



Grey water on three agricultural catchments in the Czech Republic

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The COST project EU EURO-AGRIWAT focuses apart from other problems on the assessment of water footprint (WF).

WF is defined as the quantity of water used to produce some goods or a service. In particular, the WF of an agricultural product is the volume of water used during the crop growing period. It has three components: the green water which is rain or soil moisture transpired by a crop, the blue water which is the amount of irrigation water transpired and the grey water which is the volume of water required to dilute pollutants and to restore the quality standards of the water body.

We have been observing three different agricultural catchments.

The first of them is Smrzovka Brook, located in the protected nature area in the south part of the Jizerske Mountains. An ecological farming has been carried out there.

The second agricultural catchment area is the Kralovsky Creek, which lies in the foothills of the Krkonose Mountains and is a part of an agricultural cooperative.

The last agricultural catchment is the Klejnarka stream, located on the outskirts of the fertile Elbe lowlands near Caslav.

Catchments Kralovsky Brook and Klejnarka carry out usual agricultural activities.

On all three catchments, however, recreational cottages or houses not connected to the sewerage system and/or with inefficient septic tanks occur.

The contribution shows our approach to trying to quantify the real grey water from agriculture, i.e. the grey water caused by nutrients not utilised by the crops.