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**BLACKCURRANT (*RIBES NIGRUM*) FROM WESTERN KAZAKHSTAN – A NOVEL NATURAL ECO-FREINDLY CORROSION INHIBITOR OF CARBON STEEL**

**Annotation:** In the current study, weight loss measurements and electrochemical methods were used to examine the inhibitory characteristics of the aqueous extract of *Ribes nigrum* leaves on the corrosion of carbon steel in hydrochloric acid medium. It has been determined that in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl, the inhibition efficiency of the extract can reach up to 92,66%. Metal protection ability was found to increase with increasing inhibitor concentration. It was observed that high inhibition efficiency is a result of spontaneous physisorption of the inhibitor ( $\Delta G^0_{abs} > -20$  kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup>) on the carbon steel surface directly obeys the Langmuir absorption model. The polarization curves analysis revealed the mixed-type inhibition behavior of the studied extract with the highest inhibition efficiency achieved at inhibitor concentration of 2.0 g·dm<sup>-3</sup>. The electrochemical and gravimetric data were found in great agreement. The assumption that the inhibitory effect of the extract is caused by the adsorption of phenolic compounds was made by the performing of UV-vis spectrophotometric analysis of the corrosive medium before and after the immersion of the carbon steel specimen. Aqueous extract of the *R. nigrum* leaves was proposed as a low-cost, environmentally friendly and effective corrosion inhibitor.

**Key words:** *Ribes nigrum*; plant extracts; leaves aqueous extract; inhibition efficiency; «green» inhibitors; metal protection.

**Introduction**

The chemical or electrochemical process that occurs when metals or alloys come into the contact with a chemically aggressive environment is commonly referred as corrosion. The metallic material is frequently destroyed during the corrosion process and its properties are also rapidly deteriorate [1]. To prevent corrosion damage of metals various methods are used, including electroplating, alloying, cathodic and anodic protection, laser treatment and the use of inhibitors [2].

Inhibitors of corrosion can be classified as either organic or inorganic. However, the majority of them are not «green» or environmentally friendly [3]. On the other hand, it is commonly known that organic compounds bearing N, S, and O heteroatoms in spite of their strong inhibition efficiency are not only expensive but also harmful to humans and animals. Therefore, there is no need to overstate the significance of corrosion inhibitors that are readily available, low-cost, and eco-friendly [4].

Plants are considered as the most perspective source of «green» inhibitors [5]. Throughout history, people have used plants to meet their needs for clothing, food, shelter, fertilizer, and medicine [6]. Nonetheless, the first application of plant extracts in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> pickling baths occurred in the 1930s. This time frame may be seen as the start of their application as natural products for metal protection [7].

Plants are abundant sources of natural organic compounds, such as phenolics, flavonoids, alkaloids etc. These compounds have a high ability to sorb onto metallic surface and thus they can shield various metals and alloys from the damaging impacts of diverse corrosion media [8]. For this purpose, it is possible to successfully use both whole plants and parts of the plants [9]. Plant extracts are now considered as the most essential eco-friendly, affordable, and renewable sources for successful anti-corrosion applications [10].

The West Kazakhstan region (WKR) has more than 1500 plant species, which belong to more than 700 families. This biodiversity offers unique opportunities in the various «green» technology fields include development of antioxidants [11], protection of human skin against solar radiation [12] and prevention of metals against corrosion [13].

Blackcurrant (*Ribes nigrum*) is a small deciduous shrub 1 - 2 m tall belonging to *Grossulariaceae* family (Fig. 1). Being widely available for study and usage, it is among the most prevalent plants in the WKR.



Figure 1 – Blackcurrant (*Ribes nigrum*), (fam. *Grossulariaceae*): whole plant (A) and leaves (B)

Among the 150 species of shrubs from the genus *Ribes* *R. nigrum* berries are differ with the wide range of bioactive components, phytonutrients, and antioxidants. These berries contain high levels of beneficial plant compounds like anthocyanins, along with vitamins A, C, and E, essential fatty acids, omega-6 fatty acids, and gamma-linolenic acid [14-16]. Delphinidin-3-rutinoside, cyanidin-3-glucoside, and delphinidin-3-rutinoside are the primary anthocyanins was also found in *R. nigrum* [17]. Ascorbic acid plays a key role as a phytocomponent in enhancing the potent antioxidant properties found in blackcurrant [18]. It was earlier been reported that vitamin C level of *R. nigrum* is up to 50 times higher than in apples and 3.4-7 times higher than in oranges [19]. The *R. nigrum* seeds may be used to extract oil, which is often used in cosmetics [20] because they are a great source of gamma-linolenic acid, or omega-6 fatty acids [21].

