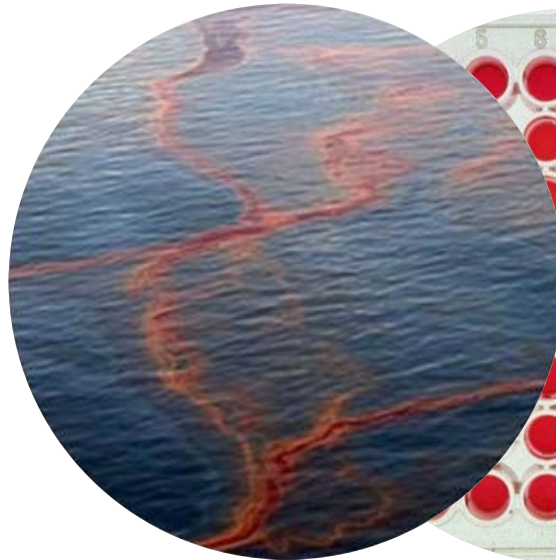


# Removing oil from water (& bioassays...)

✶ Environmental technology Department,  
Wageningen University, NL

✶ IMARES: Institute for Marine Resources  
and Ecosystem Studies, NL



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY  
WAGENINGEN **UR**



IMARES  
WAGENINGEN **UR**









NL: max 360 x 257 km  
Population: 16,845,600  
(April 2014)



WAGENINGENUR



# Why bioassays?

donderdagetalage 7 februari

## Pillenwater

Wat zit er allemaal aan  
**chemie** in ons glasheldere  
drinkwater?

Chemie im Wasser

► ARTE, 22.30-23.25 UUR

TA het zien van de Arte-docu-



## Worries in society

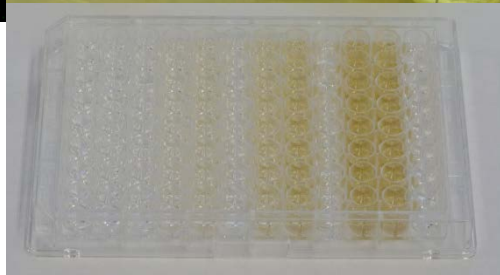
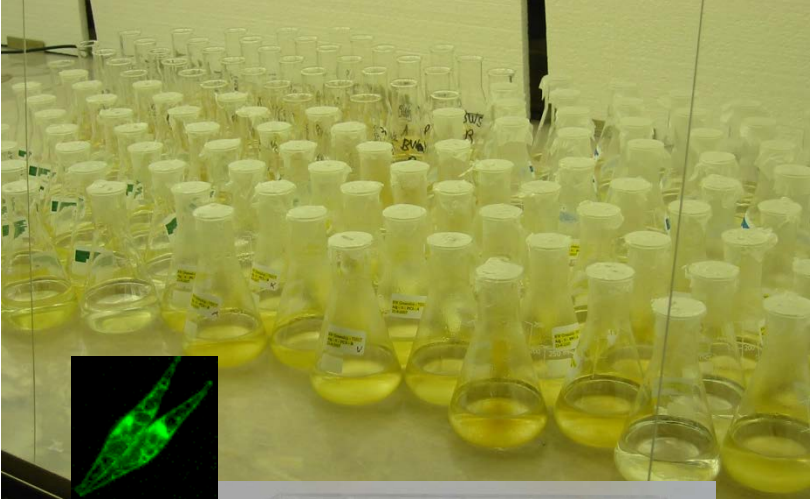
lieutoxicologie aan de Wagenin-  
gen Universiteit. 'Dit water wordt  
uitgebreid gezuiverd en getest.  
De kwaliteit daarvan is uitste-  
kend. Probleem is wel dat goed  
zuiveren steeds duurder wordt.  
Onzorgvuldig gebruik van be-

