



Two monitoring networks in agriculture dominated waters in The Netherlands for assessing the effectiveness of national and European legislation on nutrient and Plant Protection Product application

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## Introduction



Country	Agricultural export (in billions)
United States	118.3 \$
Netherlands	79 \$
Germany	70.8 \$
France	68 \$
Brazil	55.4 \$



## Introduction

#### **Nutrients**

1986: Dutch Manure Law1991: European Nitrate Directive2000: Water Framework Directive



**Plant protection products** 

2000: LOTV (and WFD) 2004: Law on sustainable plant protection 2009: EU directives on PPP's 2013: 2nd law on sustainable plant protection PPP Admission procedures (NL/EU)



# Deltares

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## Introduction



#### Weather

- Precipitation: 500-1100 mm/y
- Evaporation: 200-800 mm/y
- Winter net precipitation +70 mm/month
- Summer net precipitation -20 mm/month

#### Land use

- 50% non-agricultural land use
- 25% dairy farming (grass+maize)
- 20% arable land (potato, grains, sugar beets, vegetables)
- 5% horticulture

## **Presentation setup**

- Introduction
- Monitoring networks
- Selection of results
- Conclusions







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## **Monitoring networks**

### **Nutrients**

Nutrient Monitoring Network for Agriculture Specific Headwaters (Dutch: MNLSO)

#### Goal:

Monitoring based assessment of the water quality in agricultural headwaters:

- Compliance with water quality targets for nutrients
- Trends in nutrient concentrations

#### **Characteristics:**

- 173 existing monitoring locations in agriculture specific headwaters, operated by Water Authorities
- 99 trend locations with time series longer than 10 years
- 12 measurements of N-tot and P-tot each year
- First assessments in 2012, update in 2015









#### platform

## **Monitoring networks**



Water quality status and trends in agriculture-dominated headwaters; a national monitoring network for assessing the effectiveness of national and European manure legislation in The Netherlands

J. C. Rozemeijer • J. Klein • H. P. Broers • T. P. van Tol-Leenders • B. van der Grift

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Abstract Large nutrient losses to groundwater and surface waters are a major drawback of the highly productive agricultural sector in The Netherlands. The resulting high nutrient concentrations in water resources threaten their ecological, industrial, and recreational functions. To mitigate eutrophication problems, legislation on nutrient application in agriculture was enforced in 1986 in The Netherlands. The objective of this study was to agricultural headwaters. Trend analysis for these locations showed a fast reduction of nutrient concentrations after the enforcement of the manure legislation (median slopes of -0.55 mg/l per decade for total nitrogen (Ntot) and -0.020 mg/l per decade for total phosphorus (Ptot)). Still, up to 76 % of the selected locations currently do not comply with either the environmental quality standards (EQSs) for nitrogen (N-tot) or phosphorus



Jerreike Kiele, Defterm Joachten Rozerneijer, Defterm Hans Peter Boern, Defterm Marteren Mut, Unie von Weterschep

#### Toestand en trends nutriënten in landbouwspecifiek oppervlaktewater

In driekwart van de Nederlandse landbouwgebieden is de waterkwaliteit in sloten en beken onvoldoende en wordt niet voldaan aan de norm voor stikstof of fonfor. Het mestheieid heeft vaar 1966 wie voor verbetering gezorgd, maar verdere maatregeien zijn notig, Deze conclusies zijn gebaseerd op meetgegevens uit het nieuwe Meetrek Unitriente Landbouw Specifiek Oppervlaktweater (JMK-SO).

Particle verboused in Nederland producert grate houverthean molecular grate provide particular environment, net approxid part aktivitetter, tong voor te vest tatistat en fosfer in bodem, grandwater en opervlaktewater. De Nederlande enging nett dazurun in 1965 de Netschleinvert gevorund. Ele vir Jaw worch her effect van de emissiebeperkende maatespelen uit de Netschlefment gevindurent.

Dit jaar is er een nieuwe evaluatie van de Meststoffenwet, de EMW2012. Voor deze evaluatie heeft Deltares samen met de waterschappen en het ministerie van infra structuur en Milieu een meetnet opgezet voor landbouwspecifiek oppervlaktewate Her Mostruet Nutrilinten Landbouw Specifiek Oppervlaktewater (MNLSO) is samengesteld uit bestaande meetkocaties van de water schapsmeetnetten voor waterkwaliteit. In Lamenwerking met de 25 waterichappen is een selectie gemaakt van meetlocaties waa landbouw de enige niet-natuurlijke bron van nutriënten is. De meetgegevens uit het MNLSC zlin gebruikt om vast te stellen of de wateriteitsdoelen met betrekking tot nutriënt worden gehaald in landbouw-specifiek vater en of er dalende of stijgend trends ziln in de nutriëntenconcentratier

