

Waste Management's Experience with ACAP and Phytoremediation

John Baker-
Director New
Technologies



WM's ACAP and Phytoremediation Projects

- **Co-funded 2 ACAP projects- Altamont, CA and Douglas Co. LF, NB**
- **Numerous ET caps in Sub D, Closed, and NPL sites in CO, PA, TX, OK, FL**
- **Poplar Trees for Groundwater Control and Riparian Buffer**
- **Wetlands for leachate and stormwater treatment/mitigation**

ITRC Team-ACAP Guidance

- **Alternate Cap includes evaluation of landfill unit and allows controlled infiltration to the degree owner wants to manage**
- **Evaluate leachate generation rates and quality**
- **Evaluate existing/potential for groundwater contamination**

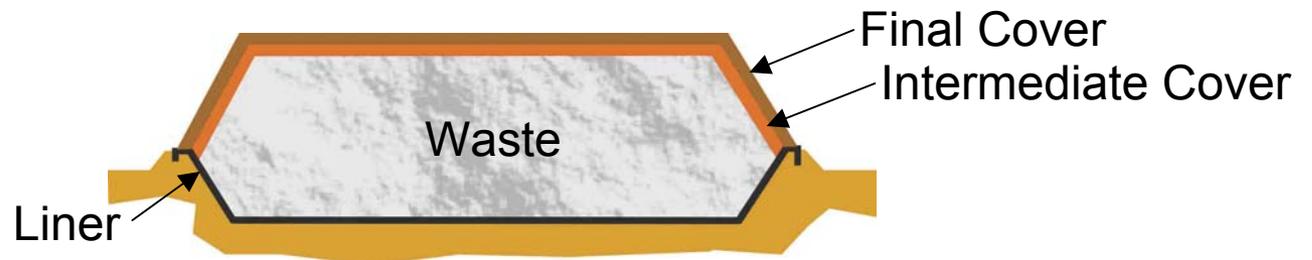
LCRS OPERATION STAGES



Initial Period of Operation



Active Period of Operation



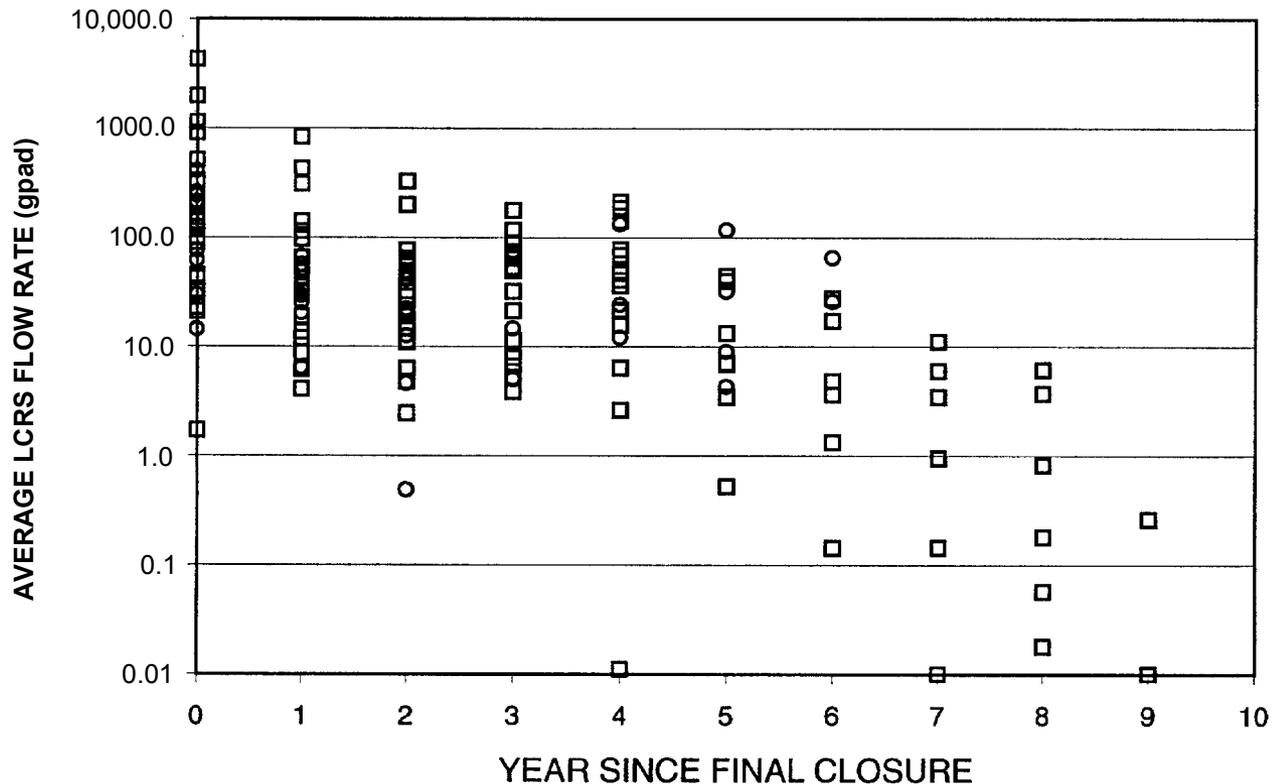
Post-Closure Period

MSW LEACHATE GENERATION RATES (gal/acre/day)

	NE	SE	W
Initial period of operation	105 - 3,990 (1,000)	148 - 4,370 (1,000)	-
Active period of operation	4 - 1,770 (350)	30 - 1,090 (290)	5 - 10 (8)
Post-closure period	5 - 68 (40)	-	-

Notes: Rates represent range of total monthly flow average over entire period of interest. Values in () represent average (mean) flow for all facilities in the data set.

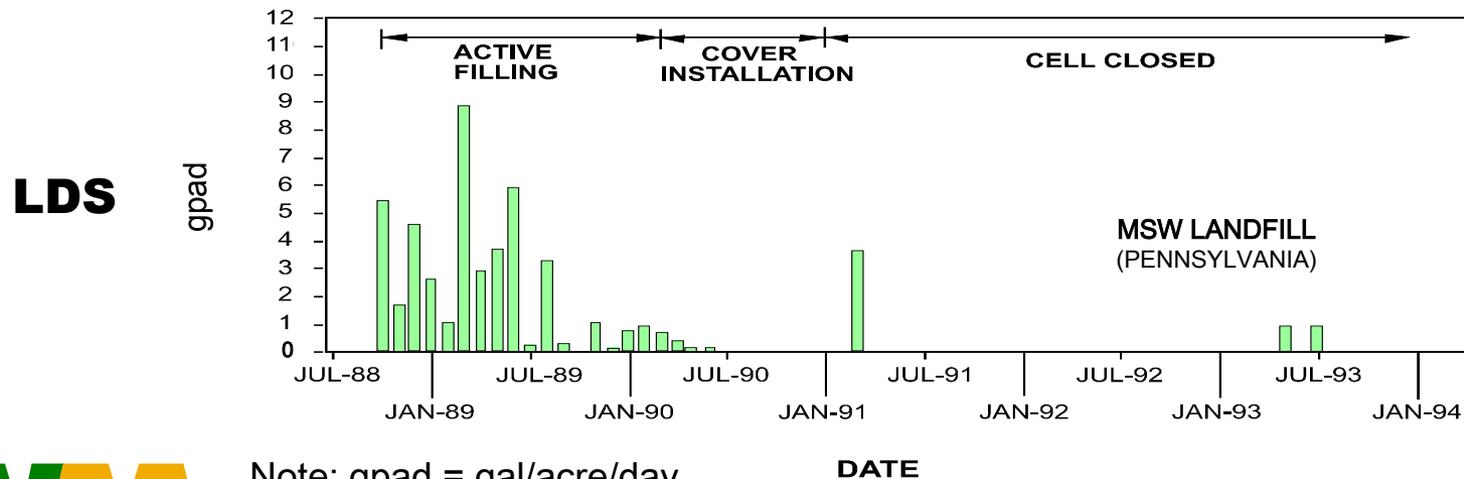
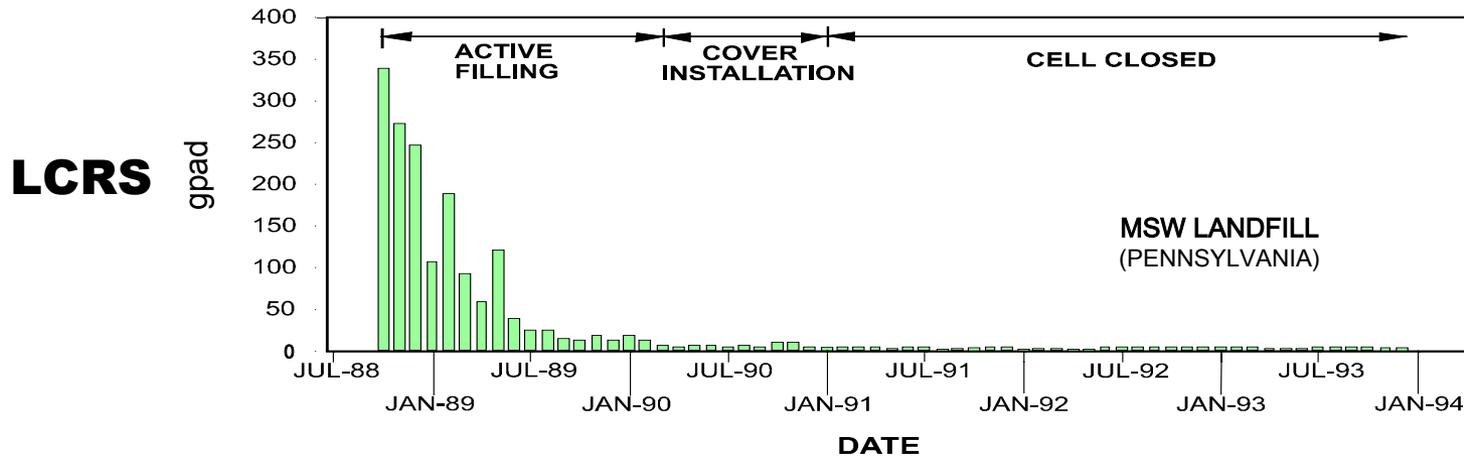
4. LEAKAGE THROUGH LANDFILL COVER SYSTEMS



Average LCRS flow rates (lhd) after closure for eleven MSW cells (shown as circles) and 22 HSW cells (shown as squares)