## Good water quality?

## Success/by-products of treatments?





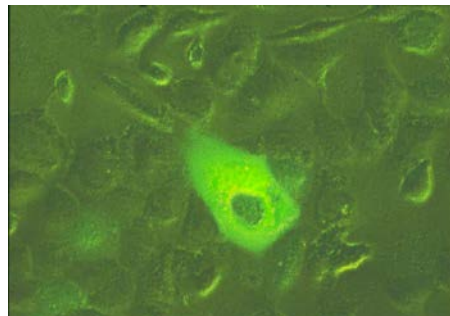


Microtiter  
Algae test

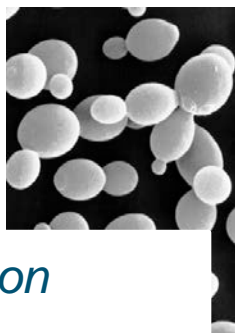


*In vitro* (reporter gene)  
assays

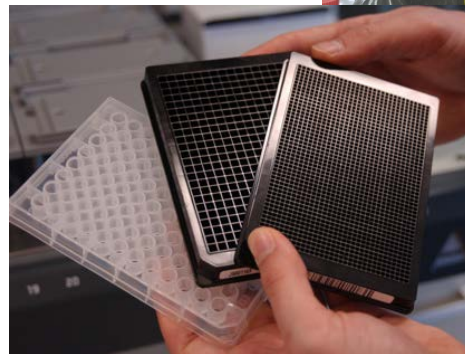
## *In vivo & in vitro* bioassays



*Endocrine disruption*  
*Genotoxicity*



Microtox



Microtiter  
'Microtox'  
*Hamers et al., 2001*

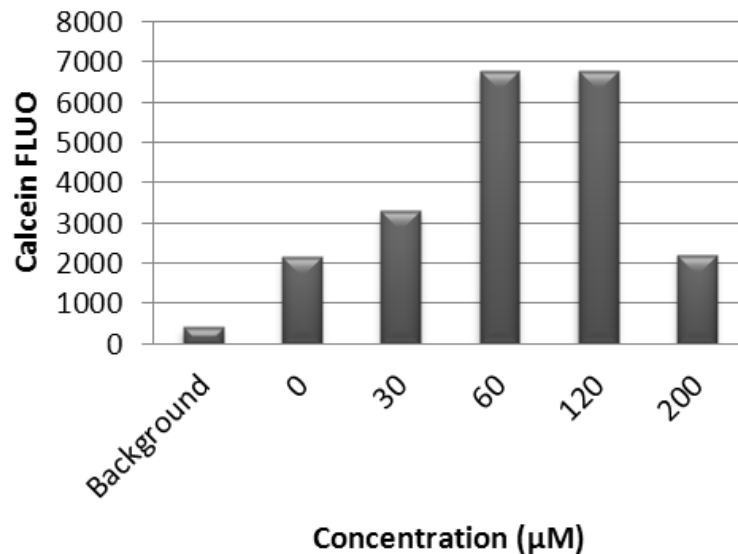
# Examples of bioassays



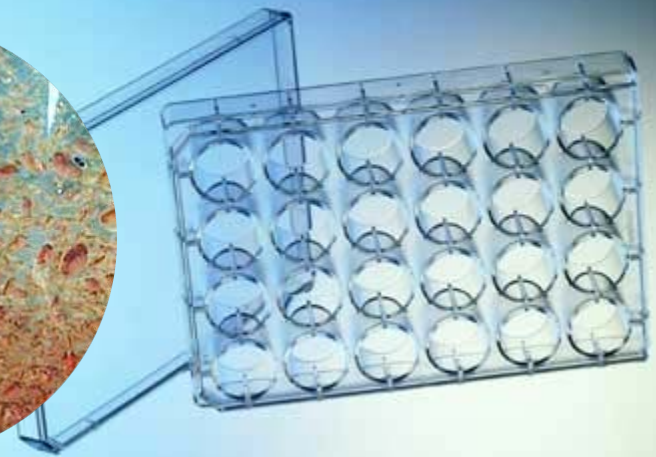
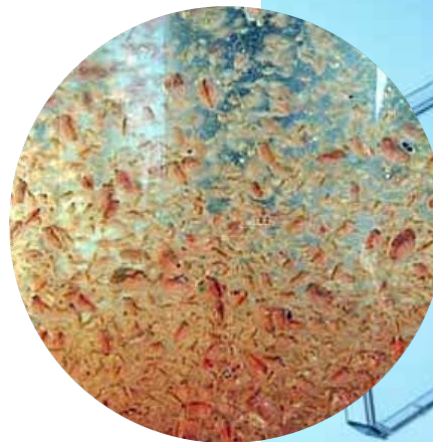
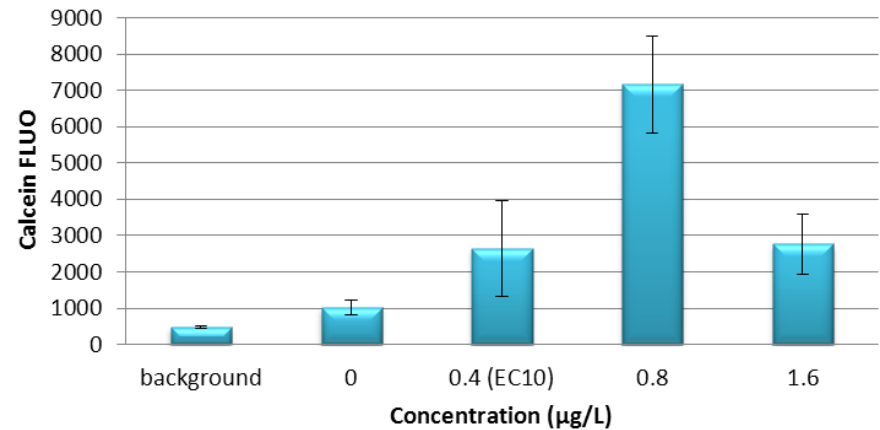
In vivo bioassays	In vivtro bioassays general tox	In vitro bioassays specific tox
Daphnia	mini-Microtox (Vibrio fischeri)	Reporter gene assays (yeast or mammalian) ERa, ERb, AR, TR, etc.
Fish	Artoxkit (Artemia franciscana)	CEPIA
pELS (fish, amphibians)	Thamnotoxkit (Thamnocephalus platyurus)	Gram+ &- bact
CEPIA	YTA Yeast Toxicity Assay	Oxidative stress
Algae	Algae	Genotoxicity
		Pamgene

