



Umwelt
Bundesamt

Environmental monitoring of biocides in Europe.
Compartment-specific strategies

Workshop – 25/26 June 2015 Berlin

Benzalkonium runoff from roofs treated with biocides

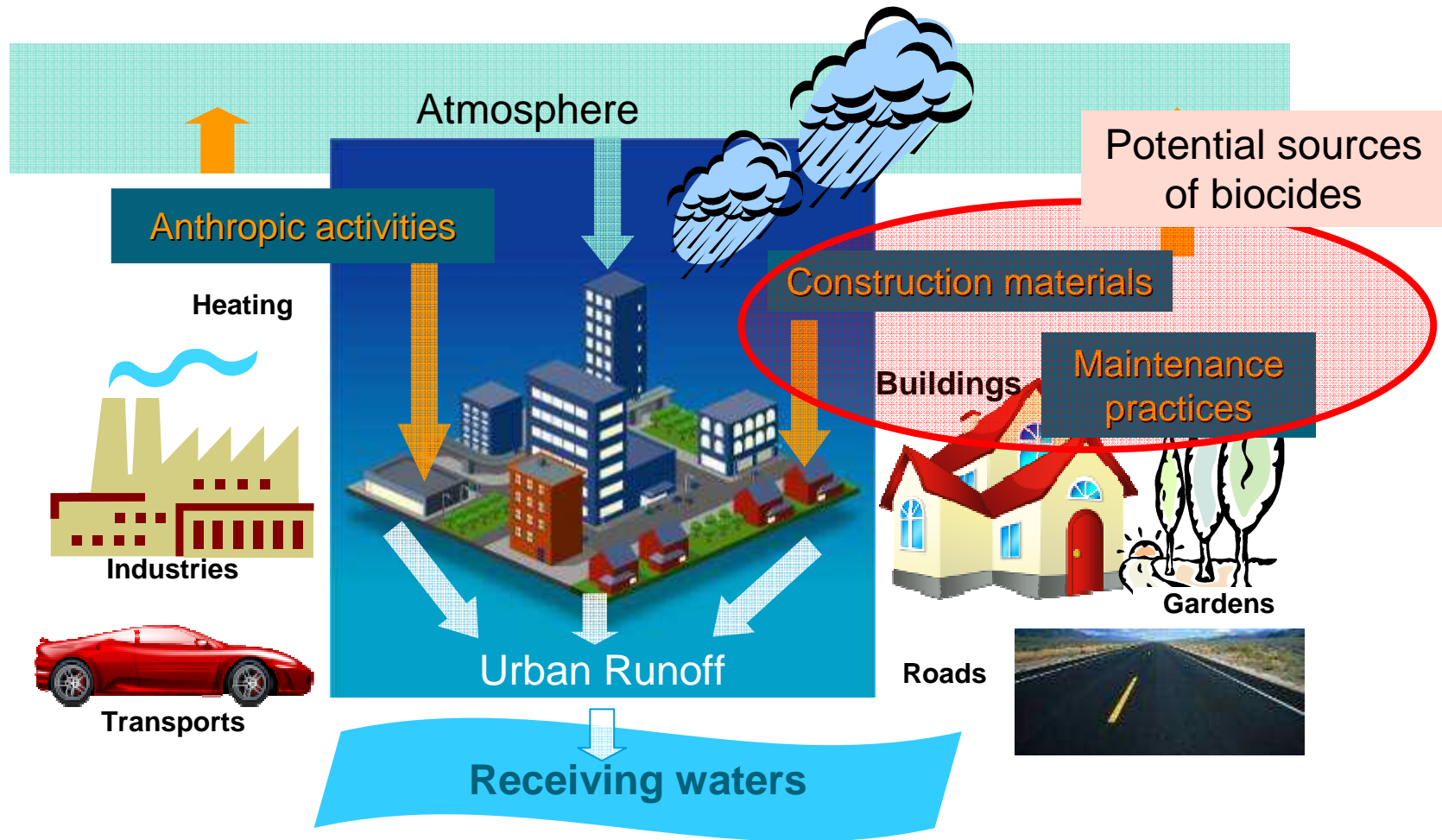
M.C. Gromaire

A. Van de Voorde, C. Lorgeoux, G. Chebbo

