



Heavy metal uptake in spiked soils of Suva, Fiji.

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Hyperaccumulation of toxic metals by plants with specific accumulation capacities is fast finding applications in many parts of the world. In the South Pacific, however, the technology is still to be applied. This study investigated the possibility of trialing the known hyperaccumulating species, *Brassica juncea* for the uptake of the heavy metals, Cu, Zn, Pb and Cd under the tropical conditions which pertain in much of the South Pacific. The results showed significant uptake and enrichment in the plants that were cultivated in soil spiked with these metals. However, there were additional interesting trends such as selective uptake of one metal over others, as well as the impact of plant age on uptake. These will be discussed together with recommendations for extending phytoremediation to the South Pacific region.