

Line Fredslund

PATHOS

Leaching of pathogens from manure to drainage water – assayed using classic and DNA/mRNA based methods

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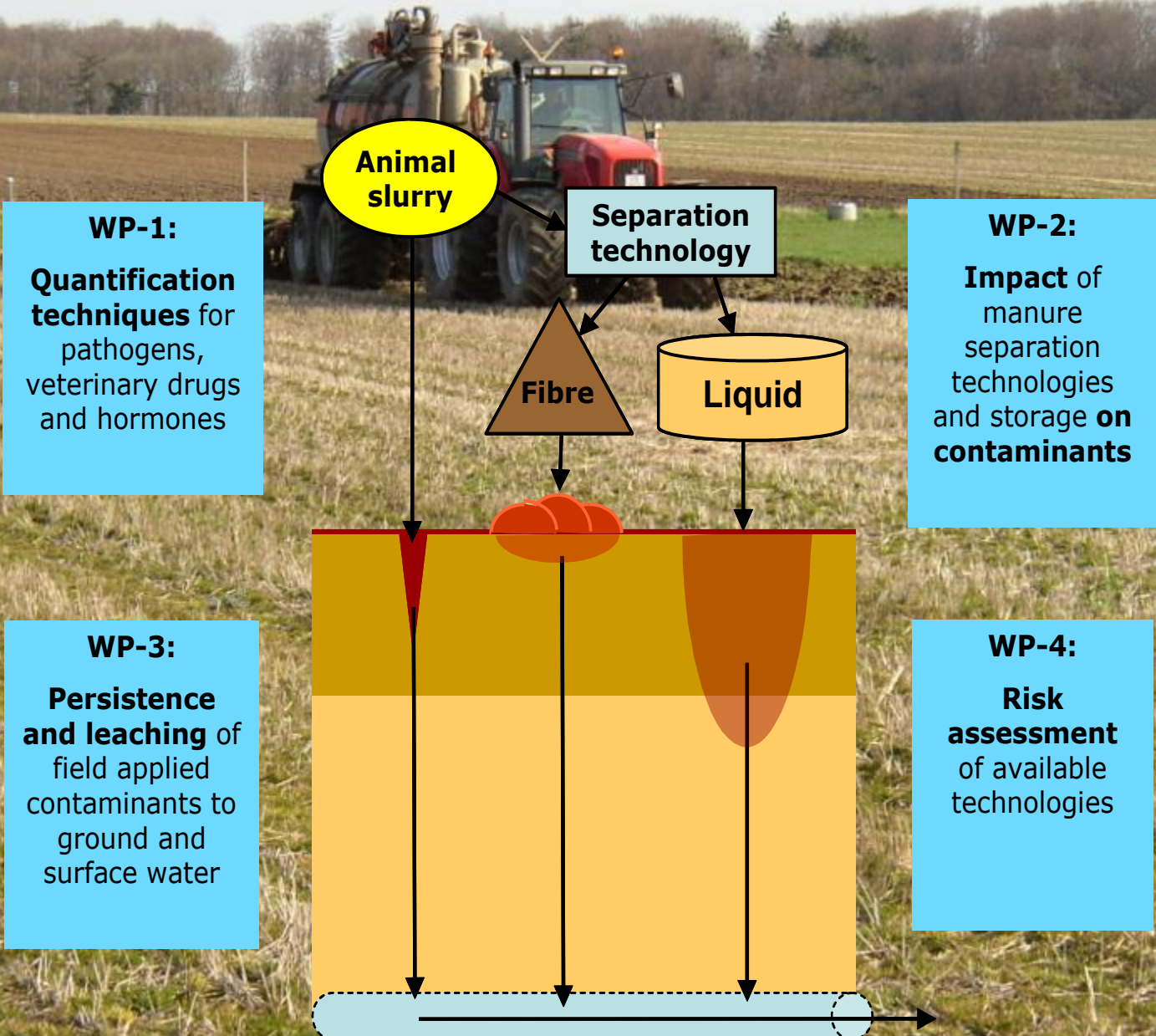
v. Jens Lund Pedersen



Line Fredslund
DWRP January 2010

Leaching of Pathogens from manure to drainage water

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Background National investigation

GEUS pesticide survey on clayey areas found pathogen indicator bacteria in 1/4 private water supply



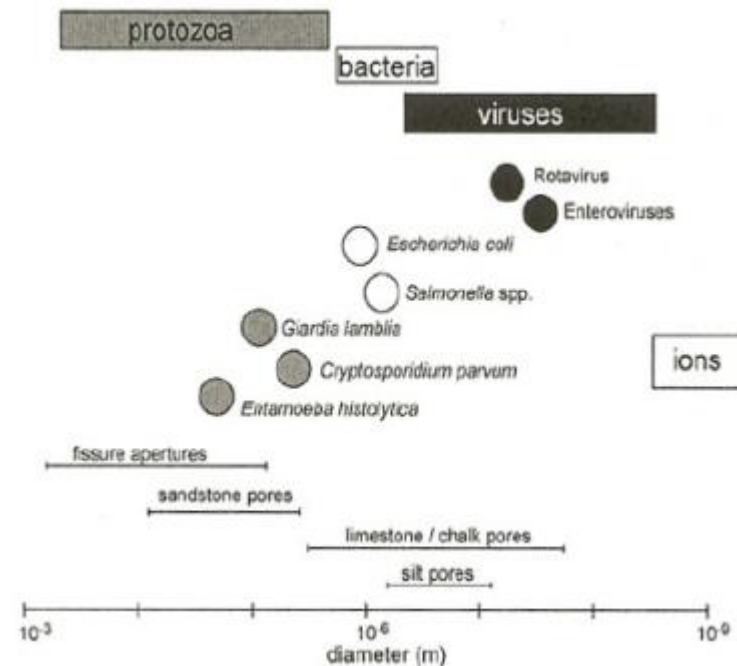
Bacterial parameter	Treshold value	Drillings / installations		% drills / installations \geq treshold	Max. value
		Number of examined	Number above tresholds		
Kimtal ved 37 °C PCA	20	618	200	32	>2.000
Kimtal ved 21 °C Kings B	200	416	151	36	>2.000
Coliforme bacteria 37 °C	Non measurable	619	164	26	>160
Thermotol. coliforme bacteria 44 °C	Non measurable	619	94	15	>160
All bacterial parameters	-	619	297	48	>2.000