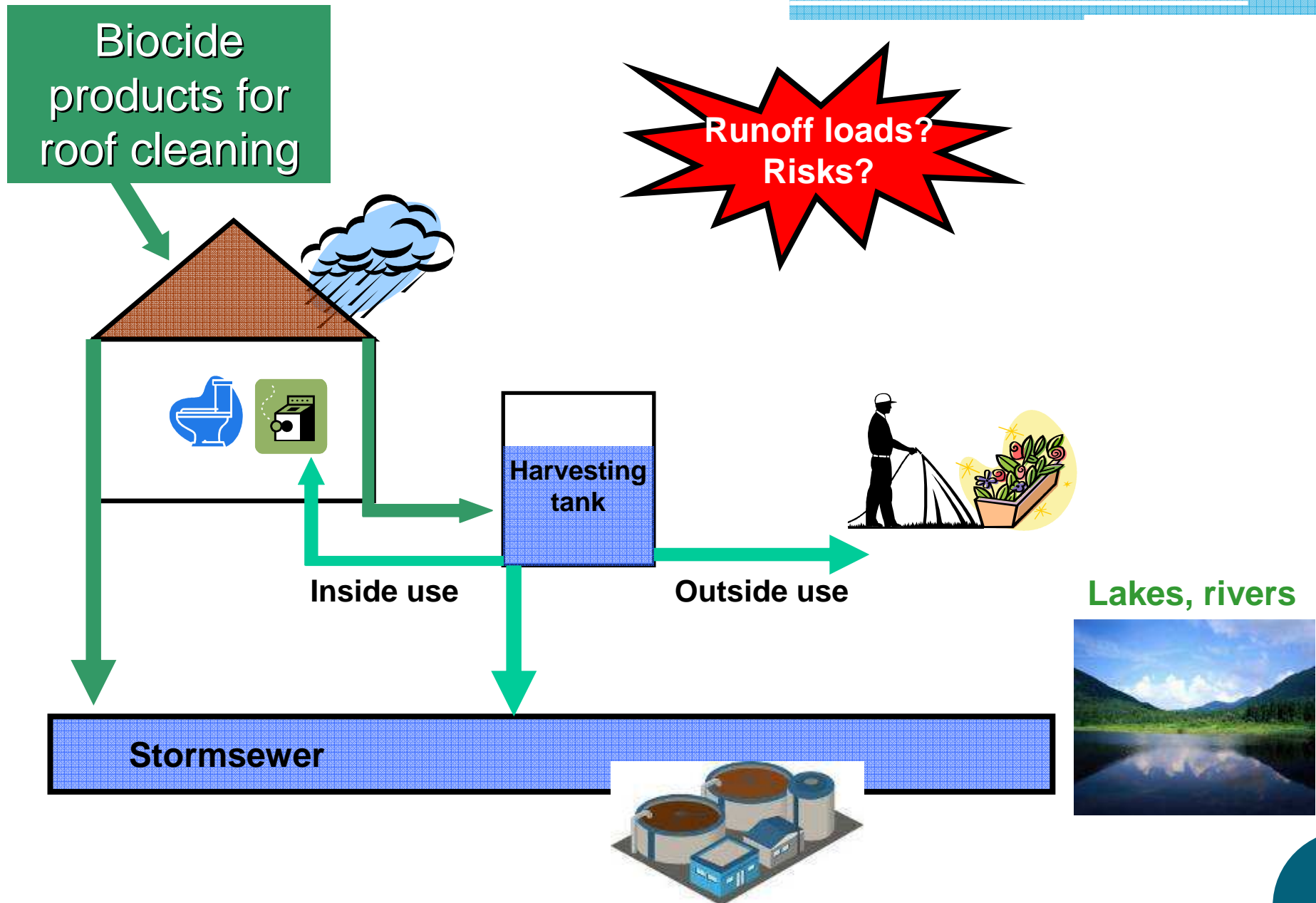


Context / Objectives

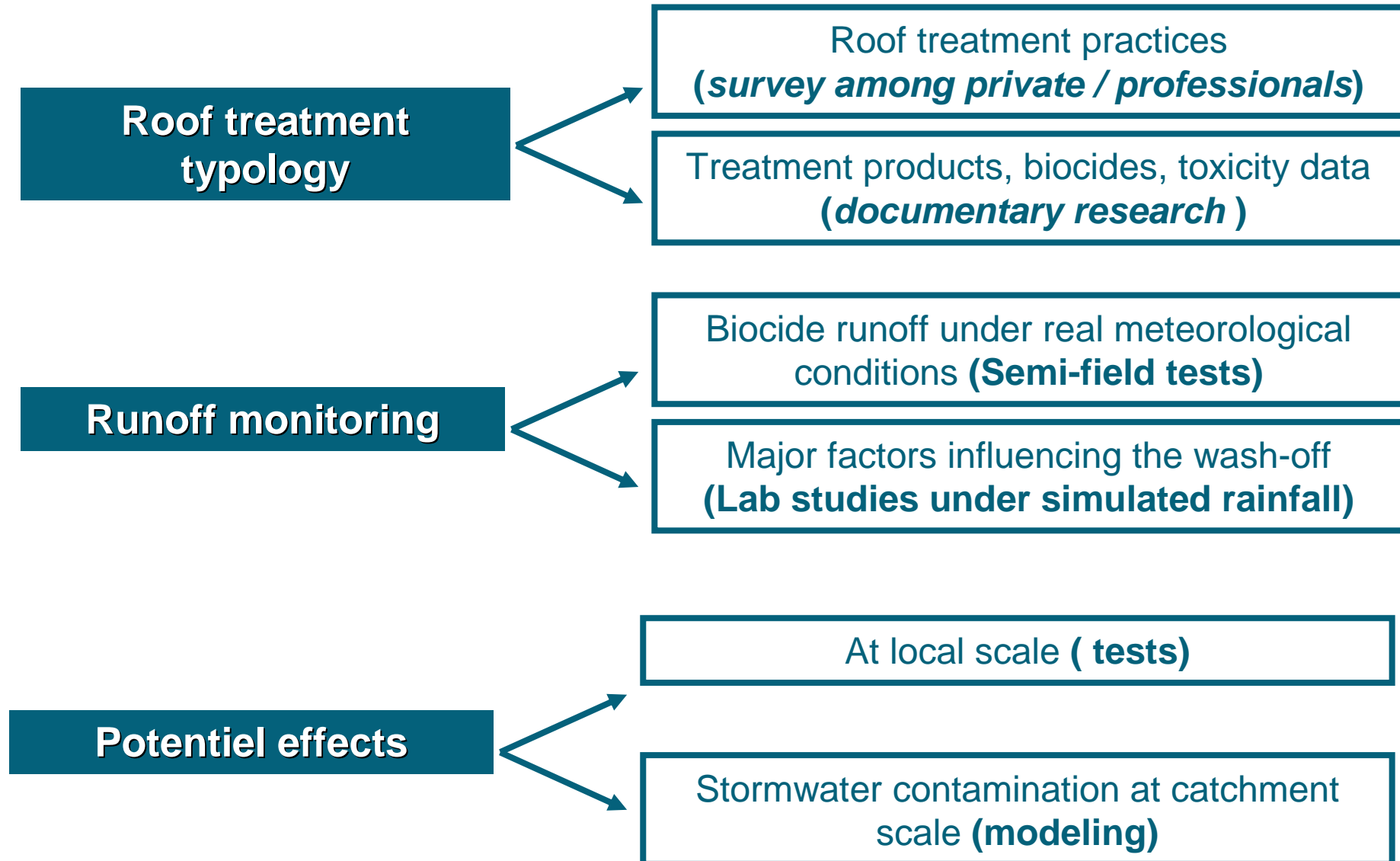
- Sources of stormwater contamination



Context / Objectives

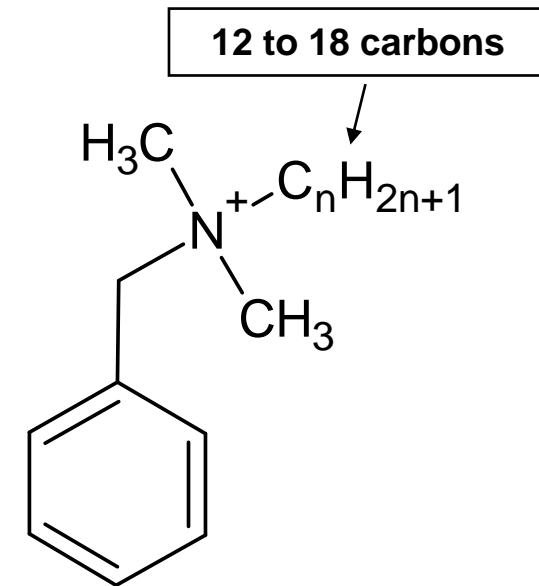


Methodology



Treatment Typology

- Most frequent treatment: **de-mossing**
 - 1 / 4 private house owners already did it
 - Every 5 years on average
 - Professionals or DIY
- Biocide used: **benzalkonium chloride**
 - Numerous trademarks
- Normal dosage: **4 to 7g/m²**



Alkyldimethylbenzylammonium
or benzalkonium
(CAS: 8001-54-5)



EC50Fishies = 280µg/L (Sütterlin, 2008)