# In vivo CEPIA with daphnia's and Ag NPs (blocking cellular efflux pumps => mixtox)

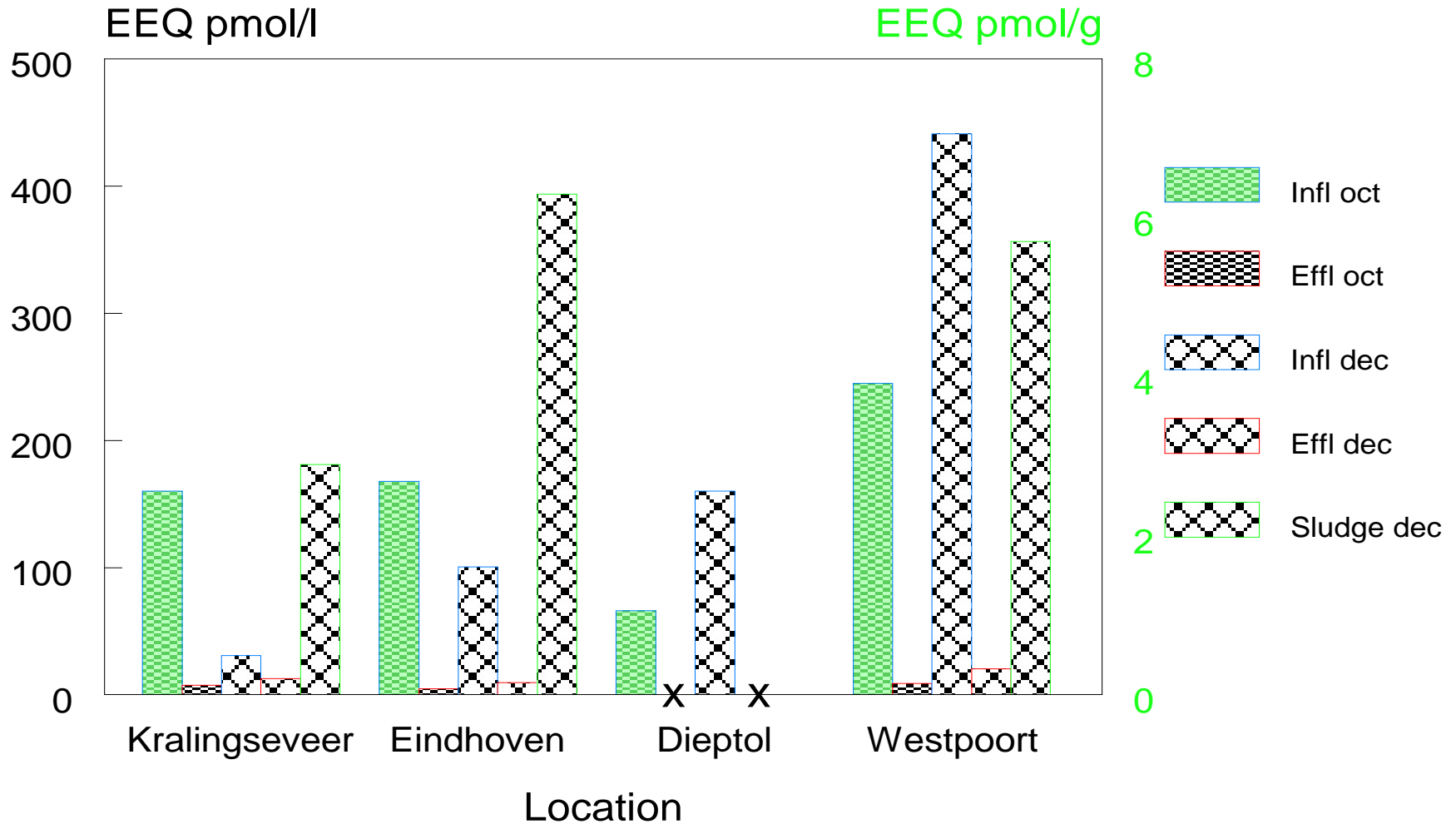
**PFOS**



**Ag 23 nm**

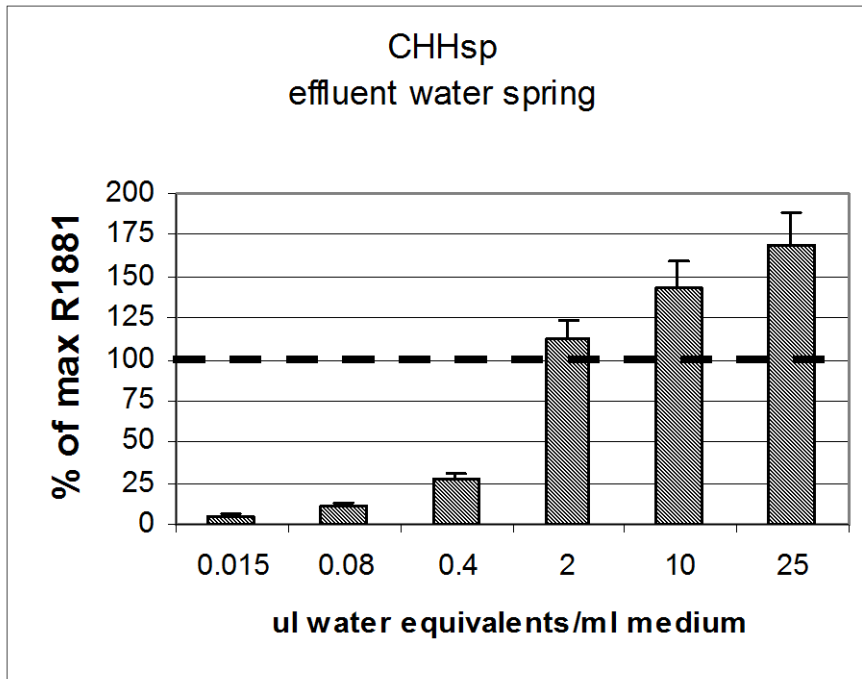


# Effect treatment on domestic WTP influent (infl), effluent (effl) and sludge



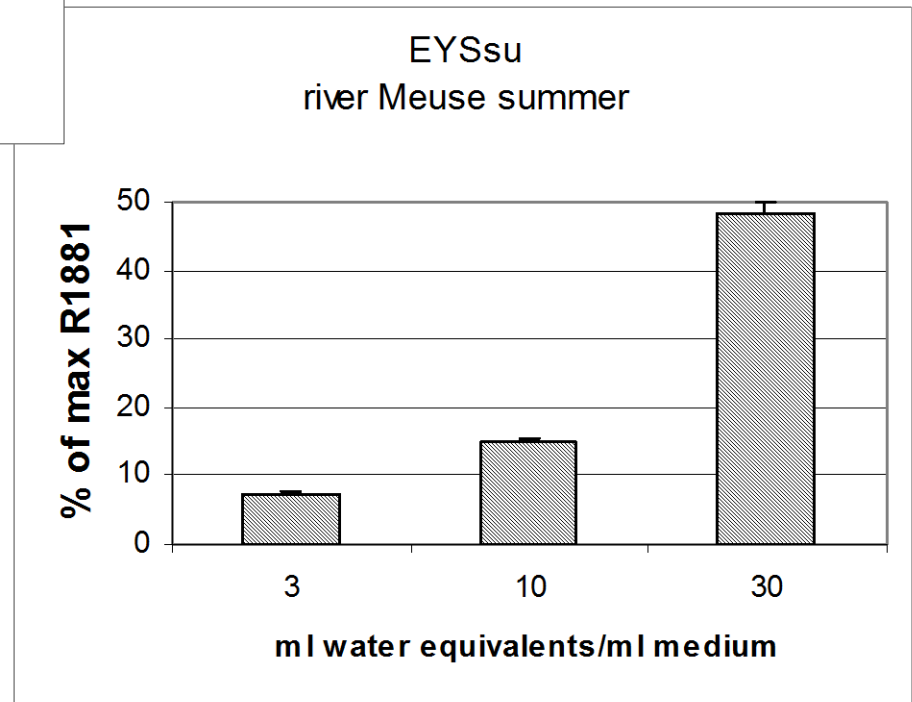


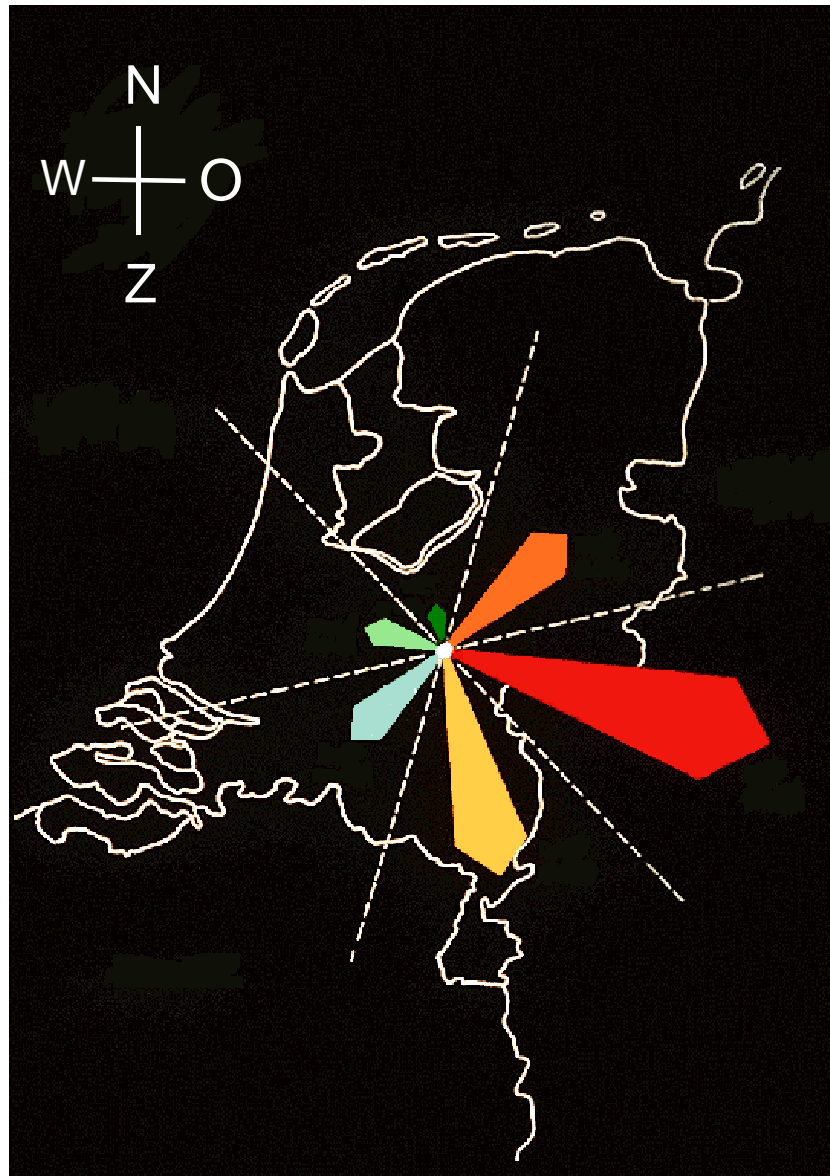
# Androgenic activity in wastewater and surface water with AR-Luc