Background International investigations – Pathogens survival and leaching after manure application

- In the city of Walkerton (Ontario, Canada) manure contaminated drinking water supply with *E.coli* O157 and *Campylobacter jejuni*. 2300 persons received medical treatment, 7 died, (Goss et al., 1998)
- Between 1000 and 10.000 *E.coli* O157 per ml drainage water could be found after disposal of manure on an Irish field (Vinten et al., 2002)
- Pathogenes like *E.coli*, *Salmonella* sp., *Campylobacter* sp. and *Listeria* sp. dies out in 2-8 days in old-fashioned manure heaps, but they survive in high numbers after 6 month in an anaerobic manure tank (Nicholson et al., 2005).
- But what is the influence of the method we use to asses the survival ? mRNA, DNA or CFU ?

Zoonotic pathogens in PATHOS

- Bacteriophages
- Bacteria
 - *Salmonella*
 - *E. coli*
 - *Campylobacter*
 - Tetracycline resistant bacteria
- Protozoa
 - *Cryptosporidium*
 - *Giardia*



(Taylor et al (2004): FEMS microbiology vol. 49)

Survival of slurry pathogens in soil

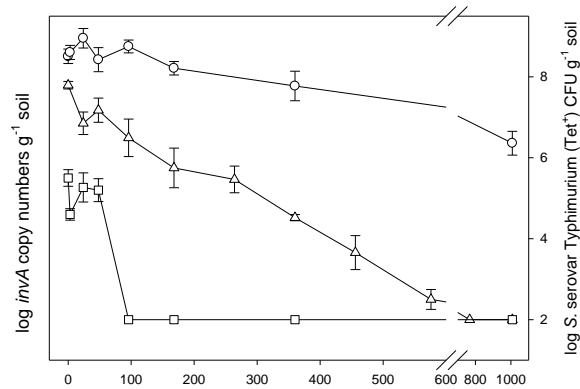
- The physiological state of the microorganism
- Biological interactions (competition from indigenous microflora)
- Physical and chemical nature of soil water:
 - **pH, soil water content, SOM, availability of nutrients, adsorption properties**
- Atmospheric conditions
 - **sunlight, precipitation, temperature**
- Application method
 - **technique, frequency of application, organisms concentration in manure***

Microorganism	Soil type	manure type and inoculation	Survival (day)	T ₉₀
<i>S. Typhimurium</i>	Unknown	Cattle manure (10 ⁷)	231	32.8
<i>S. Typhimurium</i>	Loamy sand	Cattle manure (10 ⁵)	119	23.6
<i>S. Typhimurium</i>	Sandy loam	pig manure (10 ⁶)	56	9.2
<i>S. Typhimurium</i>	Loam	Cattle manure (10 ⁷)	56	7.9
<i>Salmonella</i> sp.	Clay	pig manure (10 ⁵)	180	35.8
<i>S. Newport</i>	Silt loam	Cattle manure (10 ⁷)	332	47.3

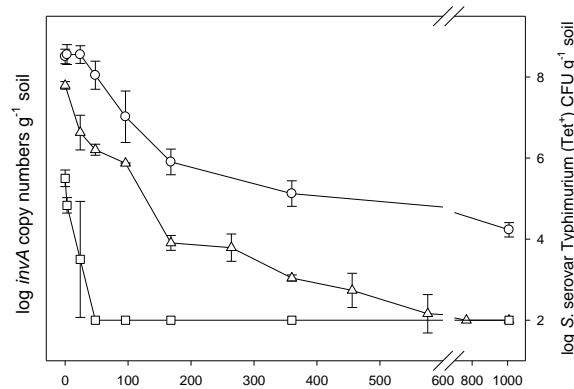


Lab experiments – Survival of *Salmonella* ser. Typhimurium in soil mixed with slurry

