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USE OF NATURAL AROMAS AS AN ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN ELEMENT IN LUNAR HABITATS

Abstract

Among the many aspects of environmental control in a lunar habitat is that of regulating the atmospheric chemical composition. After meeting acceptable standards of safety, health and personal acceptance for long stays, the question arises as to how the atmosphere could be made an aesthetic, architectural component of the total living experience. In the vast history of the global fragrances industry it is clear that the well-known physiological and psychological connection between smells and memories can be exploited in many ways. Here, we intend to discuss the advantages of enabling habitat dwellers to enjoy their own choices of atmospheric trace components, with a likely preference for familiar and pleasant natural plant aromas. When the paper is presented, an example of the iconic shrub of the Californian desert, the creosote bush, *Larrea tridentata*, will be passed around for an olfactory treat.