CHH: 699 nmol REQ/l  
EYS: 20 pmol REQ/l

*Blankvoort, 2003*





UMU-assay for  
mutagenicity

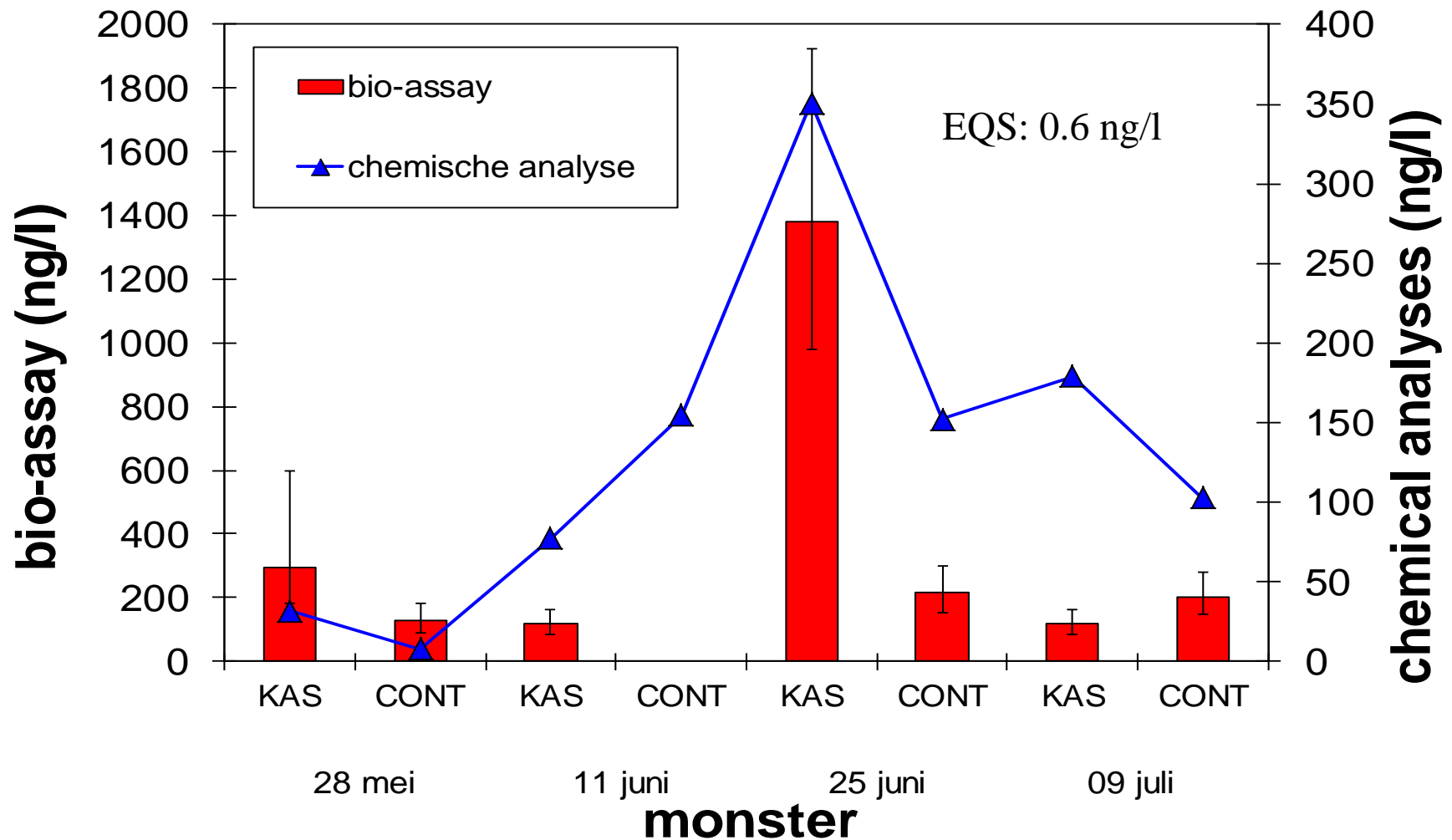


Mutagenicity of airborne particulate matter in Wageningen  
collected on days with different wind direction

