

35. Translation of technical terminology of distillation processes

Kostiantyn Omelianenko, Oksana Grynevych

National University of Food Technologies, Kyiv, Ukraine

Introduction. The articles of Ukrainian scientists in English-language journals were analyzed. It was found that the terms of the fermentation industry are often translated incorrectly, and therefore are incomprehensible for native speakers.

Materials and methods. Analysis of the English-language scientific information of Ukrainian scientists and English native speakers, the survey of native speakers.

Results and discussion. The use of incorrect terminology is explained by providing examples of terms translated literally by Google Translate.

Typical translation mistakes are as follows:

Бражка is a mixture of alcohol, water, yeast, and impurities. Google Translate often translates the word as *marsh*, but the correct translation equivalent is *beer*.

Куб is an apparatus in which the initial mixture boils. The correct translation equivalent is *still*. The word “distillation” comes from the word *still*.

Перегонка, проста перегонка is *distillation* or *classical distillation*.

The correct translation equivalent of the word *ректифікація* is *continuous distillation*. Google Translate translates the word as *rectification*. However, the word is of German origin. It is not used in Standard English terminology.

Ректифікаційна колона is a *distillation column* or a *distillation tower*.

Флегма is a part of a condensate returning to a still or column. Google Translate translates the word as *phlegma*. The term is probably of German origin. English speakers do not understand this word. As a result, it causes funny associations. The correct translation equivalent is *reflux*.

Google Translate translates the word *дефлегмація* as *dephlegmation*. This word sounds weird to native speakers. Scientific sources use the term *reflux*.

Depending on the construction the term *дефлегматор* should be translated as *condenser, reflux drum, or return cylinder*.

Шолом is a reflux device under a still. It should be translated as *pot*. The word *helmet* is an incorrect translation equivalent.

The correct translation equivalent of the word *пара* is *vapor* or *vapour*. Google Translate translates the word as *steam*. However, “steam” stands for vapor with water droplets, such as a cloud. It can also come out of a kettle. So, we can see it. Vapor is pure steam. It is invisible.

Спирт should be translated as *alcohol*. *Spirit* is an incorrect translation equivalent.

The Ukrainian word *тарілка* is a contact device of the *distillation column*. There are 2 correct translation equivalents of the word. They are *plate* or *tray*. The word *tray* is more often used in scientific and technical literature.

Conclusion. Proofreading is essential when translating with the help of Google Translate. Correct terminology in English-language publications will create a positive image of Ukrainian scientists.

References

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