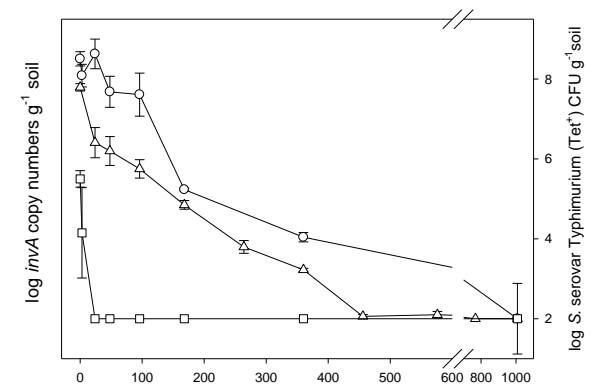
5°C



15°C



25°C



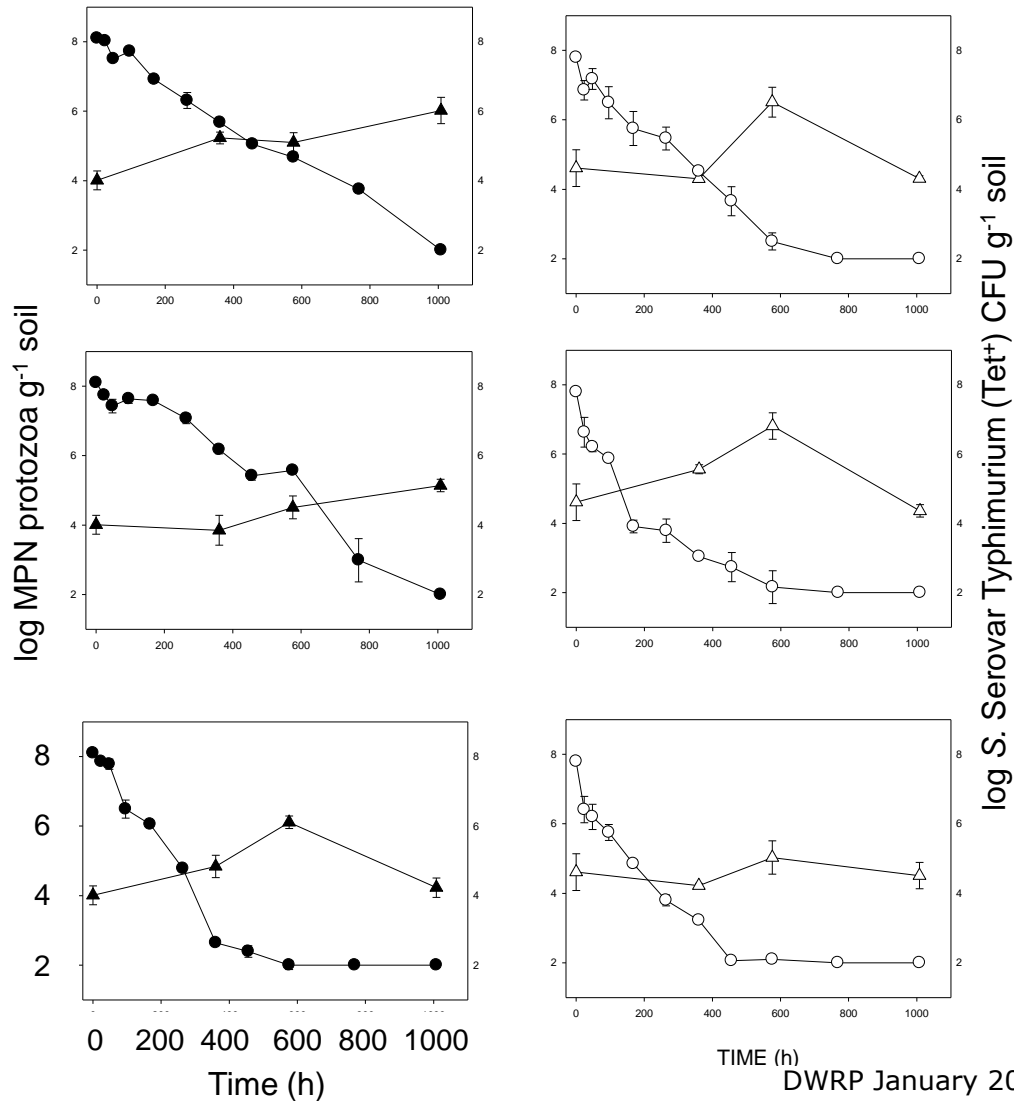
Evolution of *S. serovar Typhimurium* (Tet+) measured by quantitative PCR and plate counting in manure-amended soil samples at three different temperatures.

- () **log *invA* DNA** copies g⁻¹ soil;
- () **log *invA* mRNA** copies g⁻¹ soil;
- (Δ) **log CFU** g⁻¹.

Detection limit = 10². Error bars represent standard error of the mean. Please note the broken x axes



Protozoan predation may explain *Salmonella* disappearance in this system

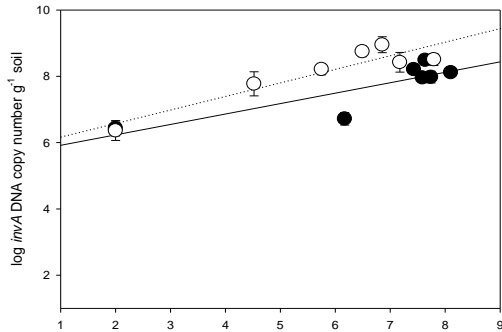


Evolution of *S. serovar Typhimurium* CFU (○, △) and protozoan levels (●, ▲) in soil samples (closed symbols) and manure-amended soil samples (open symbols) incubated at three different temperatures.

Protozoa counting were made at 360, 576 and 1008 hours after the beginning of the assay.

Protozoan levels at time 0 were determined before the addition of *Salmonella*. Error bars represent standard error of the mean.

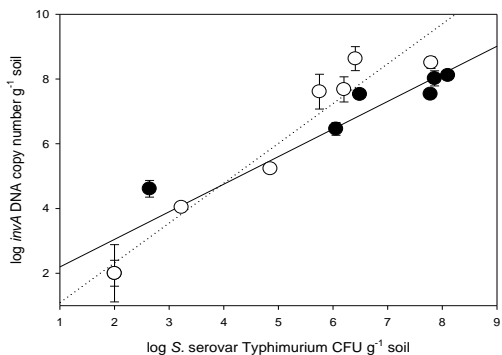
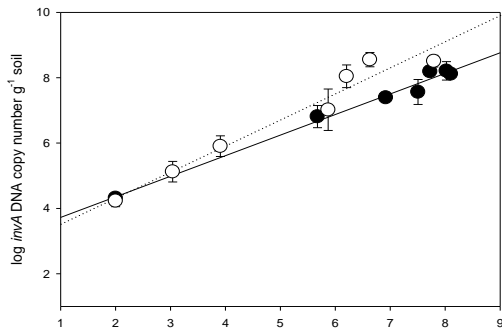
CFU counts and DNA quantification give the best fit



Linear regression of the levels of *Salmonella typhimurium* quantified by plate counting and qPCR.

The logarithm *invA* DNA copy number is plotted versus the logarithm of *S. typhimurium* per gram of soil at three different temperatures: 5°C, 15°C and 25°C;

(○) soil; (●) manure-amended soil. Error bars represent standard error of the mean.

