

Figure 4 shows the removal efficiency of each diatomite with respect to their cation exchange capacity (CEC). As can be seen, Zn again presents very comparable values in all samples, except for diatomite D1175, which despite having one of the highest CEC values (25.6 meq/100 g) is the one with the lowest removal efficiency. In the literature, very diverse CEC values of diatomites are reported, from 1.41 (Shenget al., 2009) to 127 meq/ 100g (Flores–Cano et al., 2013)