

## Central Plains Wetlands General Information

### 429. **Constructed wetlands for municipal wastewater treatment: Recent experience in Oklahoma.**

Wright, S. G.; Shields, R. T.; and Thung, H. J.  
In: Versatility of Wetlands in the Agricultural Landscape.  
(Held 17 Sep 1995-20 Sep 1995 at Hyatt Regency, Tampa,  
Fla.) Campbell, K. L. (eds.)

St Joseph, Mo.: American Society of Agricultural Engineers  
(ASAE); pp. 665-673; 1995.

NAL Call #: QH87.3.V47 1995

*Descriptors:* groundwater flow/ ponding/ design/ land  
types/ artificial wetlands/ wastes/ sewage effluent/  
treatment/ waste water treatment/ evaluation

*Abstract:* Recent design, construction and operating  
experience at 3 subsurface flow constructed wetlands in  
Oklahoma, USA, are discussed. Ponding, septic conditions  
and poor effluent quality were attributed to a complexity of  
interrelated biological, physical, chemical, hydrological and  
hydraulic factors and to insufficient information concerning  
best site specific design criteria.

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### 430. **A holistic passive integrative sampling approach for assessing the presence and potential impacts of waterborne environmental contaminants.**

Petty, J. D.; Huckins, J. N.; Alvarez, D. A.; Brumbaugh, W.  
G.; Cranor, W. L.; Gale, R. W.; Rastall, A. C.; Jones-Lepp,  
T. L.; Leiker, T. J.; Rostad, C. E.; and Furlong, E. T.

*Chemosphere* 54(6): 695-705. (Feb. 2004)

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*Descriptors:* artificial wetlands/ wastewater treatment/  
water sampling/ sampling methods/ environmental  
monitoring/ membranes/ monitoring instruments/ pesticides/  
polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons/ chemical pollution/  
environmental assessment/ mercury/ sampling/ samplers/  
sewage disposal/ aromatic hydrocarbons/ chlorine

compounds/ sewage & wastewater treatment/ species  
interactions: pests and control/ characteristics, behavior  
and fate/ water & wastewater treatment

*Abstract:* As an integral part of our continuing research in  
environmental quality assessment approaches, we have  
developed a variety of passive integrative sampling devices  
widely applicable for use in defining the presence and  
potential impacts of a broad array of contaminants. The  
semipermeable membrane device has gained widespread  
use for sampling hydrophobic chemicals from water and air,  
the polar organic chemical integrative sampler is applicable  
for sequestering waterborne hydrophilic organic chemicals,  
the stabilized liquid membrane device is used to  
integratively sample waterborne ionic metals, and the  
passive integrative mercury sampler is applicable for  
sampling vapor phase or dissolved neutral mercury  
species. This suite of integrative samplers forms the basis  
for a new passive sampling approach for assessing the  
presence and potential toxicological significance of a broad  
spectrum of environmental contaminants. In a proof-of-  
concept study, three of our four passive integrative  
samplers were used to assess the presence of a wide  
variety of contaminants in the waters of a constructed  
wetland, and to determine the effectiveness of the  
constructed wetland in removing contaminants. The  
wetland is used for final polishing of secondary-treatment  
municipal wastewater and the effluent is used as a source  
of water for a state wildlife area. Numerous contaminants,  
including organochlorine pesticides, polycyclic aromatic  
hydrocarbons, organophosphate pesticides, and  
pharmaceutical chemicals (e.g. ibuprofen, oxindole, etc.)  
were detected in the wastewater. Herein we summarize the  
results of the analysis of the field-deployed samplers and  
demonstrate the utility of this holistic approach.

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## Wetlands as Agricultural Conservation Practices

### 431. **A comparison of subcanopy versus overhead application of constructed wetland treated nursery runoff on short and long rotation nursery crops.**

Arnold, Michael A.; Lesikar, Bruce J.; McDonald, Garry V.;  
and Wilkerson, Don C.

*Journal of Environmental Horticulture* 22(4):  
217-224. (2004)

NAL Call #: SB1.J66; ISSN: 0738-2898

*Descriptors:* methods and techniques/ pollution  
assessment control and management/ terrestrial ecology:  
ecology, environmental sciences/ bog like free surface flow  
wetland cell/ gravel filtration sub surface flow wetland cell/  
field equipment/ subcanopy irrigation/ water reuse/ applied  
and field techniques/ non point source pollution/ nursery  
industry/ nursery runoff/ product quality/  
water conservation

*Abstract:* The nursery/greenhouse industry is the fastest  
growing segment of U.S. agriculture. Consumer demand for  
excellent product quality requires luxury applications of  
water and agricultural chemicals. These cultural practices

tend to yield significant volumes of runoff rich in nutrients  
and pesticides. A capture and recycle system at the  
Nursery/Floral Crops Research and Education Center at  
Texas A&M University was fitted with 12 gravel filtration  
sub-surface flow (SSF) and 12 bog-like free-surface flow  
(FSF) wetland cells. Three cells of each type were planted  
with *Canna x genera/is* Bailey 'Cherry Red', *Iris L. x 'Clyde  
Redmond'*, both species, or no wetland plants. Runoff was  
continually collected from the nursery and recycled through  
wetland cells prior to application via overhead impact  
sprinklers or subcanopy microsprinklers. Short-term (10 wk)  
differential effects between overhead and subcanopy  
irrigation during production of *Frarinus pennsylvanica*,  
*Pistacia chinensis* von Bunge, *Quercus virginiana* P. Miller,  
and *Taxodium distichum* (L.) Richard in 9.4 liter (3)  
containers or *Ilex vomitoria* W. Aiton 'Nana' and  
*Catharanthus roseus* G. Don in 5.8 liter (2) containers were  
limited in magnitude. However, overhead irrigation reduced  
height and caliper growth or injured the foliage compared to  
plants irrigated with subcanopy microsprinklers during

longer-term (14 months) production in large 87.9 liter (27) containers. The extent of reduction was species dependent with *Pinus elliottii* Englemann being minimally impacted, *Pyrus calleryana* Descaisne 'Bradford' intermediate, and *Lagerstroemia* L. x 'Basham's Party Pink' (purportedly a *Lagerstroemia indica* L. x *Lagerstroemia fauriei* B. Koehne hybrid) and *T. distichum* exhibiting more pronounced effects. Damage appeared to be largely a result of high dissolved salt concentrations in irrigation water contacting the foliage. Recycling of runoff through the FSF cells concentrated soluble salts more so than passing the water through the SSF cells. Efficacy of nitrate nitrogen removal varied with species, season, loading rate, and wetland type. However, the constructed wetlands were generally effective under our test conditions at maintaining effluent nitrate levels at  $\leq 10$  mg/liter (10 ppm) when loading rates were  $\leq 50$  mg/liter (50 ppm). Presence of emergent wetland plants (those with roots imbedded in the substrate and shoots extending above the water surface, rather than floating or submerged plants) in the system was more important for effectively reducing nitrate levels in effluent from SSF than from FSF cells.

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