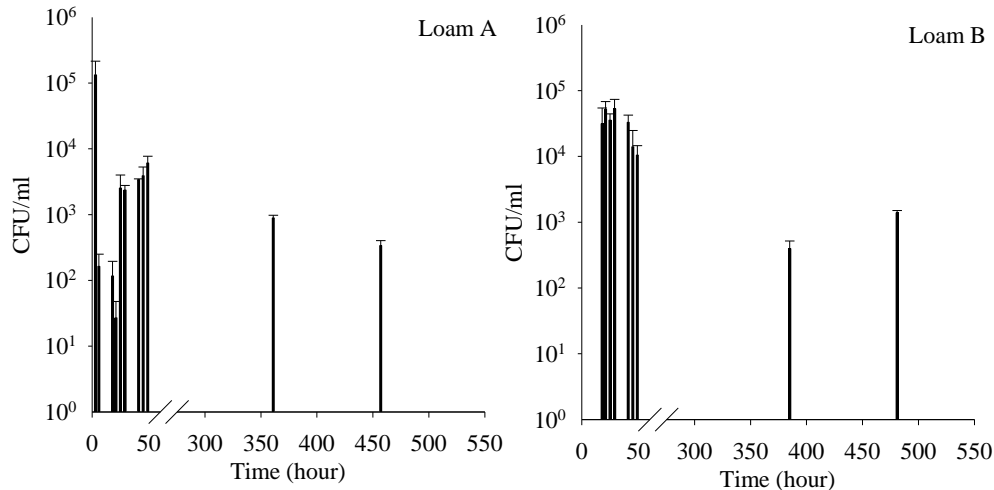


Leaching through monoliths



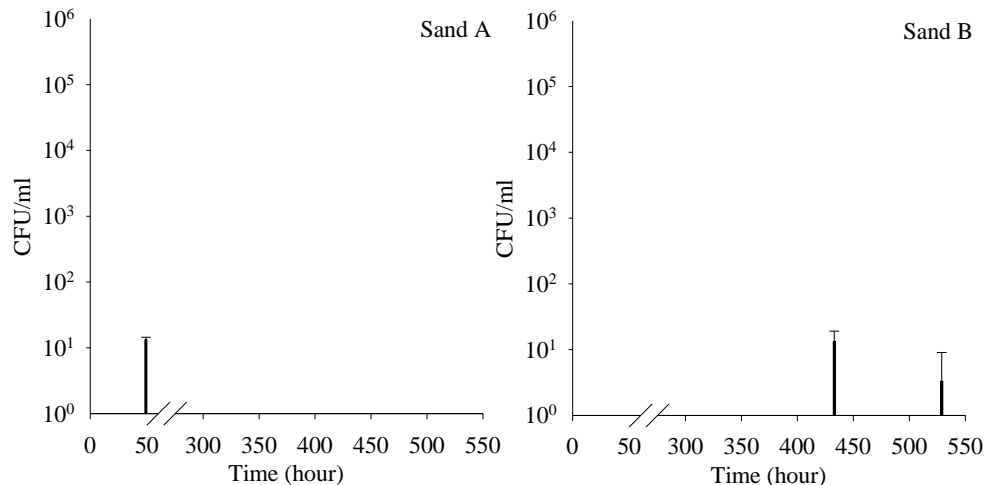
- 4 large monoliths (soil columns) in Foulum in spring 2006.
- Monoliths 60 cm in diameter and 100 cm high.
- Two filled with fracture moraine soil from Sealand Odde and two with sandy soil from Jydevad in Southern Jutland.
- By introducing a tetracycline resistant *Salmonella enterica* DSMZ554 to manure leaching could be quantified
- DSMZ554 was cultured in a liquid medium and a density of 8×10^7 cells ml⁻¹ manure was added to the monoliths

Leaching of *Salmonella enterica* is fastest in structured clay soil



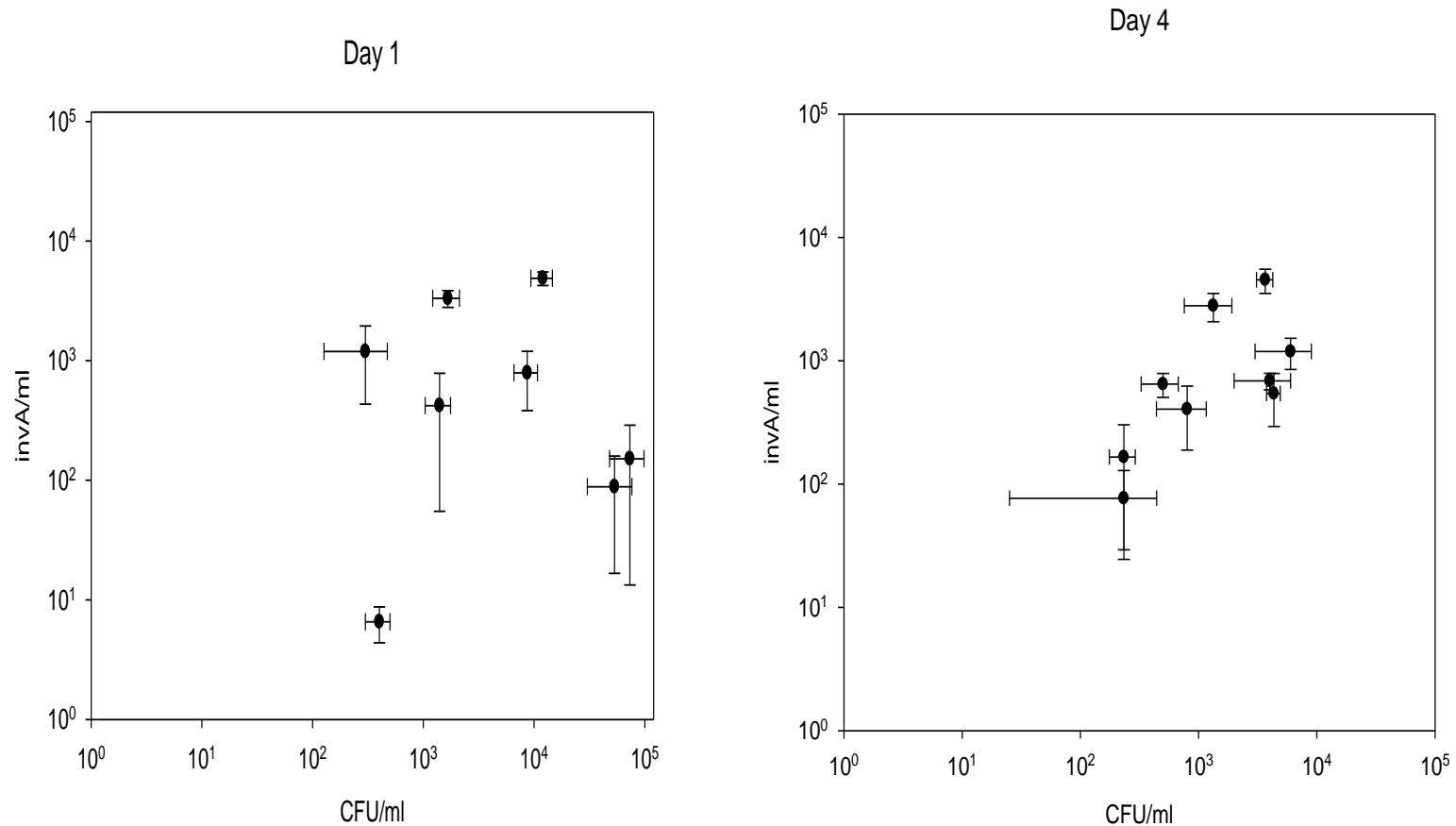
➤ 8×10^7 CFU of *S. enterica* DSM554 per ml manure (< 1% of total CFU)

➤ Fast leaching from clay-monoliths up to 5×10^5 CFU per ml water!



