



# External surface UF membrane





## RESULTS

### Chemicals, biomass, microorganisms:

**COD**

**OLR and COD efficiency**

**Ammonia nitrogen**

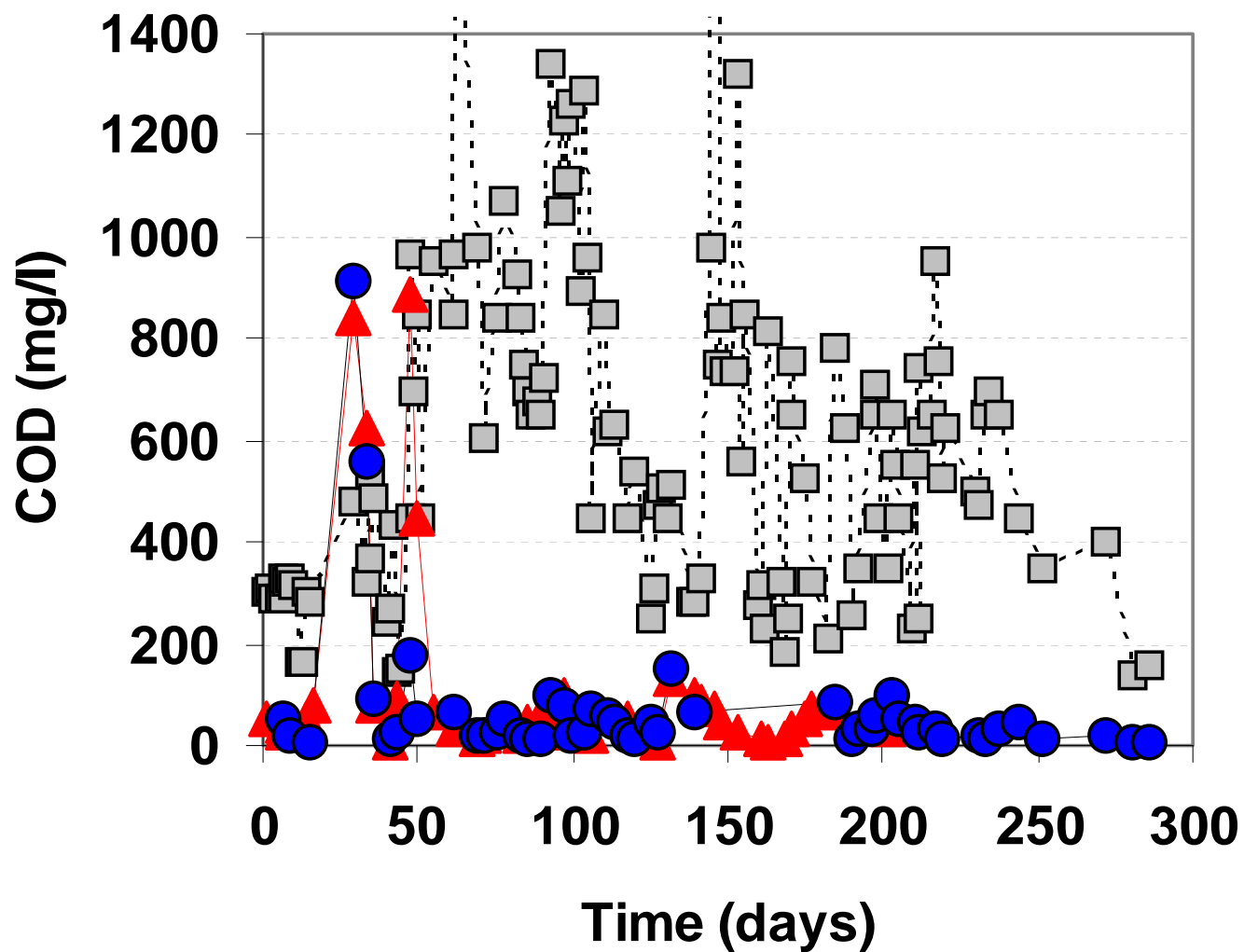
**Nitrate**

**Biomass**

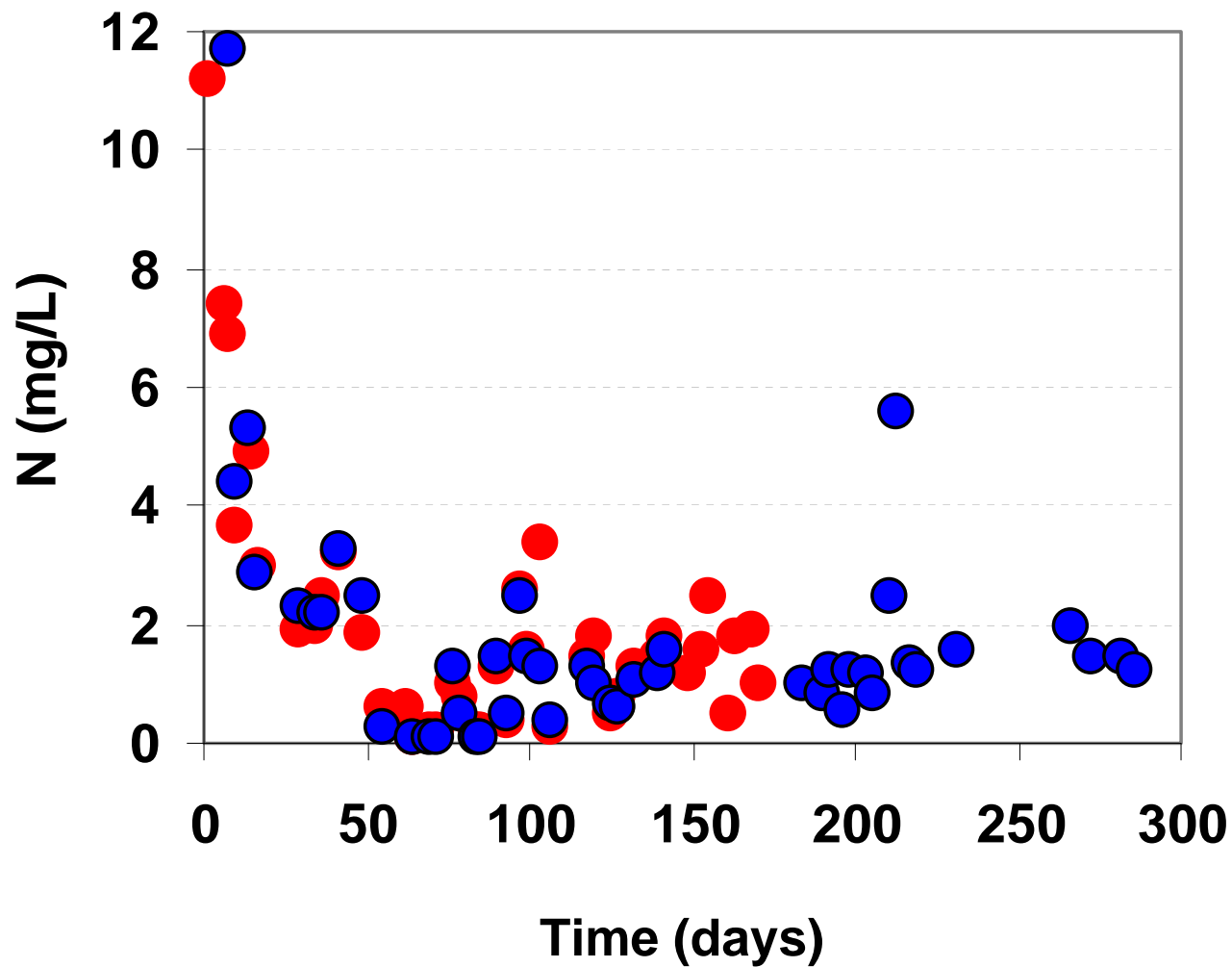
**Turbidity**

**Microorganisms (Total Coliforms,  
E. Coli, Nematodes eggs)**

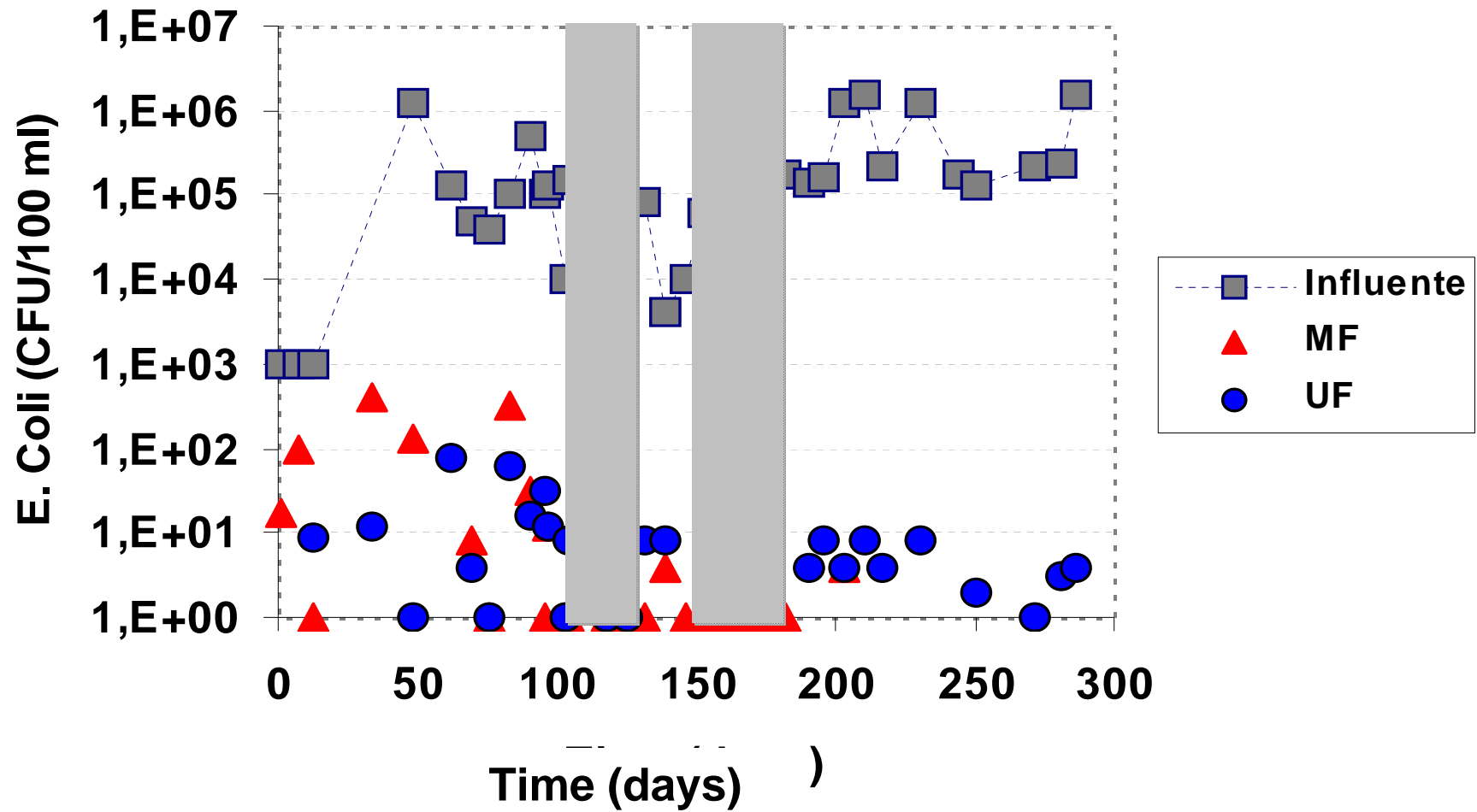
## Organic matter (COD)