Note: gpad = gal/acre/day

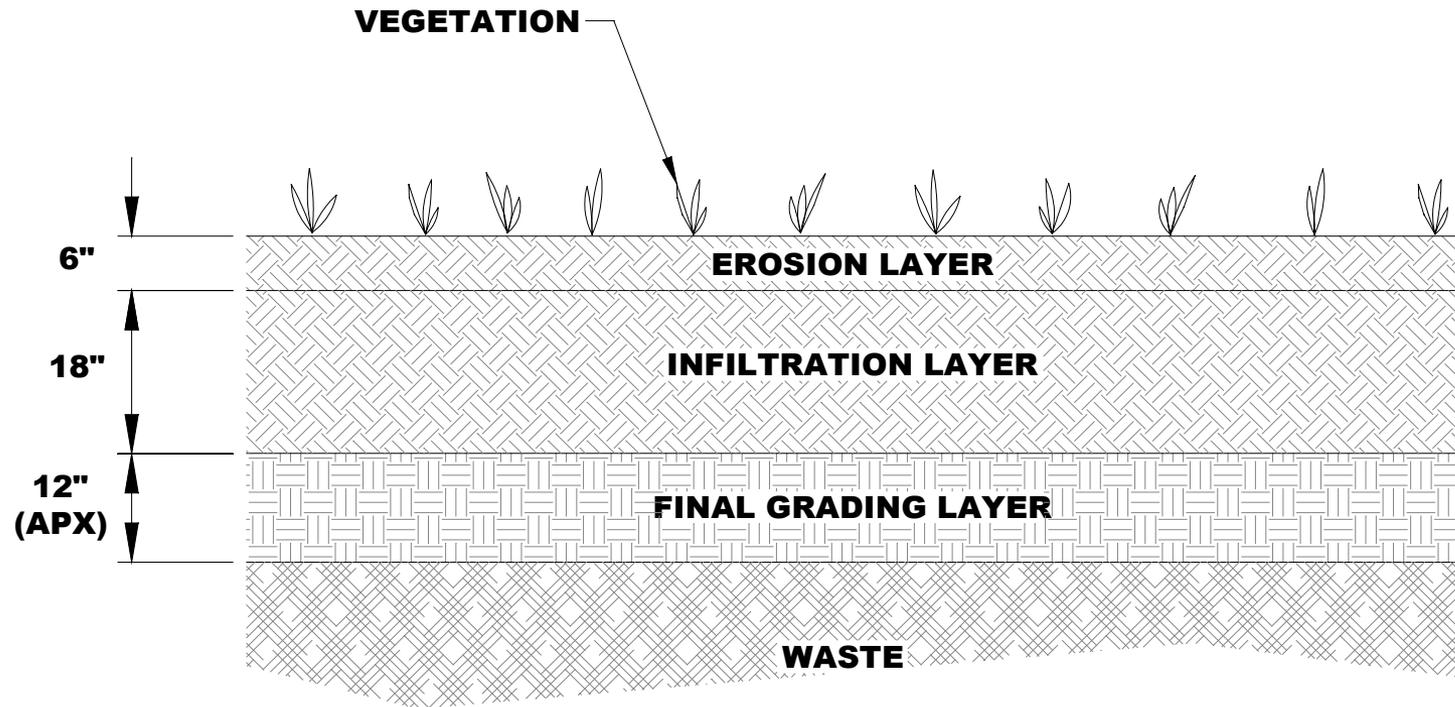
SAMPLE LCRS AND LDS FLOW RATES



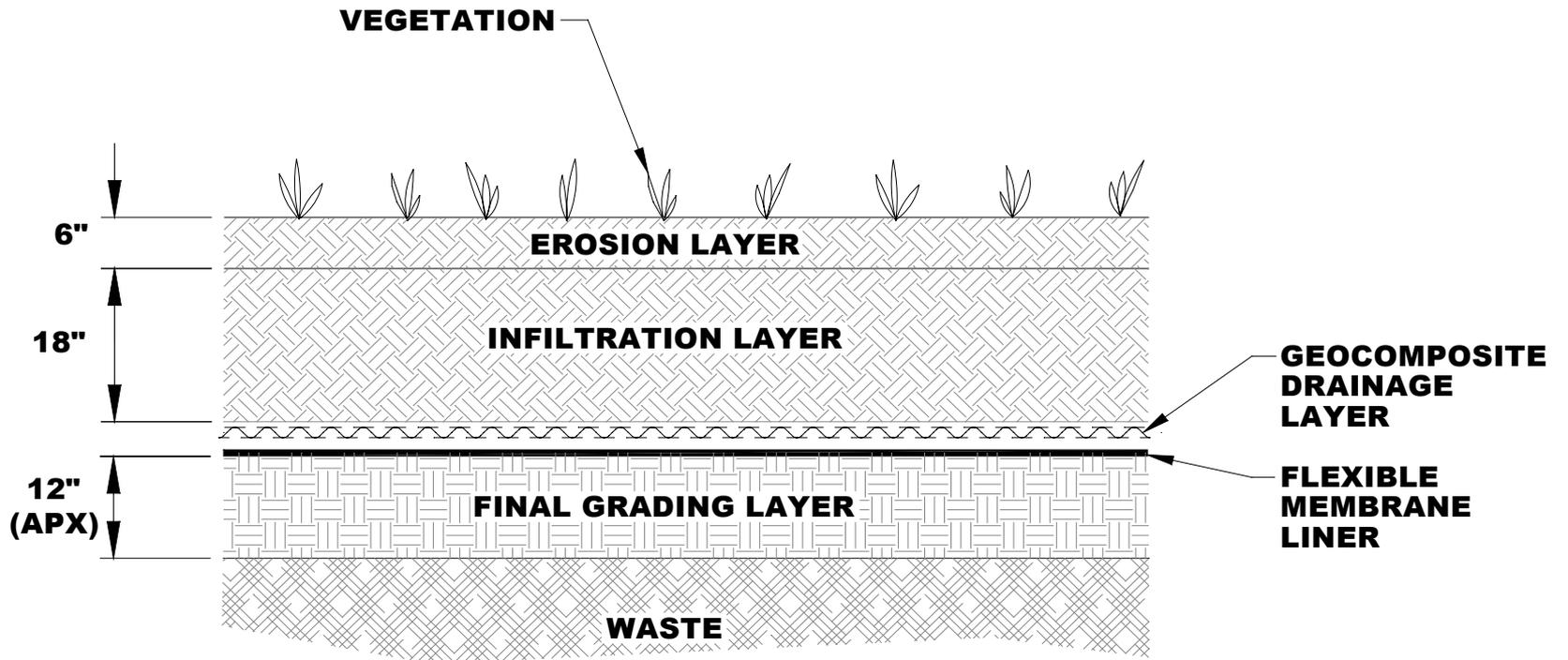
Note: gpad = gal/acre/day

WM's Bioreactor Program

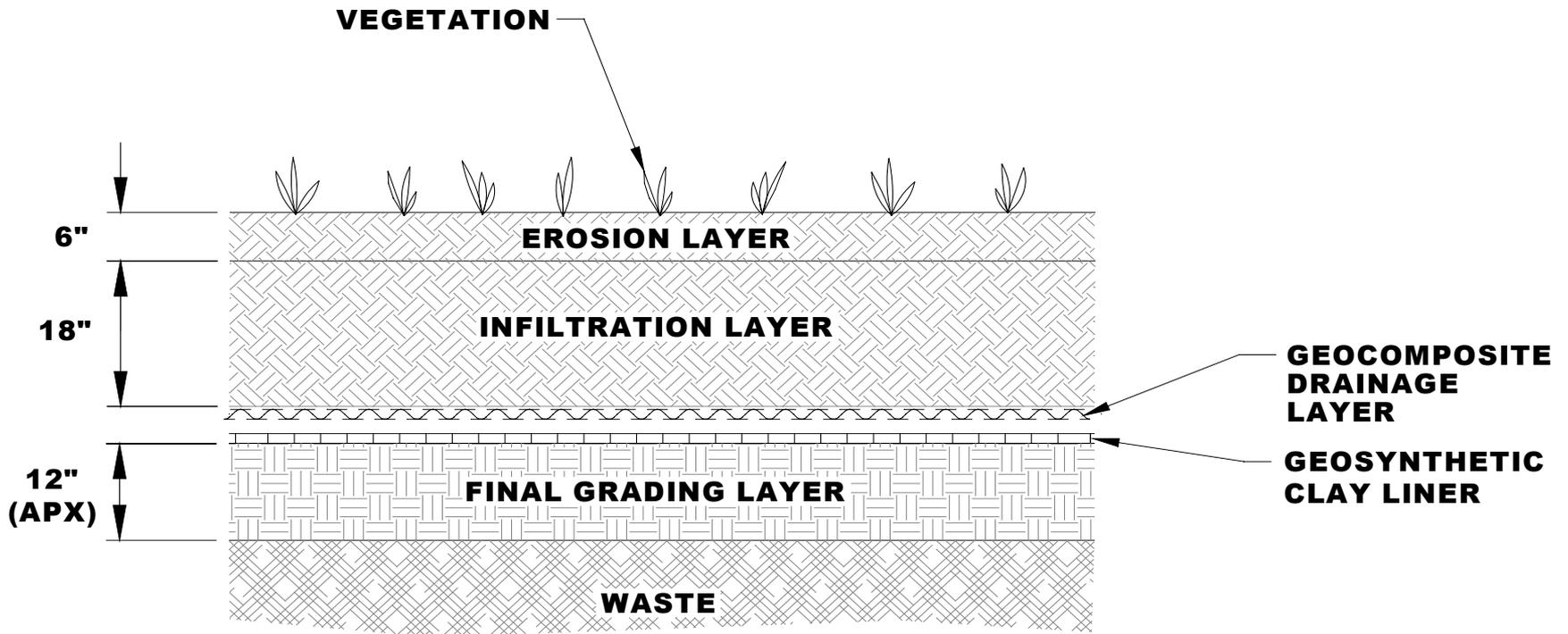
- **Alternate Interim Cover/Cap Needs**
- **Allows controlled moisture introduction while controlling odor and gas emissions**
- **Handles substantial settlement**
- **Cost-effective to remove to capture airspace**



