Environmental problems · chemical approaches



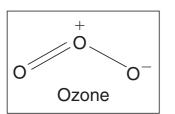
Cover

Arsenic (As) is found throughout the environment. Although As can be released from natural phenomena, anthropogenic activities account for most As contamination worldwide. The toxicity of As depends on the form and species, among others. Plants have the ability to absorb and bioreduce As, cleaning the soil and reducing the toxicity of As to some extent. For an insight about how a desert plant absorbs, bioreduces, distributes and stores this toxic metalloid see M. L. López et al. (pp. 320–331).

Photo: J. L. Gardea-Torresdey

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Understanding ozone chemistry has been the aim of atmospheric chemists for over 50 years. Despite trends towards models with increasingly detailed and complex chemical mechanisms, it is unclear whether the pursuit of ever more trace level products will improve our understanding of the underlying photochemistry. A new, innovative measurement approach by which the chemical component of models can be tested and on which policy strategy can be forged is discussed (see J. Williams, pp. 317–319).

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