## Ammonia Nitrogen in the permeates

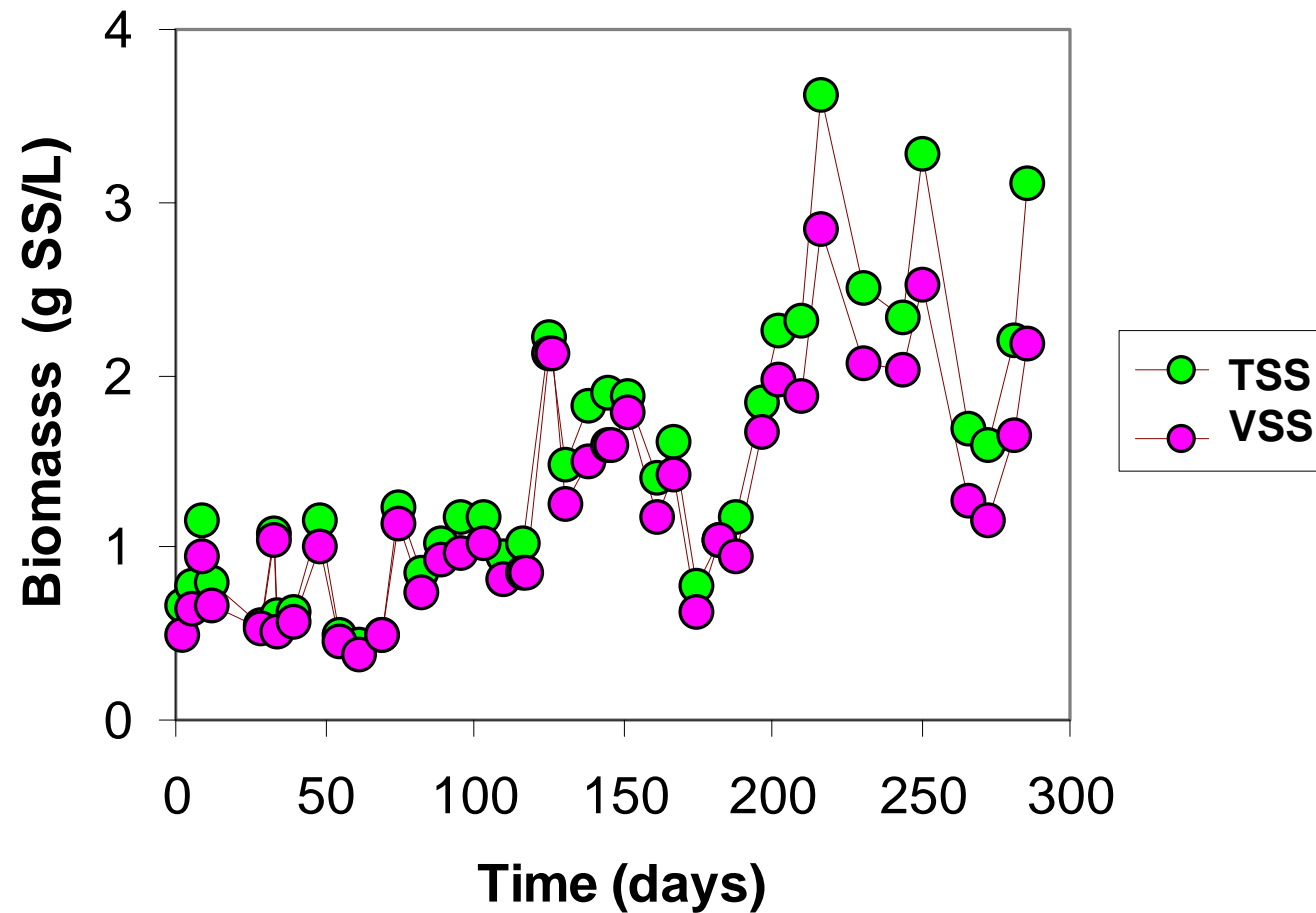


## Nitrate in the influent and permeates



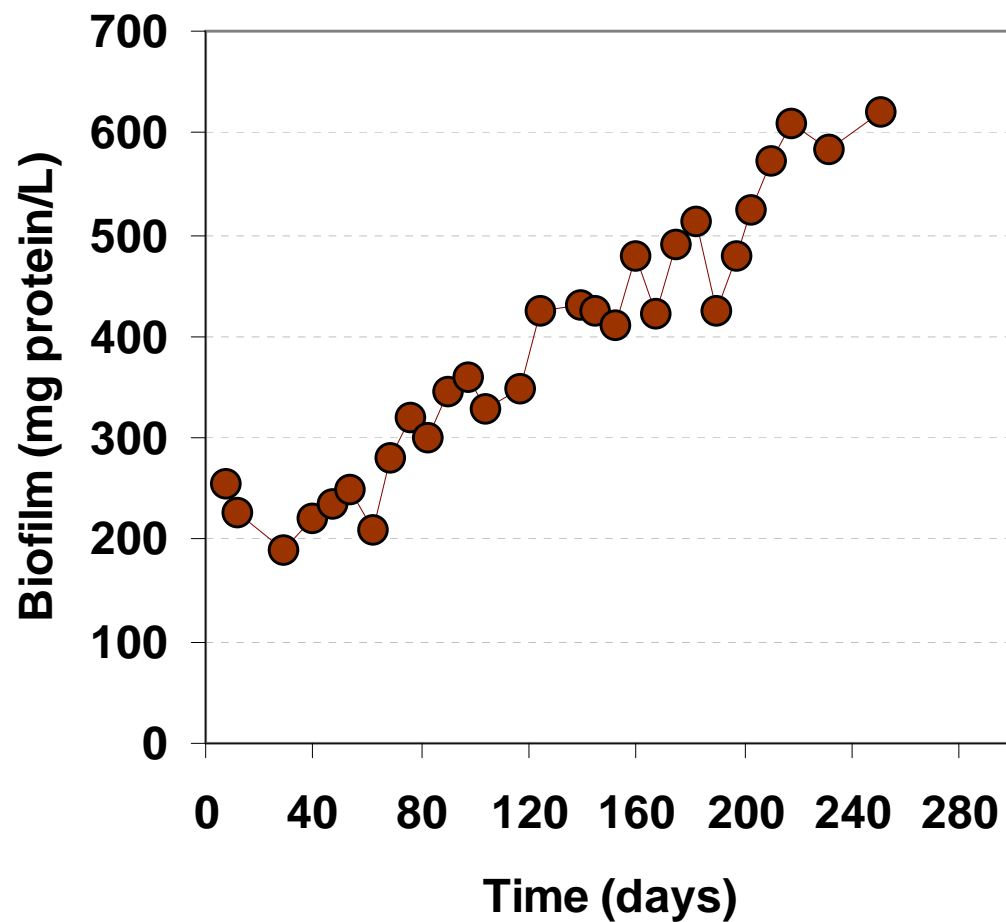


## Suspended Biomass Concentration

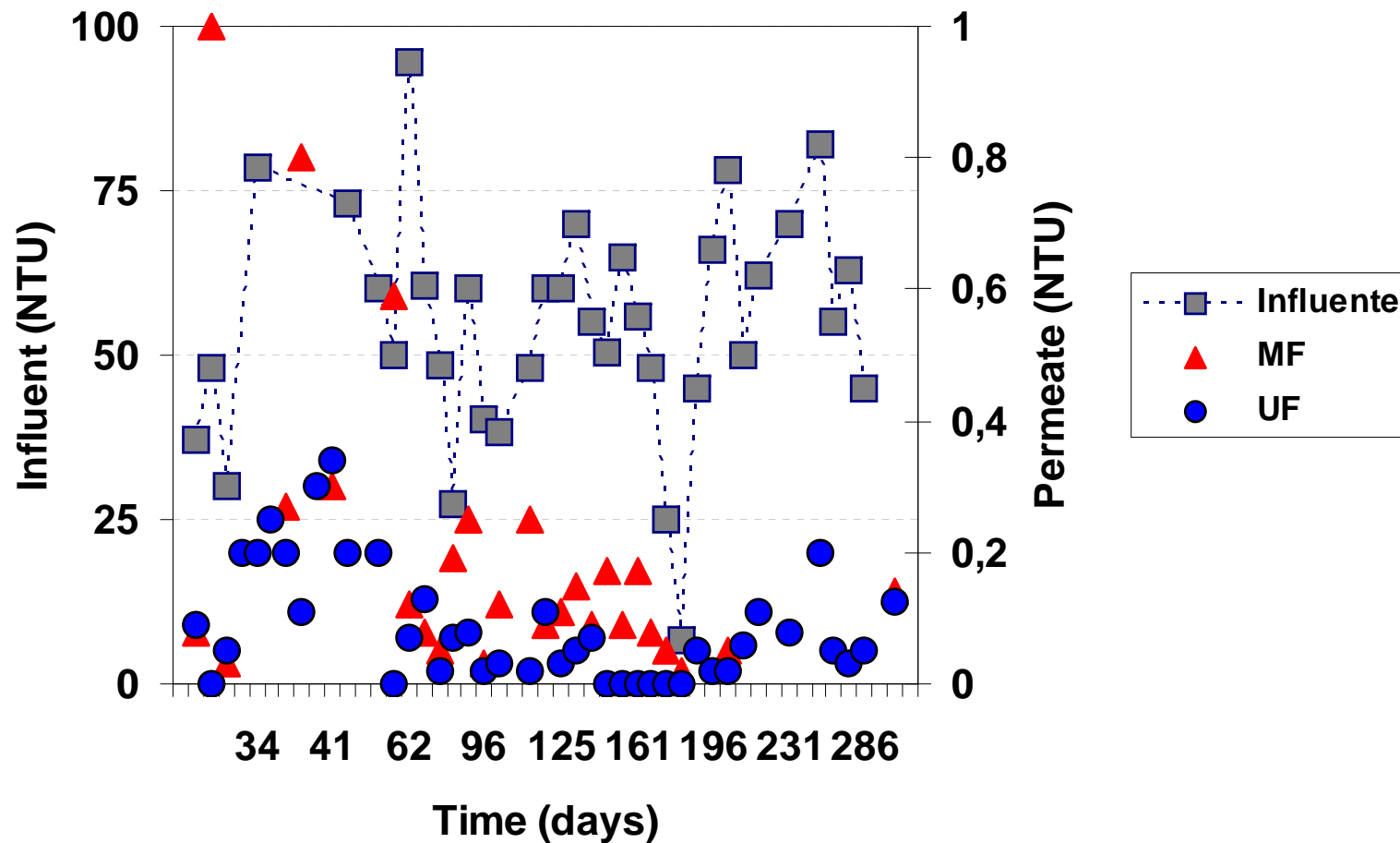


**Biomass was not wasted from the plant during the experiments!**

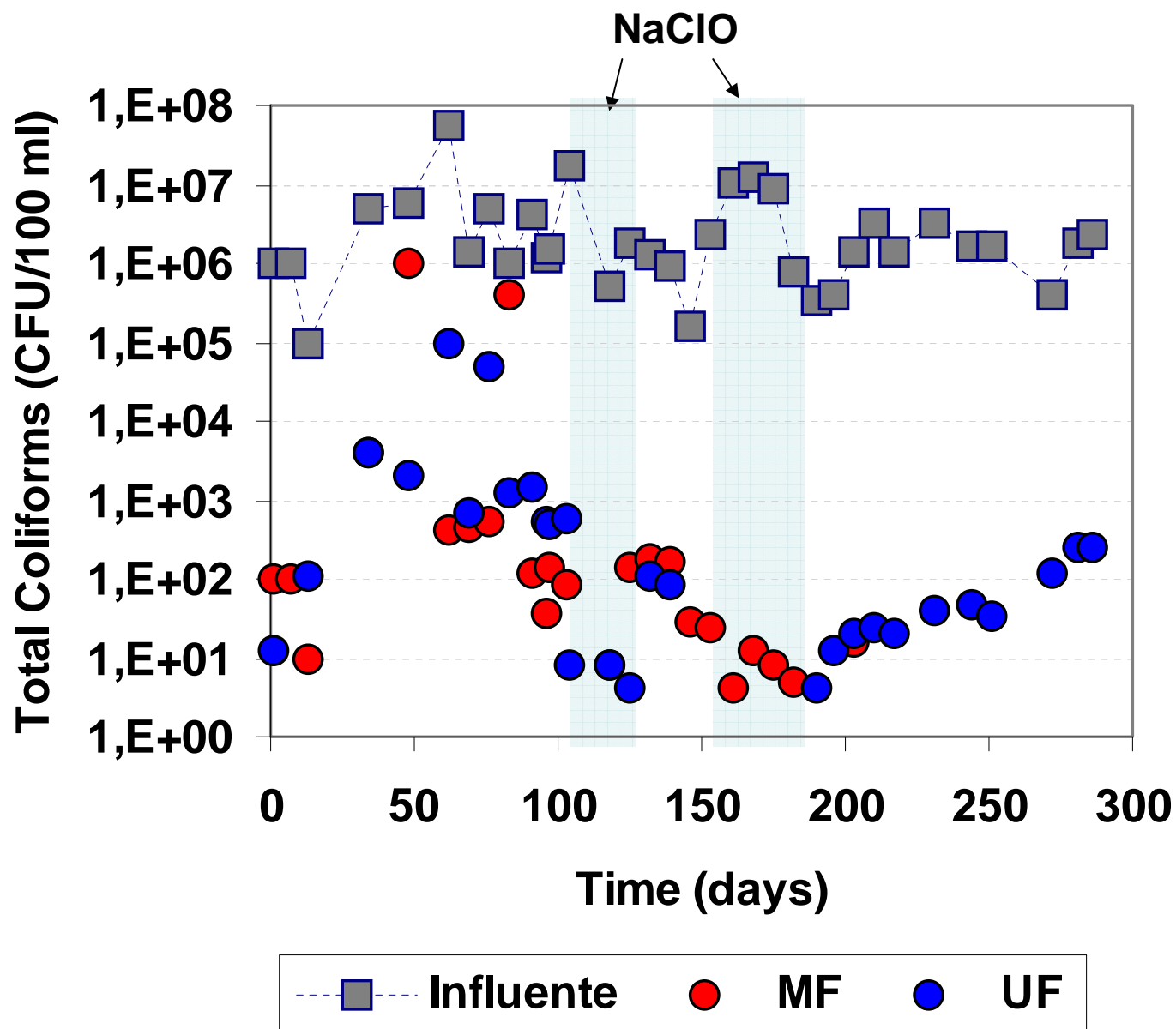
## Biomass adhered to the biofilm



## Turbidity in the influent and permeates

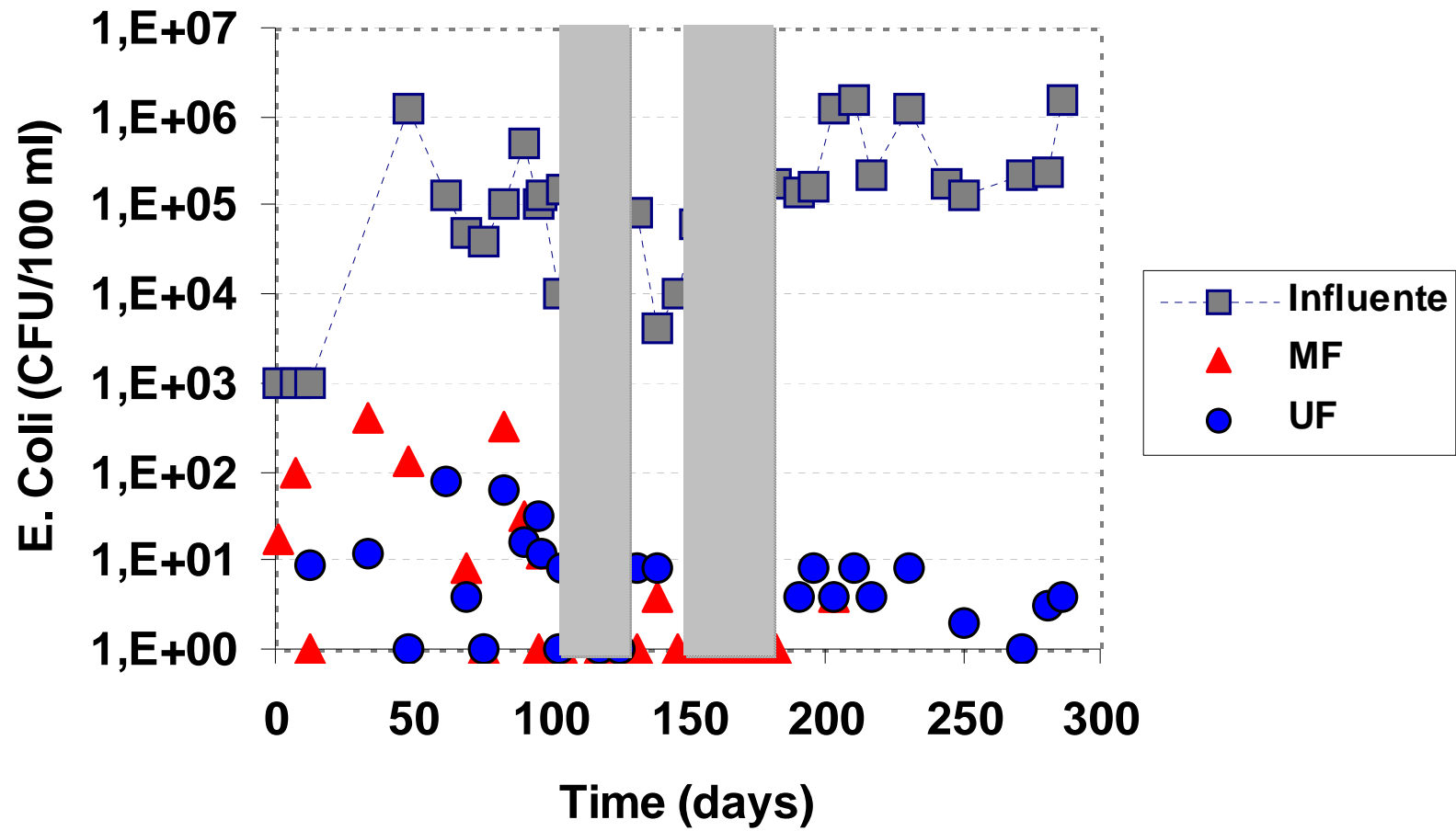


## Total Coliforms in the influent and permeates

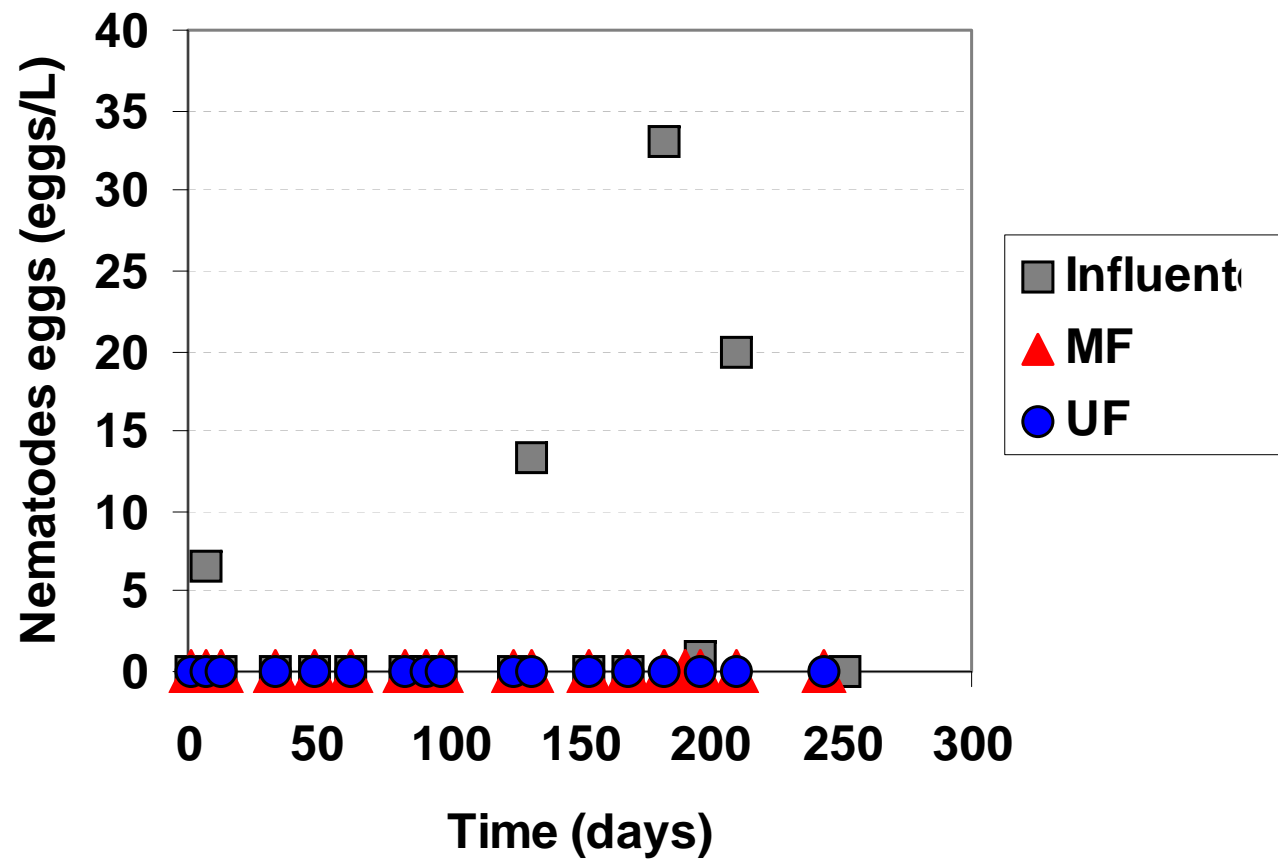




## *Escherichia Coli* in the influent and permeates



## Nematode eggs in the influent and permeates



	<b>California Water Reuse Guidelines</b>		<b>Results in the MBR plant</b>
	<b>Unrestricted Urban Reuse</b>	<b>Restricted Urban Reuse</b>	
<b>Treatment</b>	Oxidized, coagulated, filtered, and disinfected	Secondary, oxidized and disinfected	<b>Secondary, filtered</b>
<b>BOD<sub>5</sub></b>	NS	NS	<b>COD Eff = 88%</b> <b>COD 70 mg/L (Avg)</b>
<b>TSS</b>	NS	NS	<b>ND</b>
<b>Turbidity</b>	2 NTU (Avg) 5 NTU (Max)	NS	<b>0.12 NTU (Avg)</b> <b>1 NTU (Max)</b>
<b>Total Coliforms</b>	2.2/100 ml (Avg) 23/100 ml (Max)	23/100 ml (Avg) 240/100 ml (Max)	<b>4-28/100 ml</b>

**NS: Not specified**



## Water reuse experiments:

4 Plant Pots. Growth of grass irrigated with:

- Permeate of the UF membrane
- Permeate of the MF membrane
- Tap water
- Tap water and nutrients (added)



## Conclusions

### Membranes:

**The operation of the MF was problematic.**

**The UF module has shown to be reliable.**

**MF operated below 22 L/m<sup>2</sup>·h.**

**UF module can be operated up to 30 L/m<sup>2</sup>·h.**

## Conclusions

**Very low biomass production. Biomass was not wasted.**

**Suspended biomass lower than 3 g/L TSS.**

**Biofilm concentration lower than 600 mg/L protein.**

**COD effluent < 100 mg COD/L.**

**N efficiency: 75%**

**Amonia < 3 mg N-NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>/L and Nitrate < 10-15 mg N-NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/L.**