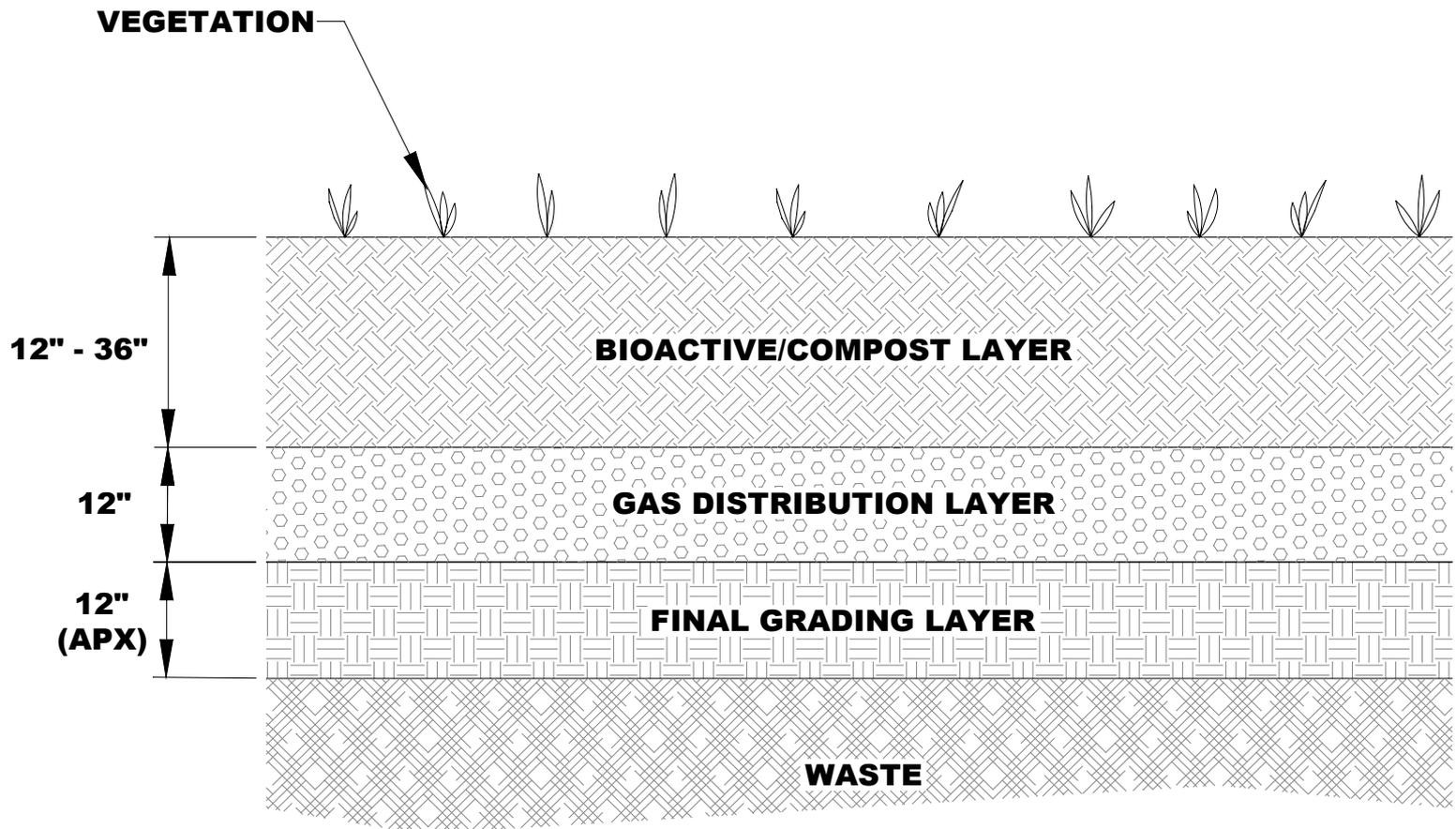
SUBTITLE-D PRESCRIPTIVE CAP



GEOMEMBRANE CAP

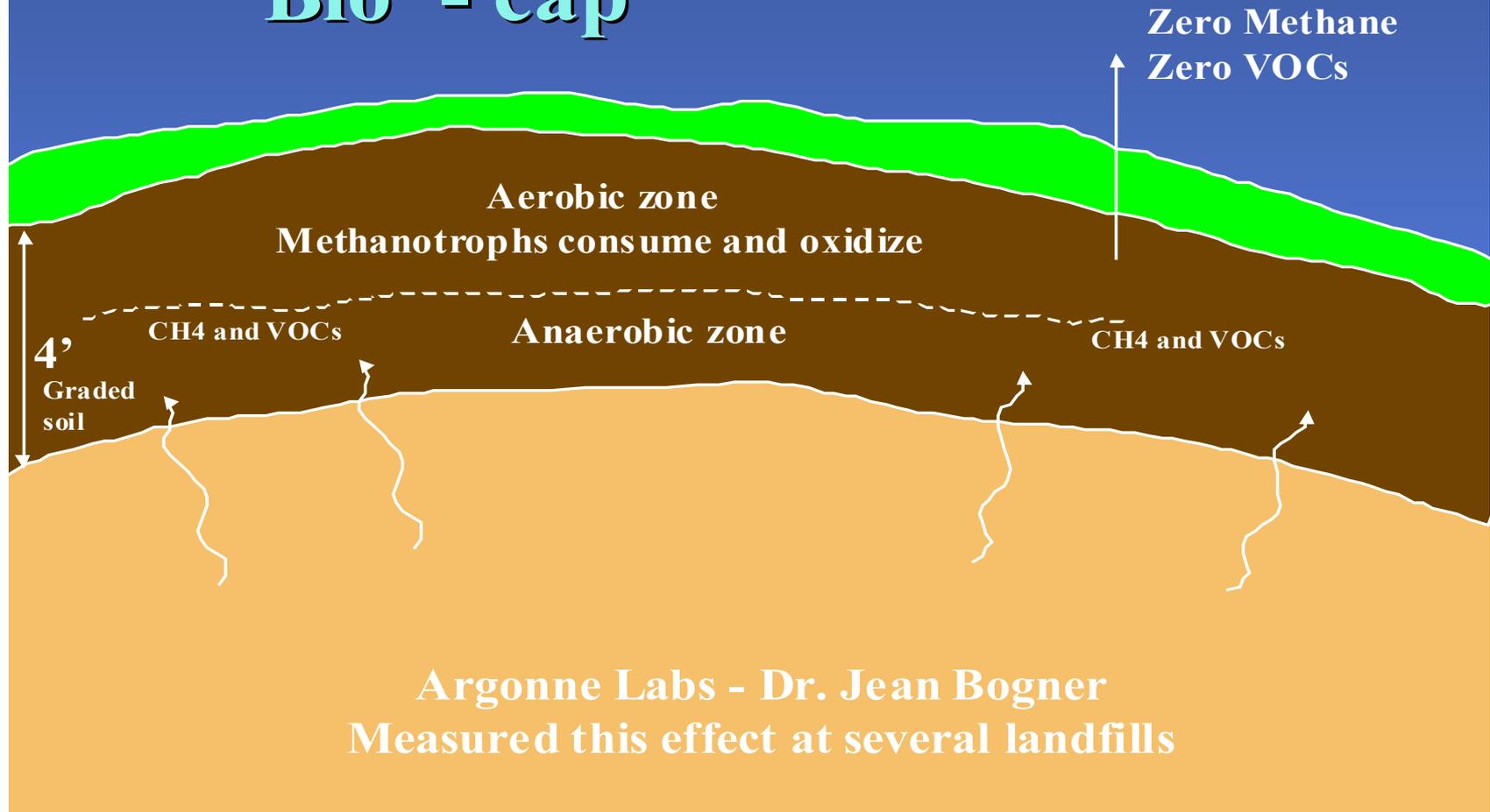


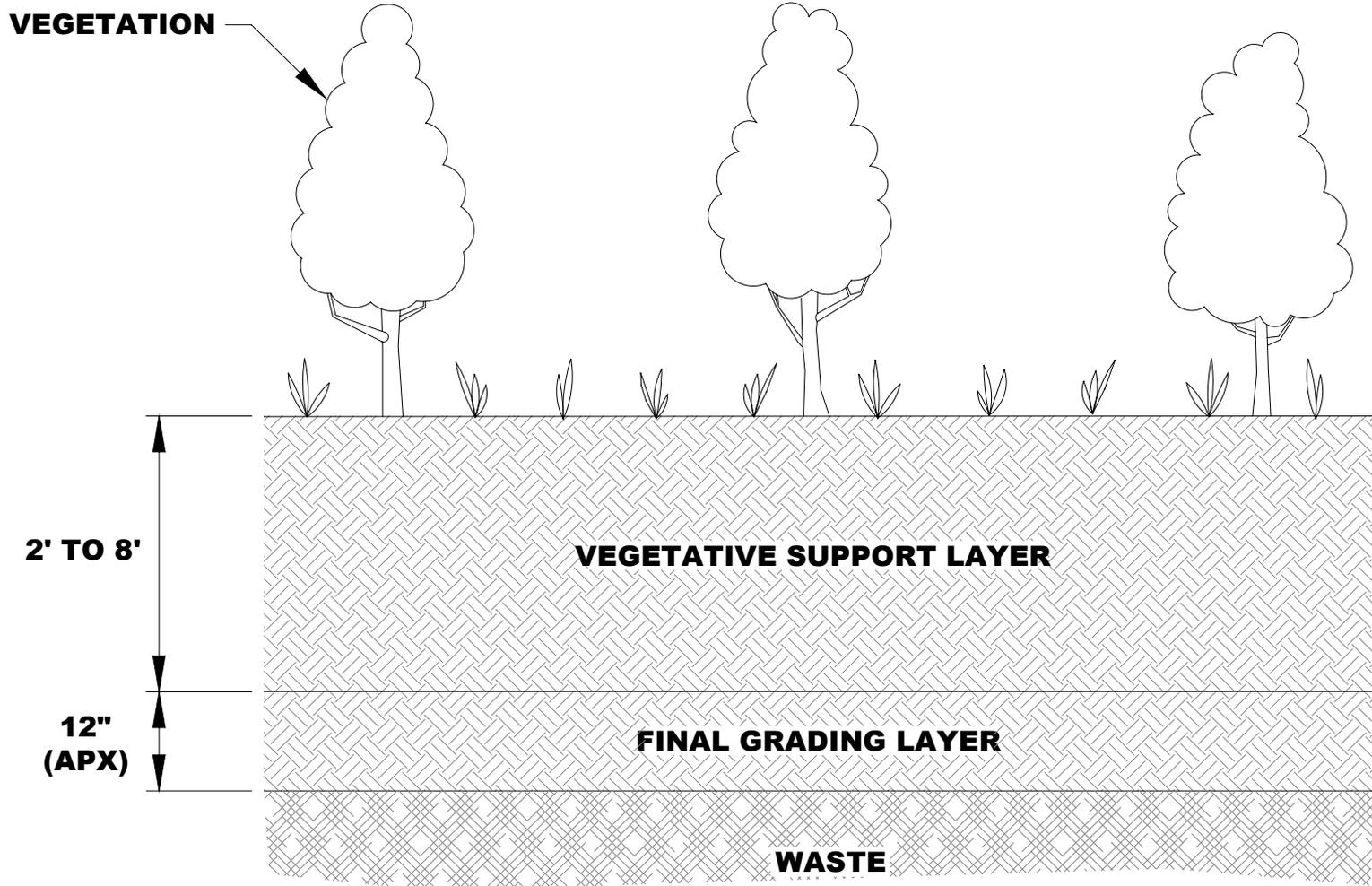
GEOSYNTHETIC CLAY CAP



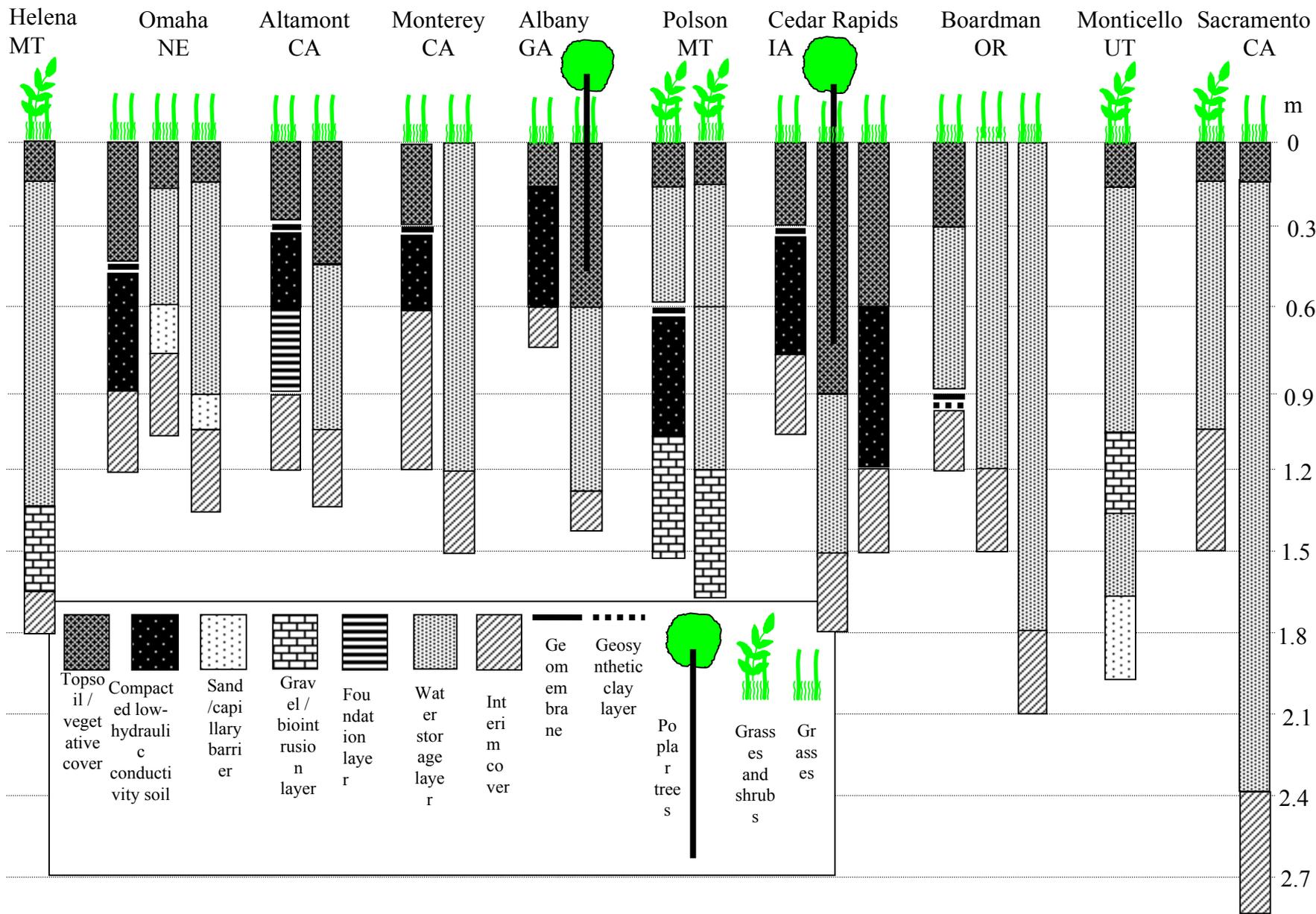
BIOACTIVE CAP

“Bio”- cap





EVAPOTRANSPIRATIVE CAP

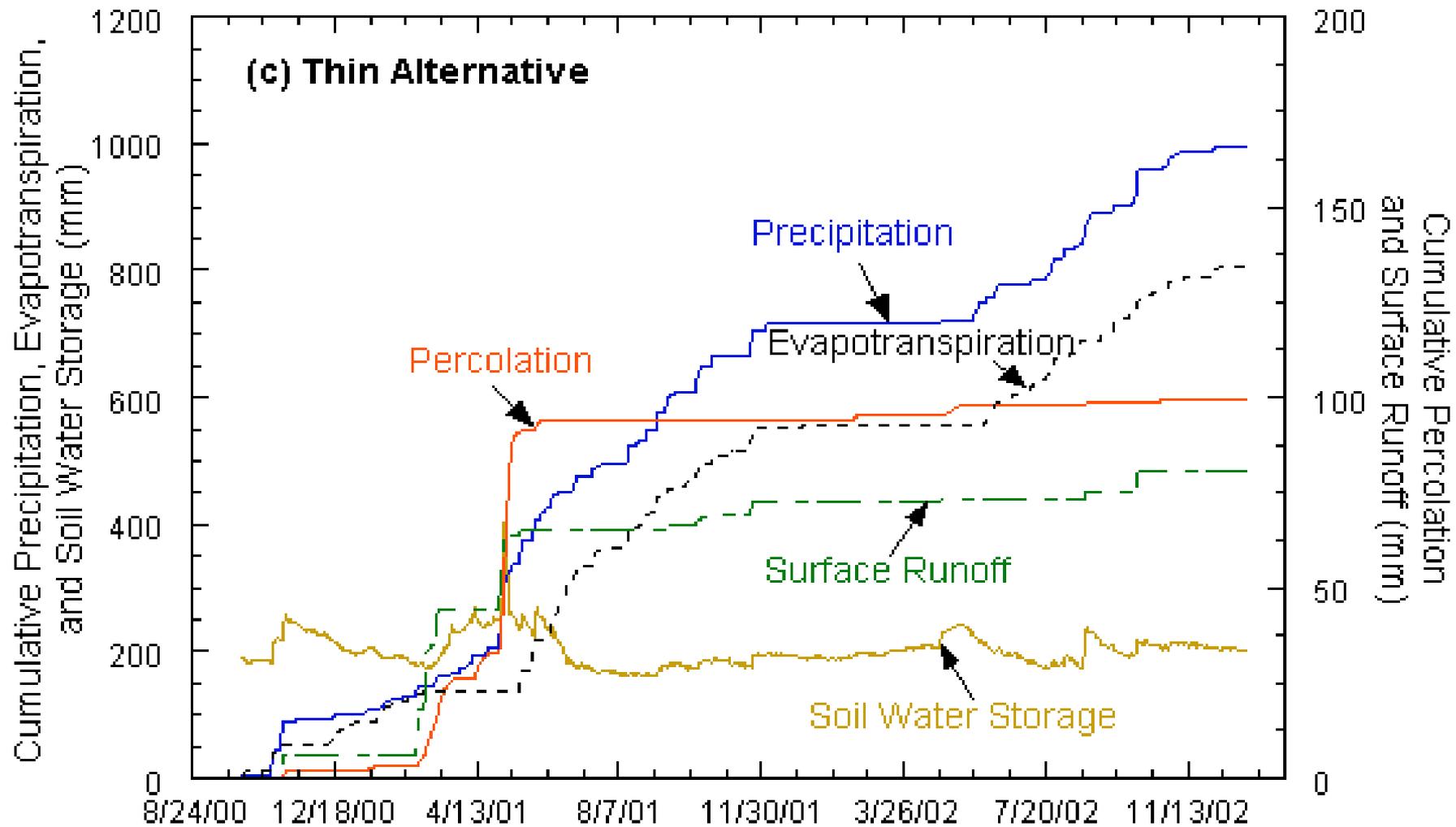


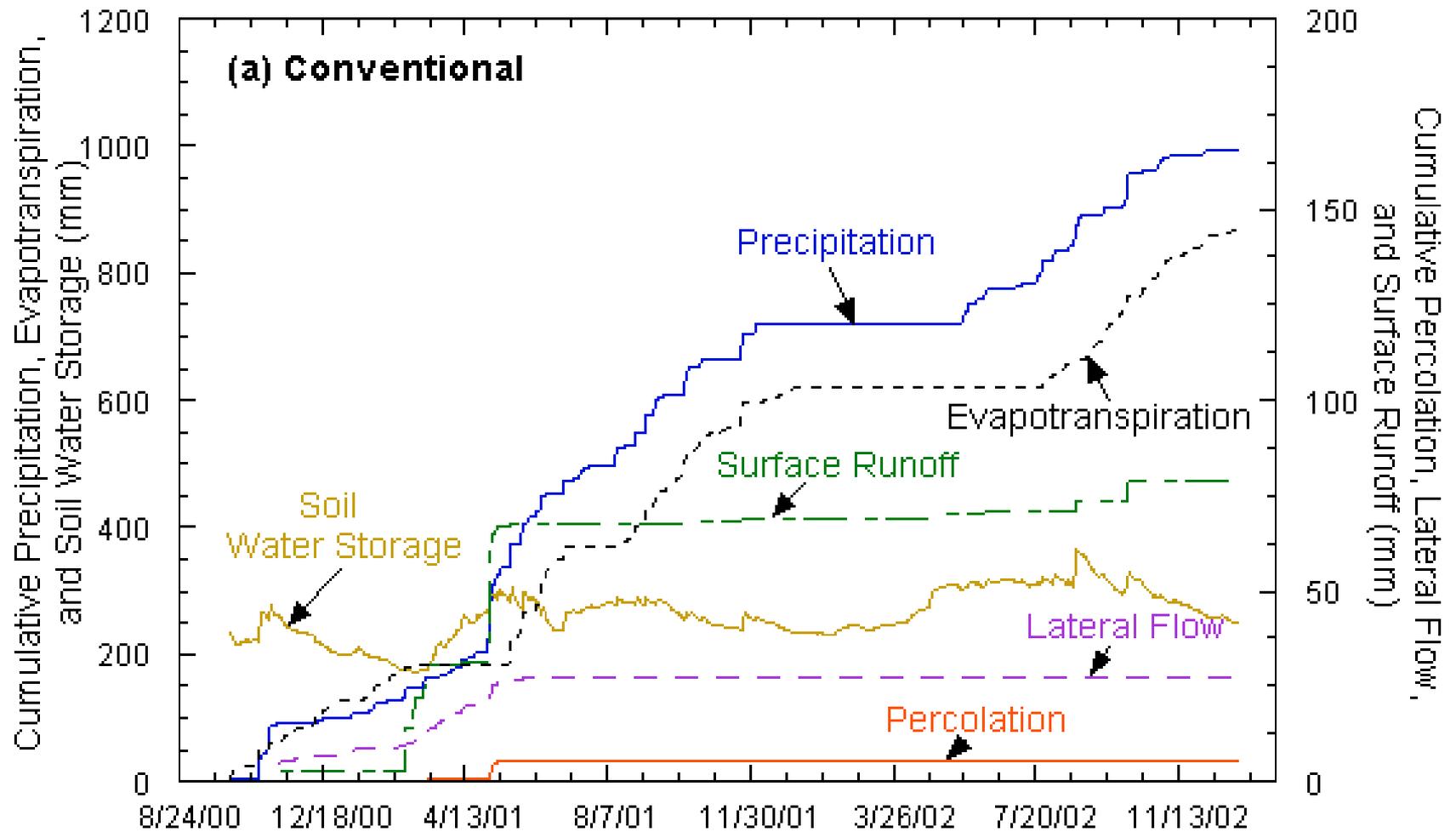
DCLF ACAP

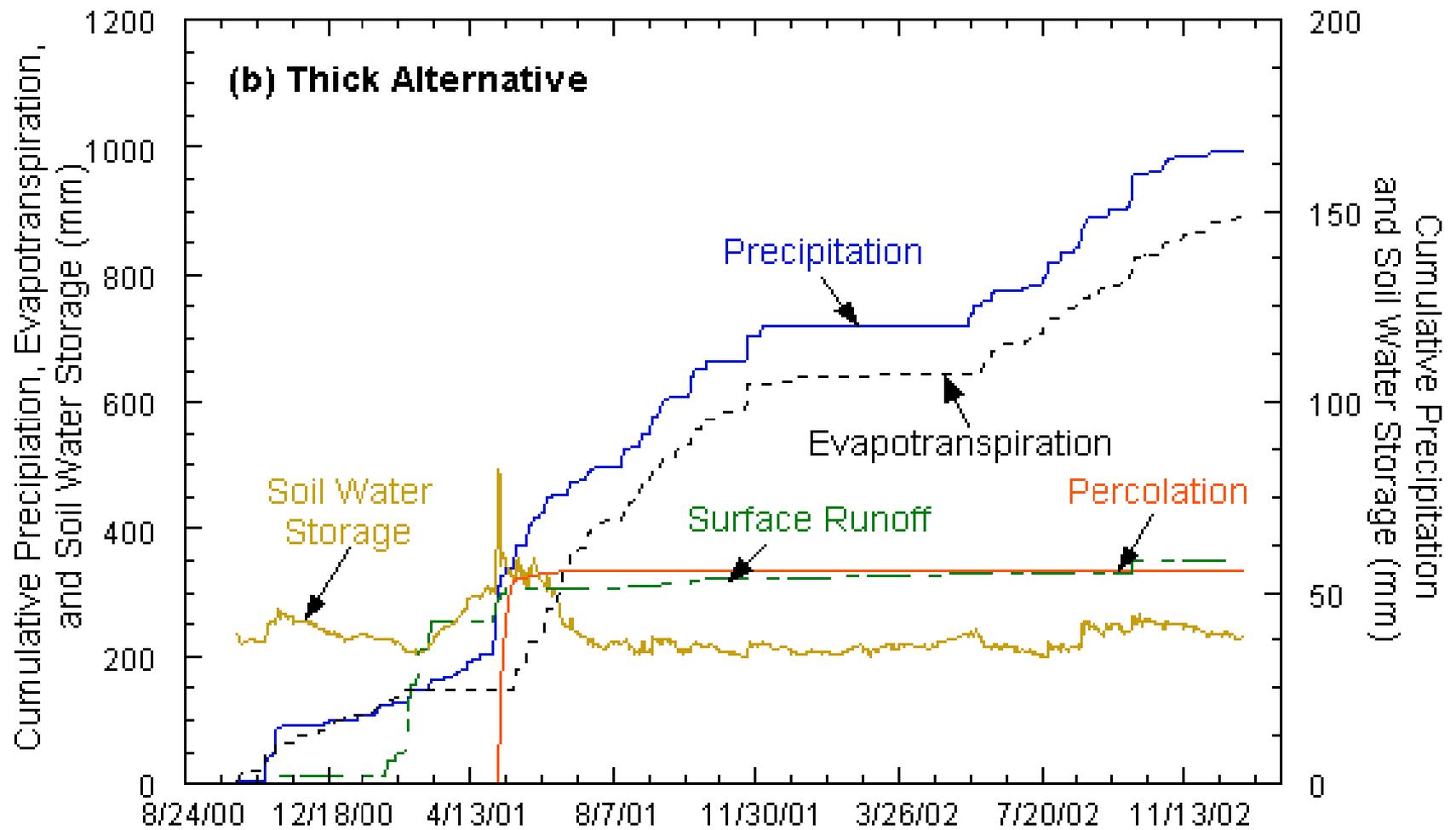
- **ACAP Alternative #2 permitted**
- **L4=150mm topsoil and vegetation**
- **L3=760mm silty clay**
- **L1 =150mm sand as capillary break**
- **Thinner ACAP continues testing**

Performance Criteria

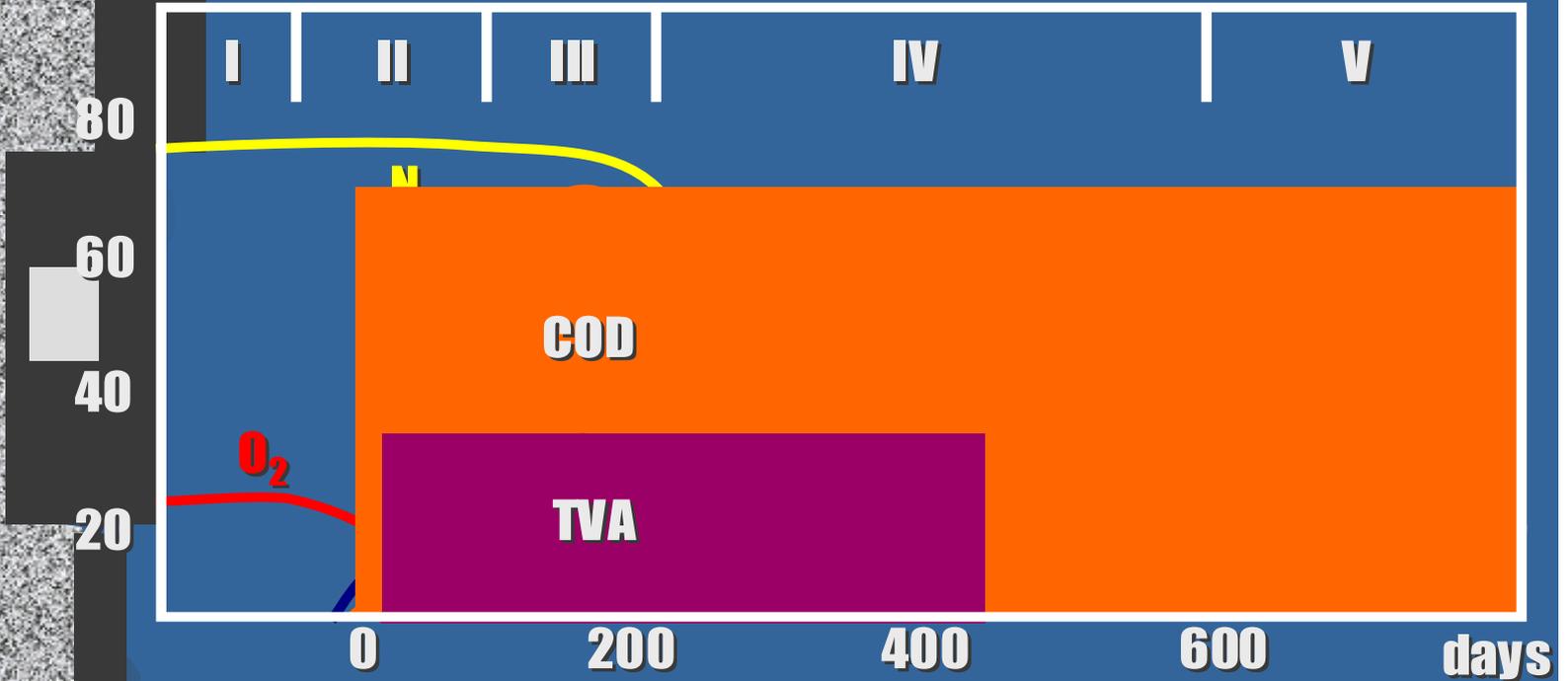