Blackcurrants' beneficial properties are able to reduce the risk of a number of serious diseases, including postmenopausal osteoporosis and glaucoma [22, 23]. In addition, compared to other fruits and berries, *R. nigrum* is low in calories and salt but contains significant amounts of Ca, K, Mg etc [24].

In this work we turn our attention to the ability of aqueous extracts of *R. nigrum* leaves to prevent corrosion on carbon steel. The choice of leaves is based on the fact that they typically contain higher concentrations of active phytochemicals such as polyphenols, flavonoids and alkaloids, which can act as effective corrosion inhibitors [25]. In addition, the extraction of active components from leaves is generally easier and more efficient [26], and harvesting the leaves is significantly less harmful to the plant than harvesting roots or stems [27], allowing continuous use of the plant without killing it, making the process more environmentally friendly. Inhibition efficiency, thermodynamics, kinetics, and absorption behavior of obtained inhibitor was the focus of our investigation. Gravimetric and electrochemical techniques were used for this purpose.

### Materials and methods

**Reagents and solvents.** All of the reagents were used without additional purification and are of analytical grade. The extraction and preparation of the corrosion media were performed with double-distilled water (DDW) obtained from glass distillation apparatus.

**Plant collection.** The fresh plants were gathered away from roads and industrial structures in the suburbs of Uralsk, in their natural habitat. The World Flora Online database [28] and the herbarium of M. Utemisov West Kazakhstan University's Faculty of Natural Sciences both provided confirmation of the plant species. The plants were thoroughly cleaned with tap water and twice washed with DDW followed by the drying in a shaded area on air for two weeks. The samples were then ground into a fine powder, sieved through a 1.0 mm, and stored at 4°C.

**Preparation of the extract.** 10 g of ground-up, dried plant material was transferred into a 250 ml Erlenmeyer flask, and extracted 3 times in a water bath with 100 ml of DDW at 60°C for 8 hours.

The temperature was maintained using a TW-2.02 water thermostat with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$ . The extracts were then combined and evaporated. After being dried to constant weight at  $50^\circ\text{C}$  extracts were kept in dark, sealed vials at  $4^\circ\text{C}$  until further use for anti-corrosion tests.

**Sample preparation.** Carbon steel specimens with composition of (wt. %) 97,8 – Fe; 0,22 – C; 0,65 – Mn; 0,30 – Si; 0,04 – P; 0,05 – S; 0,30 – Cr; 0,30 – Ni; 0,30 – Cu; 0,01 – N; 0,08 and dimensions of 25,0 x 35,0 x 3,0 mm were obtained from industry and used for corrosion tests. Prior to the experiment specimens were sequentially polished with emery paper ranging in grit numbers from 250 to 1200. Then, after being washed in running water and DDW from oxides and dust, the abraded specimens were cleaned and degreased using ethanol and acetone. Prepared specimens were stored in a desiccator over silica gel until the following corrosion experiments.

#### Weight loss (gravimetric) method

The corrosion rate (CR), degree of surface coverage ( $\theta$ ), and inhibition efficiency (IE) were assessed through the weight loss experiments. Each specimen was submerged in an open-air beaker filled with 100 ml of room-temperature corrosion medium. Specimens were removed from the beaker after the immersion period and cleaned with soft brush under running water, DDW, and thereafter, in a solution containing 50% NaOH and 100 g of zinc dust [29] to eliminate any remaining corrosion product residues. Before reweighting, the specimens were again washed under running water, DDW, rinsed in ethanol, acetone, and dried. The Ohaus Adventurer Pro AV264 analytical balance, with an accuracy of  $\pm 0.1\text{mg}$ , was used for all weight measurements.