**OLR < 2 kg COD/m<sup>3</sup>·d.**

## Conclusions

**Permeates with low Turbidity (Often below 0.2 NTU)**

**Membranes retained the nematode eggs**

**Secondary contamination of the permeates detected**

**Lower E. Coli or Total Coliforms when NaClO used (Once per week)**

**Disinfection still required for unrestricted urban reuse**

**Experiments in plant pots: No significant difference observed**



# Fish canning Wastewaters

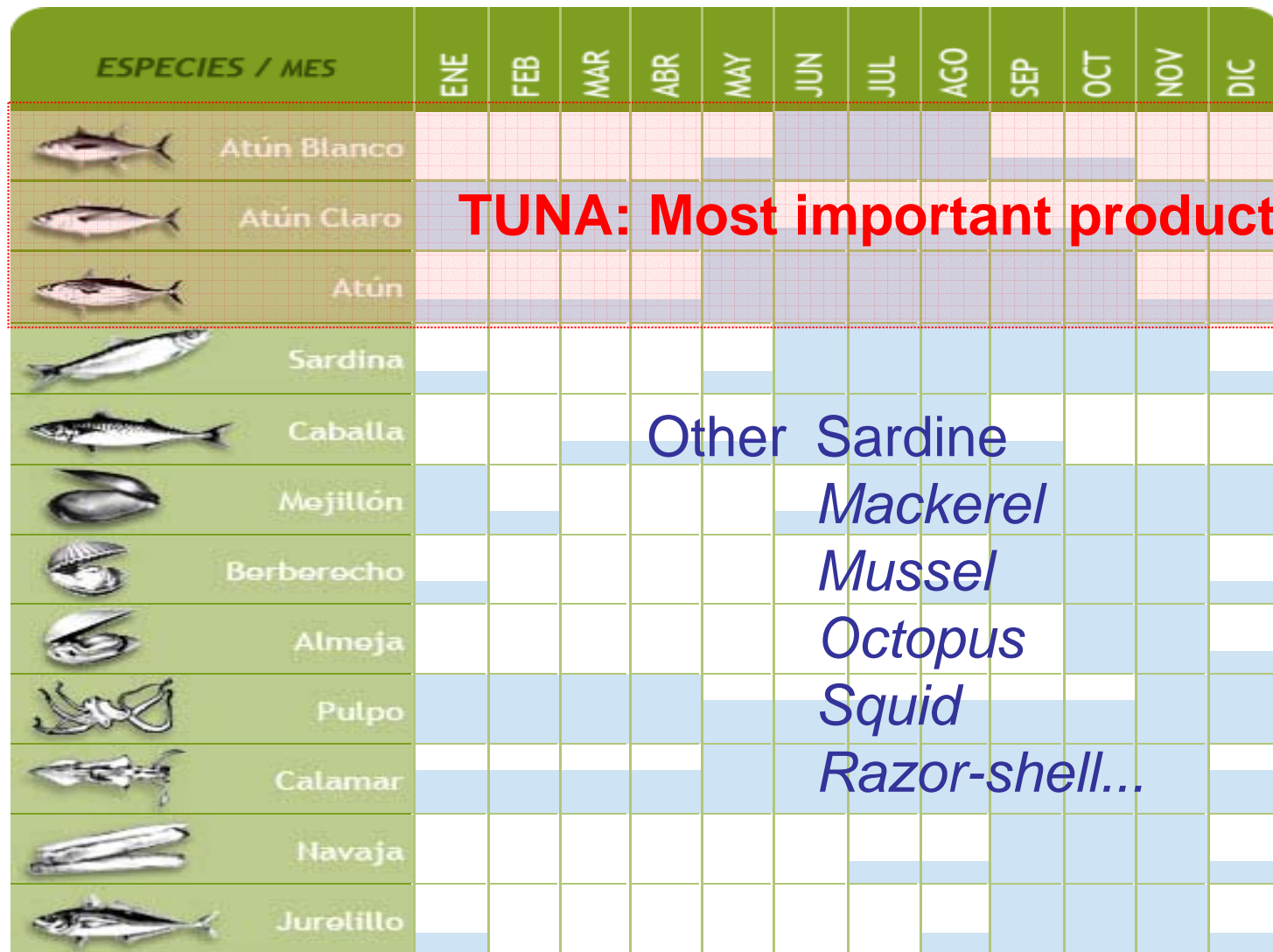
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# *Fish canning factories in Spain*

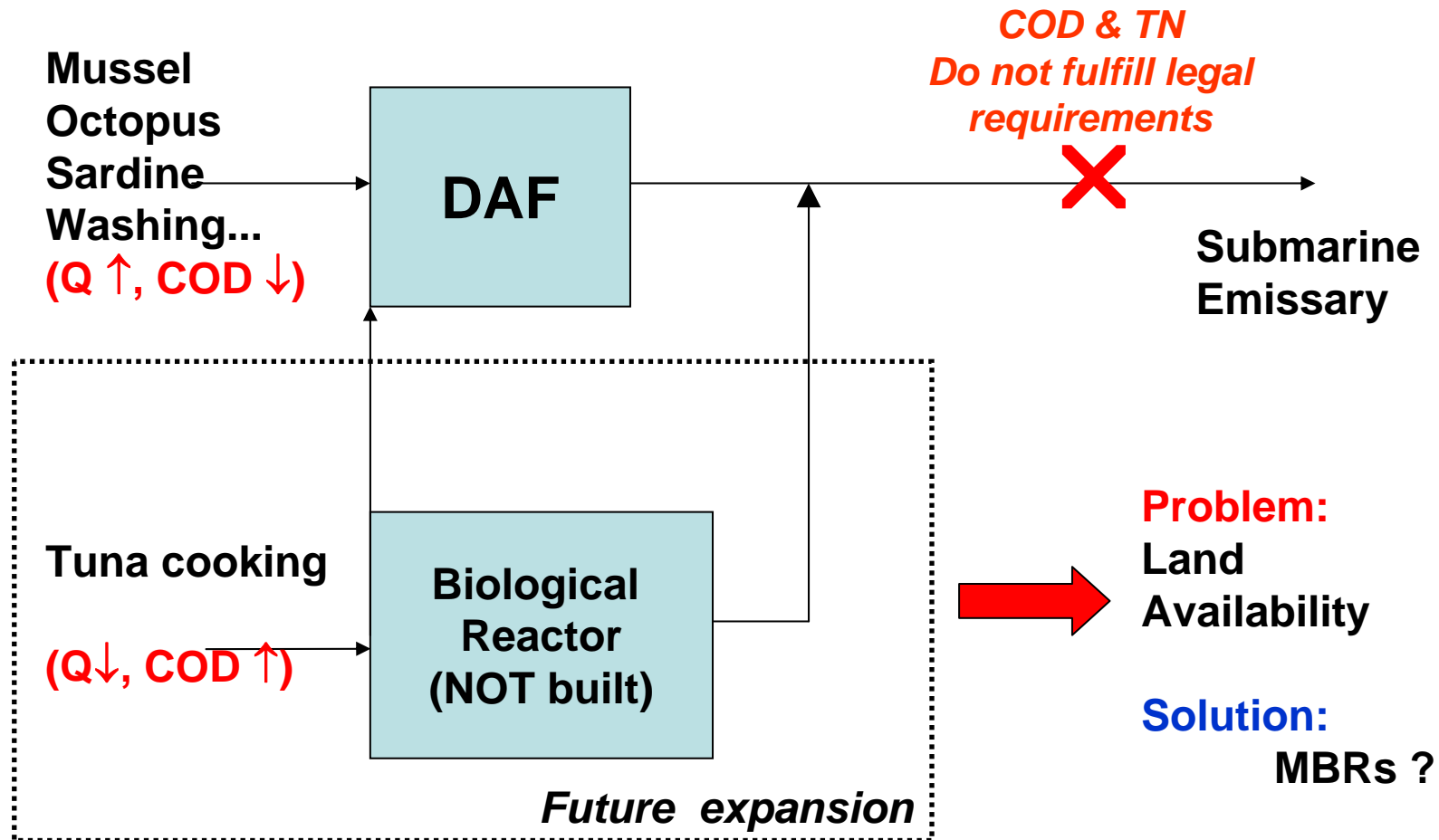


# Processed Fish Products



**DIFFERENT Wastewater Streams GENERATED !**

# Wastewater treatment plant: Process flowsheet





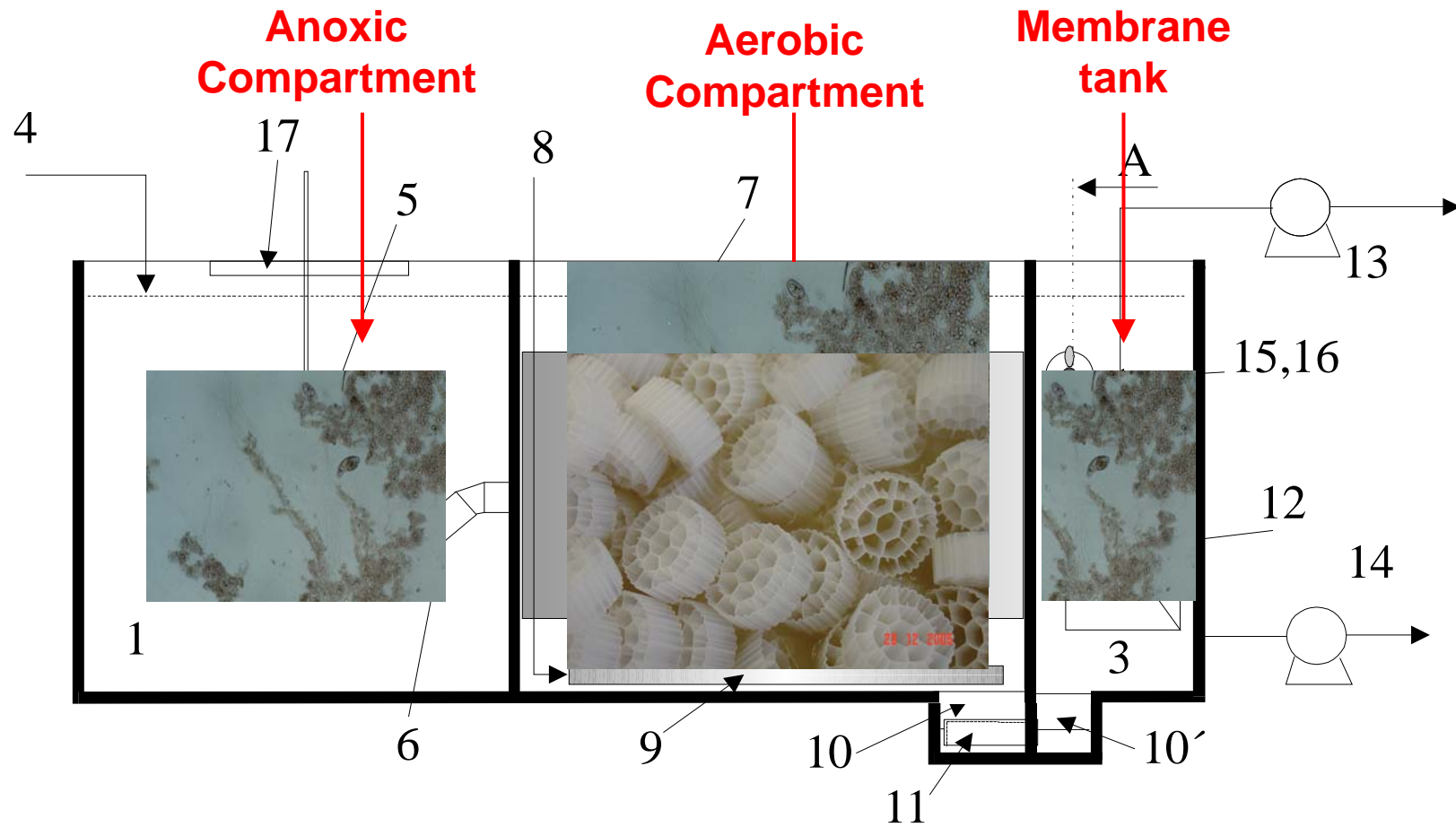
- ❑ To evaluate the use of a Hybrid Biofilm-Suspended Biomass MBR for treating the wastewaters generated during tuna cooking.
  