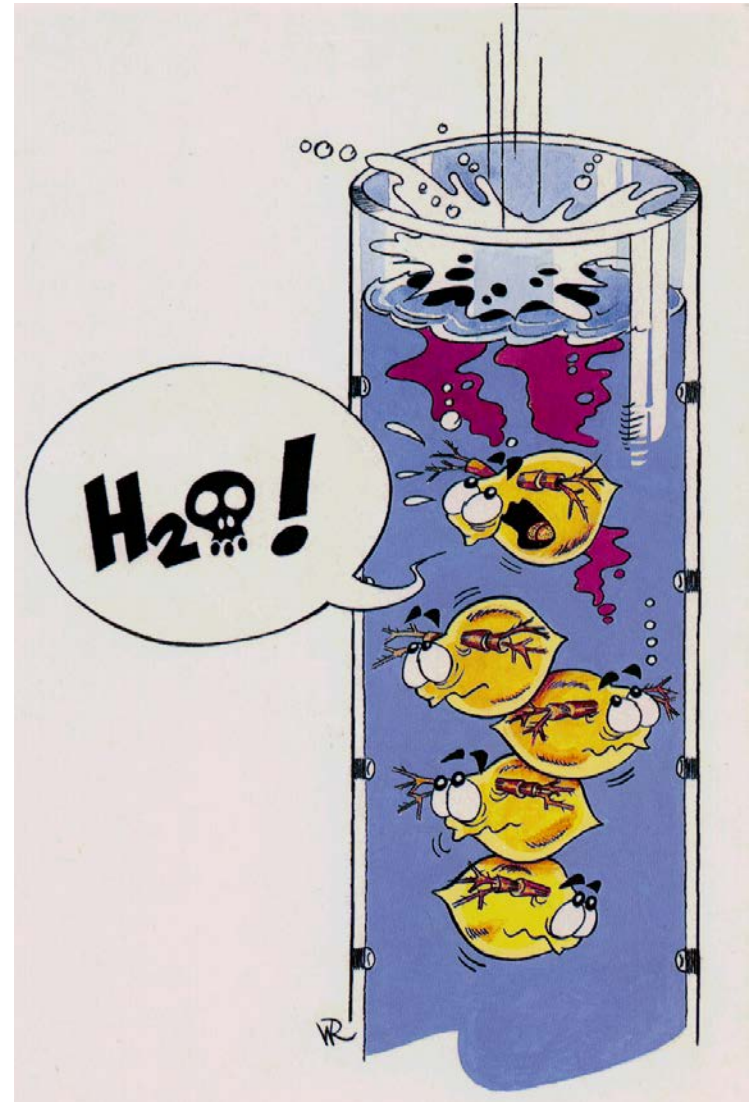
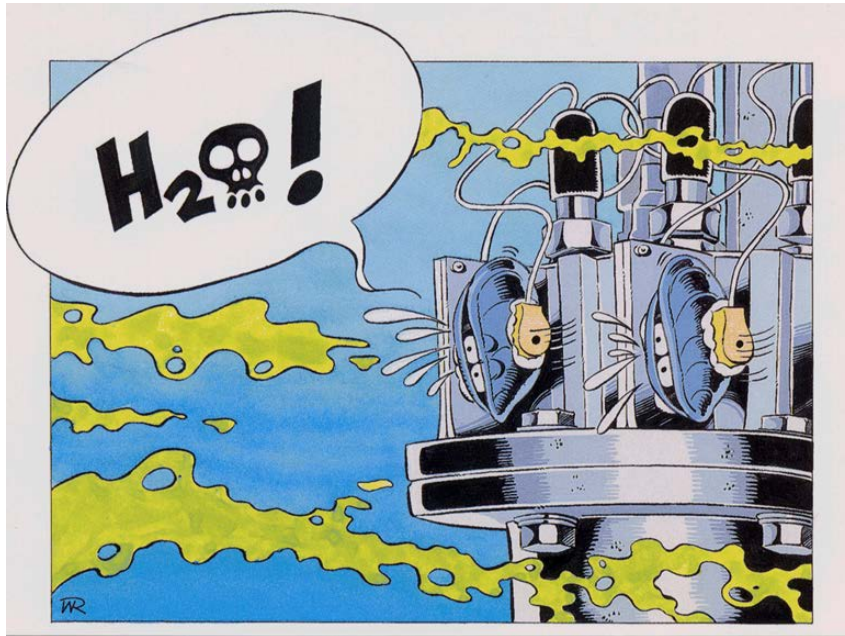
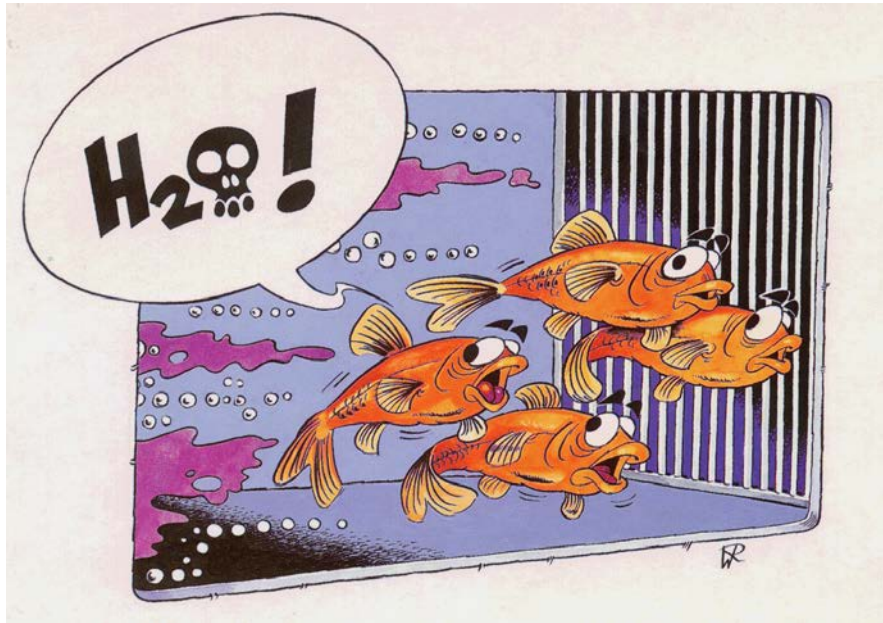
*Hamers et al., 2002*



# Bio- and chemical analysis of pesticides in rainwater (ng dichlorvos-equivalents/liter)



# Bioalarm





# Bioassay application?

- (New) hazard identification
- Toxic potency quantification
- Sources identification
- Micro pollutant prioritization
- Technological improvement assessment (+/-)
- Eco(toxico)logical safety assessment
- Trend analyses (time, space)
- Water quality/safety communication

# Oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico



April 2010: Drill platform Deepwater Horizon explodes and 780 million liter crude oil leaks from the well at 1500 m depth

