

Review of: "Yerba Mate as a Co-Precursor in the Synthesis of Silica Through the Sol-Gel Technique"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper presents an interesting proposal for the valorization of yerba mate residues. To improve the paper, my suggestion is to contextualize the impacts that the residue, specifically yerba mate, causes in environmental, social, and economic aspects. To bring greater clarity to the objective of the paper, the relationship between the chosen residue and the production of silica (chemical composition, etc.) could be addressed. In addition, I suggest improving the quality of the images, both photographs and graphs. Exploring other characterization techniques besides FTIR could enrich the discussion. Observing the morphology of the residue and the product obtained through electron microscopy could be an initial approach. Finally, there is a shortage of bibliographical references, which limits the potential of the paper. Therefore, I suggest a deeper study of the literature in this area, especially works published in the last 5 years. I suggest the paper: <https://doi.org/10.1002/app.50438>.