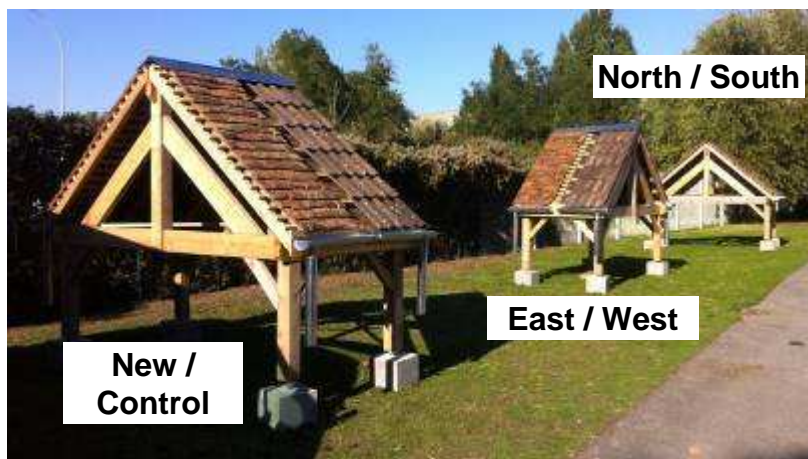
EC50Invertebrates = 5.9µg/L (USEPA, 2006)

Semi field testing

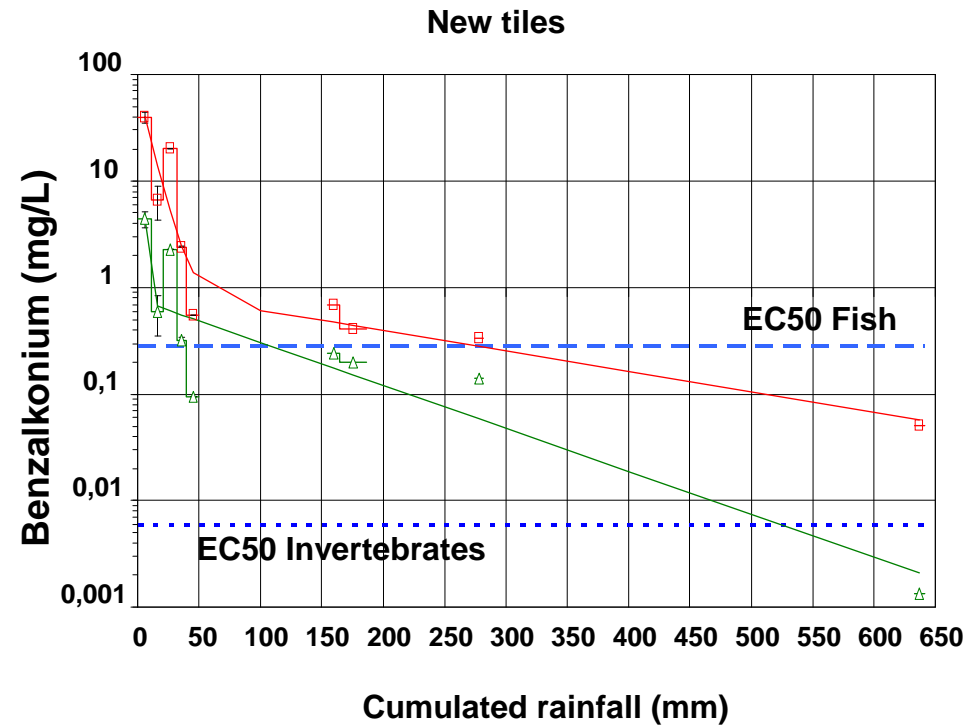
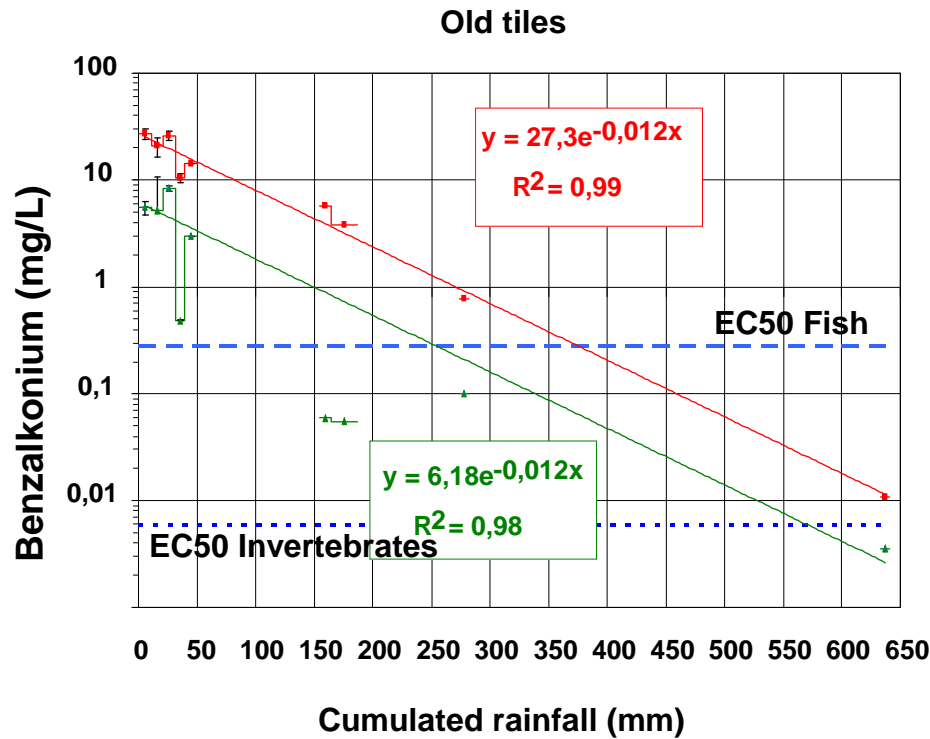
- 12 test roof frames