➤ Leaching through sand monoliths was slow (detection level reached after long time)

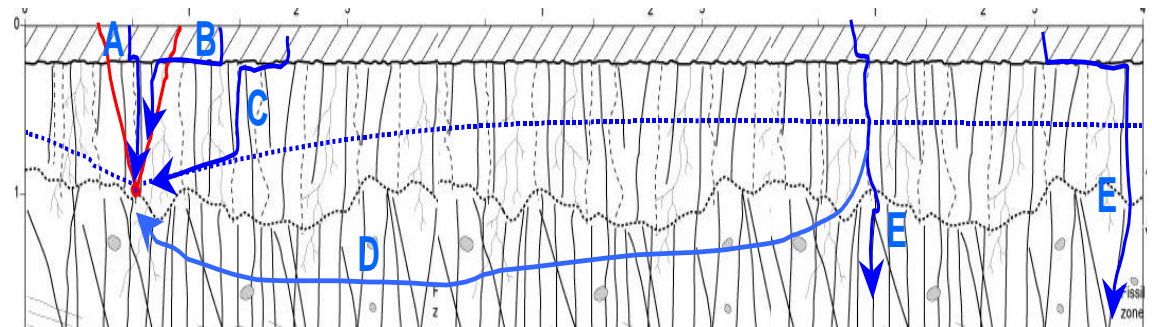
Comparing PCR on *invA*-DNA and selective plating in quantifying *Salmonella* sp. in water leaching from column experiments.



Upscaling: The VAP Field experiment

Questions

- ❑ Will pathogens leach to drains when applied to agricultural fields with slurry?
- ❑ By which pathways do pathogens enter the drainage system?



