

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

George C. Anyfantis

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The concept of using waste as matrices and/or raw materials in synthetic procedures is appealing and highly promising. Unfortunately, the author failed to present the impact of the work in a solid way. The author refers to photographic monitoring, but the images she presents are blurry and incomprehensible. The only method the author uses for the characterization of the materials is FT-IR. We have no idea about the size and shape of the prepared SiO₂ particles. Additionally, the discussion of the FT-IR is inappropriate because the author has numbered the peaks from 2 to 11, and in the text, she mentions another peak, number 1, which we cannot see. Concerning Figure 1, there are two photos, but the caption does not provide any information.

I strongly suggest a thorough revision by the author, including more experimental data and a deeper discussion.