Materials	De-mossing treatment	Aspect	Exposition	Surface	Slope
Ceramic Tiles (Cl) Concrete Tiles (Co)	No (controls)	Old	S	~ 1m ²	40°
	Yes	Old	N, S, E, W		
	Yes	New	N		

- 13 month follow up after biocide treatment
 - First 5 successive rain events (50 mm, 1 month)
 - 4 rain events later on



Semi-field testing



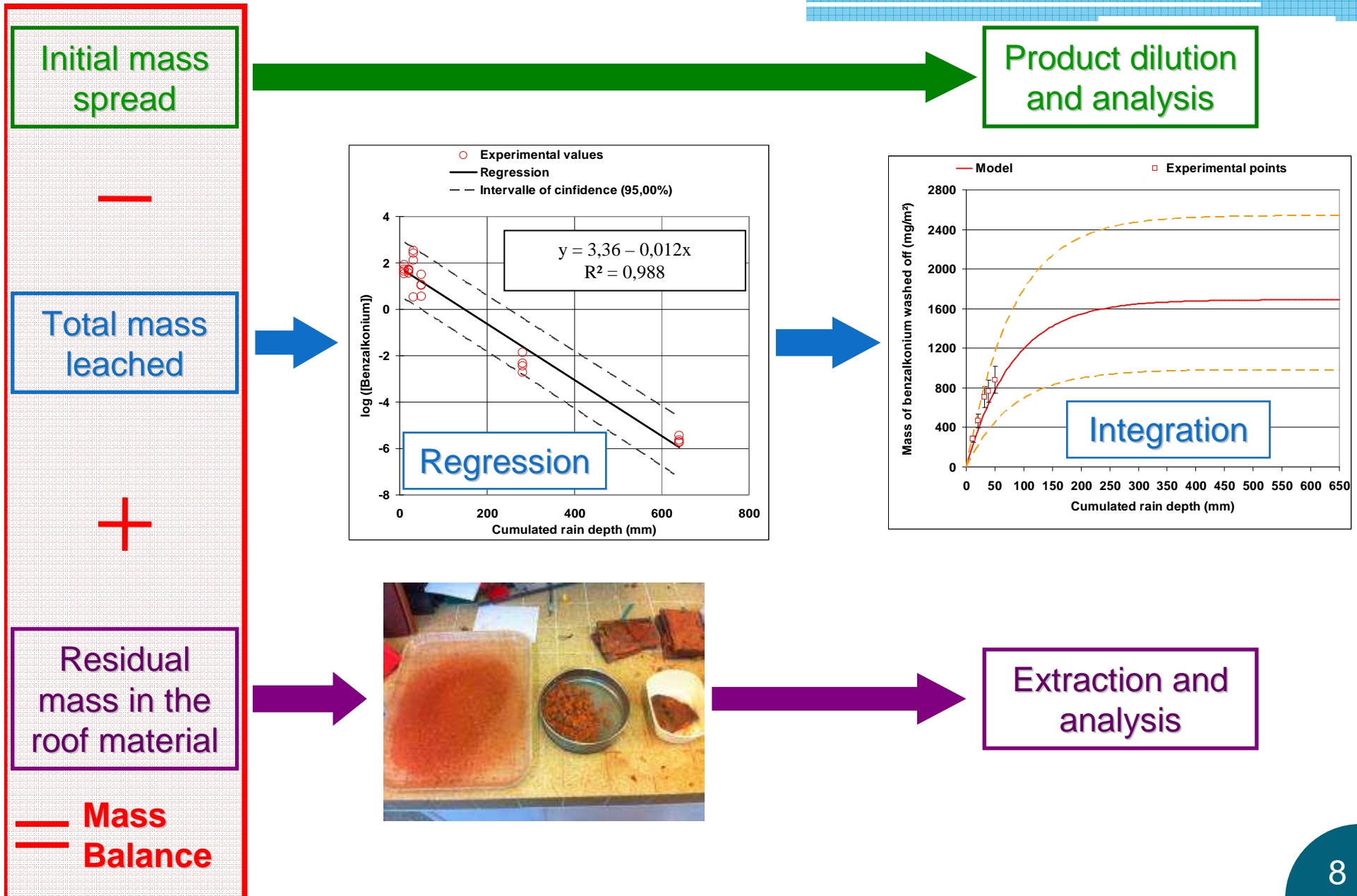
■ Concrete ▲ Ceramic tiles

Emission level depends on the tile material
But not on the exposition

Very high concentrations in the first runoff events
Rapid first order decrease

Persistent emissions even after 13 month

Semi-field testing - mass balance after 13 month



Semi-field testing - mass balance after 13 month

- Benzalkonium trapped in material negligible compared to mass spread (0.5 - 2%)
- Mass washed off dominant for both concrete and clay
- Low recovery (especially for clay) → could indicate biodegradation processes

	Concrete	Ceramic