In totaal zijn 167 meetlocaties geselecteen voor het MNLSO, waarvan er 87 geschikt zijn voor trendanalyse doordat ze minimaa

Resultaten

Alb. 1: Normoverschrijdingen is 2007 tim 2010 voor de zambinatie van H totaal an P totaal, getoetst aan de norm die de waterschappen hantnern. Her wâgt is allvan genen alt zoerd H totaal och F totaal aan de norm valdoet. Voor die locatie wandt voor vie jaren het toetsingerzahaat weengegeven (Inkobever: 200 reductiveer: 2001, histoadee: 2000, reductaader: 2010.





#### Science for Environment Policy

Nutrient pollution in Dutch streams is falling, but further reductions needed

Nutrient pollution in The Netherlands is falling as a result of national and EU policies, new research has shown. However, many waters still routinely fail to meet environmental quality standards. The study, which focused on the headwaters of 167 rivers where agricultural fertilisers are the main cause of pollution, showed that up to 76% of these did not meet water quality standards.

Nutrient pollution can have devastating effects on aquatic wildlife, with <u>biodiversity</u> dropping sharply in the face of toxic algal blooms and low levels of dissolved oxygen. Much of this pollution is the result of agricultural fertilisers, with large amounts leaching from fields.

The Netherlands is particularly affected by this issue, as large parts of the country are



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Source: Rozemeijer, J. C. Klein, J., Broers, H. P. et al. (2014). Water quality status and trends in agriculturedominated headwaters; a satissal menitorius saturda

## **Monitoring networks**

### **Plant Protection Products**

National Monitoring Network for Plant Protection Products in Agriculture and Horticulture

#### Goal:

Monitoring based assessment of:

- the relation between PPP use in agriculture and non-compliance in surface water
- the realisation of the reduction in non-compliance (target is 90% in 2023)

Monitoring results will feed back into the PPP admission procedures

#### **Characteristics:**

- 98 monitoring locations operated by Water Authorities
- locations represent individual crop types
- 6-12 measurements per year
- Top-24 problem PPP's + crop type specific PPP's
- Start up in 2015





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**Compliance testing:** Is there any problem with nutrient concentrations in agriculture dominated headwaters?

### Approach:

- Testing on yearly summer average concentrations
- Region specific water quality targets (set by Water Authorities)



## Selection of re

#### **N-tot compliance**

Year	Compliant (%)	Non-c
2011	37	
2012	40	
2013	52	
2014	36	

#### Legend

#### Compliance N-tot

- Not measured
- Compliant

12.5 25

2(

- Non-compliant
- Water Authorities





## Selection of res

#### **P-tot compliance**

Year	Compliant (%)	Non-co
2011	50	
2012	46	
2013	59	
2014	46	

Legend

- P-tot compliance
  - No target
  - Not measured
  - Compliant



**Trend analysis:** Are nutrient concentrations in agricultural dominated headwaters decreasing?

#### Approach:

- Time series > 10 years
- First trends for each location, then up-scaling by aggregation
- 3 robust, non-parametric analytical methods (Seasonal Mann Kendall trend test, Theil-Sen slope estimator, LOWESS trendlines)



#### **Aggregated trends NL: Seasonal Mann Kendall trend test**

N- totaal		
Upward (p<0.05)	3	
Downward (p<0.05)	82	
No significant trend (p>0.05)	14	
P-totaal		
Upward (p<0.05)	12	
Downward (p<0.05)	54	
No significant trend (p>0.05)	33	



#### **Aggregated trends NL: Sen's slope estimator**

	Median trend (mg/lper decennium)	Lower / upper 95% confidence (mg/l per decennium)	Conclusion
N-totaal	-0.60	-0.70 / -0.47	Downward significant
P-totaal	-0.015	-0.022 / -0.0062	Downward significant



#### **Aggregated trends NL: LOWESS trendline**



#### **Relative slopes**



#### **Preview trend results PPP: Imidacloprid**



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## **Conclusions**

- Nutrient concentrations are reducing, but more action is needed
- Complience testing based on summer average concentrations underestimates the agricultural impact on ecosystem health of downstream water bodies
- A water quality status assessment cannot be based on 1 monitoring year (weather induced variability)
- Complience testing results for individual locations are partly coincidental









Deltares





Length: 7.5 cm



## **Questions?**

Fokke and Sukke have a source oriented research approach...



More info: Rozemeijer et al., 2014. Water quality status and trends in agriculture dominated headwaters. Environmental Monitoring and Assessment 186, 8981-8995.

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