Leaching of Pathogens from manure to drainage water

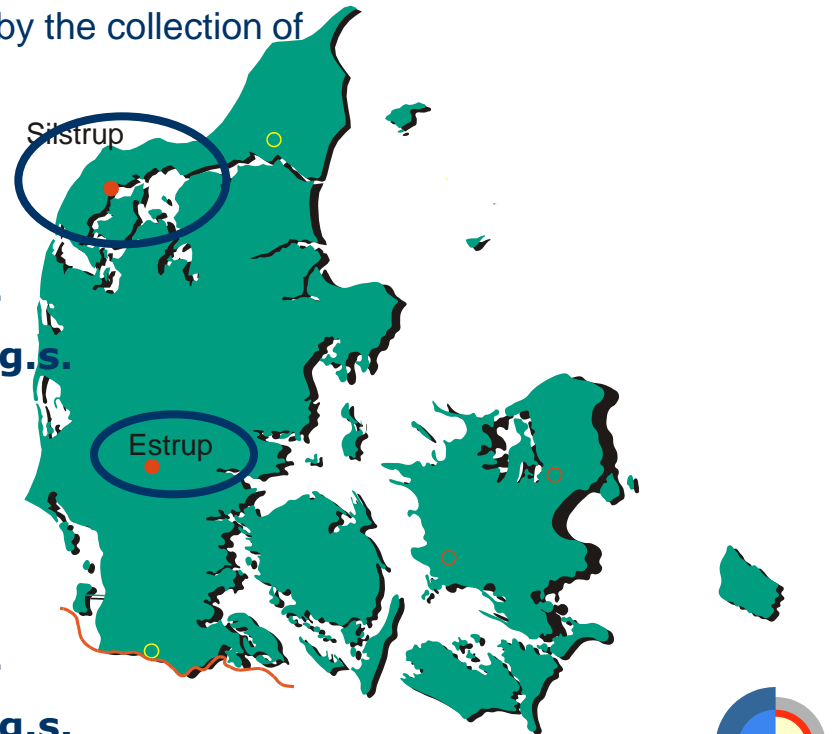
Field experiments - VAP

Two loamy field sites

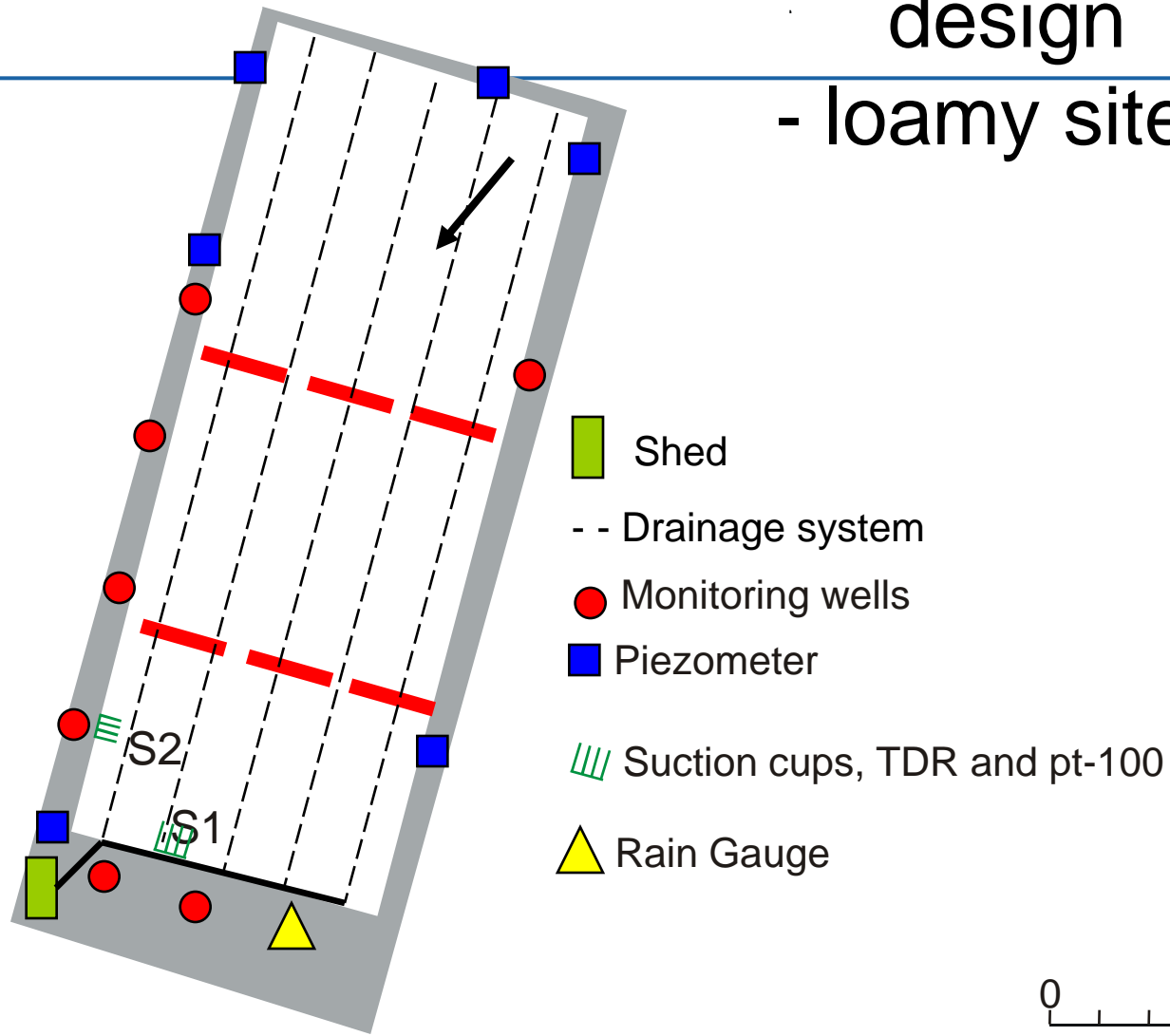
- Manure from was injected primo April and September 2009
- Leaching has been monitored during a 9 month period
- Drainage water was sampled proportional to the flow and collected weekly
- Selected storm events was intensively monitored by the collection of subsamples for every 2 mm drainage runoff

- Silstrup
- **1.7 ha**
- **18-26% clay**
- **866 mm/year**
- **Gwt: 1-3 m b.g.s.**
- **Tile drained**

- Estrup
- **1.3 ha**
- **10-20% clay**
- **862 mm/year**
- **Gwt: 1-3 m b.g.s.**
- **Tile drained**