- ❑ 2 different Tuna cooking processes are used by Fish Canning Factories:
  - ❑ **Brine Immersion (high salinity)**
  
  - ❑ **Steam injection (lower salinity)**

# Pilot Scale Hybrid MBR & Wastewater

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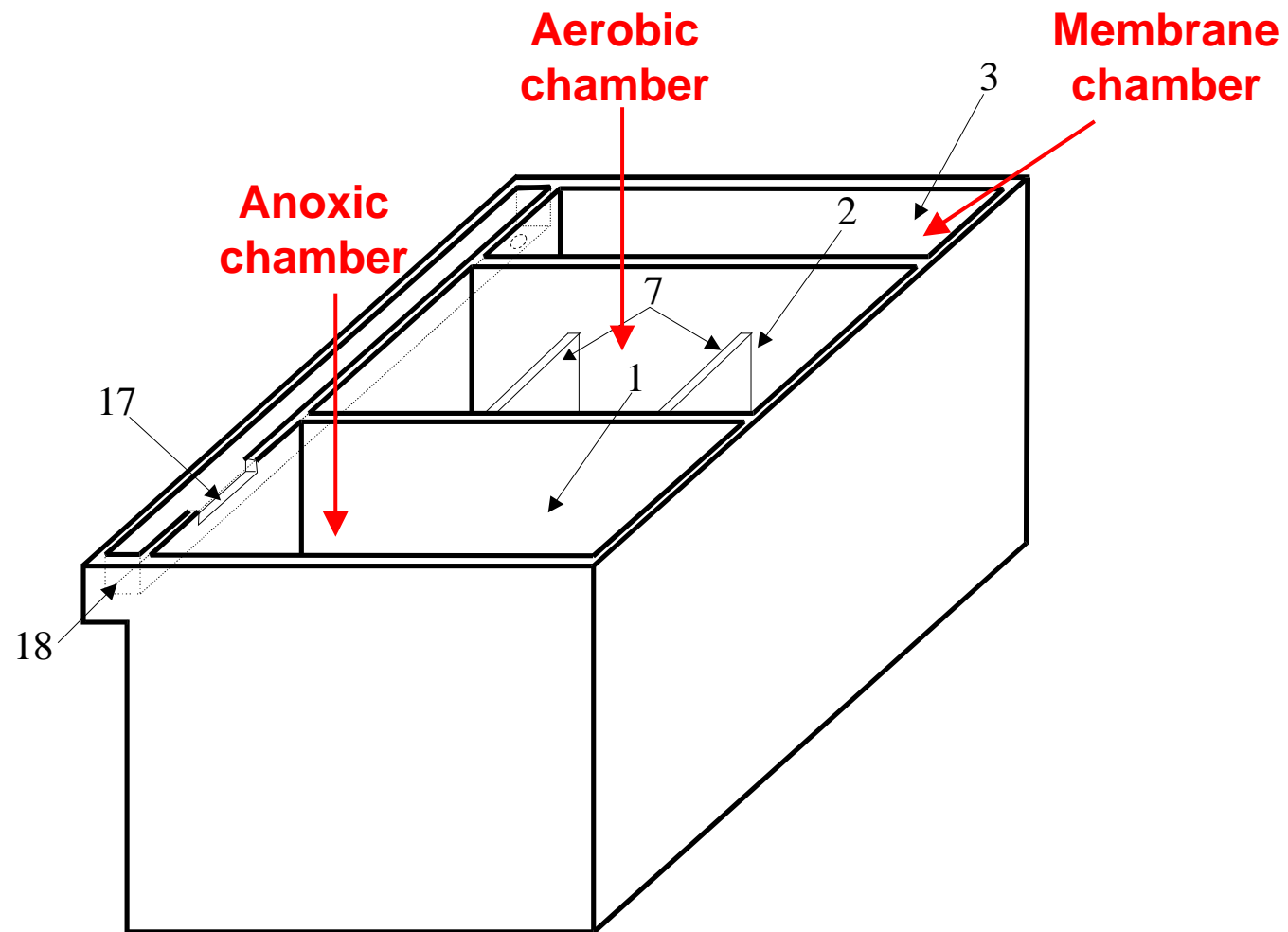


# Schematic of the Hybrid MBR (pilot scale)



European Patent 1.484.287; University de Santiago de Compostela

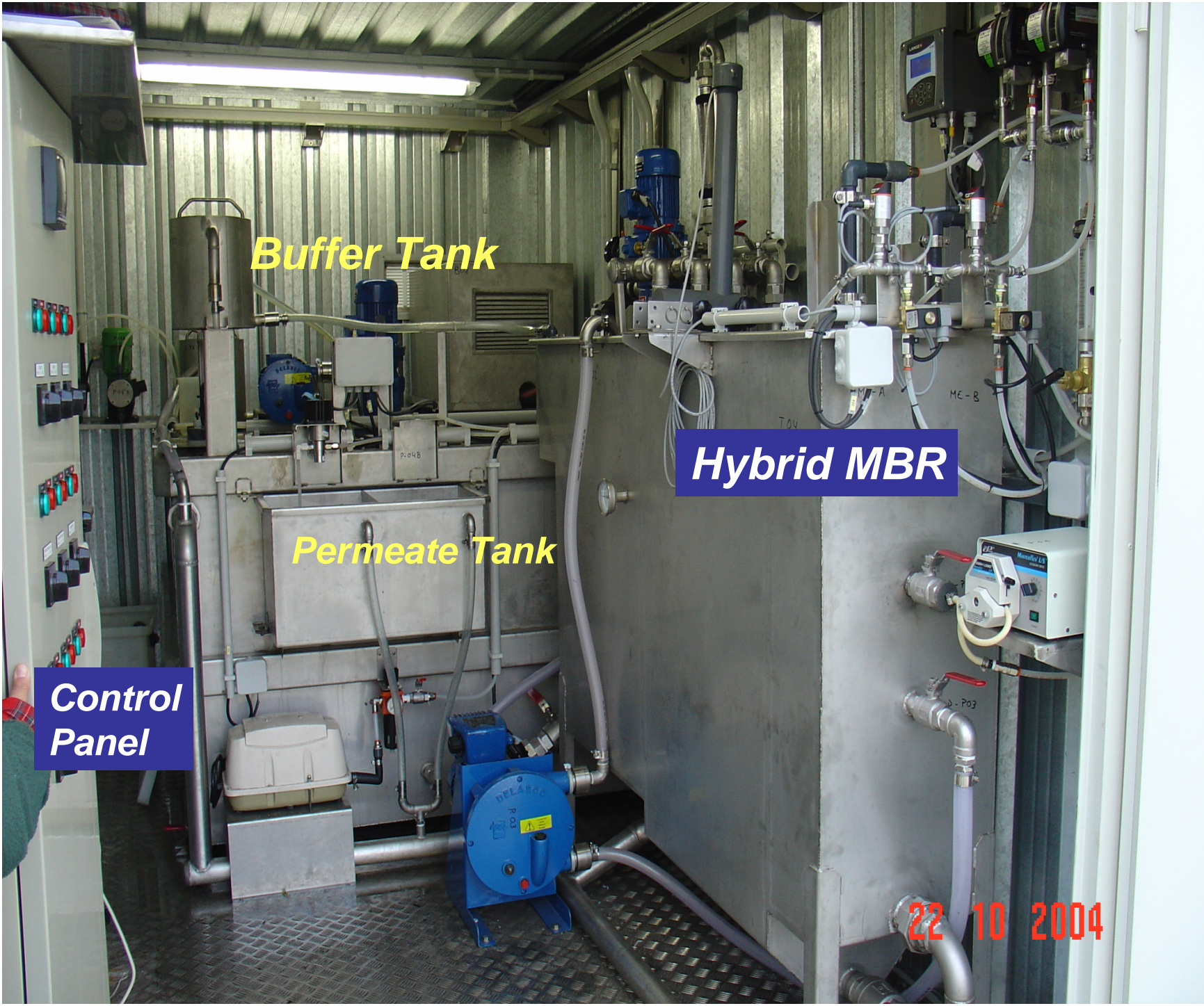
# Schematic of the Hybrid MBR (pilot scale)



**Pilot Plant in the Fish Canning Factory  
(Vigo's Fjord, Galicia)**







*Buffer Tank*

*Permeate Tank*

**Hybrid MBR**

**Control Panel**

22 10 2004



## Support: Kaldness K-3



**Aerobic chamber**

## Hollow fiber membrane

Module: **Zenon ZW-10**

Average pore size: 0.04  $\mu\text{m}$

Nominal surface area: 0.9  $\text{m}^2$

## Operation

15 min permeation

45 s backwashing with permeate



## Hollow fiber membrane

Module: **Porous Fibers**

Average pore size: 0.4  $\mu\text{m}$

Nominal surface area: 0.9  $\text{m}^2$

Looseness: 6%

Length: 350 mm

## Operation

15 min permeation

45 s backwashing with permeate





## External tubular membrane

Module: X-Flow, model 11 PE

Average pore size: 0.03  $\mu\text{m}$

Nominal surface area: 0.150  $\text{m}^2$

Diameter of the tubes: 8 mm tubes  
(7 tubes)