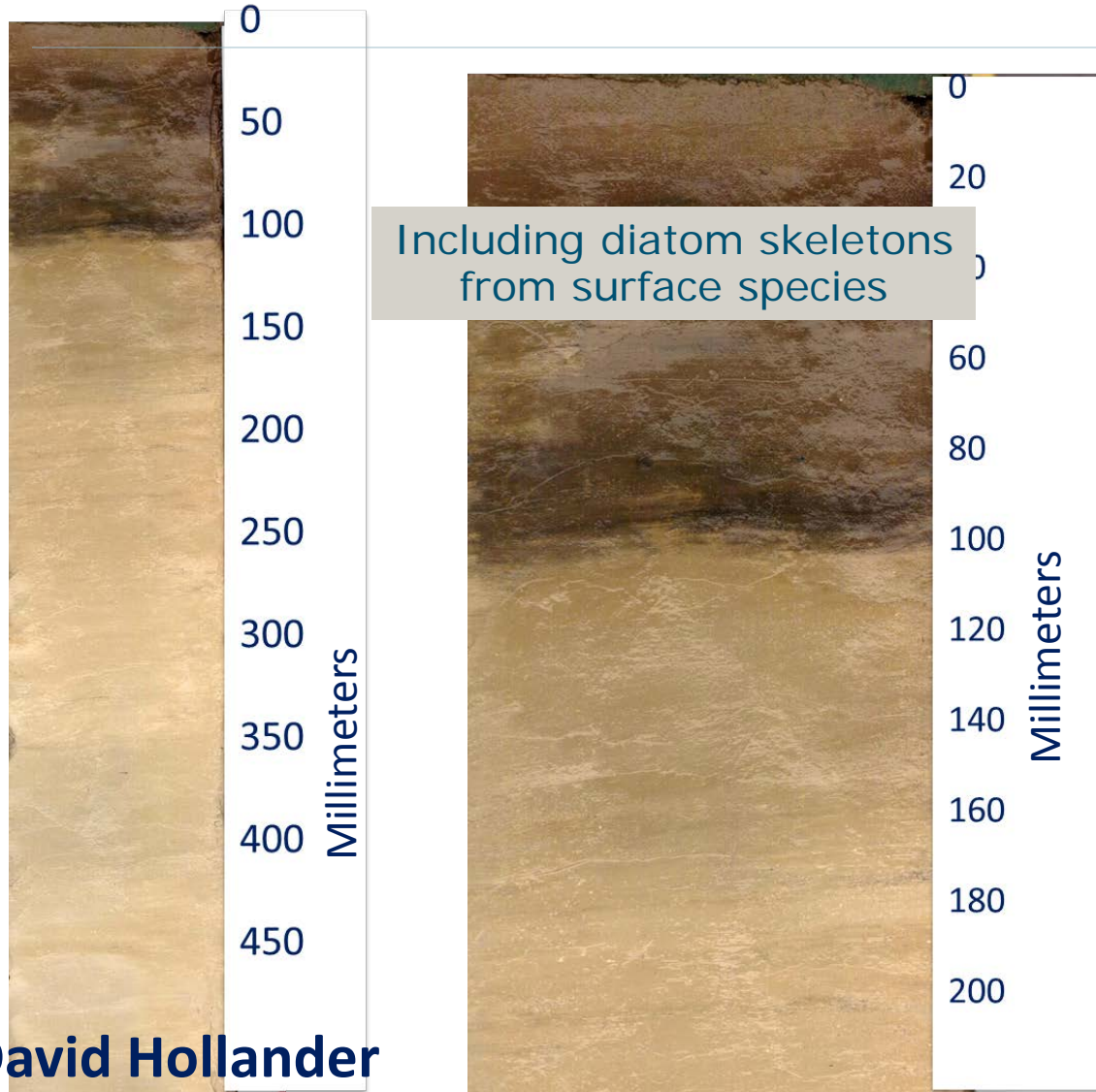


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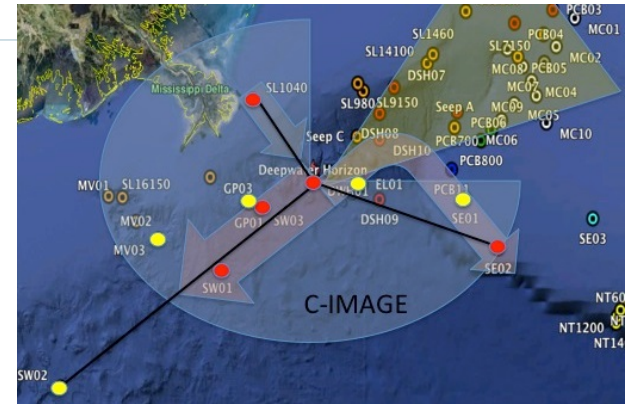
# What is the most persistent environmental problem after the DWH oil spill?

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# An oily, fluffy, toxic layer at the sediment



David Hollander



Core Collected  
At 1500m deep

DWH-01



## Purpose of dispersant application (if depth < 20m):

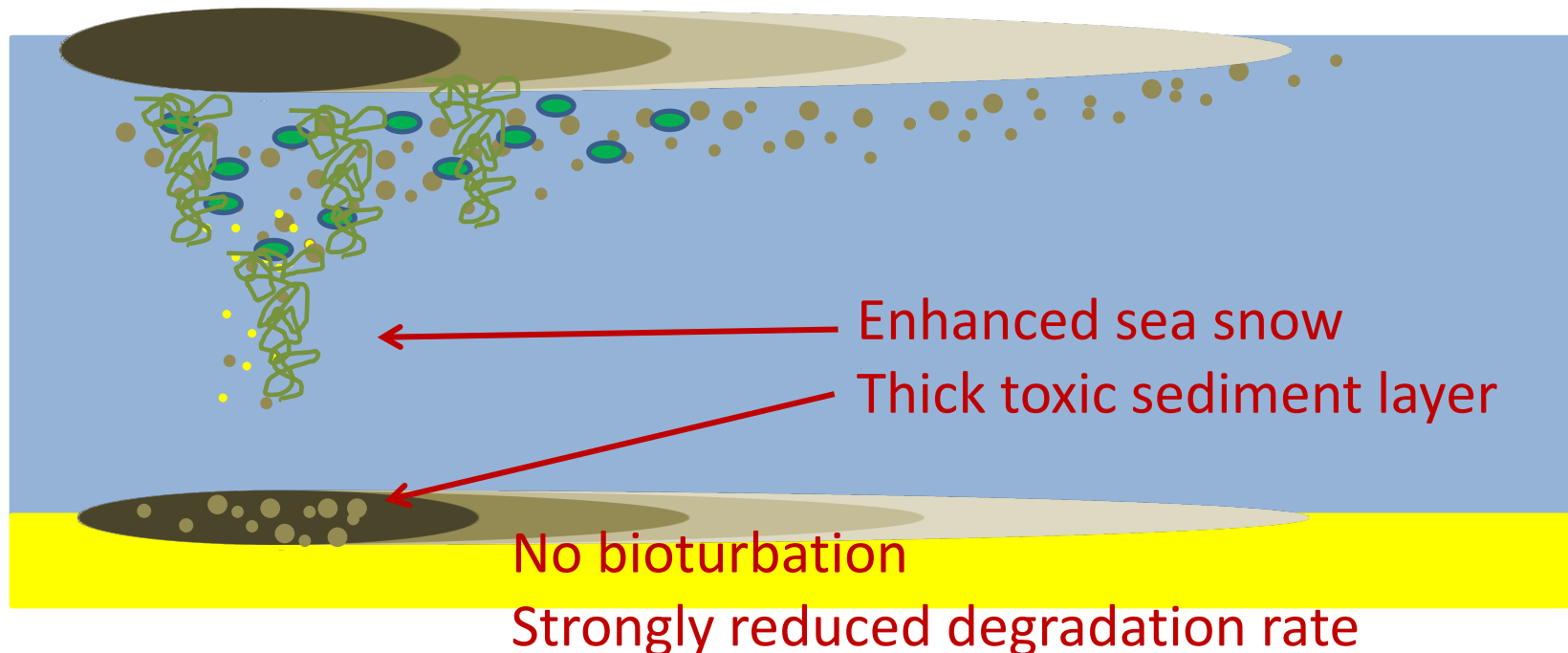
- less contamination of warm blooded vertebrates
- less coastal contamination
- higher toxicity in water column
- less visible oil
- enhanced biodegradation



