

Antibiotic Contamination: A Global Environment Issue

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GLVWULEXWLRQ DQG UHSURGXFWLRQ LQ DQ\ PHGLXP SURYLGHG WKH RULJLQDO DXWKRU
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The term antibiotic was coined by Nobel laureate Selman Waksman to describe microbial substances antagonistic to the growth of other microbes. It is now well accepted that antibiotic denotes any organic chemical that inhibits or kills microbes by interactions with bacterial targets, regardless of the source of the particular compounds, i.e. antibiotics could be from either natural or anthropogenic sources. Since their introduction in clinical applications, antibiotics have saved countless lives, and made the majority of infectious diseases under control. However, the large scale production and use (especially overuse and misuse) of antibiotics in clinical and veterinary medicine, agriculture, aquaculture, and horticulture has released antibiotics into the environment, and antibiotic contamination has been recognized as a worldwide phenomenon [1]. Recent research has showed that antibiotic concentration in wastewater, soil, and sediment was in the range from $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ to mg/kg . More importantly, the antibiotics in the environment generally resist to biodegradation due to their antimicrobial nature so that antibiotics have been

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contamination be of increasing concern among general public,
government and scientists about potential ecological and
public health risks [4]. We can imagine that the research on antibiotic
contamination will continue to be a hot topic among VFLHQWLQJ
2. Homem V, Santos antibiotics from ac
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3. Nevalainen WH
4. Davies P, Davies D
Microbiol Mol Biol Rev
5. Zhu Y, Johnson TA
abundant antibiotic
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1. Zhang T, Li B (2011) On MWHU >

2. Homem V, Santos antibiotics from ac
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3. Nevalainen WH
4. Davies P, Davies D
Microbiol Mol Biol Rev

5. Zhu Y, Johnson TA
abundant antibiotic
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337: 1107-11.