Equations 1-3 were used to calculate the corrosion rate ( $\text{CR g}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}$ ), inhibition efficiency (IE%), and degree of surface coverage ( $\theta$ ) respectively:

$$CR(\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-2}\cdot\text{h}^{-1}) = \frac{\Delta m}{S\cdot\tau} \quad (1)$$

$$IE(\%) = \frac{CR_0 - CR_i}{CR_0} \cdot 100 \quad (2)$$

$$\theta = \frac{IE(\%)}{100} \quad (3)$$

where  $\Delta m$  – is the weight loss of the carbon steel specimen (g) after the immersion time (h),  $CR_0$  – the corrosion rate of carbon steel without inhibitor,  $CR_i$  – the corrosion rate of carbon steel with the addition of the inhibitor.

**Absorption and thermodynamics.** The Langmuir adsorption isotherms were used to describe the adsorption mechanism of the inhibitor on the carbon steel surface [30]:

$$\frac{C_{inh}}{\theta} = \frac{1}{K_{abs}} + C_{inh} \quad (4)$$

where  $C_{inh}$  is the concentration of the inhibitor,  $\theta$  is the degree of surface coverage, and  $K_{abs}$  is the absorption-desorption process equilibrium constant. The intercepts of the isotherms provided the values of the absorption equilibrium constants ( $K_{abs}$ ). Equation 5 represents the relationship between the absorption equilibrium constant and the Gibbs free energy:

$$\Delta G_{abs}^0 = -RT \ln(55.5 K_{abs}) \quad (5)$$

where  $\Delta G_{abs}^0$  is the Gibbs free energy of absorption,  $R$  is the universal gas constant ( $8.314 \text{ J}\cdot\text{K}^{-1}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ),  $T$  is the system's thermodynamic temperature, and 55.5 is the molar concentration of water  $\text{mol}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$ .

**Electrochemical measurement.** The same pretreatment was applied to the steel specimens for the electrochemical experiment as for the weight loss test. The Autolab PGSTAT 101 Metrohm potentiostat/galvanostat, equipped with the NOVA 2.1.6 software, was used for the electrochemical test. Three-electrode setup was used to electrochemical measurements: reference electrode (Ag/AgCl filled with  $3.0 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$  KCl), counter electrode (platinum), and working electrode (steel specimen). A beaker containing 100 ml of  $1.0 \text{ mol}\cdot\text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl, both with and without inhibitor, served as the electrochemical cell. The working electrode, with an exposed area  $0.82 \text{ cm}^2$  was stabilized during open circuit potential (OCP) testing. The linear sweep voltammetry (LSV) staircase and

corrosion rate analysis were used to perform linear polarization measurements right after the OCP. Potentiodynamic scanning was performed with a step voltage of 0.01V and a scan rate of 0.01 V/s between -0.50 and +0.50 V. From the Tafel polarization curves, the corrosion potential ( $E_{corr}$ ) and corrosion current density ( $j_{corr}$ ) were established.

Equation 6 was used to obtain the inhibition efficiency ( $IE_i\%$ ) through the corrosion current [31]:

$$IE_i(\%) = \frac{i_{inh} - i_{corr}}{i_{inh}} \cdot 100 \quad (6)$$

where  $i_{inh}$  and  $i_{corr}$  are the corrosion current densities determined by extrapolating the Tafel slopes with and without inhibitors respectively,  $A \cdot cm^{-2}$ .

Using the equation (7), the inhibition efficiency through the polarization resistance ( $IE_R\%$ ) was determined [32]:

$$IE_R(\%) = \frac{R_p^{inh} - R_p^0}{R_p^{inh}} \cdot 100 \quad (7)$$

where  $R_p^{inh}$  and  $R_p^0$  represent the charge transfer resistance with and without inhibitor respectively,  $\Omega$ .

The experimental results are given as the average of three independent determinations ( $n = 3$ )  $\pm$  standard deviation (SD) with  $\alpha = 0.95$ .

## Results and discussion

### Weight loss assay.

The inhibitory effect of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves was examined for the typical corrosion media including the model medium recommended by the National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) of USA [33]. Screening results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1 – Inhibition efficiency ( $IE\%$ ) of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves against corrosion of carbon steel in typical corrosion media at the inhibitor concentration of  $1.0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  at room temperature