- **Meet 3mm infiltration to demonstrate equivalency**
- **“0” infiltration observed after plants grew**
- **Altamont LF ACAP has less than 1.5mm infiltration mostly due to short circuiting during intense storm**







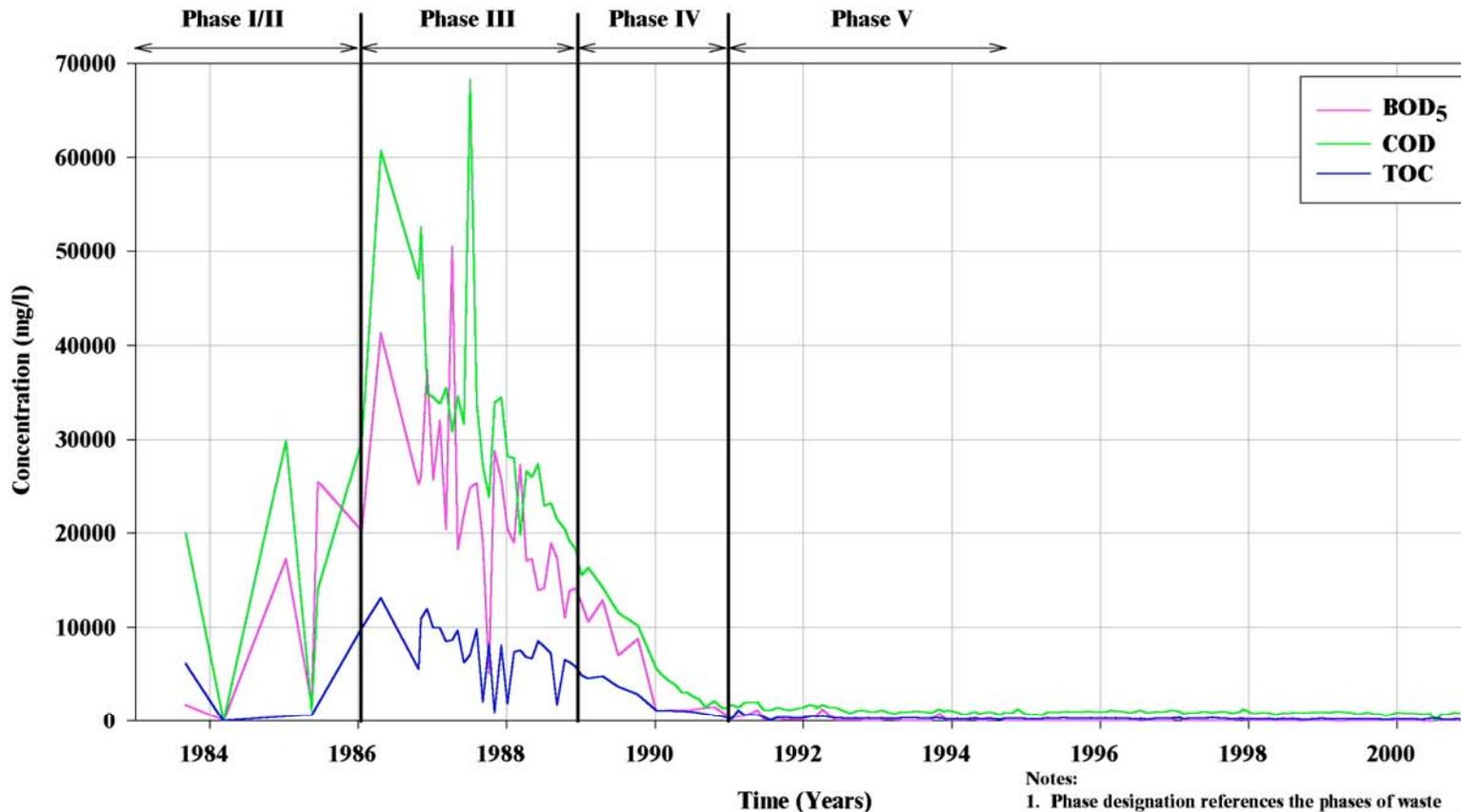
STABILIZATION PROFILE



LEACHATE QUALITY SUMMARY, BOD₅, COD, AND TOC

**Evaluation of Historical Data at Leachate Recirculating Landfills
Area A/B Disposal Cells, Central Solid Waste Management Center**

Sandtown, Delaware



Notes:

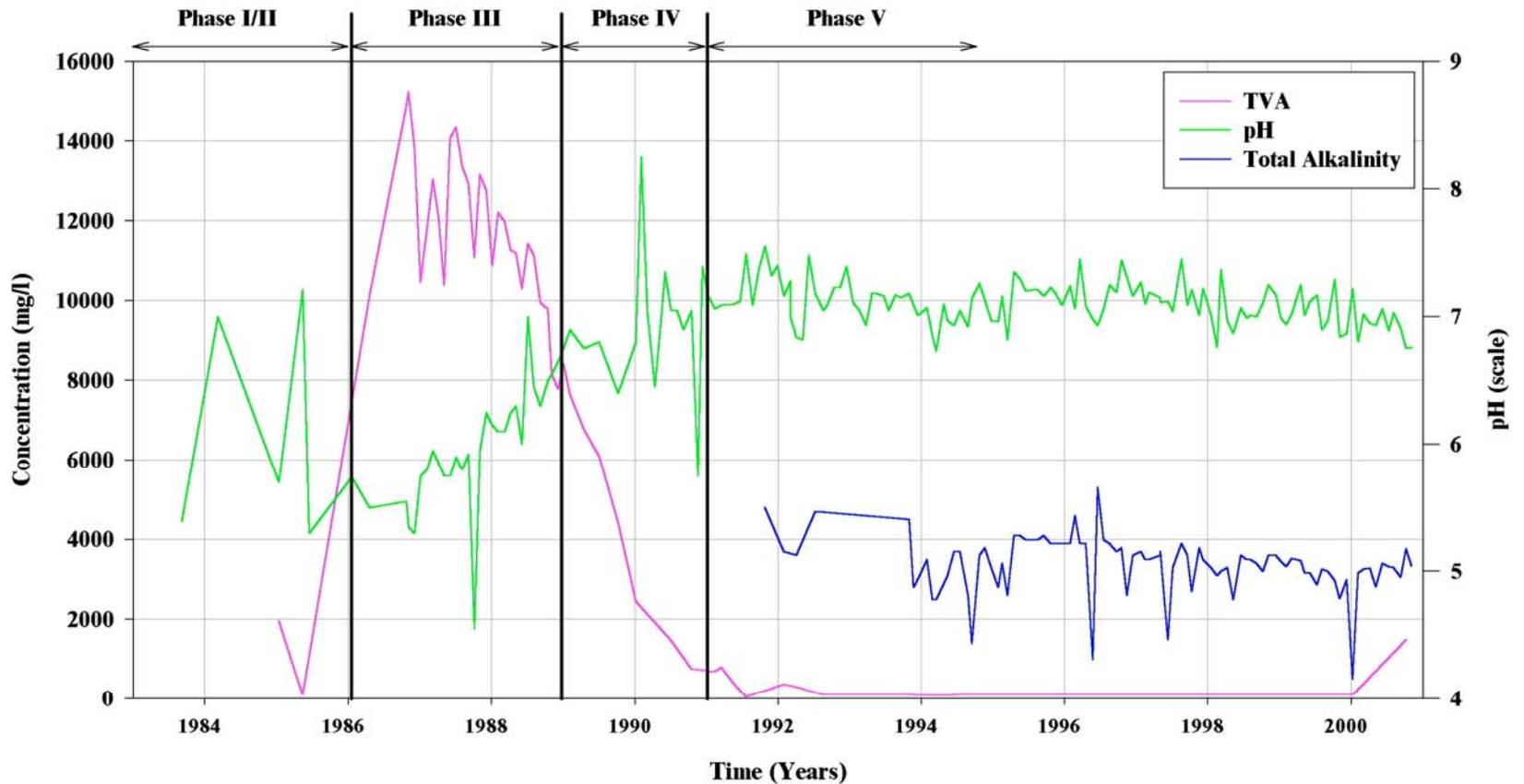
1. Phase designation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.
2. BOD₅ concentrations that are greater than COD concentrations are assumed to be reported in error.