Mass spread (mg/m ²)	5900 ± 300	
Residual concentration (mg/m ²)	130 ± 17	30 ± 16
Benzalkonium washed off by the rain Min. - Moy. - Max. (mg/m ²)	980 - 1690 - 2540	65 - 150 - 300
Total benzalkonium recovery	25% < P < 38%	2% < P < 4%

Lab studies under simulated rainfall

- Identification of main factors controlling benzalkonium runoff



Simulated rainfall

Influence of dosage (mass and concentration of biocide product), material, rain intensity on benzalkonium runoff

Emission patterns depend on the surface treatment of tiles

- Impervious surface : fast leaching proportional of the mass spread
- Pervious surface : product penetration and long term emission

Material	Mass of biocide spread	Conc. of biocide product	Rain intensity
Concrete	Y	Y	N
Natural ceramic	N	Y/N	-
Siliconated ceramic	Y	Y/N	-

Y : important effect

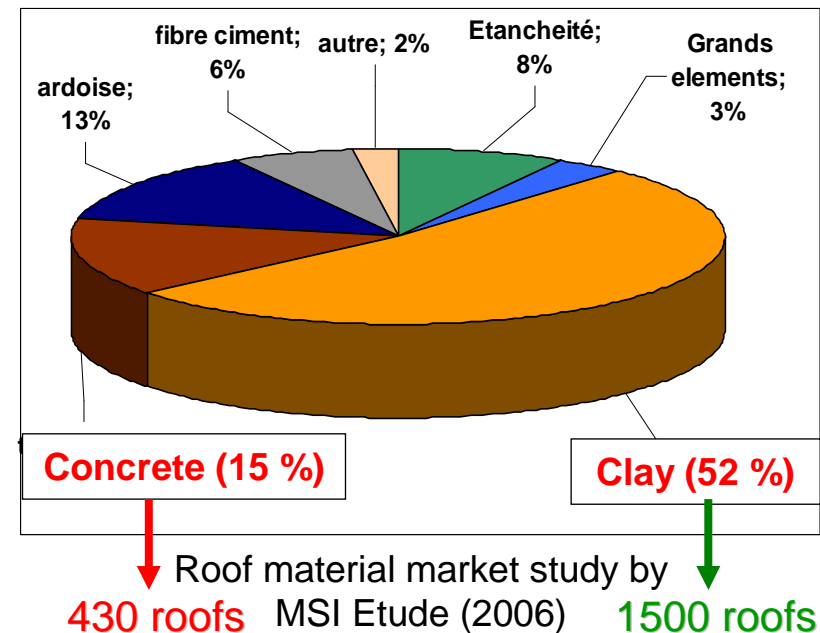
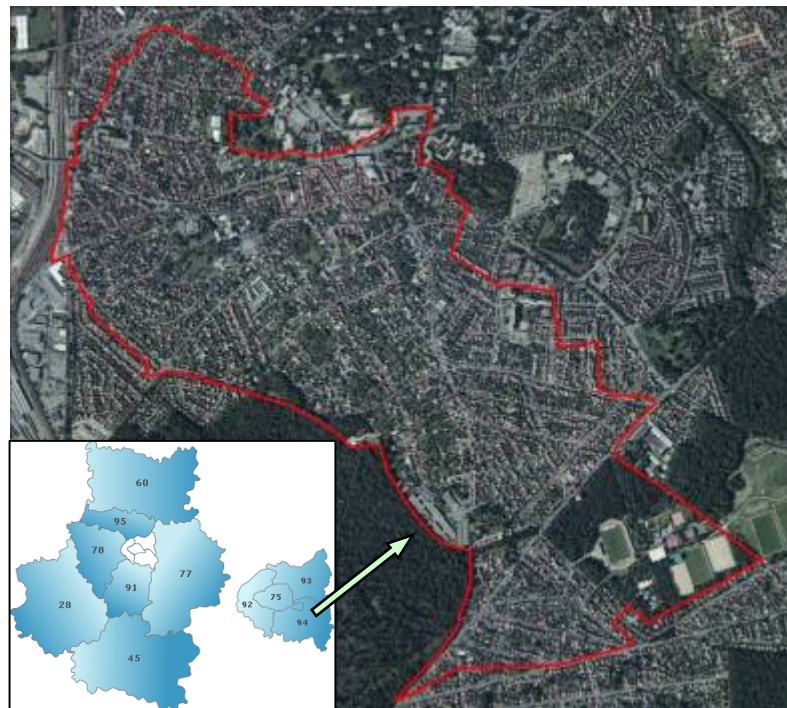
O/N : few effect