Entry	Corrosion media	Concentration	CR, $\text{g} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{h}^{-1}$		$\theta$	IE, %
			Blank	With inhibitor		
1	CH <sub>3</sub> COOH	$1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	2,62	1,21	0,5393	$53,93 \pm 4,93$
2		$0,5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	1,44	0,87	0,3939	$39,39 \pm 2,58$
3		$0,1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	1,65	1,07	0,3530	$35,30 \pm 2,88$
4	H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	$1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	24,23	5,39	0,7773	$77,73 \pm 4,19$
5		$0,5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	5,11	2,45	0,5197	$51,97 \pm 4,01$
6		$0,1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	9,42	5,06	0,4629	$46,29 \pm 2,05$
7	HNO <sub>3</sub>	$1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	3,68	2,26	0,3857	$38,57 \pm 3,03$
8		$0,5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	36,66	23,14	0,3687	$36,87 \pm 2,51$
9		$0,1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	15,86	11,12	0,2990	$29,90 \pm 2,12$
10	H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	$1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	3,50	1,15	0,6704	$67,04 \pm 3,26$
11		$0,5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	6,81	2,31	0,6605	$66,05 \pm 4,11$
12		$0,1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	4,05	2,38	0,4113	$41,13 \pm 3,56$
13	HCl	$1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	5,72	0,68	0,9048	$88,06 \pm 4,85$
14		$0,5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	3,87	0,56	0,8543	$85,43 \pm 4,73$
15		$0,1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	4,16	0,65	0,8428	$84,28 \pm 5,06$
16	NACE medium	NaCl $5,0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$ + CH <sub>3</sub> COOH $0,25 \text{ g} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$	0,39	0,35	0,5229	$52,29 \pm 3,48$
17	NaCl	3.0%	0,46	0,22	0,1070	$10,70 \pm 2,22$
18	DDW	-	0,50	0,30	0,3980	$39,80 \pm 2,96$

The data from Table 1 show that aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves exhibits inhibitory properties in all corrosion media tested, with an IE range of 10.70 (3,0% NaCl, Entry 17) to 88,06% ( $1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl, Entry 13). The extract also demonstrated high IE in HCl solutions at  $0,5 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  (85,43%) and  $0,1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  (84,28%) (Entries 14 and 15 respectively). The lowest IE values for

tested extract were observed in  $\text{HNO}_3$  solutions (Entries 7-9) and for the saline and neutral environment (Entries 17 and 18 respectively).

Finding the kinetic and thermodynamic parameters of inhibition in the specified medium was the next step in our investigation because the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves had the highest IE in a  $1.0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl solution. The tests were carried out at room temperature over an exposure time of 2-24 hours and inhibitor concentrations of 0,1-2,0  $\text{g} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$ .

Figure 2 shows the effect of exposure time and inhibitor concentration on the IE of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves in  $1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl solutions.

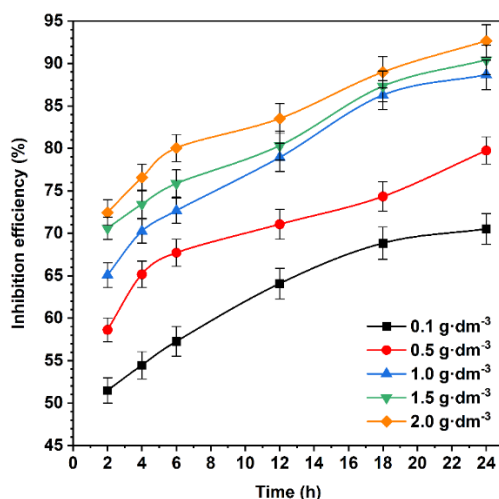


Figure 2 – Relationship between the IE (%) of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves on carbon steel in  $1.0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl solution from the different inhibitor concentration and immersion time at room temperature

As can be seen, the IE of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves in  $1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl solution at different inhibitor concentrations increases over time. The presence of an induction period demonstrates that at least 6 hours are needed in a given corrosive medium for the inhibitor to form a maximally effective protective layer. An increase in inhibitor concentration leads to an increase in protective properties. The most effective corrosion inhibition was observed at the inhibitor concentration of  $2,0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$ . Therefore, higher concentrations of the inhibitor should be used for the most optimal inhibition effectiveness. These results suggest that the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves has good prospects for use in preventing metal corrosion in highly acidic environments.

The inhibitor can adsorb on the metal surface by chemical, physical or combined way. Finding the values of the Gibbs free energy ( $\Delta G^0_{\text{abs}}$ ) is necessary to characterize the absorption mechanism. The electrostatic interaction (physisorption) between charged inhibitor molecules and metal surfaces is represented by  $\Delta G^0_{\text{abs}}$  values up to  $-20 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ . A value less than or equal to about  $-40 \text{ kJ} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$ , commonly considered the threshold between chemisorption and physisorption, indicates the chemical character of the sorption [34].