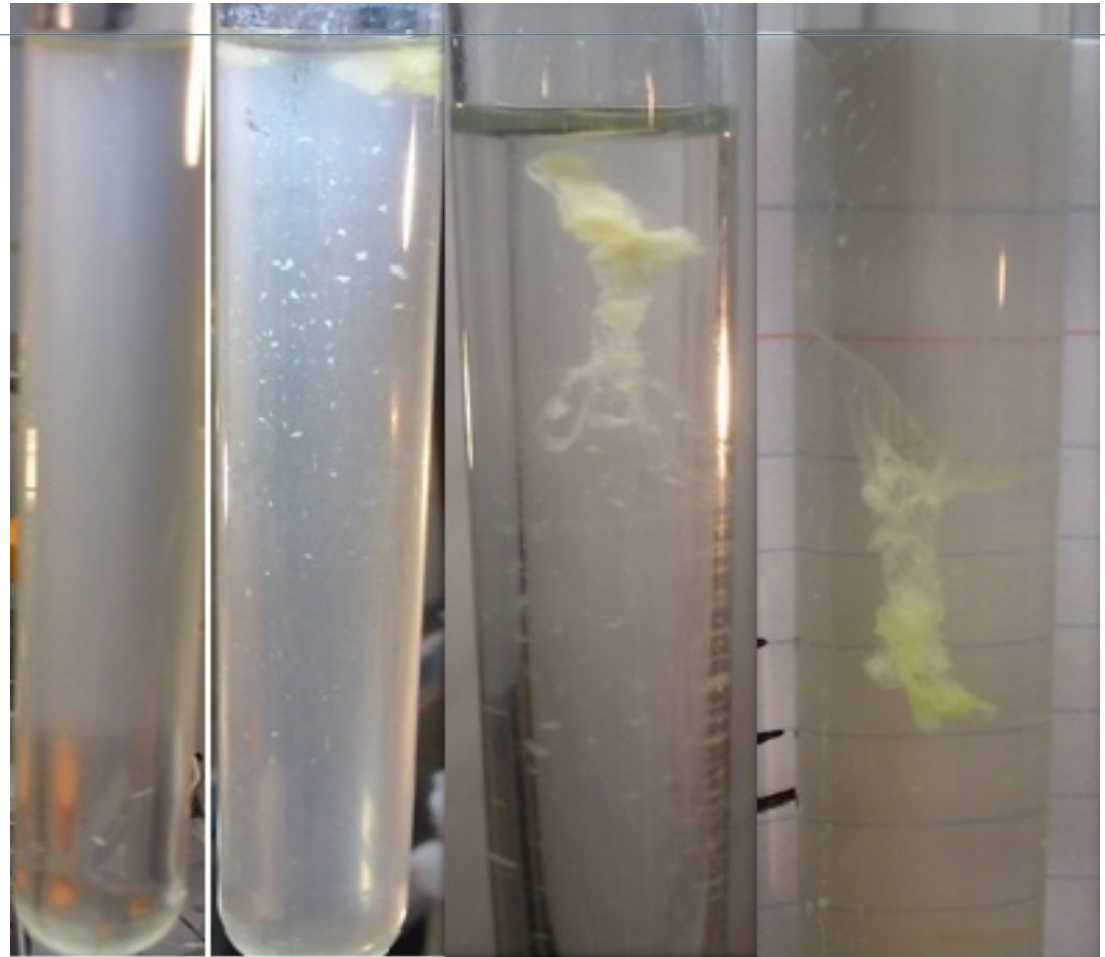


## However..... DWH GoM spill:

- sea snow => enhanced sedimentation  
(incl diatoms from surface)
- toxic sediment layer (hardly bioturbation/degradation)
- instead of reduced period of toxic problems => longer duration (weeks => years)



# In lab: marine snow formation induced by dispersants in presence of marine algae



a. 24 hours

b. 48 hours

c. 6 - 8 days



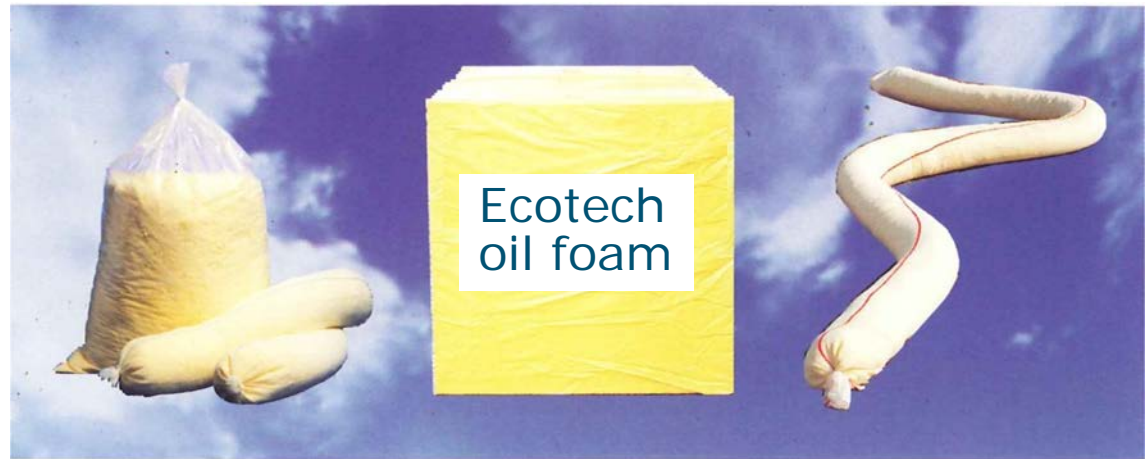
# Why bother about a toxic sludge at 800 m deep?

- Explanation for absence of Red snapper juveniles?  
*(no recruitment in 4 years)*
- Early life stages of fish a.o. marine species depend on very specific habitats for specific periods of their life cycle
- Direct effects of oil toxicity?
- Relevance of benthos for the food web?





# Additional oil spill response options for problematic conditions?





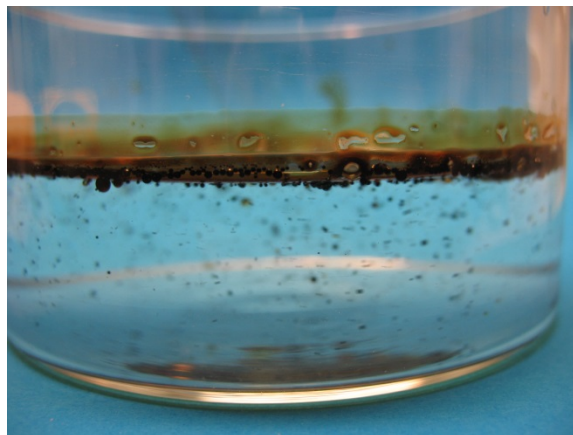
1 ml oil on water



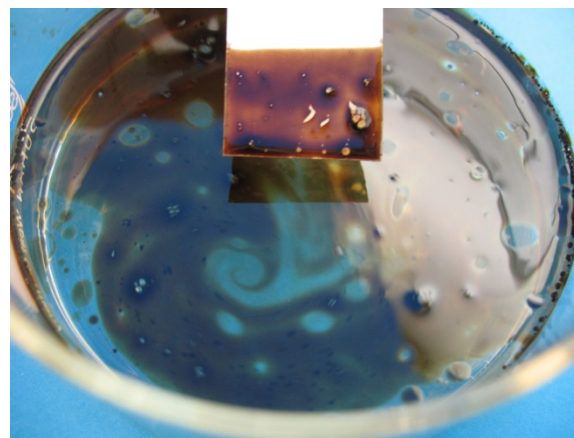
Second after  
1:20 dispersant



Stirring



Shortly after stirring



White paper  
(dipped  
immediately  
after stirring)