Figure 4

LEACHATE QUALITY SUMMARY, TVA, pH, AND TOTAL ALKALINITY

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Area A/B Disposal Cells, Central Solid Waste Management Center**

Sandtown, Delaware



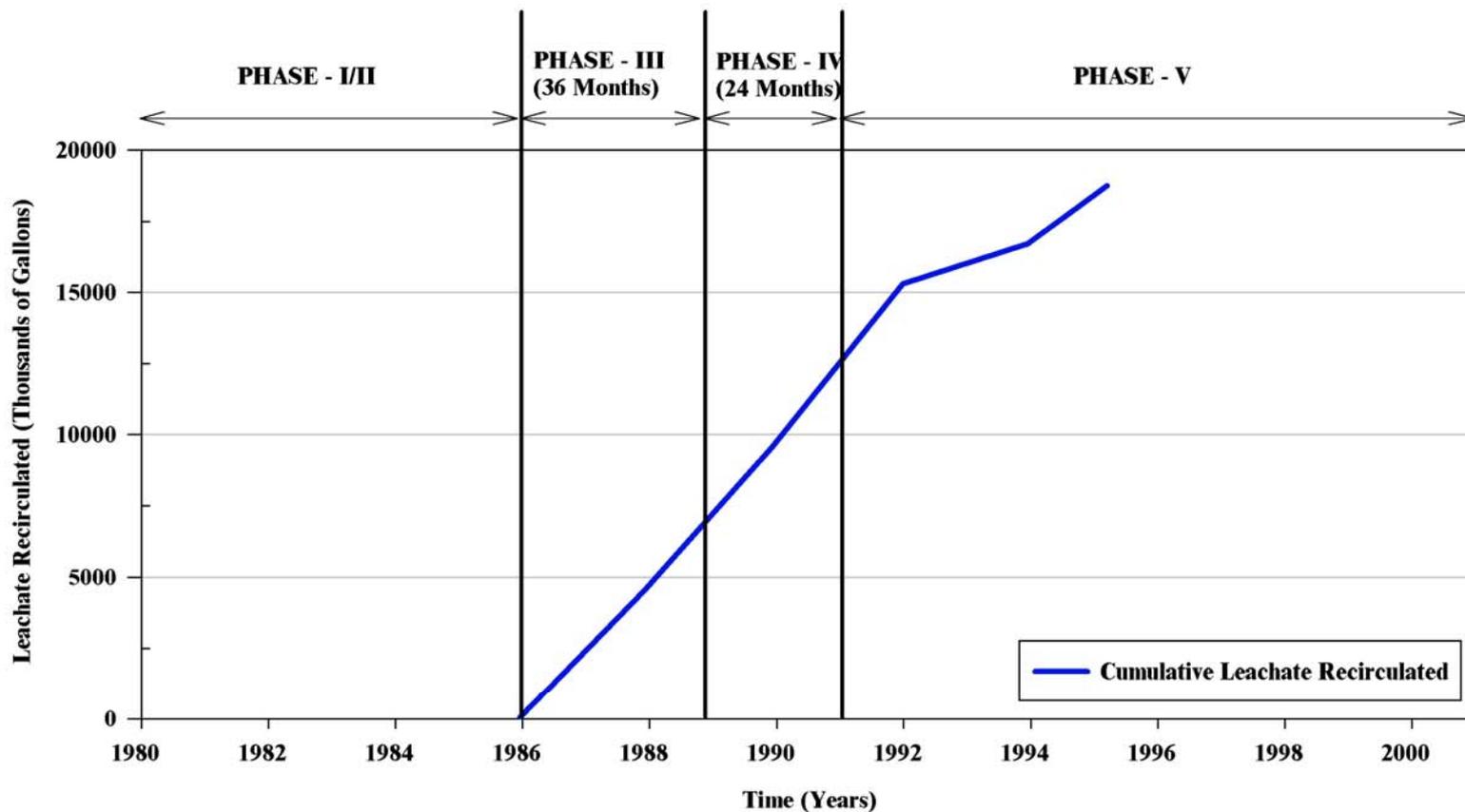
Note:
Phase designation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.

Figure 8

WASTE DEGRADATION PHASE SUMMARY, DISPOSAL CELL B

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Area A/B Disposal Cells, Central Solid Waste Management Center**

Sandtown, Delaware



Note:
Phase designation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.

DATA ANALYSIS APPROACH

2. Metals, VOCs and BTEX:

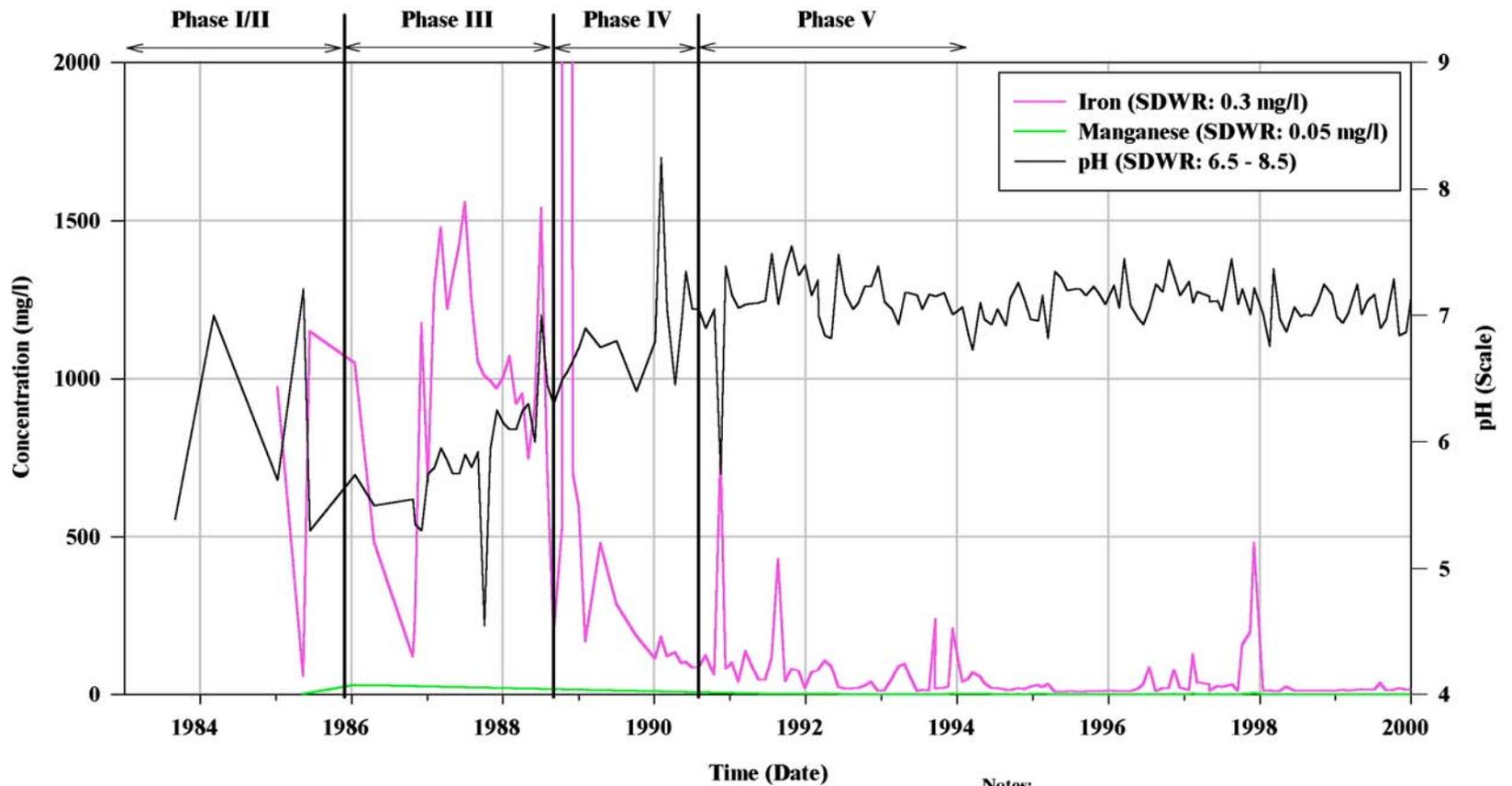
- Parameters were evaluated by tracking concentration versus time
- Final concentrations of these parameters were compared to Drinking Water Standards, and findings of previous studies (Kilmer and Tustin, 1999)

Figure 10

LEACHATE QUALITY SUMMARY, IRON, MANGANESE, AND pH

Evaluation of Historical Data at Leachate Recirculating Landfills
Area A/B Disposal Cells, Central Solid Waste Management Center

Sandtown, Delaware



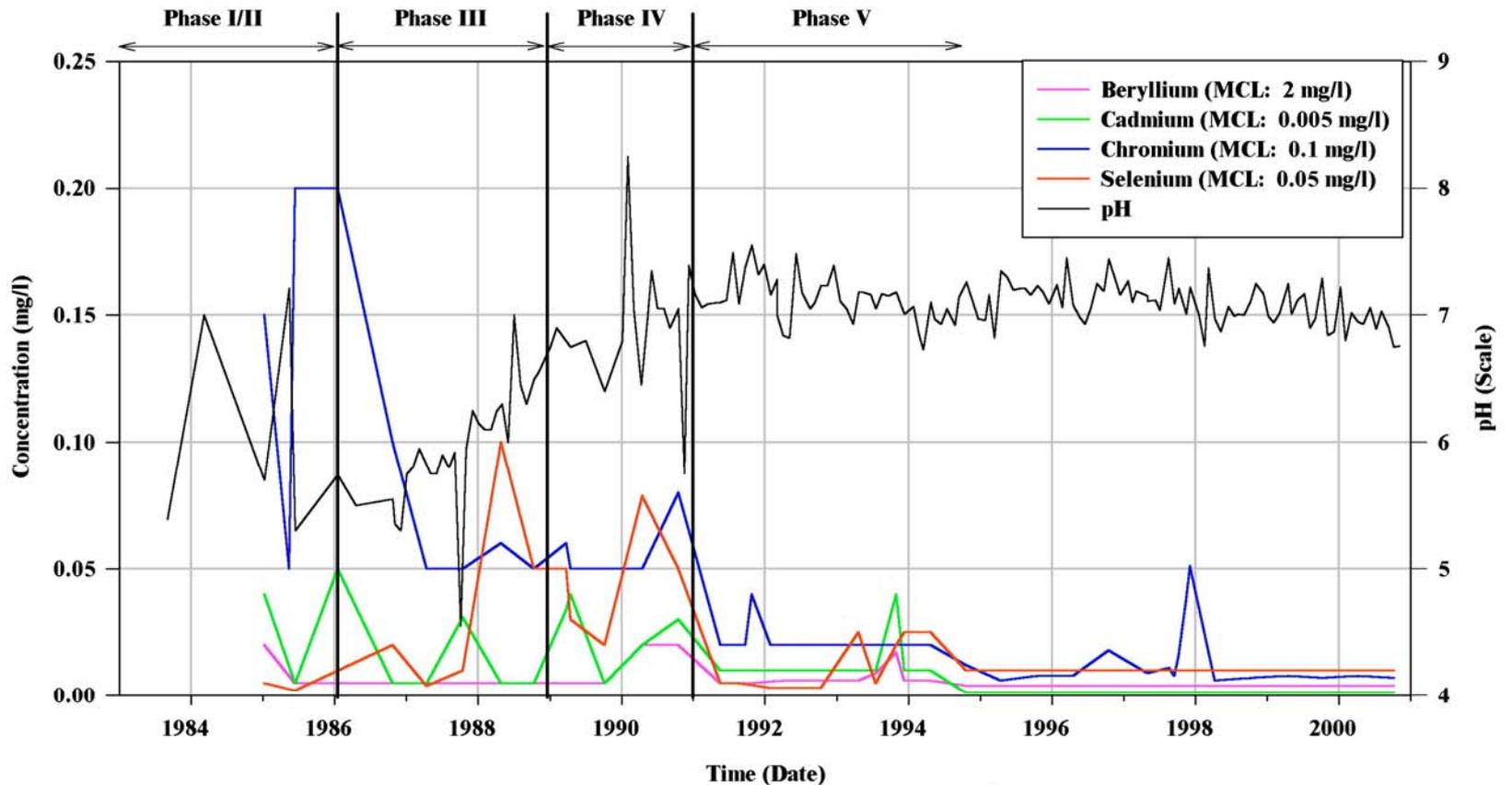
Notes:

1. Phase designation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.
2. SDWR: Secondary Drinking Water Regulation.

**LEACHATE QUALITY SUMMARY, BERYLLIUM, CADMIUM
CHROMIUM, SELENIUM, AND pH**

**Evaluation of Historical Data at Leachate Recirculating Landfills
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Sandtown, Delaware

