

scavenging

1. (in radiation chemistry): Binding radicals or free electrons with a receptive (or reactive) material.
2. (in radiochemistry): The use of a precipitate to remove from solution by absorption or coprecipitation, a large fraction of one or more *radionuclides*.
1994, 66, 2525
3. (in atmospheric chemistry): The removal of pollutants from the atmosphere by natural processes, including scavenging by cloud water, rainout and washout. This type of removal process is termed *precipitation scavenging*. Scavenging of airborne pollutants at the surfaces of plant, soil, etc., is termed *dry deposition*
1990, 62, 2213