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## THE POTENTIAL RISK OF HEAVY METALS ON FOOD CHAIN IN AN ALBANIAN SERPENTINE SITE

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**S**oils with either peridotite or serpentinite parent materials are strongly influenced by the specific geochemistry and mineralogy of the parent material. So called serpentine soils share a number of chemical particulars including low Ca: Mg ratio, elevated levels of heavy metals (Fe, Ni, Cr, Co) and low concentrations of macronutrients e.g., K and P. Flora and vegetation of serpentine areas often differ from that of normal soils. Nickel availability in soil depends on environmental and pedological factors. Nickel uptake by plants depends on its bioavailability in soils. The objective of this study was to identify the serpentine problem in agricultural soil of Pojska and Pogradec and the impact of the serpentine problem on the structure and quality of agricultural products. In this study, soils and agricultural products in this region were collected and analyzed for heavy metal and macronutrient content. This study informs us about the potential risk of serpentine soils on food chain.

### Biography

Aida Bani has graduated from Agriculture University of Tirana (AUT) in Agromomic Sciences, 1989. She enrolled at AUT and INPL, Nancy, France for her PhD studies and received the title Doctor of Sciences in year 2009. She has several articles published in high impact factor scientific journals. She has participated in 68 international scientific conferences. She is a passionate Lecturer of several courses such as: Landscape Architecture, Landscape Management, Soil Remediation Methodologies etc. Her scientific interest particularly relies on topics connecting with agriculture, environment and landscape. She has also been leading several national and international scientific projects in the field of agriculture and environment.

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