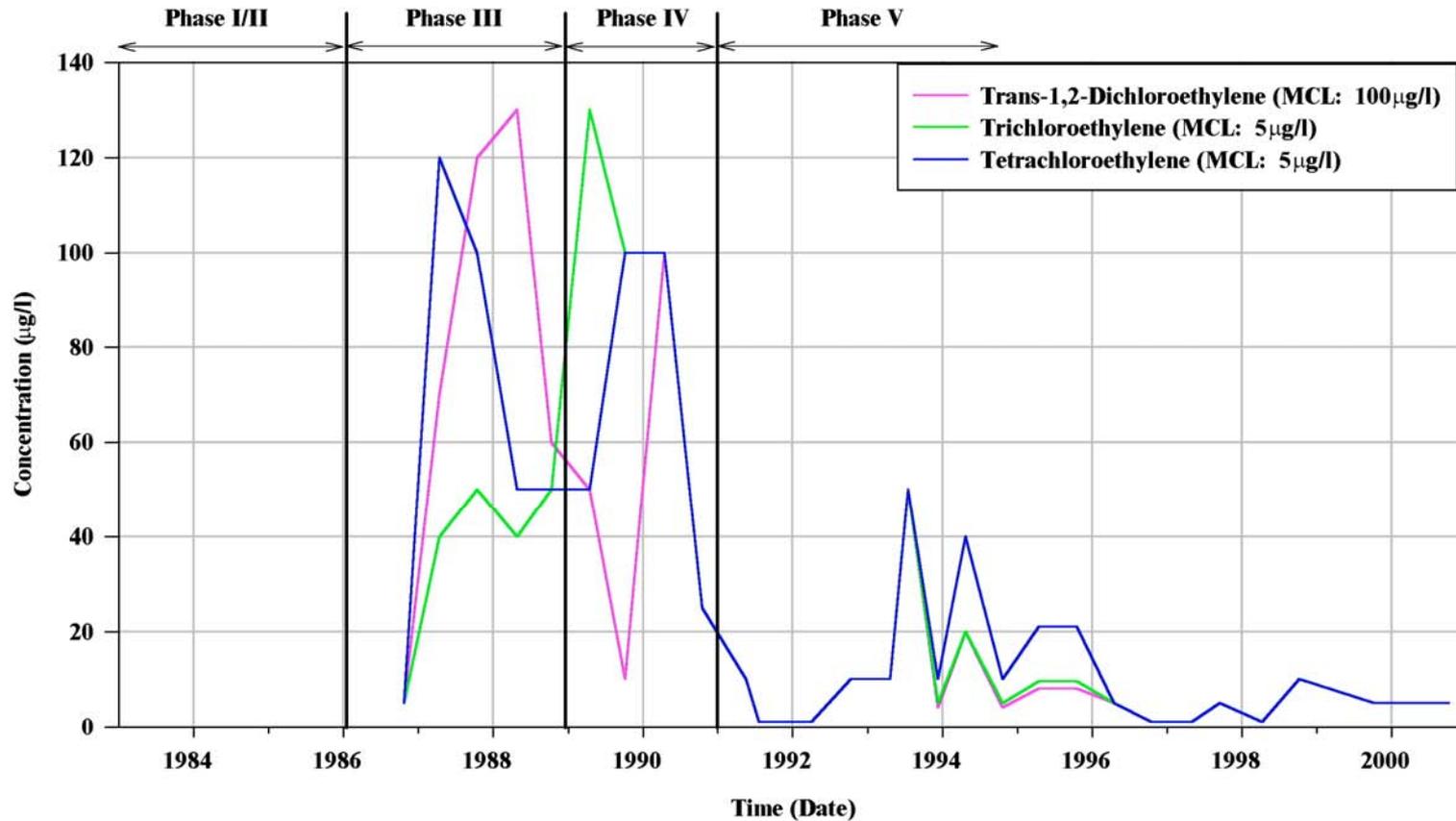


Note:
Phase designation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.

**LEACHATE QUALITY SUMMARY, TRANS-1,2-DICHLOROETHYLENE,
TRICHLOROETHYLENE, AND TETRACHLORETHYLENE**

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Sandtown, Delaware



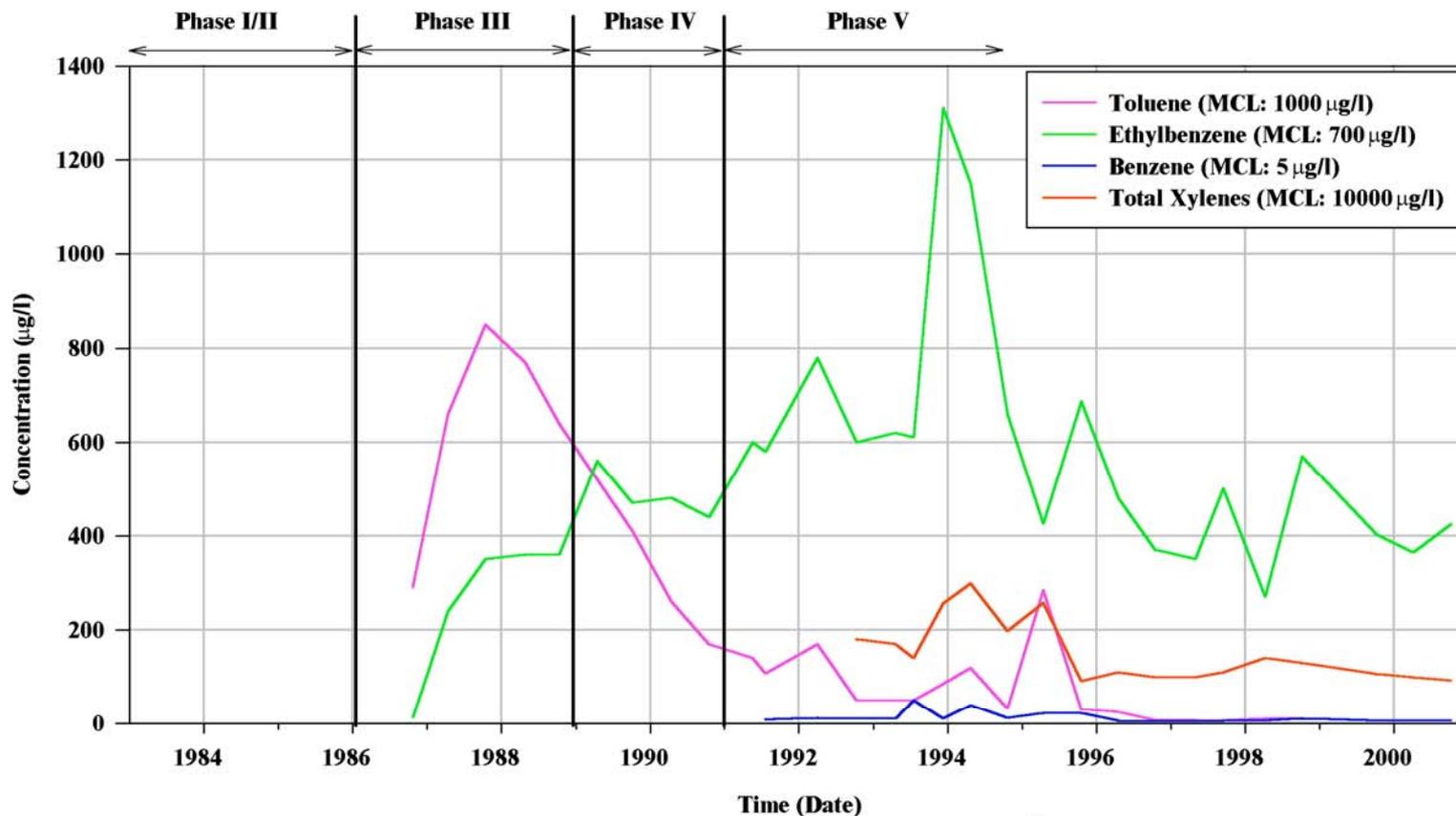
Note:
Phase designation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.

Figure 13

LEACHATE QUALITY SUMMARY, BTEX

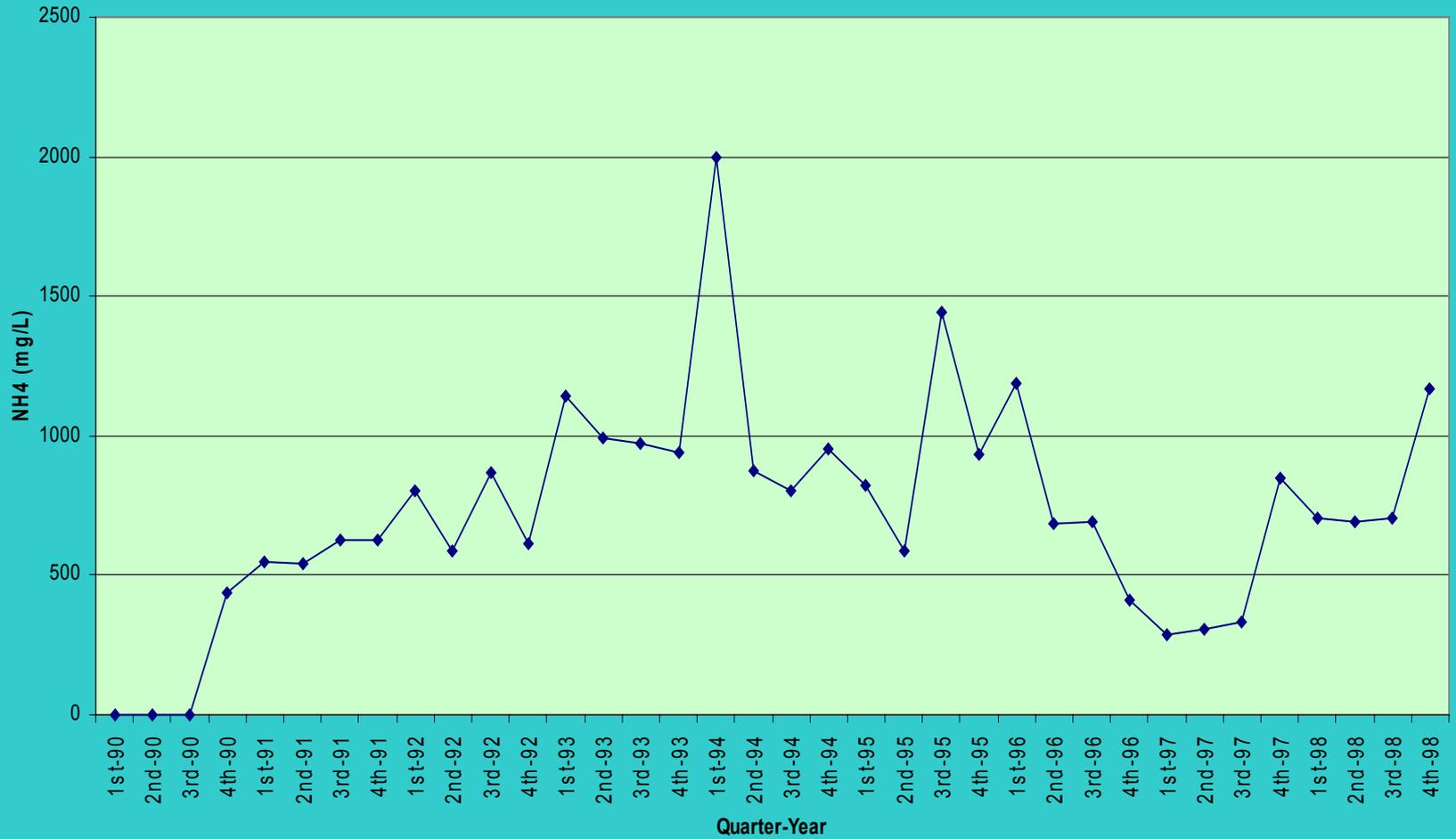
**Evaluation of Historical Data at Leachate Recirculating Landfills
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Sandtown, Delaware



Note:
Phase esignation references the phases of waste degradation presented in Figure 2, after Pohland and Harper, 1986.

Ammonia



CONCLUSIONS

- **The concentrations of waste degradation parameters in leachate followed the model suggested by Pohland and Harper, 1986.**
- **The data indicate that metals, VOCs and BTEX were not present at concentrations above their MCLs after a short period into Phase V.**
- **Based on WMI experience, this level of improvement in leachate quality is consistent with the improvements at other similarly operated leachate recirculating landfills.**

WM's Phytoremediation Projects

- **Using poplar trees for groundwater remediation and leachate treatment (in-situ)**
- **Using engineered wetlands for leachate treatment for active sites and for end of post-closure care**
- **Diverse and native plants for better ecodiversity appears to be a desired outcome**

Ecolotree Inc., G.W. Remediation















CREATED WETLAND FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT



SEPTEMBER,
2002

Wetland Biofilter System

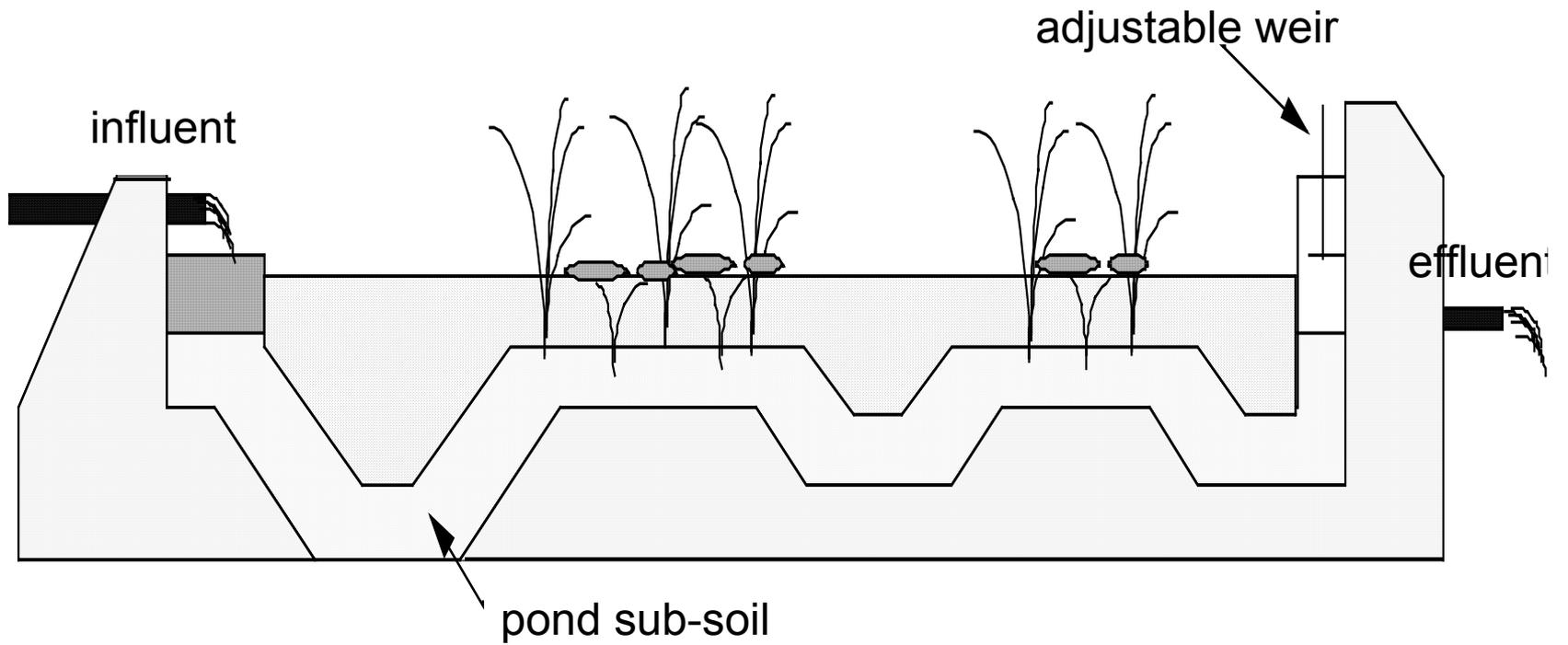
- Original research funded by:
 - U.S. EPA
 - Ontario Ministry of Environment
- Vertical Flow Wetland System
 - Enhanced aerobic zones = better ammonia and phosphorus reduction
 - Smaller foot print
 - Winter time operation

