

Muhammad Haris¹, Fatima Batool², Ayesha Mazhar¹, Mohsin Ali Nawaz³, Sabir Hussain², Farrukh Azeem^{1*}

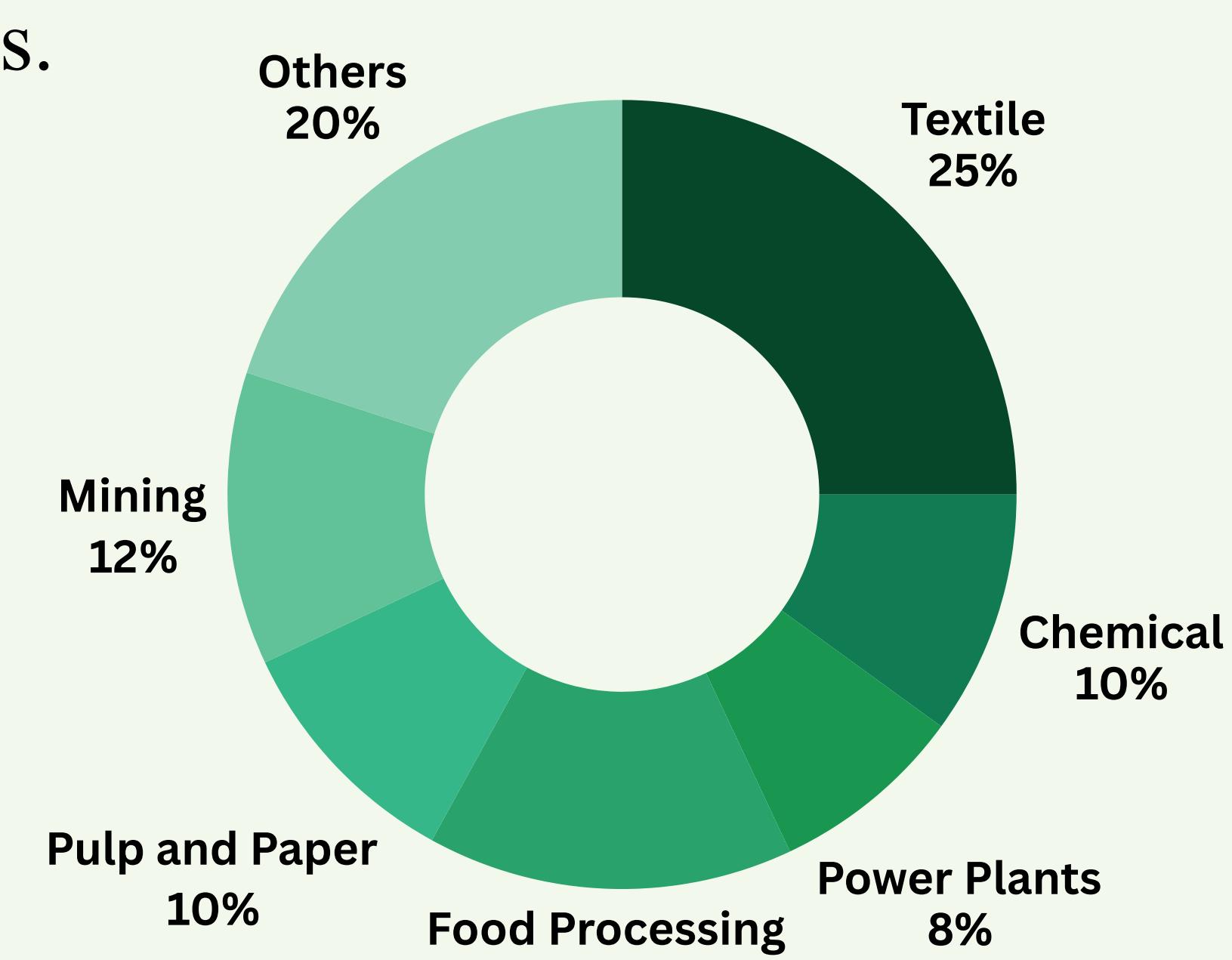
¹Department of Bioinformatics and Biotechnology, Government College University, Faisalabad, Pakistan

²Department of Environmental Sciences, Government College University, Faisalabad, Pakistan

³Soil and Environmental Biotechnology Division, National Institute for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, Pakistan Institute of Engineering and Applied Sciences (NIBGE-C, PIEAS), Faisalabad, Pakistan

INTRODUCTION

- Cadmium (Cd) contamination from textile dyeing wastewater is a major constraint on sustainable wheat production.
- Cd interferes with photosynthetic efficiency, redox homeostasis, nutrient uptake, and cellular integrity, ultimately reducing biomass and yield while posing serious food-safety risks.
- Intensified Cd entry into agro-ecosystems, demanding effective remediation strategies that are both agronomically viable and environmentally sustainable.