N : no effect

Stormwater contamination at catchment scale

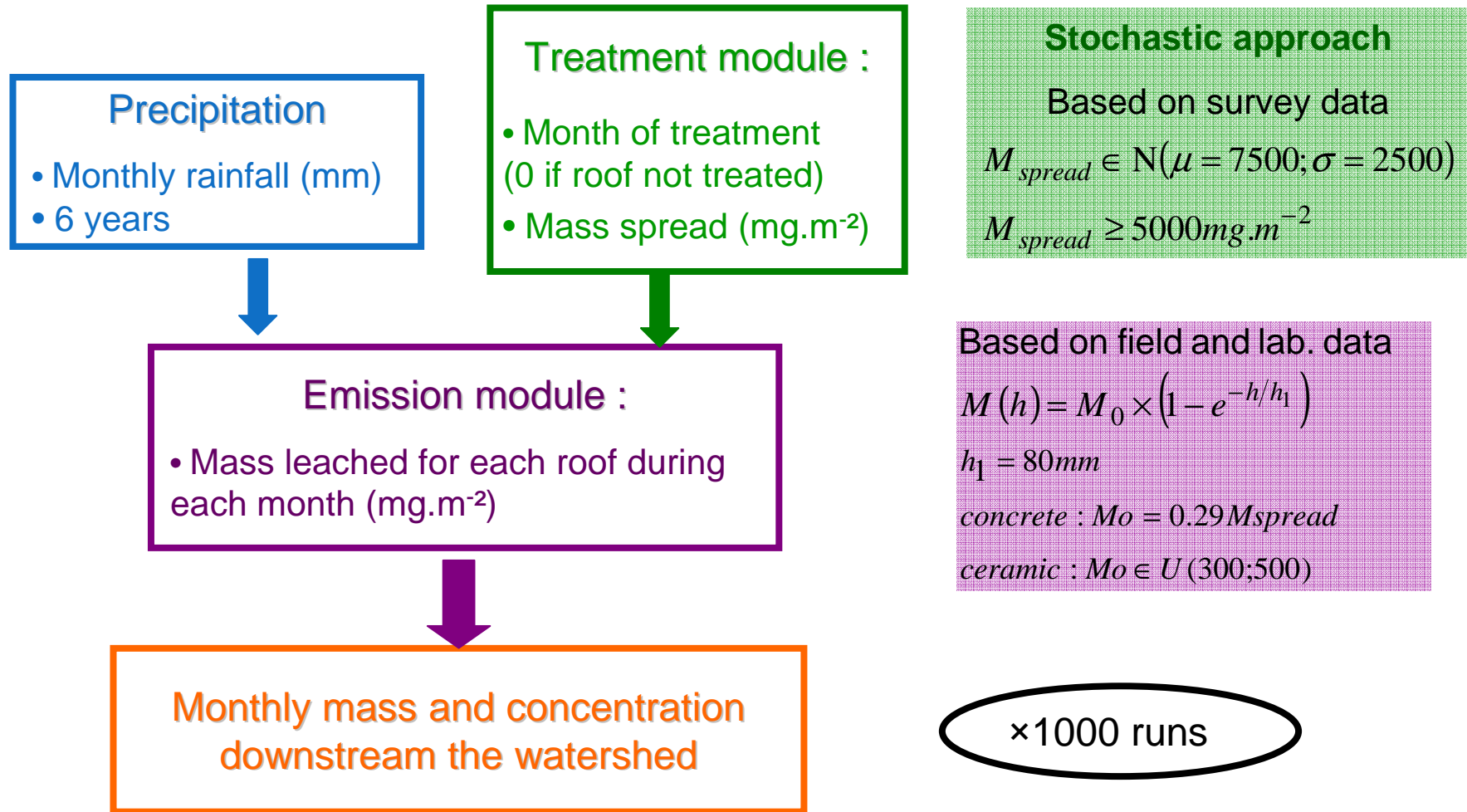
Sucy en Brie catchment

Total area (km ²)	Imperviousness (%)	Road area (km ²)	Roof area (km ²)	Number of treatable roofs
2.1	30	0.325	0.315	2850