Langmuir absorption isotherms of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves in  $1,0 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{dm}^{-3}$  HCl solution at experimental temperatures was shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 illustrates that the plots of  $C/\theta$  against inhibitor concentration exhibit as straight lines at both temperatures. The linear approximation with values of the correlation coefficient greater than 0.99 clearly shows that the Langmuir model is suitable for describing of the adsorption of *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract on carbon steel surface. This confirms that the inhibition is due to the adsorption of the active organic compounds from plant extract on the carbon steel surface. Additionally, this demonstrates that due to the absorption from the solution, there is an exchange between the water molecules and the inhibitor molecules on the metal surface [35].

In accordance with the slopes and intercepts of the linear plots, the Gibbs free energy ( $\Delta G^0_{\text{ads}}$ ) and  $K_{\text{abs}}$  values for the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves were calculated. Obtained values are presented in Table 2.



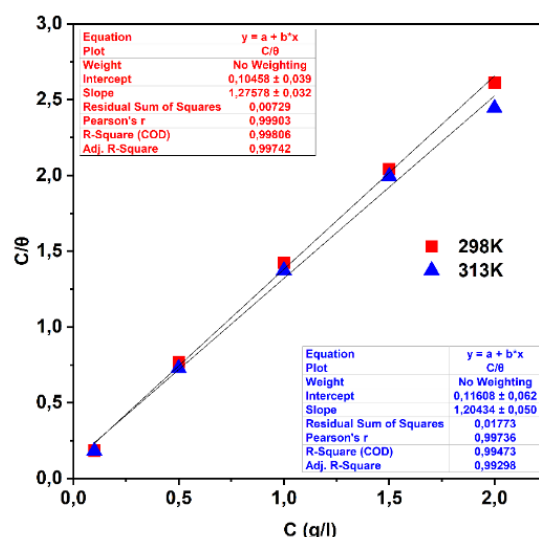


Figure 3 – Langmuir isotherms for adsorption of *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution for 4 hours immersion period at 298 and 313K

Table 2 – Thermodynamic parameters of adsorption of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves on carbon steel surface in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution

Temperature, K	Slope	Intercept	R <sup>2</sup>	K <sub>abs</sub>	ΔG <sup>0</sup> <sub>abs, kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup></sub>
298	1,27578	0,10458	0,99806	9,5621	-15,55
313	1,20434	0,11608	0,99473	8,6147	-16,06

Negative values of ΔG<sup>0</sup><sub>ads</sub> indicate that the absorption of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves onto the carbon steel surface occurs spontaneously [36]. The value of ΔG<sup>0</sup><sub>ads</sub> > -20 kJ·mol<sup>-1</sup> clearly shows that the adsorption is physical (physisorption) and occurs as a result of an electrostatic interaction between charged inhibitor molecules and the steel surface [37]. Increasing the temperature and concentration of the inhibitor accelerates the adsorption-desorption processes and promotes the formation of a stable protective barrier on the metal surface [38].

**Metal surface analysis.** Micrographs of the steel surface were also used to investigate the protective effect of the *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract. The polished specimen and the test specimens were observed under an optical microscope. Fig. 4 displays micrographs of carbon steel surfaces taken both before and after they were submerged in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution with and without the inhibitor.



Figure 4 – Micrographs (×50) of the carbon steel surface after 24 hours of immersion in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution: before immersion (a), in the absence (b) and in the presence (c) of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves at a concentration of 1,0 g·dm<sup>-3</sup>

The steel plate's surface had a noticeable metallic luster and was uniform before it was exposed to a corrosive environment (Fig.4a). The surface structure changes significantly when exposed to an acid solution without the presence of an inhibitor. A dark, porous, loose layer with obvious pits and cracks forms (Fig.4b). Conversely, in the presence of an inhibitor, the protective coating develops and the metallic shine disappears, but the metal's structure remains intact (Fig.4c).