PROBLEM

- Cadmium in textile wastewater persists post-treatment, contaminating crops and threatening food safety despite investments.
- Lack of integrated strategy linking effluent detoxification, crop stress relief, and molecular understanding for safe agriculture.

OBJECTIVES

- Compare Bio-FeO-NPs & Chem-FeO-NPs for superior Cd stress mitigation in wheat.
- Elucidate FeO-NP defense pathways through physiological and biochemical analyses, and understand transcriptomic mechanisms of Wheat under Cd stress.

CONCLUSION

- Biogenic iron nanoparticles efficiently detoxified cadmium-rich textile wastewater and significantly improved wheat growth and physiology.
- Transcriptomic network analysis revealed ten core hub genes whose significant dysregulation under cadmium stress positions them as key regulators of cellular stress and detoxification mechanisms.

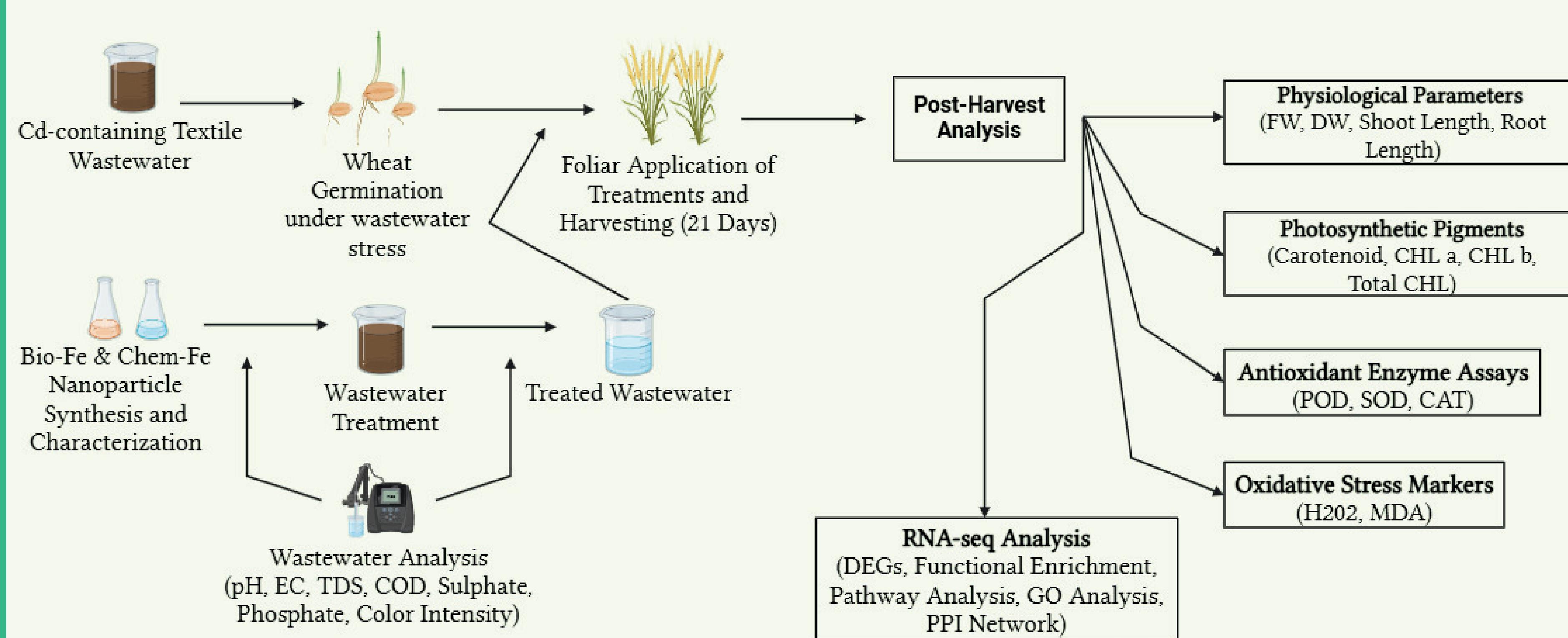
DISCUSSION

- Biologically synthesized iron nanoparticles significantly mitigate cadmium toxicity by improving wastewater quality and restoring plant physiological and biochemical homeostasis. This dual remediation-growth-promotion effect highlights their potential as a sustainable nanobiotechnological strategy for industrial wastewater reuse in agriculture.