**X-Flow**



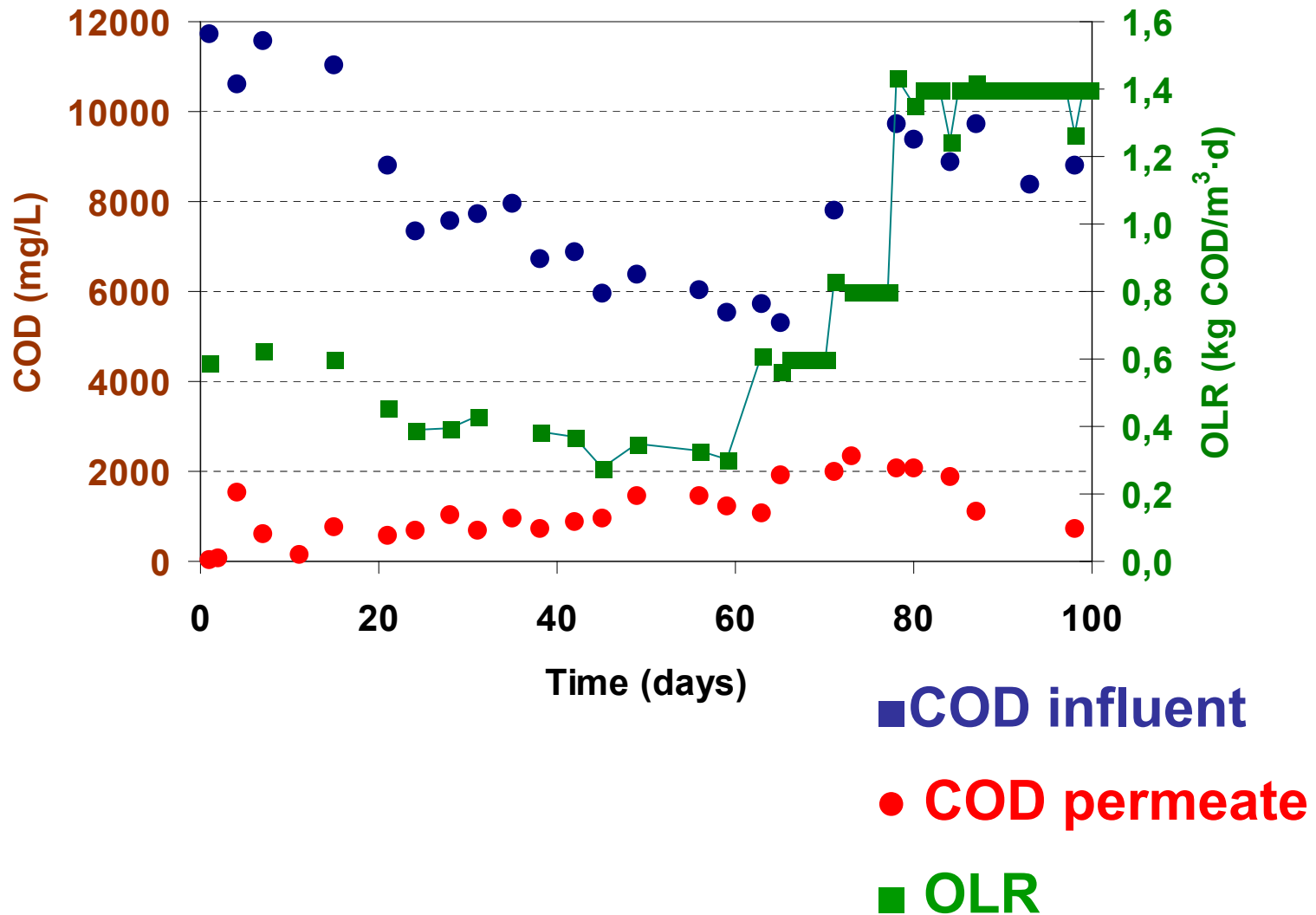
# Wastewater streams

## Characterization of the 2 wastewater employed during the study

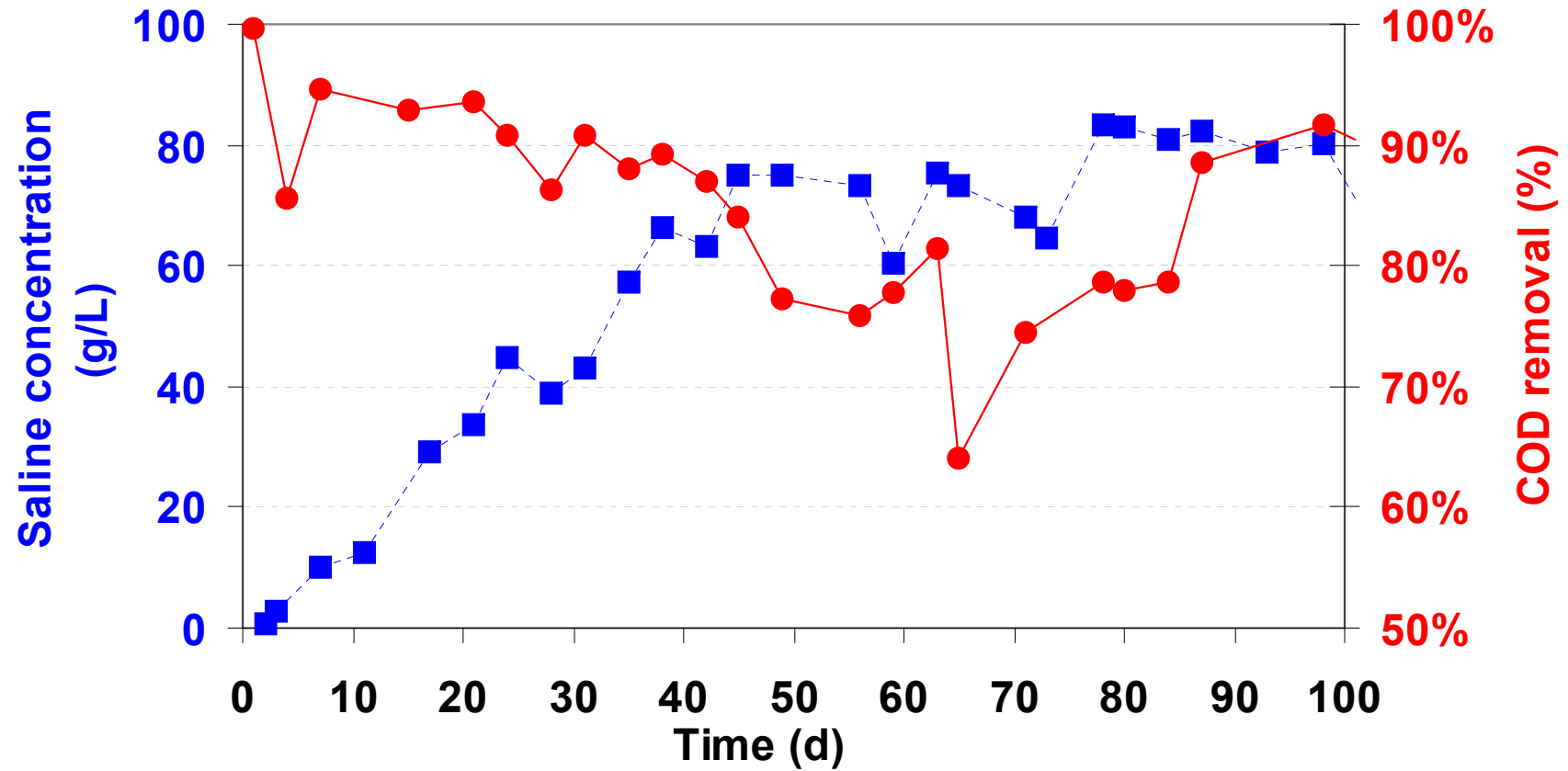
Parameters	Brine wastewater First stage	Steam wastewater Second stage
<b>Period (days)</b>	<b>0-98</b>	<b>100-225</b>
<b>Conductivity (mS/cm)</b>	<b>Up to 89</b>	<b>&lt; 20</b>
<b>Total COD (g/L)</b>	<b>8-12</b>	<b>17-26</b>
<b>Soluble COD (g/L)</b>	<b>7-11</b>	<b>16-25</b>
<b>Oil and Fats (g/L)</b>	<b>0.5-0.7</b>	<b>0.7-1.7</b>
<b>TSS (g/L)</b>	<b>1.1-2.1</b>	<b>1-1.2</b>
<b>Total Nitrogen (g/L)</b>	<b>1.2-1.8</b>	<b>2.5-4</b>
<b>Membrane Module used</b>	<b>Zenon ZW-10</b>	<b>Zenon ZW-10 (100-112 d) Porous Fibers (day &gt; 112) X-Flow (117-176 &amp; 218-327)</b>