Monitoring design - loamy site -

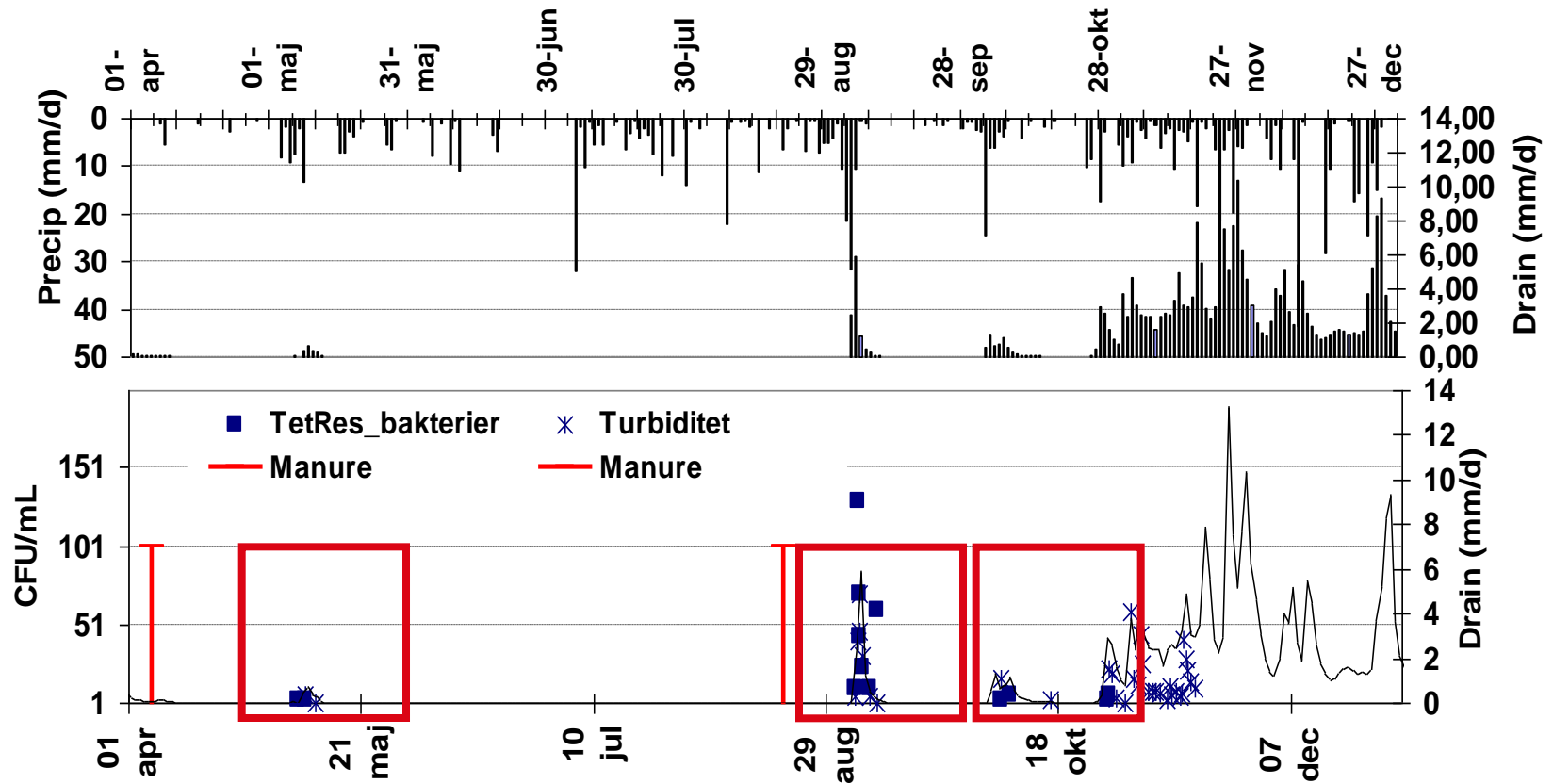


0 75 m

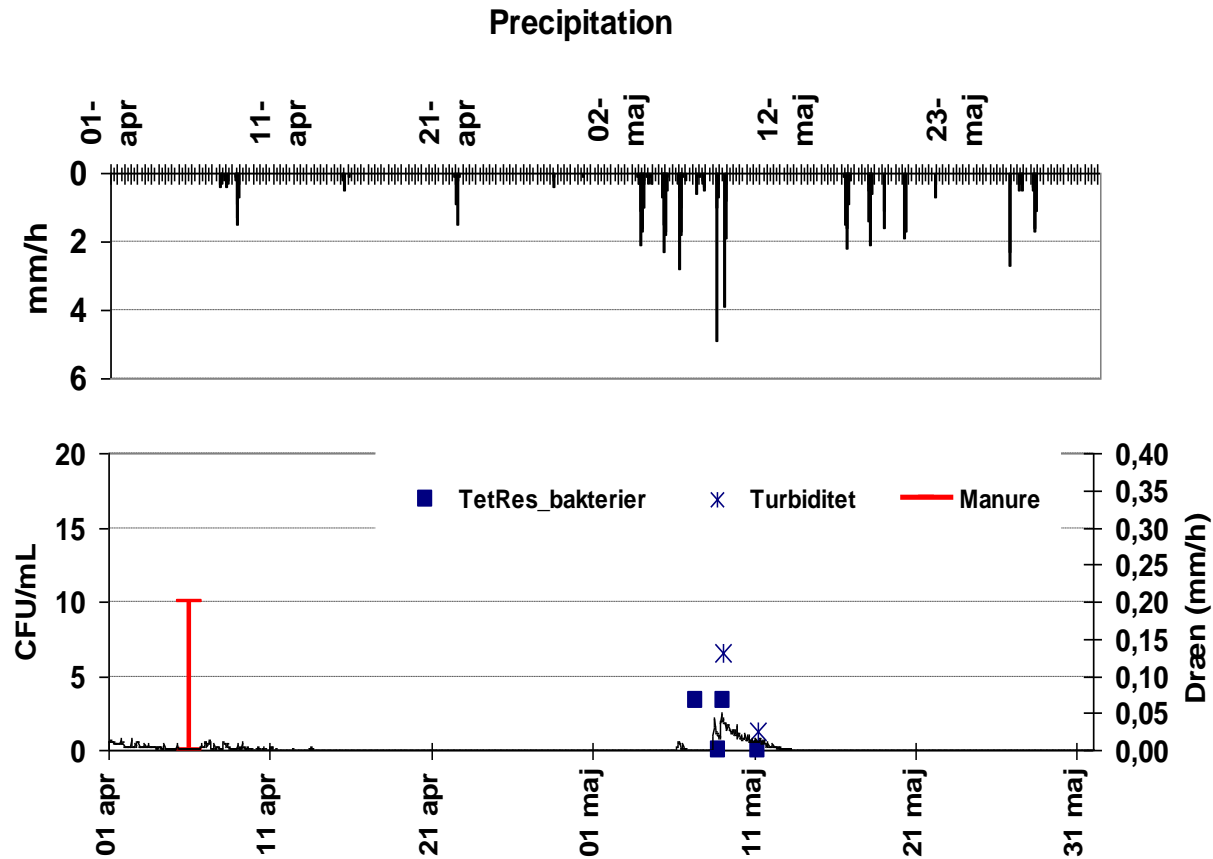
Manure characteristics

Site	Dry matter	total N	Ammonium N	Phosphate P	Potassium K	Copper Cu	Magnesium Mg	E. coli	Tetracycl. resistant bacteria
	%	kg/ton	kg/ton	kg/ton	kg/ton	g/ton	g/ton	CFU/mL	CFU/mL
Estrup	0,79	2,86	2,34	0,16	1,17	1,4	98,5	20.000	35.000
Silstrup	6,34	4,65	2,95	1,33	1,77	32,3	1090	100.000	300.000

