**Natural Dyeing of Leather**

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Since many years, the human has been fascinated by color. Dyeing is the process to improve color in some industries like leather and textile. This process is done in water medium at conditions depending of the dye type. Dyes can be synthetic and natural.

Nowadays, synthetic dyes are mainly used because the improvement of bright colors and excellent colorfastness (Akkaya, Uzun e Guzel 2007). Its application consequences in ecosystems and human health, lead to an EU decision on restrict their application (Venkatasubramanian, et al. 2009). Concerning on ecological footprint and taking into account the requirement of colored substances, the reintroduction of natural dyes seems to be a suitable alternative.

This work aims to contribute to the substitution of synthetic by natural dyes in leather dyeing.

For the study, different natural raw materials were used for dye extraction and further application in leather dyeing process. A normal dyeing process was done with small pieces of wet-blue leather using the dyes extracted. After dyeing, the pieces of leather were squeezed, dried, staked and evaluated concerning light fastness of color, degree of color change and degree of staining.

The results showed that the best dye was coffee extract, allowing for a low degree of colour change and a good light and washing fastness.

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