# Results: First stage, Brine Wastewater

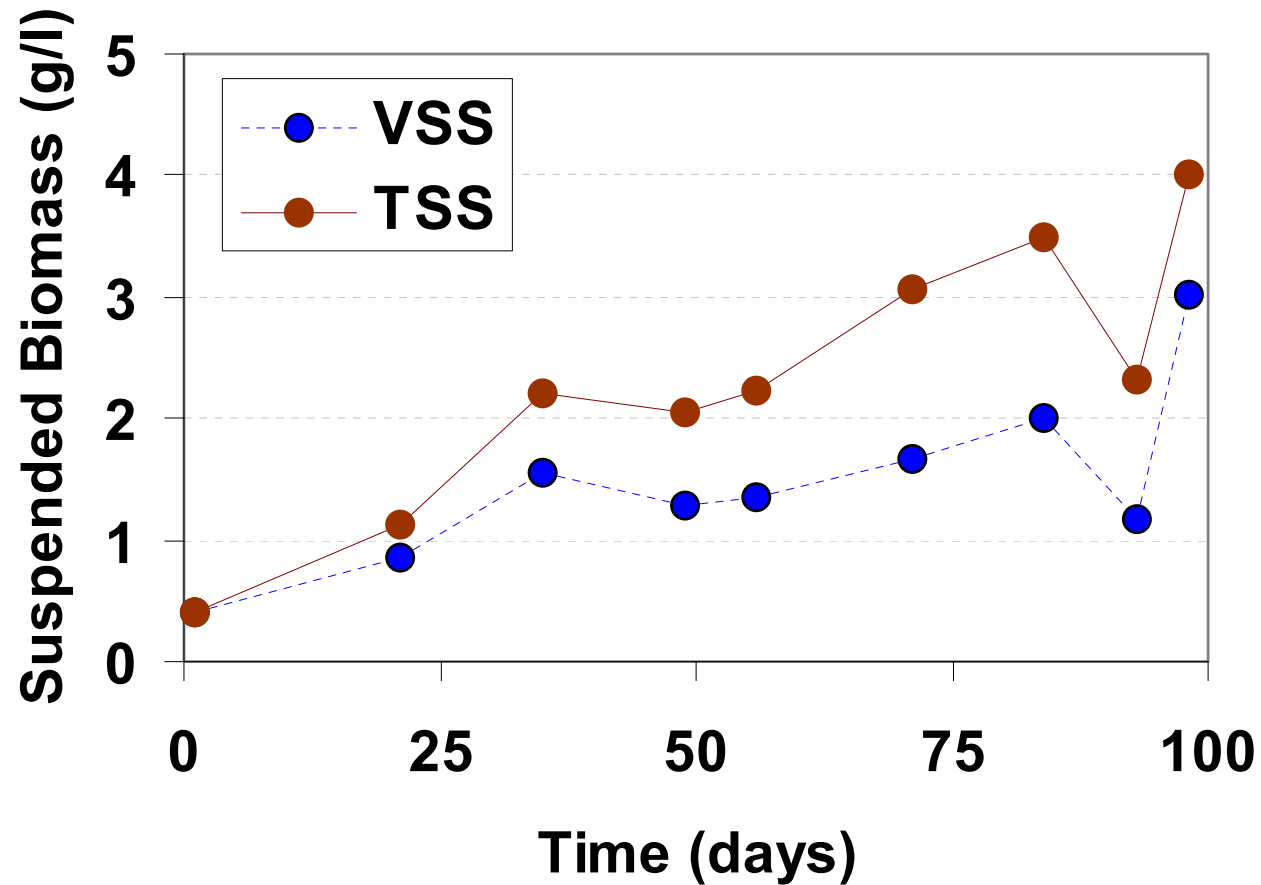
# First stage: Brine stream



# First stage: Brine stream



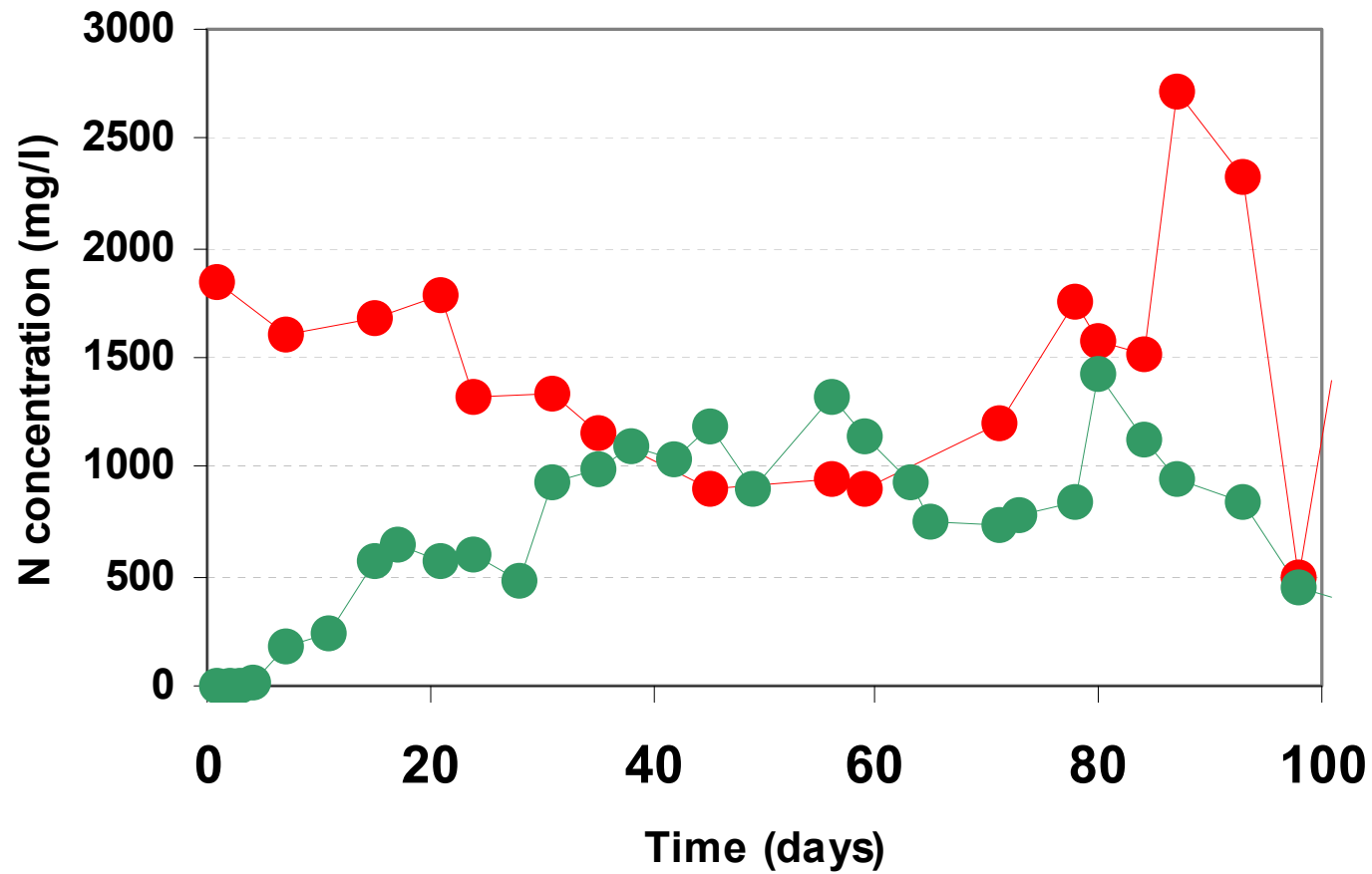
## *First stage: Brine stream*



**Apparent biomass yield: 0.03 g VSS/g COD**



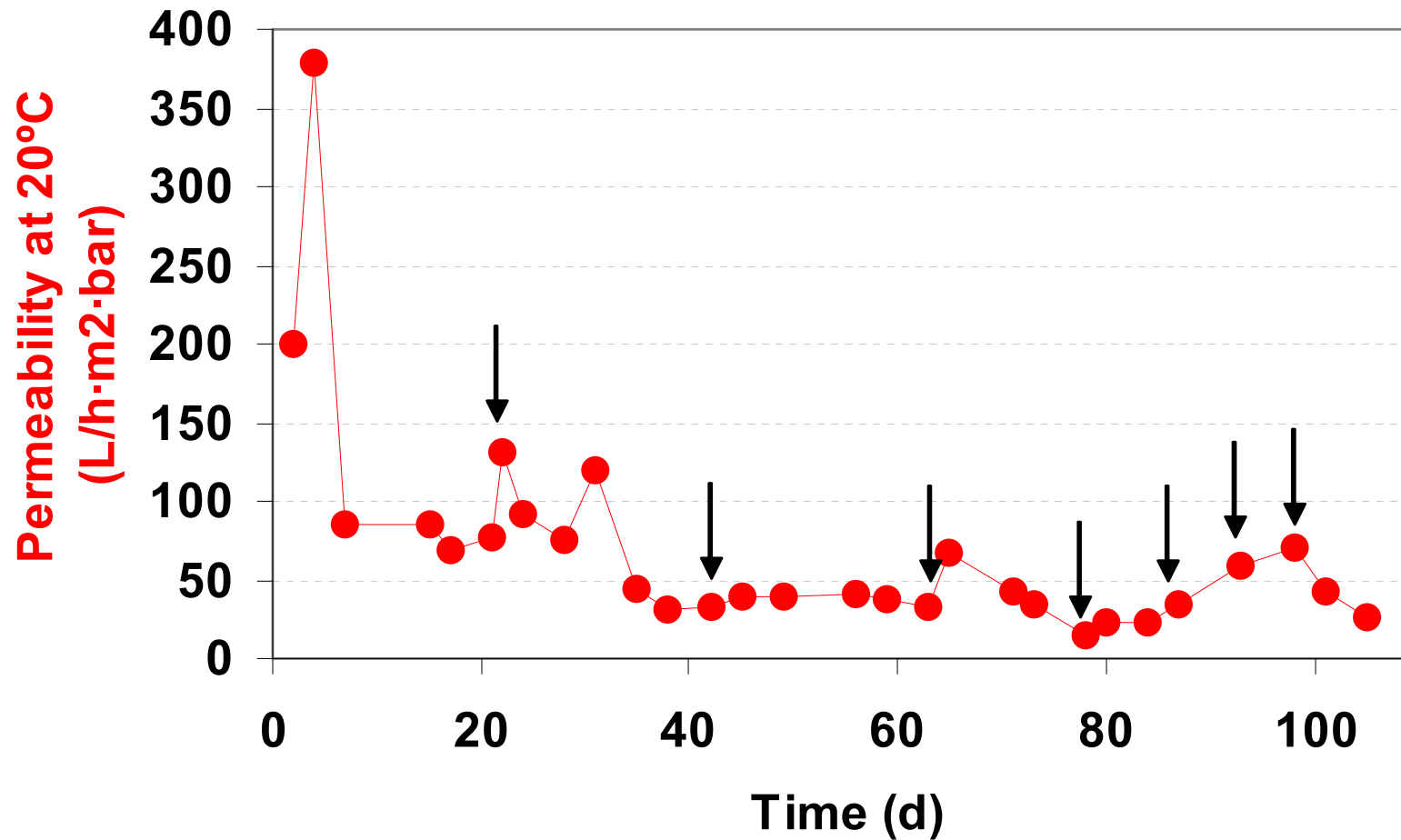
## *First stage: Brine stream*



- N-NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>, Permeate
- Total N, Influent