Wetland designs:

- Surface-flow wetlands
- Subsurface horizontal flow wetlands
- Subsurface vertical flow wetlands

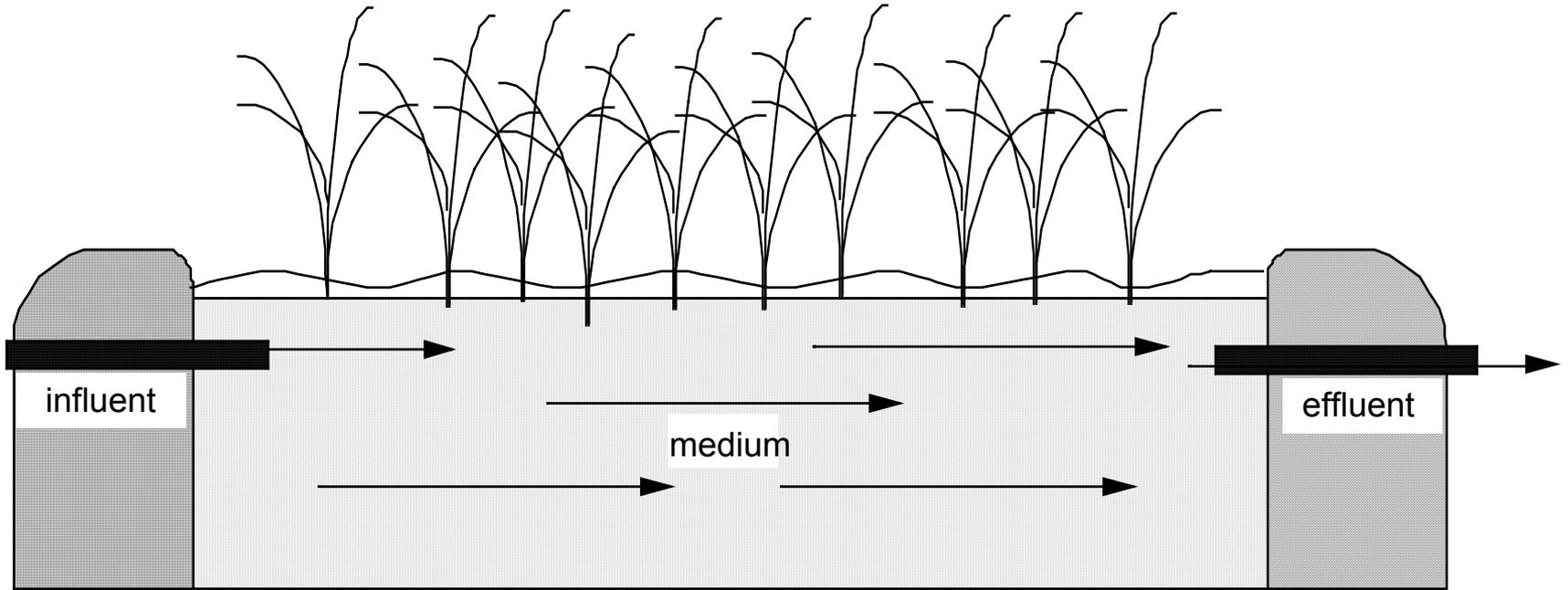
Surface-flow wetlands

- Mimic natural wetland systems / vegetation cultivated in shallow channels
- Wastewater flows through at low velocity
- Problems – poor winter performance
 - requires significant land area
 - Mosquito, odor



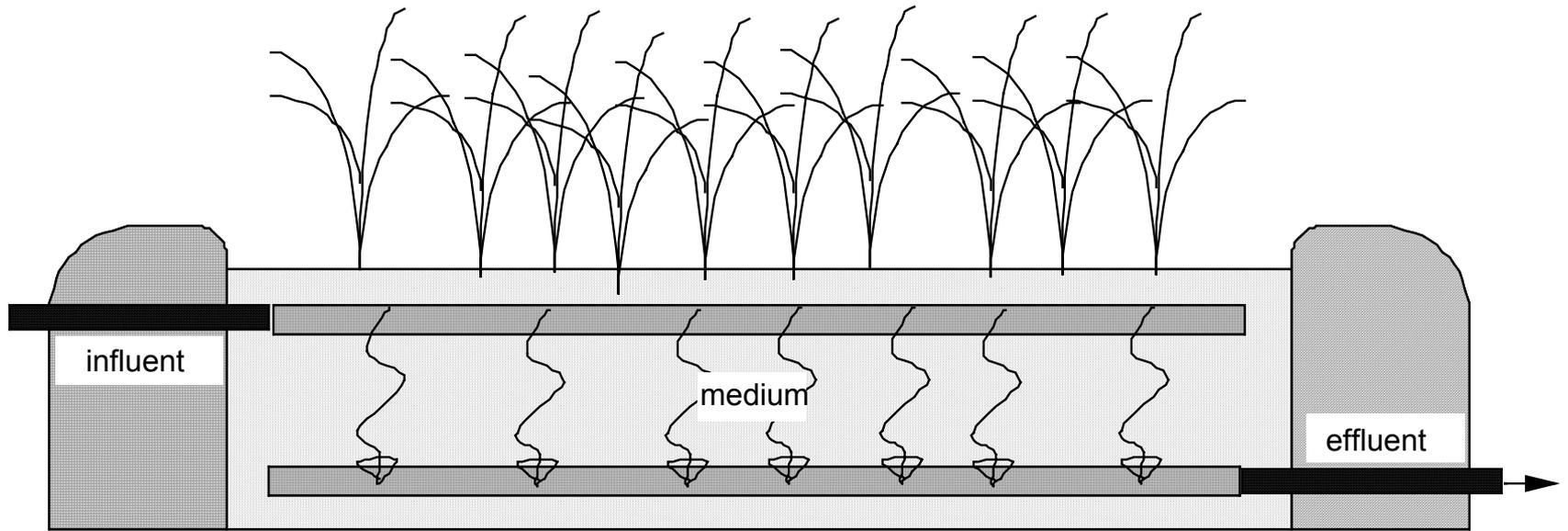
Subsurface Flow Wetlands

- Sand medium to support aquatic plants
- Water level maintained below the sand
- Wastewater flows horizontally
- Problems:
 - insufficient aerobic zones to allow for good ammonia reduction
 - Plugging of sand media leading to 'short circuiting'



Vertical Flow Wetlands

- Hybrid subsurface flow wetland
- History of development
- One or more cells in series
- Water percolates vertically down through medium



-
- Draws oxygen through the medium
 - Allows for increased contact between wastewater and sand, bacteria
 - Reduces the creation of channels (or short circuiting) around the roots of aquatic plants
 - Efficient treatment even in winter
 - Meets MOE discharge guidelines throughout the year (for sanitary sewage)

Hydraulic loading rates & wetland size

- Controlled by
 - 1) influent characteristics
 - 2) design objectives
- Liquid swine manure 30 L/m²/day (6 gal/yd²)
- Sanitary sewage : 120 L/m²/day (24 gal/yd²)
- Greenhouse leachate 300 L/m²/day (60 gal/yd²)

Treatment of liquid swine manure

- Purpose: reduce odors from the storage lagoon
- 2,000 weaner pigs
- 2,000 L/day of Liquid Swine Manure drawn from the storage lagoon
- Treated water discharged back into the lagoon