VAP Leaching of tetracycline resistant bacteria from 1/4 - 31/12 2009

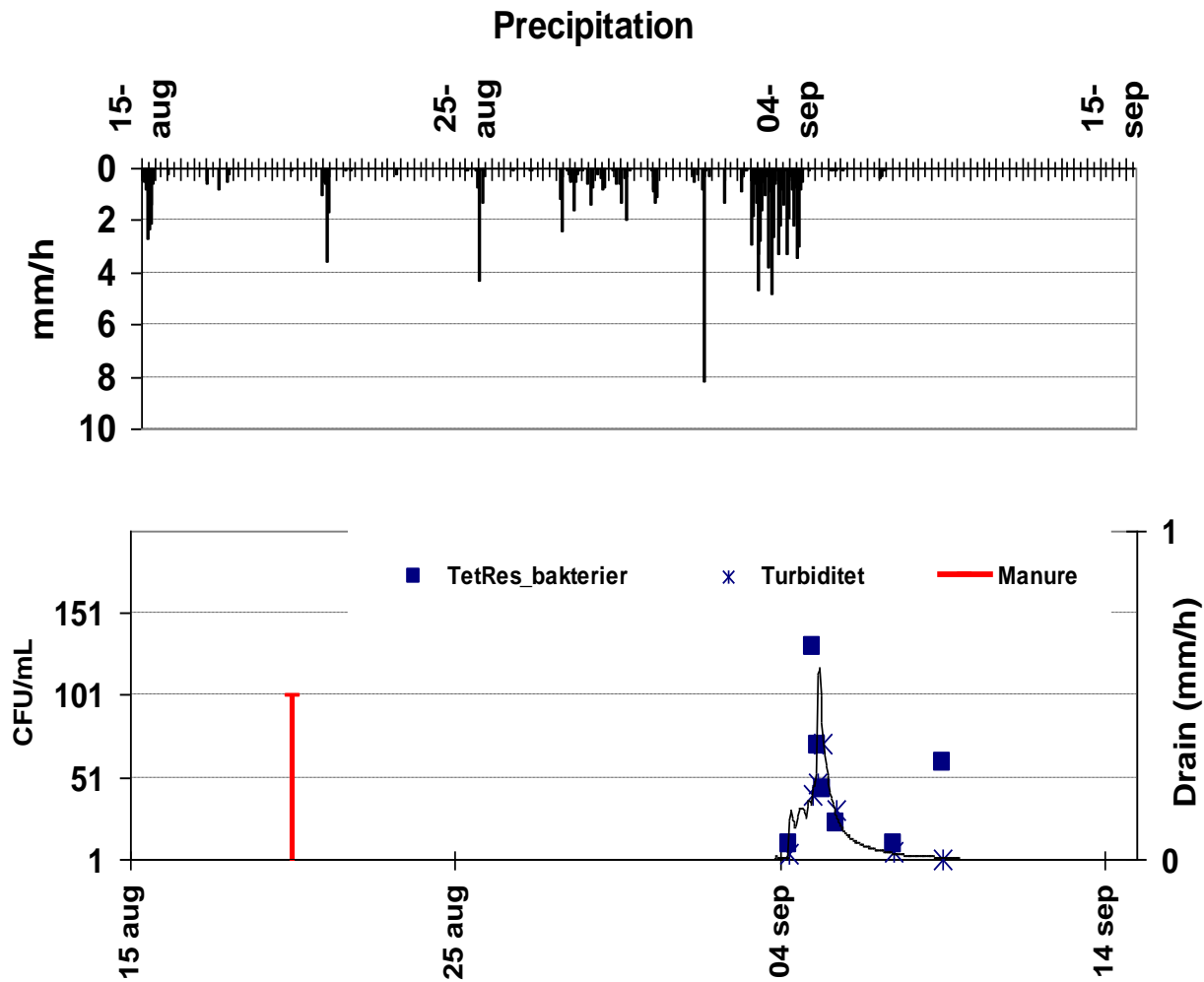


1. Event



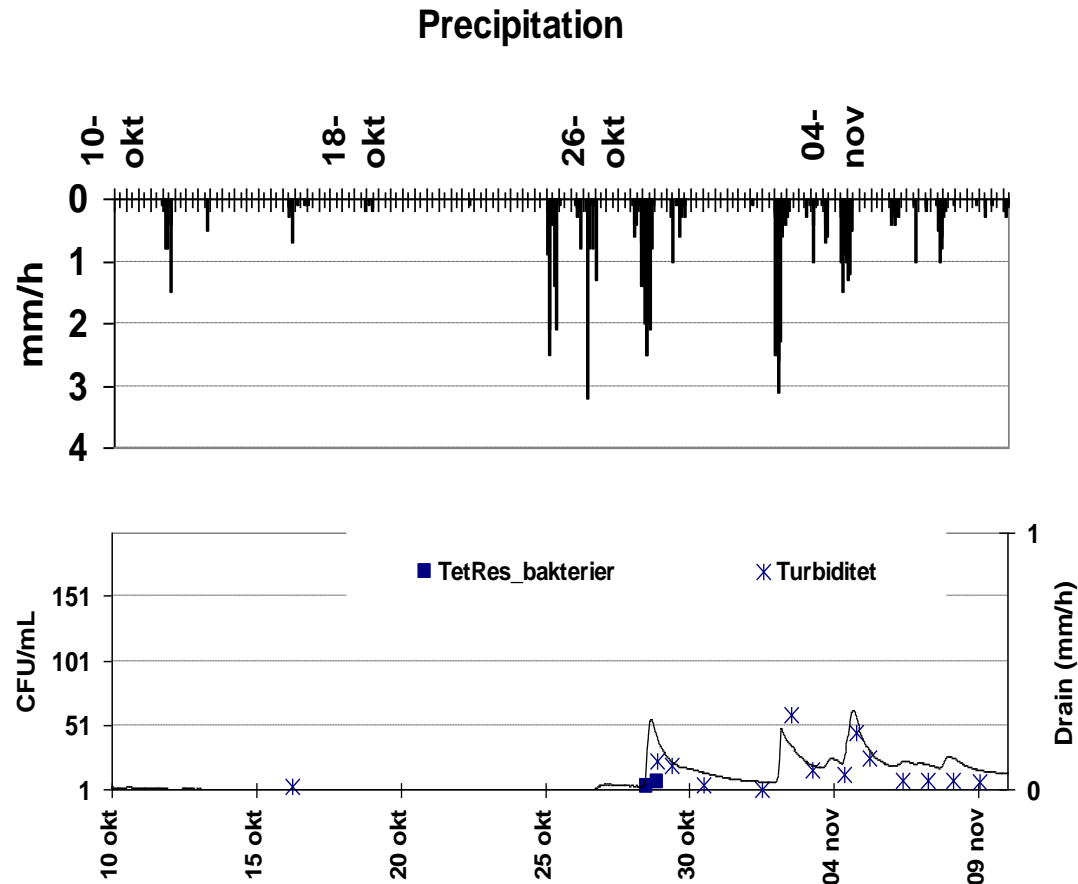
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2. Event



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3. and 4. Event



Conclusion

- ❖ Quantitative RT-PCR of mRNA in soil is indeed a possibility to assess pathogens in the environment!
- ❖ Leaching of *Salmonella* sp. are faster through fractured clay soil than sand
- ❖ Tetracycline resistant bacteria are leached from natural manure applied to the field
- ❖ By detecting pathogens using mRNA based methods we can provide data on risk of infectivity, provided that the relation between mRNA and infectivity is established
- ❖ Further development and validation of DNA/mRNA based detection systems is needed