**UV–visible spectroscopy analysis.** In addition, to confirm that the protective effect is due precisely to the absorption of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves on the metal surface, UV-spectrometric analysis of the corrosive environment was carried out. UV-vis spectra were recorded before and after immersion a carbon steel specimen for 24 h at presents of the inhibitor. Results are given in Fig. 5.

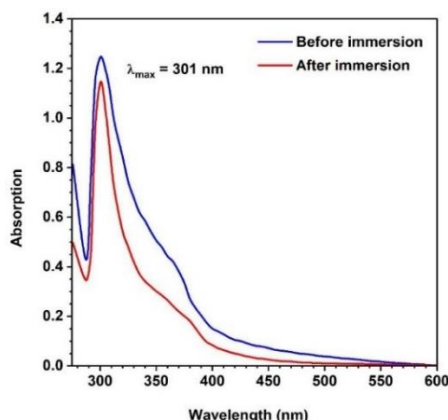


Figure 5 – UV–vis spectra of 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution containing 0.1 g·dm<sup>-3</sup> of *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract before (blue line) and after 24 h immersion (red line) of carbon steel specimen

The UV-vis spectrum of the solution of *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl before and after immersion shows the maximum absorbance at 301 nm that is typical for phenolic phytocomponents. Nevertheless, after immersion of the steel specimen the intensity of the absorption decreased. However, there are no any shifts of maximum absorbance in the UV-vis spectra were observed. Since absorption in given wavelength range is due only to the presence of the extract, the decrease in absorption intensity is caused by a decrease in its concentration, which in turn can be explained by sorption of *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract components from the solution on the metal surface. It is well known that absorption at 340-360 nm is typical for flavonols [39]. The most intensive hypochromic effect localized in this region of the UV-vis-spectra allows to propose that the inhibitory activity of *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract is determined by absorption of the phenolic compounds, predominantly flavonols.

**Electrochemical experiment.** The OCP evaluation for the carbon steel was carried out both with and without the *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract, during a 60-second immersion in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution. Fig. 6A indicates that the OCP achieve a condition of equilibrium before the 60 s was over. Shift of OCP value at presents of different concentrations of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves could be a sign that inhibitor molecules had been adsorbed to the carbon steel surface. Nevertheless, a positive shift in OCP reveals that *R. nigrum* leaves aqueous extract mostly inhibits the anodic process [40].

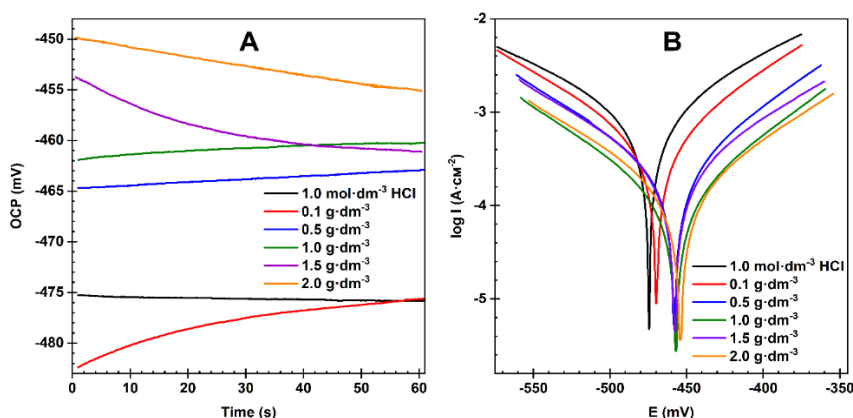


Figure 6 – OCP vs time diagram (A) and Tafel polarization curves (B) for carbon steel in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution with and without of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves at room temperature

Figure 6B shows the potentiodynamic polarization curves for carbon steel in 1,0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solutions with different concentrations and without aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves. The electrochemical data of the corrosion process derived from polarization curves using corrosion rate analysis are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 – The electrochemical corrosion parameters of carbon steel in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl in the absence and presence of different concentrations of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves at room temperature