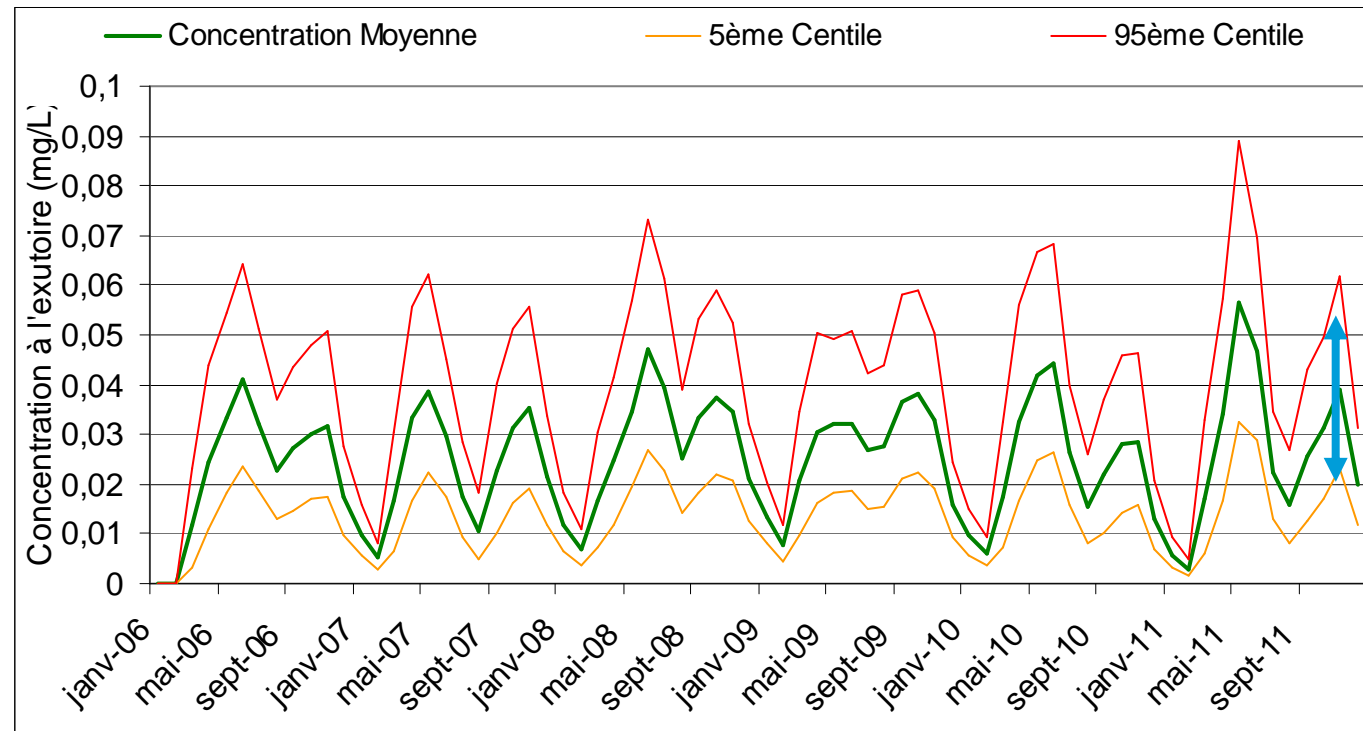
Stormwater contamination at catchment scale

Structure of the model



Stormwater contamination at catchment scale

- Simulated stormwater concentration ranges at the outlet of Sucy catchment



- *Strong annual pattern linked to treatment periods*
- *Rapid decrease in periods without treatment*
- *Strong uncertainty due to variability in treatment practices*



Stormwater contamination at catchment scale

- Comparison to measured stormwater concentrations at the outlet of Sucey catchment

	Model	Measurements		
	Monthly conc. (µg/L)	Total conc. (µg/L)	Dissolved conc. (µg/L)	Particulate conc. (mg/kg)
16/07/2011	13 to 35	28	0.13	50
19/07/2011		7	0.29	73
18/10/2011	17 to 50	28	0.28	84

Modeled values are consistent with measurements

but

Measured benzalkonium almost at 100% in particulate phase



Conclusion

- Roof treatment using **benzalkonium** biocides: a widespread practice
- **Huge runoff contamination** after a treatment (several mg/L)
 - Concentration $1,000 \times EC_{50}$
 - Fast decrease of contamination but concentration $> EC_{50}$ even after 100s of mm
- Potential impacts at local scale (small ponds, harvesting tanks,...):
 - For harvesting : disconnect during the first months after a treatment
- At catchment scale
 - For separative sewers → Dilution factor 2 to 10 to avoid short term toxicity



Thank you for your attention