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Life Support, habitats and EVA Systems (6)

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INCLUSION OF THE SEDIMENT OBTAINED AS THE RESULT OF MINERALIZATION PROCESS OF HUMAN METABOLITES INTO THE BTLSS MATTER TURNOVER

Abstract

Increasing ways of material cycle closure of biological-technical life support systems (BTLSS) are being researched. The original method of organic wastes wet incineration in hydrogen peroxide developed at IBP SB RAS in order to make recycling fertilizer had a tough problem. About 5-6 g/l of hardly dissoluble sediment precipitated after the initial process, making more than a half of such essential nutritive elements as Ca, Mg, P, etc. remained unavailable for plants grown on hydroponics thus falling out of turnover as deadlock products. Possible ways of dissolving the sediment were researched. Sediment secondary incineration in HNO3 + H2O2 1:1 appeared to be the most promising. Introduction of new technology, using only substances synthesized inside the system matter flows, allowed making more than 90% of each considered nutritive element available in irrigation solution thus returning them to matter turnover. Salad plants were grown as the test objects on irrigation solutions prepared from "wet incineration" products. Considering that all plant nutrition has been prepared from the human metabolites' portion obtained after consumption of the corresponding plants' amount has shown increase of crop yield more than twice as compared to the previous technology, thanks to introduction of new technological process.