Concentration, g·dm <sup>-3</sup>	-E <sub>corr</sub> , mV	J <sub>corr</sub> , A·cm <sup>-2</sup>	IE <sub>i</sub> , %	b <sub>a</sub>  , mV·dec <sup>-1</sup>	b <sub>c</sub>  , mV·dec <sup>-1</sup>	R <sub>p</sub> , Ω	IE <sub>R</sub> , %
0,0	474,52	1,04·10 <sup>-3</sup>	-	108,78	127,25	29,84	-
0,1	469,61	5,33·10 <sup>-4</sup>	72,39	86,20	101,47	46,31	79,89
0,5	457,95	2,72·10 <sup>-4</sup>	73,88	81,98	99,12	87,16	82,99
1,0	457,84	2,35·10 <sup>-4</sup>	76,39	87,04	95,84	102,60	83,37
1,5	454,04	1,57·10 <sup>-4</sup>	78,55	91,85	96,06	158,29	83,70
2,0	457,11	1,31·10 <sup>-4</sup>	80,65	79,41	90,71	170,04	86,18

The presence of aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves results in a significant decrease in the corrosion rate of carbon steel in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl. The corrosion current density (J<sub>corr</sub>) values are significantly lower in the presence of the inhibitor, indicating that aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves effectively protect the metal surface from corrosion [41]. The values of polarization resistance (R<sub>p</sub>) increase with the addition of inhibitor, which confirms the formation of a protective layer on the steel surface consequently preventing corrosion damage [42]. As can be seen, both the cathodic and anodic parts of the polarization curves noticeably shift in the presence of an inhibitor. Thus, the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves acts as a mixed type inhibitor, slowing down both the cathodic and anodic reactions [43]. Nevertheless, the cathodic site shifts |b<sub>c</sub>| are larger than the anodic |b<sub>a</sub>|. This implies that the cathodic polarization is more strongly affected by the inhibitor than the anodic one.

In the presence of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves, the inhibitory effect values determined using equations 6 and 7 from corrosion current and polarization resistance, respectively, increase significantly with increasing in inhibitor concentration. This also indicates that the studied inhibitor has a high potential to prevent the corrosion of carbon steel in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution. The electrochemical and gravimetric data were found to be in excellent agreement.

Analysis of literary sources revealed that plants of the genus *Ribes*, with the exception of *Ribes rubrum*, have not been studied as “green” corrosion inhibitors. An aqueous extract of *Ribes rubrum* berries at a concentration of 800 ppm in a 1 M HCl solution was shown to provide 64% protection of mild steel [44], which is slightly lower than the results obtained for *Ribes nigrum* leaves in our investigation. Thus, our study can be considered as the first example of the effective use of aqueous extracts of *Ribes nigrum* leaves as an environmentally friendly corrosion inhibitor.

## Conclusion

Despite enormous scientific and technological progress, including the field of material protection, modern industry needs to develop environmentally friendly and effective approaches to protecting metals from corrosion destruction. The creation of inhibitors based on natural products plays a key role in this scientific direction.

In this work, the corrosion protection potential of the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves was investigated gravimetrically and electrochemically. The aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves in 1.0 mol·dm<sup>-3</sup> HCl solution was found to have excellent protective effect on carbon steel, providing an inhibitory effect of up to 92.66%. According to the Langmuir model a stable protective monolayer is formed as a result of the inhibitor's adsorption on the steel surface. Negative values of Gibbs free energy revealed the spontaneous physisorption of the inhibitor. The inhibitory effect of the extract is probably due to the adsorption of phenolic compounds. Investigation results suggest that the aqueous extract of *R. nigrum* leaves is one of the most promising candidates for the development of “green” corrosion inhibitors for multiple industrial and technical applications.



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#### **ЧЕРНАЯ СМОРОДИНА (RIBES NIGRUM) ИЗ ЗАПАДНОГО КАЗАХСТАНА – НОВЫЙ ПРИРОДНЫЙ ЭКОЛОГИЧЕСКИ ЧИСТЫЙ ИНГИБИТОР КОРРОЗИИ УГЛЕРОДИСТОЙ СТАЛИ**

