

Hampshire Avon DTC News flash



June 2011

Monitoring activities

Surface water monitoring:

Autosampler stations continue to yield data on a weekly basis from our Avon and Tamar monitoring sites. Some of our Avon rivers are now dry due to the lack of rain over spring or their 'winterbourne' nature. The autosampler and high spec stations at Ebbesbourne Wake are now dry as is the autosampler station at Kingston Deverill. The Tamar samples are containing a lot of suspended sediment at the moment.



Source apportionment

Work on tracing organic inputs (e.g. manures and slurries) to the study sub-catchment streams is progressing well, with useful 'fingerprints' being verified on the basis of statistical testing.

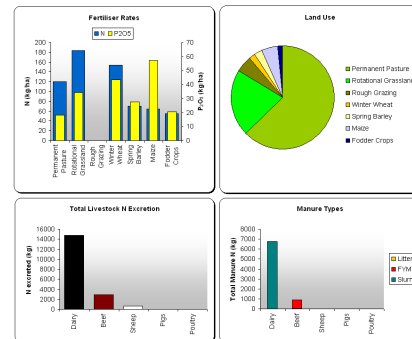
Mitigation measures

The farm baseline surveys have been carried out in the target areas. We had an excellent uptake of farmers agreeing to participate in the survey.

Discussions are continuing with farmers regarding candidate mitigation options for the manipulated sub-catchments and sub-catchment management plans are currently

being devised and mapped to capture these options.

Catchment-wide FARMSCOPER runs have been completed for the Avon DTC and the results are currently being summarised in a scientific paper.



Graphs of farm data from the Farm Design Workbook

Knowledge Exchange

Adrian Collins met with Dave Allen from BGS to discuss the development of conceptual models of the hydrogeology of the Hampshire Avon DTC sub-catchments. BGS are planning, with the help of some of their national capability funding, to undertake some dating of recharge waters in the target sub-catchments using the analysis of CFCs and SF6.

There was a meeting held between ADAS, WCSRT, Wild Trout Trust and Exeter University to discuss progressing a bid to the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation to assist with the extrapolation of the DTC approach across the wider Avon catchment. A bid will be submitted to fund a person to expand our knowledge exchange activities within the Hampshire Avon catchment with

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a view to including farmer-led monitoring activities.

Charlotte Lloyd, the new PDRA for the project, met with some of the Avon DTC team to discuss her role in the management and analysis of the data.

Adrian Collins presented on some of the tracing component of DTC work at the recent IUGG meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

An abstract on the use of the FARMSCOPER tool in the Hants Avon DTC has been accepted for oral presentation at the forthcoming Catchment Science meeting in Dublin in September 2011.



Please don't forget to check out the project website for all project updates and news: www.avondtc.org.uk

Imminent meetings

12th July – Wensum DTC sediment investigations meeting

13th July - Wensum DTC DEFRA site visit

14th July – Eden DTC Open Day