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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.

   Source:
   PAC, 1994, *66*, 2513 *(Nomenclature for radioanalytical chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1994))* on page 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*.

Source:
PAC, 1990, *62*, 2167 *(Glossary of atmospheric chemistry terms (Recommendations 1990))* on page 2213

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