В настоящем исследовании метод потери массы и электрохимические методы были использованы для изучения ингибирующих свойств водного экстракта листьев *Ribes nigrum* относительно коррозии углеродистой стали в солянокислой среде. Установлено, что в  $1,0 \text{ моль} \cdot \text{дм}^{-3}$  HCl эффективность ингибирования экстрактом может достигать 92,66%. Показано, что защитная способность ингибитора возрастает с увеличением его концентрации. Обнаружено, что высокая эффективность ингибирования является результатом самопроизвольной физиосорбции ингибитора ( $\Delta G^0_{\text{abs}} > -20 \text{ кДж} \cdot \text{моль}^{-1}$ ) на поверхности углеродистой стали, которая подчиняется модели Ленгмюра. Анализ поляризационных кривых выявил смешанный тип ингибирующего действия исследуемого экстракта, при этом наибольшая эффективность ингибирования достигается при концентрации ингибитора  $2,0 \text{ г} \cdot \text{дм}^{-3}$ . Электрохимические и гравиметрические данные оказались в хорошем согласии. На основании УФ-спектрофотометрического анализа коррозионной среды до и после погружения образца углеродистой стали, сделано предположение о том, что ингибирующее действие экстракта обусловлено адсорбцией фенольных соединений. Водный экстракт листьев *R. nigrum* был предложен в качестве недорогого, экологически чистого и эффективного ингибитора коррозии.

**Ключевые слова:** *Ribes nigrum*; растительные экстракты; водный экстракт листьев; эффективность ингибиторов; «зеленые» ингибиторы; защита металла.

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#### **БАТЫС ҚАЗАҚСТАННЫҢ ҚАРА ҚАРАҚАТЫ (RIBES NIGRUM) - КӨМІРТАНДЫ БОЛАТТЫҢ ЖАҢА ТАБИҒИ, ЭКОЛОГИЯЛЫҚ ТАЗА КОРРОЗИЯ ИНГИБИТОРЫ**

Бұл зерттеу жұмысында тұз қышқылы ортасындағы көміртекті болатта *Ribes nigrum* жапырақтарының сулы сығындысының коррозияға қарсы қасиеттерін зерттеу үшін масса жоғалту және электрохимиялық әдістер қолданылды.  $1,0 \text{ моль} \cdot \text{дм}^{-3}$  HCl-де сығындының тежеу тиімділігі 92,66%-ға жетуі мүмкін екені анықталды. Сондай-ақ, ингибитор концентрациясы жоғарылаған сайын қорғаныс қабілеті жоғарылайтыны анықталды. Ингибитордың жоғары тиімділігі көміртекті болат бетінде өздігінен физиосорбциялануының ( $\Delta G^0_{\text{abs}} > -20 \text{ кДж} \cdot \text{моль}^{-1}$ ) нәтижесі болып табылатындығы және Ленгмюр моделіне тікелей бағынатындығы байқалды. Поляризация қисықтарын талдау барысында зерттелген сығындының ингибиторлық әсерінің аралас түрге жататындығы анықтады. Ең үлкен тежеу тиімділігі  $2,0 \text{ г} \cdot \text{дм}^{-3}$  ингибитор концентрациясында қол жеткізілді. Электрохимиялық және гравиметриялық деректер сәйкес келді. Көміртекті болат үлгісін батыру алдында және одан кейінгі коррозиялық ортаның ультракүлгін спектрофотометриялық талдауына сүйене отырып, сығындының ингибиторлық әсері фенолды қосылыстардың адсорбциялануымен байланысты деп ұйғарылды. *R. nigrum* жапырақтарының сулы сығындысы арзан, экологиялық таза және коррозияға қарсы тиімді ингибитор ретінде ұсынылды.

**Түйін сөздер:** *Ribes nigrum*; өсімдік сығындылары; сулы жапырақ сығындылары; ингибиторлардың тиімділігі; жасыл ингибиторлар; металды қорғау.

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### ВЛИЯНИЕ ГИБРИДИРОВАННЫХ АМИД ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНЫХ ПОЛИМЕРОВ НА СТРУКТУРООБРАЗОВАНИЕ ПОЧВ

**Аннотация:** В последние годы наблюдается увеличение деградации почв под влиянием антропогенной нагрузки. Это приводит к снижению плодородия и ухудшению качества окружающей среды. В связи с этим, возрастает потребность в разработке новых методов для создания и восстановления почвенной структуры и в статье представлены результаты исследования влияния гибридных амид функциональных полимеров на структурообразование почв. Актуальность работы обуславливается возрастающей потребностью в разработке новых методов для создания и восстановления почвенной структуры, деградирующей под влиянием человеческой деятельности. В работе изучены полимеры, отличающиеся по набору функциональных групп, заряду, конформации и типу противоионов. Проведено комплексное исследование оптических, вязкостных и электропроводных свойств. Идентифицированы типы функциональных групп и установлены количественные соотношения между ними. Определены типы полимеров и влияние