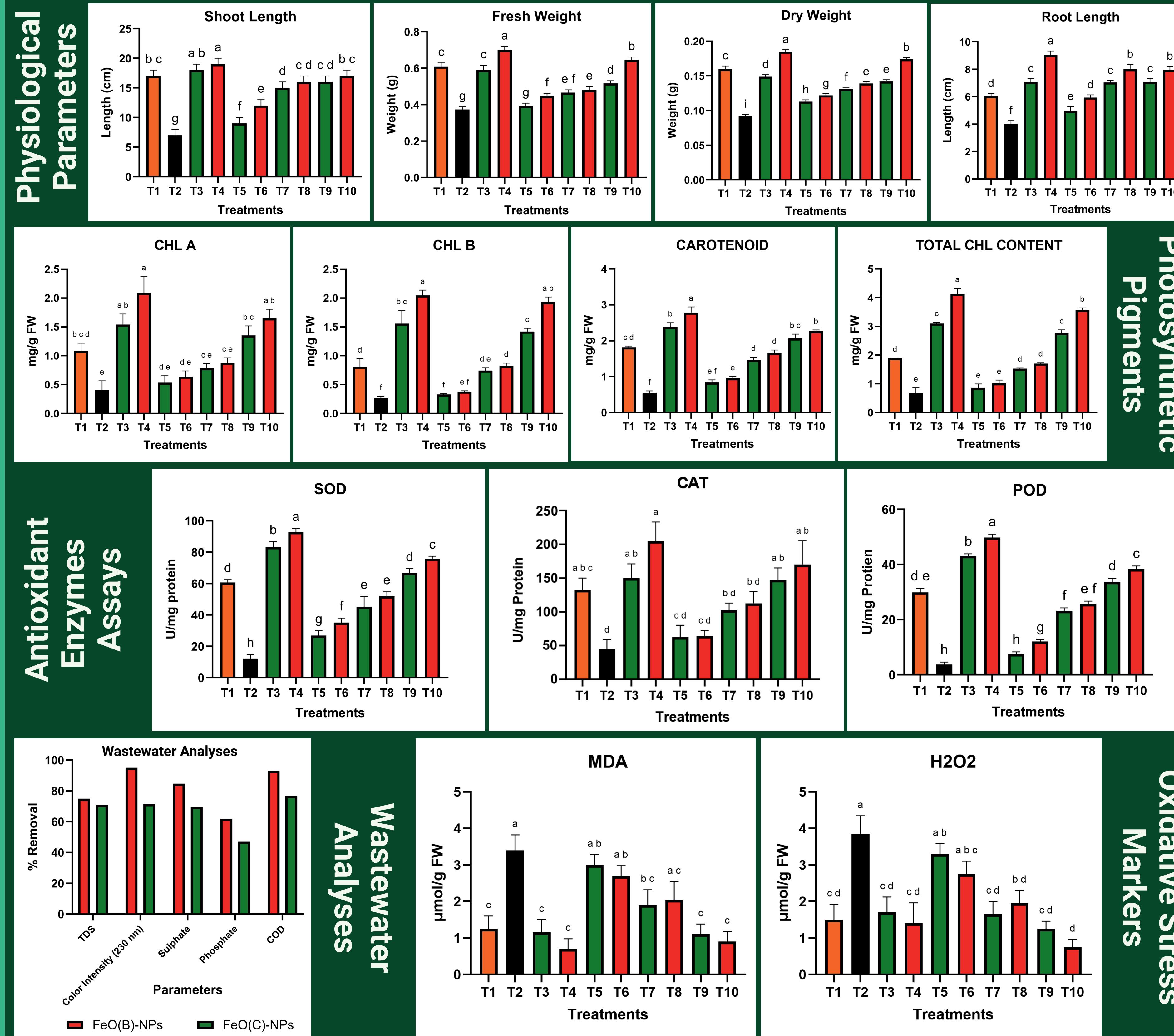
REFERENCES

- Liu, S., Peng, X., Wang, X., & Zhuang, W. (2023). Transcriptome Analysis Reveals Differentially Expressed Genes Involved in Cadmium and Arsenic Accumulation in Tea Plant (*Camellia sinensis*). *Plants*, 12(5), 1182. <https://doi.org/10.3390/plants12051182>
- Syed Mazhar Irfan, & Khizar Hayat Bhatti. (2023). Zinc Oxide Nanoparticles Mitigate Toxic Effects of Cadmium Heavy Metal in Chilli (*Capsicum annuum L.*). *Proceedings of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences: B. Life and Environmental Sciences*, 60(3), 477–487. [https://doi.org/10.53560/PPASB\(60-3\)854](https://doi.org/10.53560/PPASB(60-3)854)

METHODOLOGY



RESULTS



TRANSCRIPTOMICS