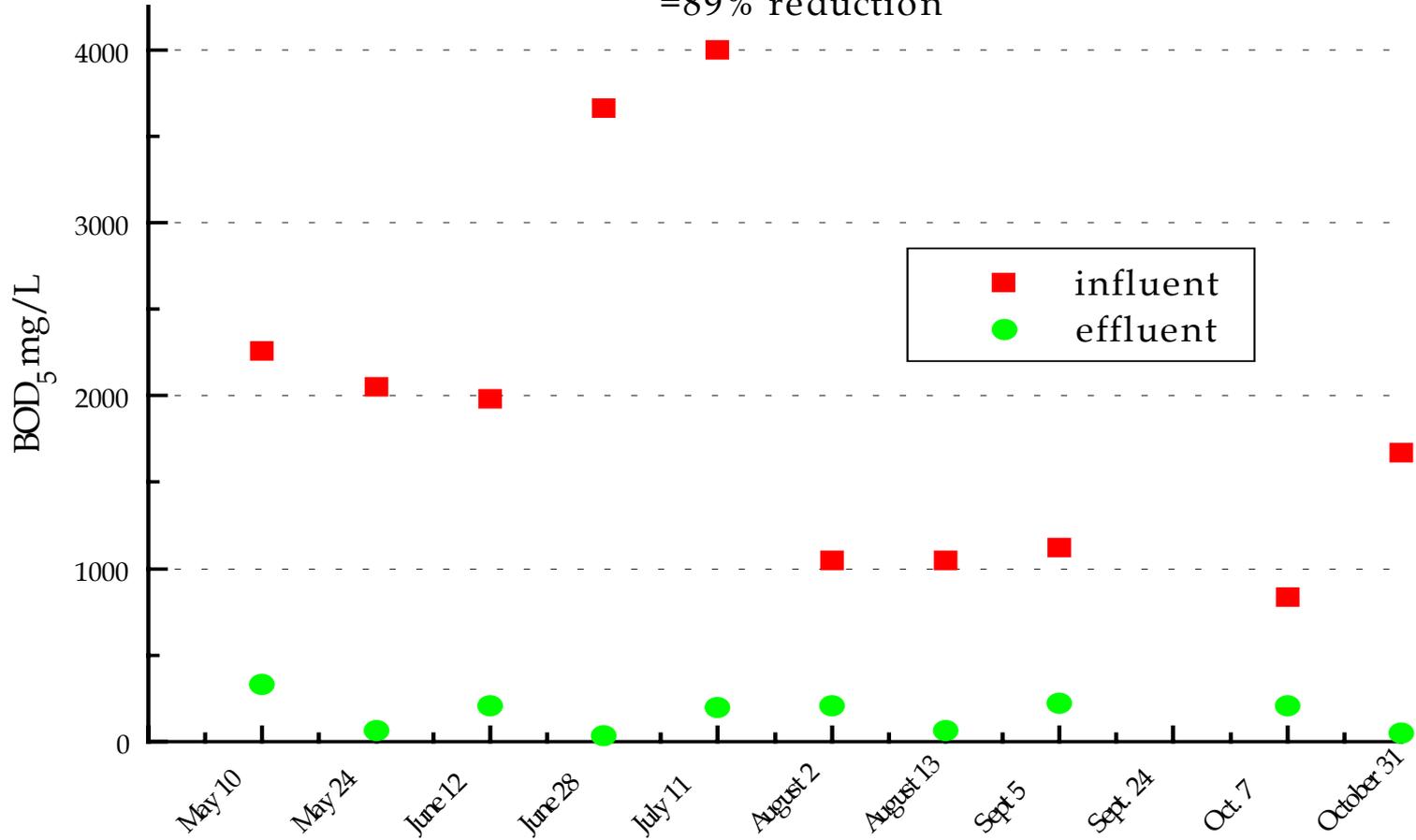




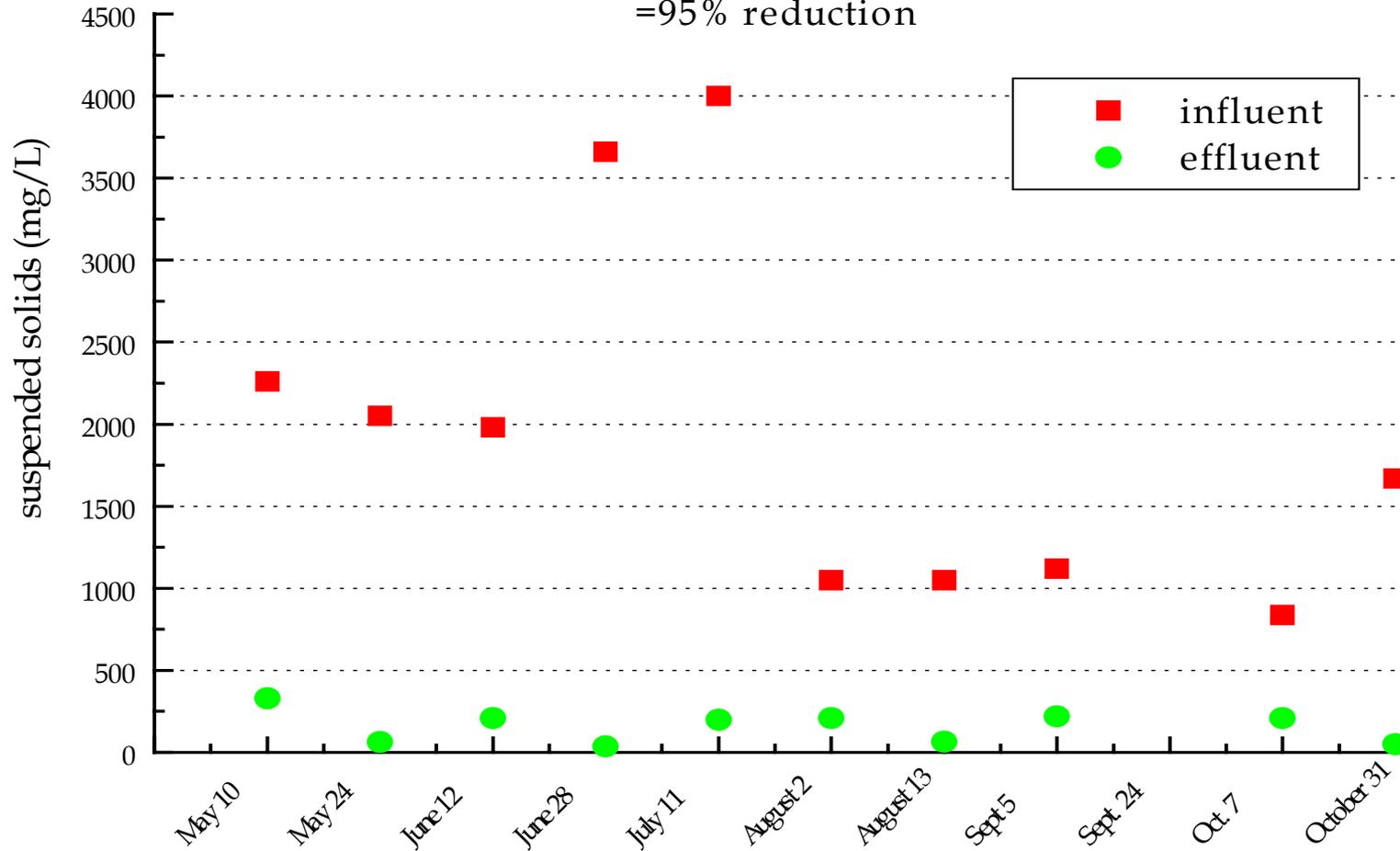




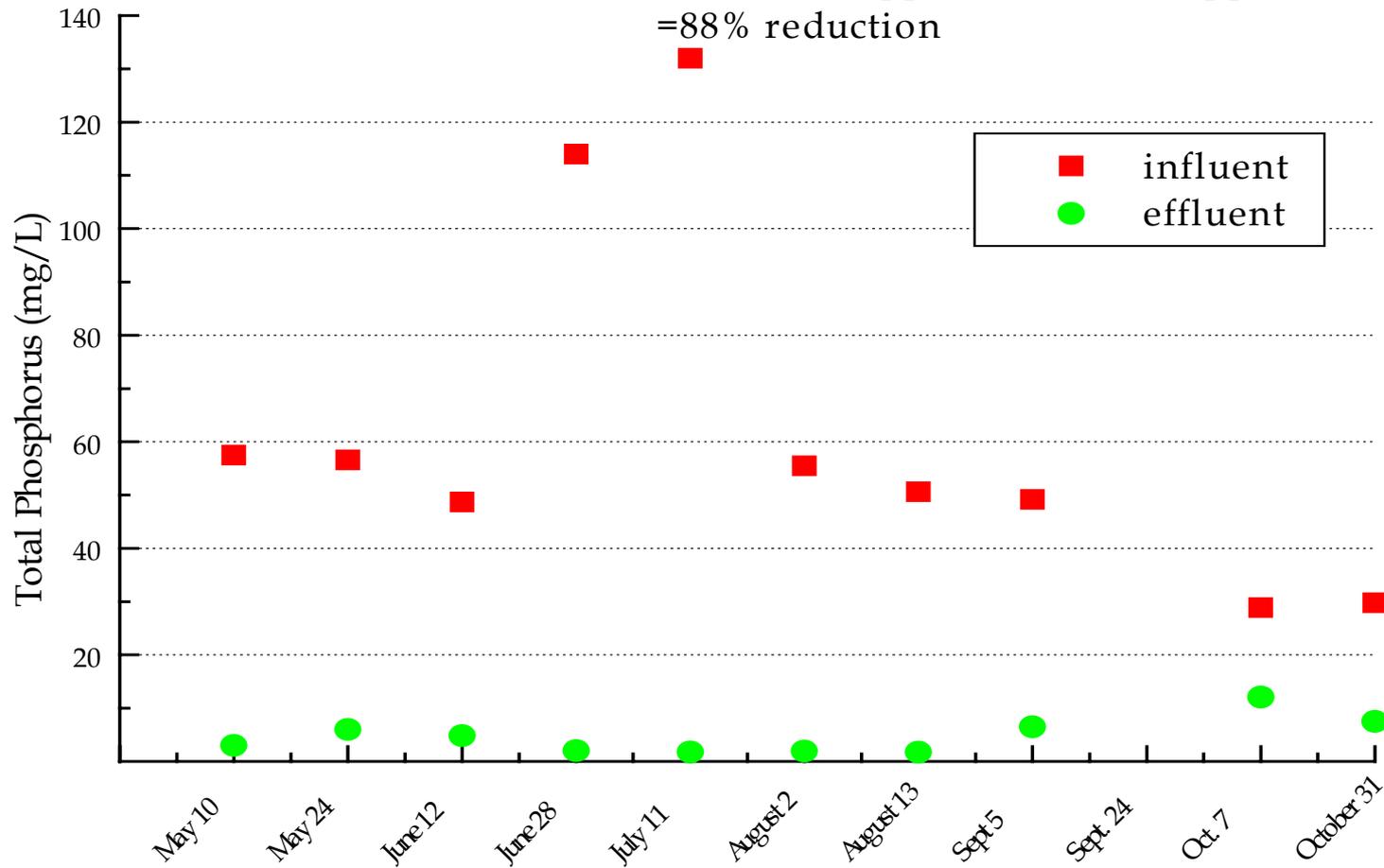
Reduction of BOD₅ - influent = 1,967 ppm; effluent = 160 ppm
=89% reduction



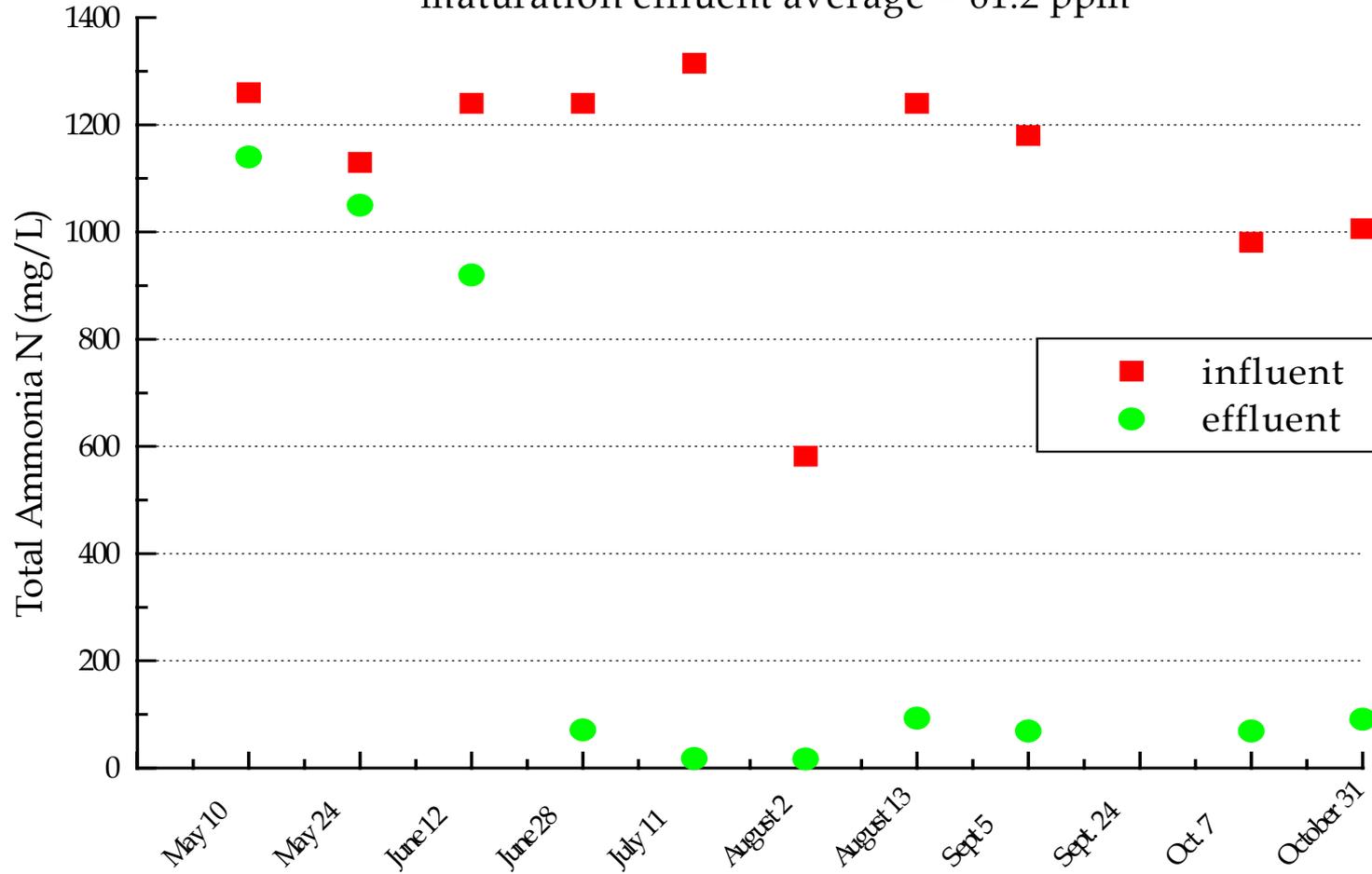
Reduction of TSS - influent = 2,900 ppm; effluent = 33 ppm
=95% reduction



Reduction of TP - influent = 62 ppm; effluent = 5 ppm
=88% reduction

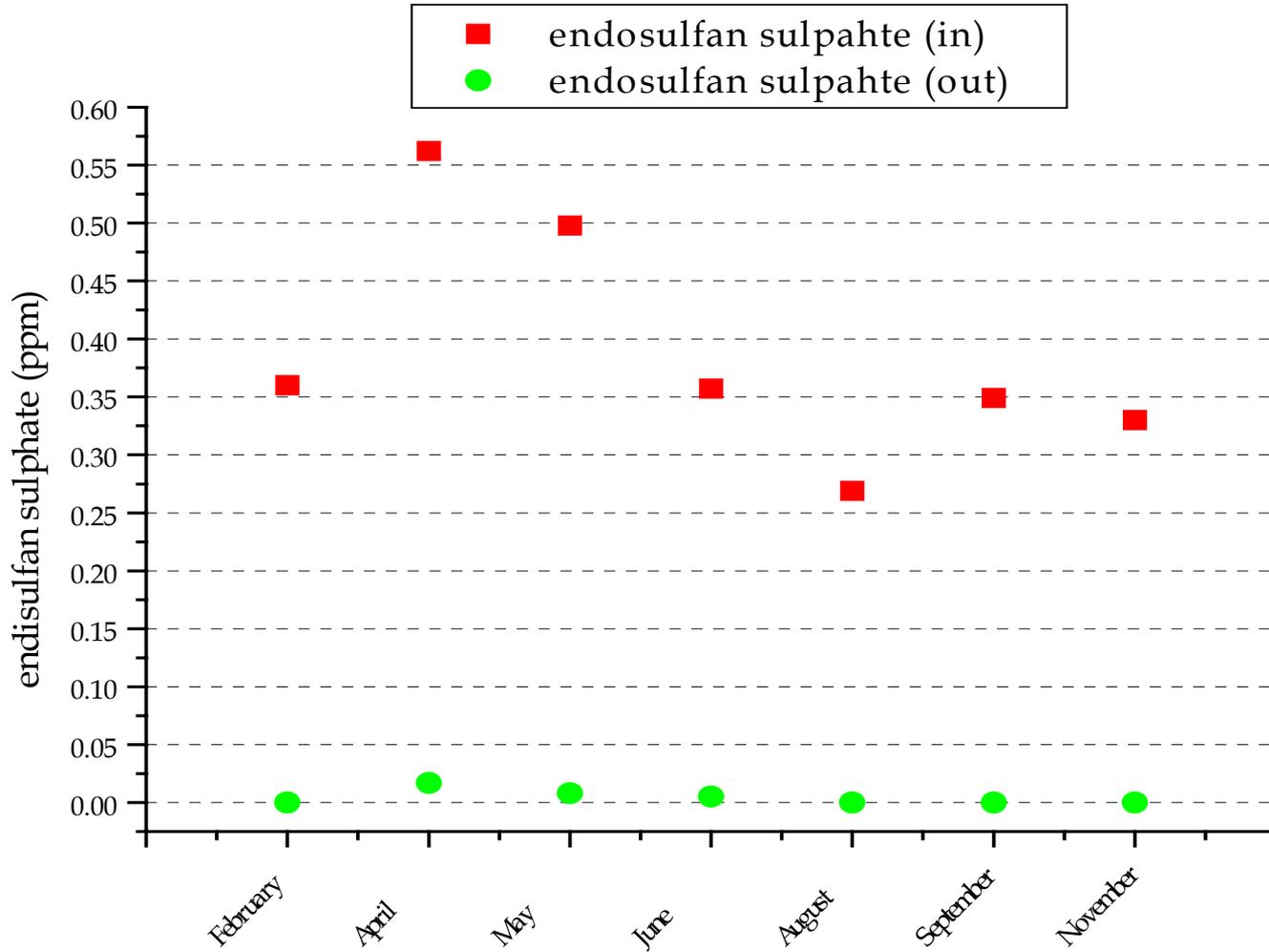


Reduction of Ammonia - influent = 1,117 ppm; after system maturation effluent average = 61.2 ppm



RosaFlora Greenhouses

- Treatment of irrigation leachate water
- 400,000 liters / day (100,000 gal/day)
- endosulfan (organochlorine pesticide)
- 2-300 times P.W.Q. Guidelines
- H.L. of 300 liters / m² day (60 gal/yd²)
- 1,600 yd² wetland system



SUMMARY

- **WM's investment in ACAP has been a huge success**
- **Use of alternate caps will expand if regulations are flexible**
- **Phytoremediation can enhance remedial technologies and enhance the end of post-closure care**