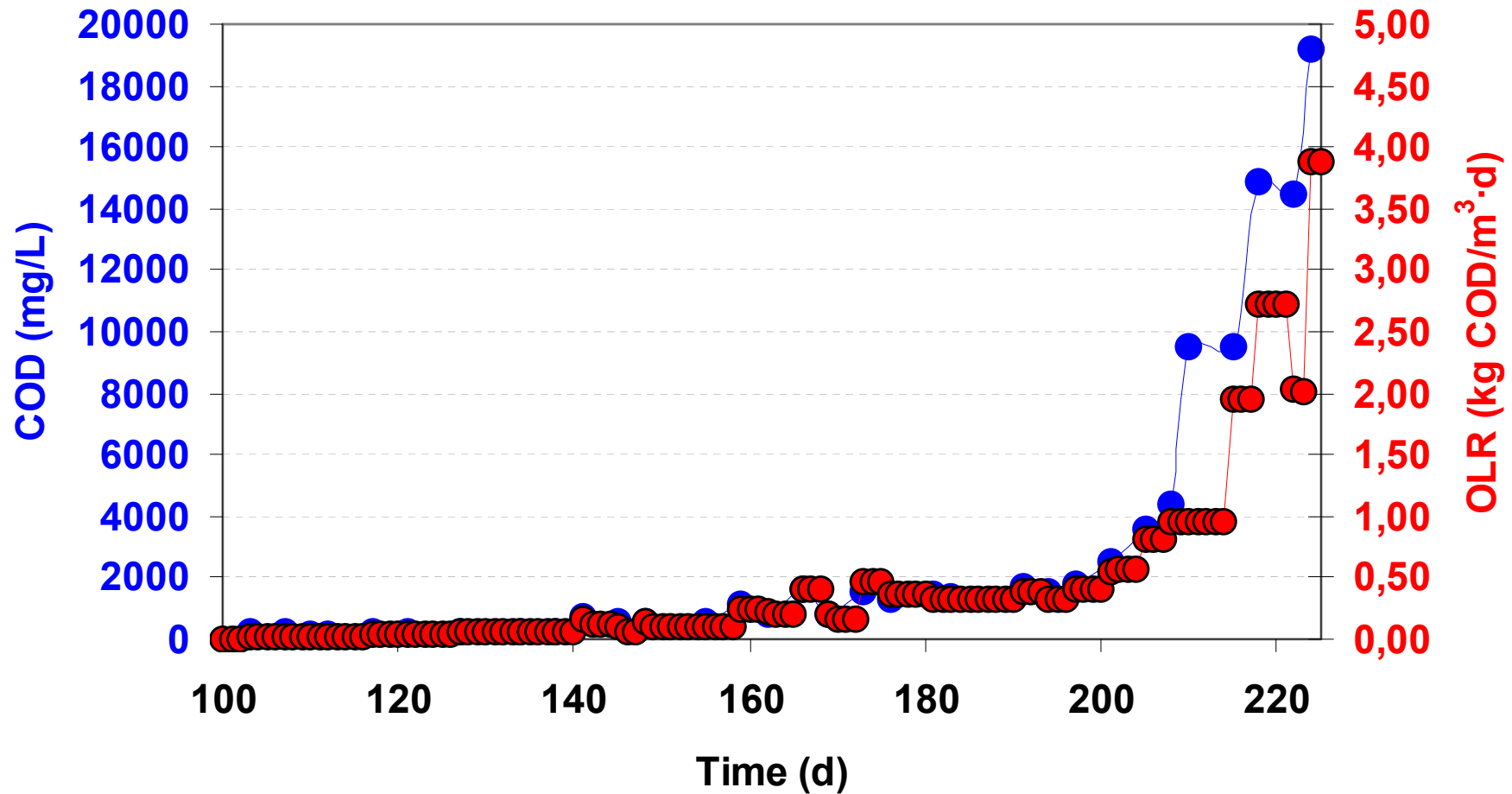
# First stage: Brine stream

## Permeability of the ZW-10 membrane



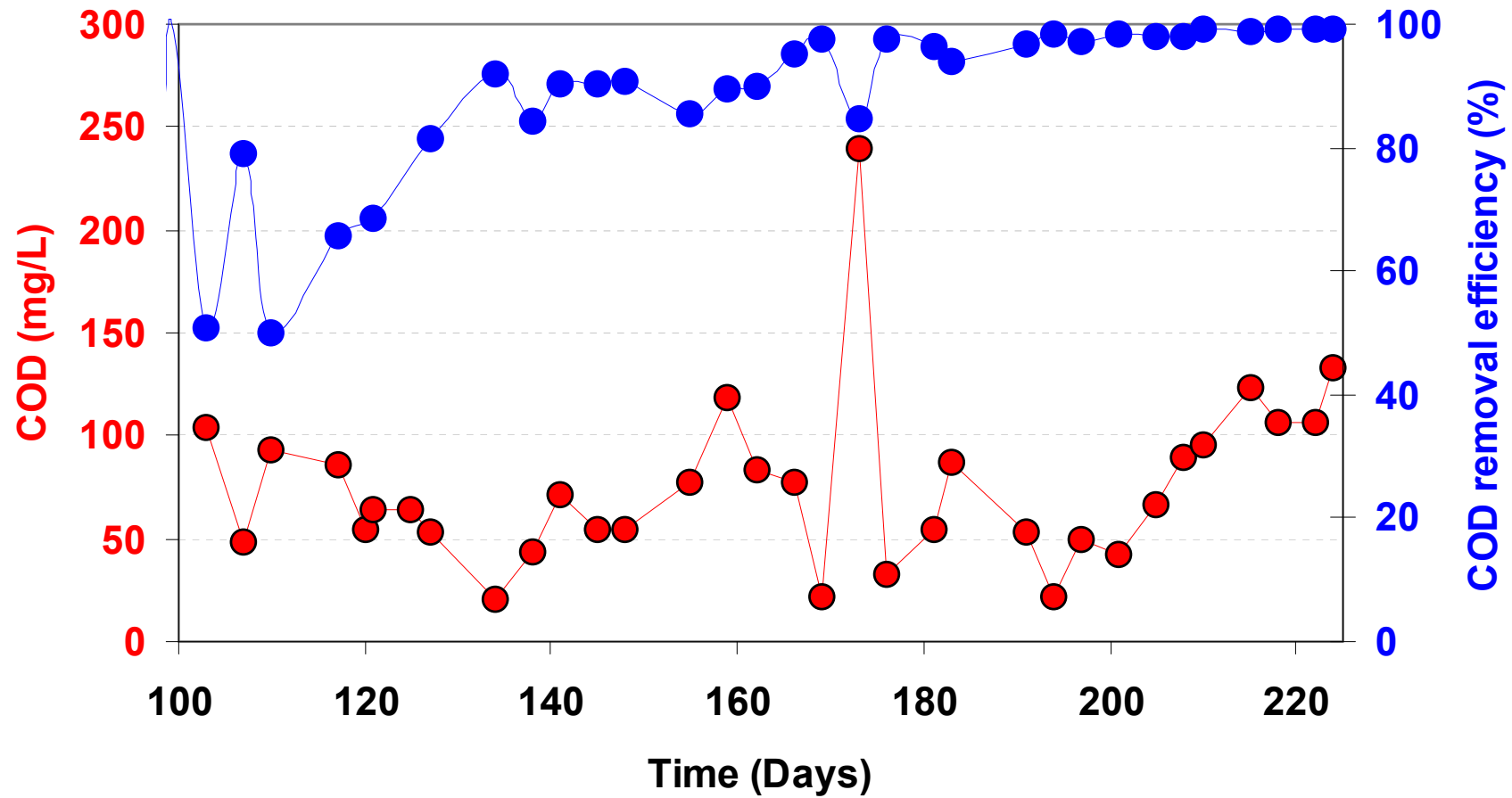
# Results: Steam injection Wastewater

## Second stage: Steam injection stream



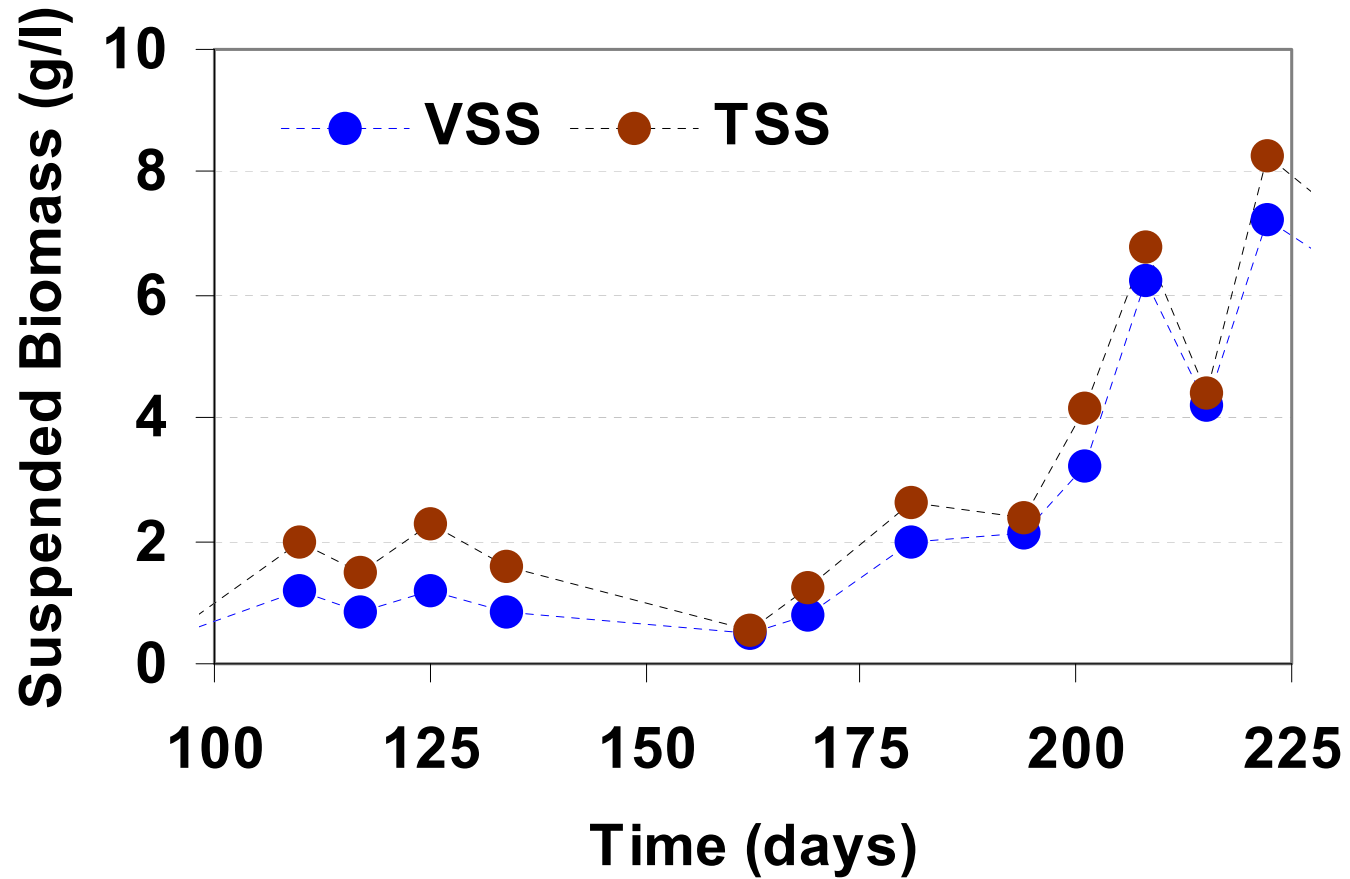
*Operation strategy: Wastewater diluted with Tap water*

## *Second stage: Steam injection stream*



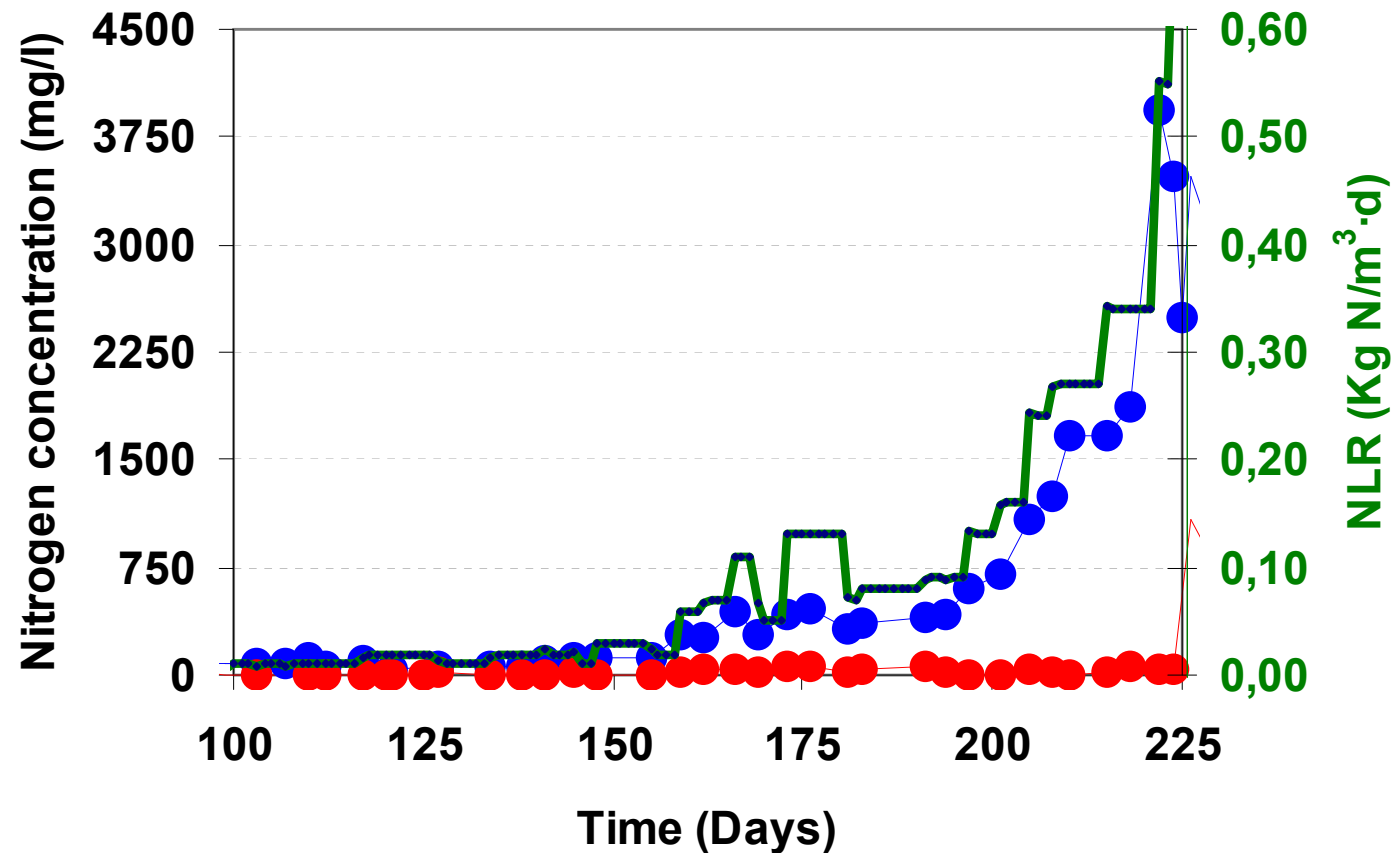


## *Second stage: Biomass concentration*



**Apparent yield: 0.12 g VSS/g COD**

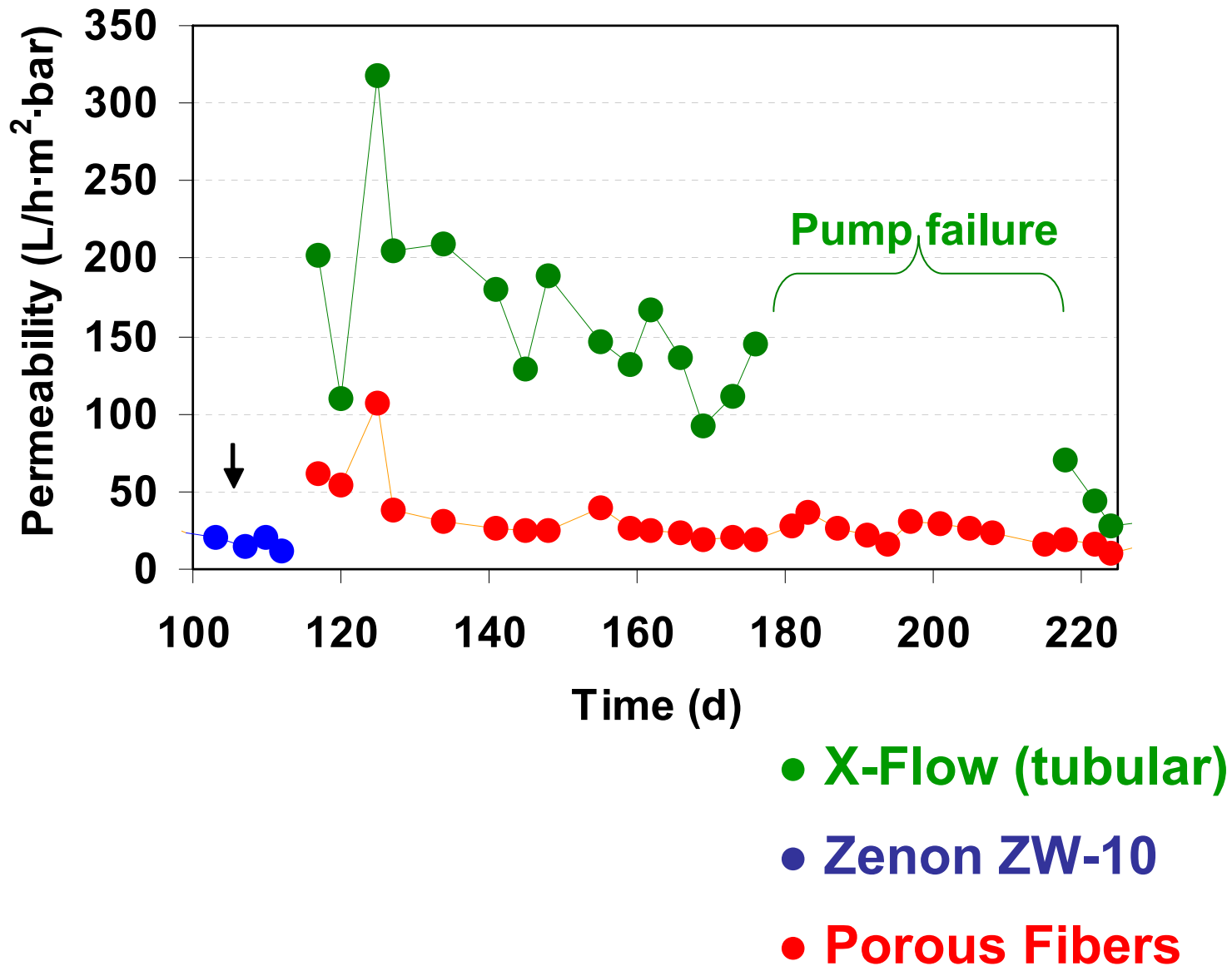
## Second stage: Nitrogen and Nitrogen Loading Rate



● Total N influent

● Ammonia permeate

## Second stage: Steam injection stream



## *Conclusions First Stage: Brine stream*

- ❑ Salt concentration, up to 84 g/L affected COD efficiency, but after operating day 73 adaptation to the hypersaline conditions was observed.
- ❑ COD efficiency of 92% was obtained at the end of the experiment, at OLR of 1.4 kg COD/m<sup>3</sup>·d.
- ❑ Organic nitrogen was hydrolyzed to ammonia, but salinity inhibited nitrification.
- ❑ Low permeability, 20-50 L/m<sup>2</sup>·h·bar was obtained (Zenon ZW-10).
- ❑ Very low biomass yield: 0.03 g-VSS/g-COD.

## *Conclusions second stage: Steam injection stream*

- COD in the permeate not affected by COD in the influent and was lower than 100-150 mg/L.**
- OLR up to 4 kg COD/m<sup>3</sup>·d & NLR up to 0.55 kg N/m<sup>3</sup>·d.**
- Nitrogen concentration in the permeate lower than 100 mg/L.**
- Biomass yield around 0.12 g-VSS/g-COD.**
- Permeability of the tubular membrane higher than in the Hollow fibre membrane.**

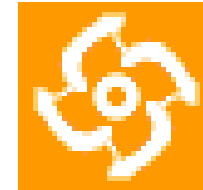


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**Espina y Delfín S.L.**



**ESPIÑA&DELFIN**

**Sonia Barros y Elena García**

**3R Ingeniería Ambiental**



Ingeniería Ambiental, s.l.

***THANK YOU !***