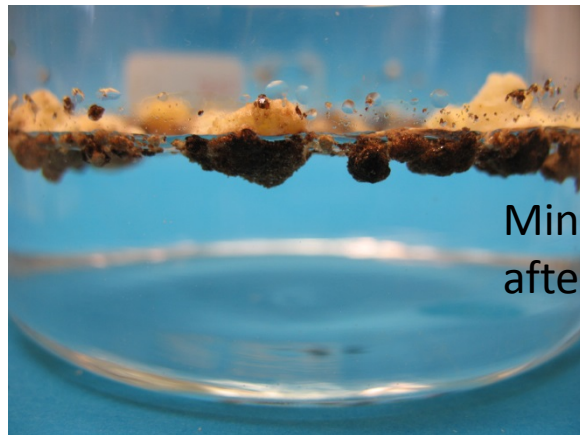




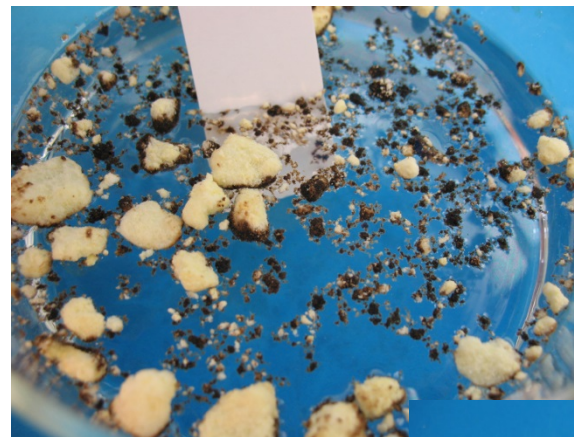
1 ml oil on water



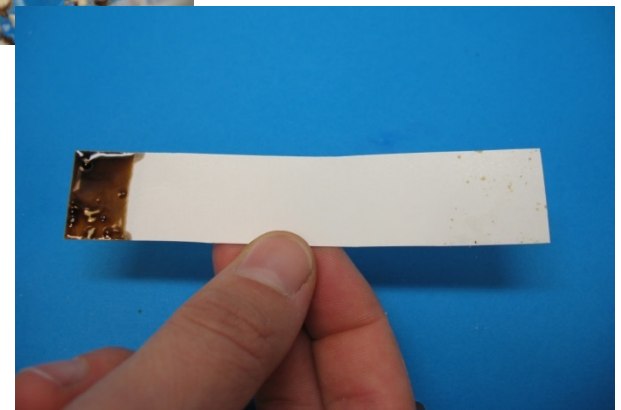
Seconds after adding 'Ecotech oil foam'



Minute after stirring



White paper  
(dipped immediately  
after stirring)



Treatment 1:20 dispersant or 'Ecotech foam' (right)



# Remove oil from water



5% oil in seawater  
purification

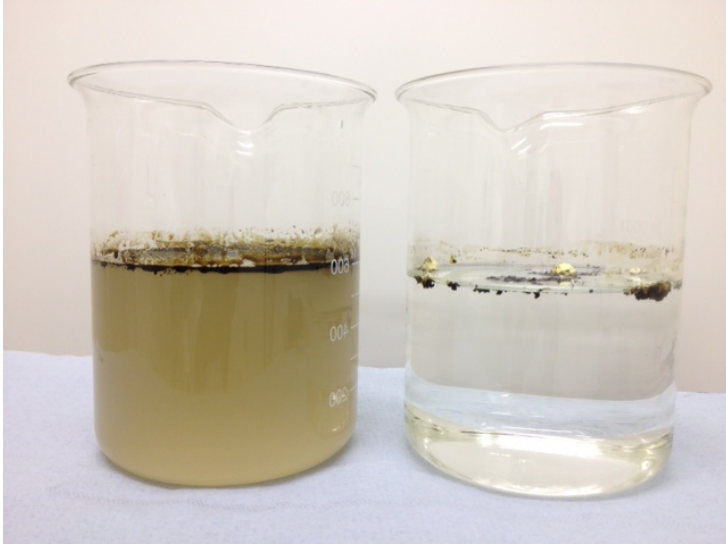


Ecotech oil foam

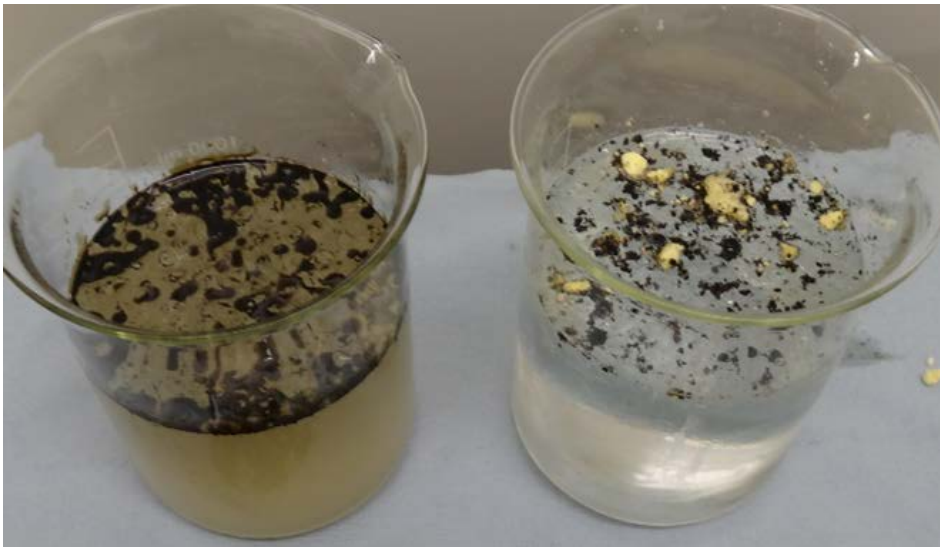
Recovery of oil from e.g.  
-Skimming water  
-Production water

# Try-out 4°C +/- ice

4°C no ice



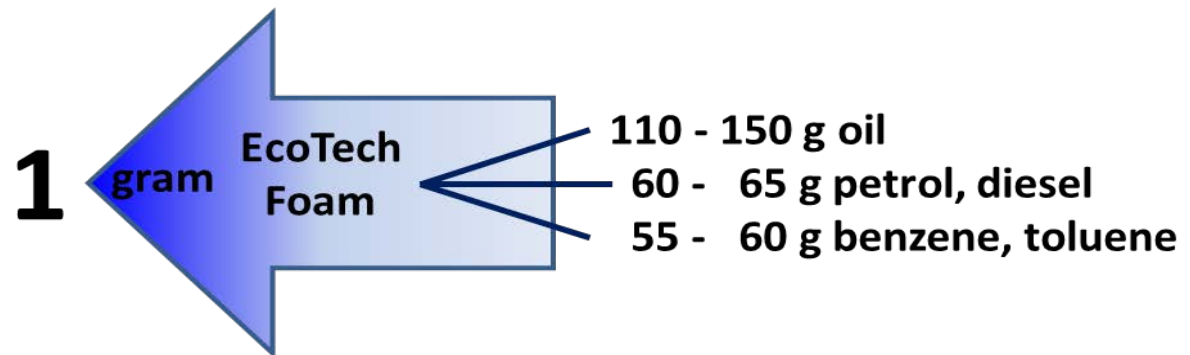
4°C + ice



# Additional solutions for problematic conditions with Ecotech oil foam?

- On site oil from water collection
- Use booms or cushions that also absorb the oil
- Secure oil until it can be removed
- Research idea: (enhanced) in situ biodegradation?

The foam can fully mineralize





# Advantages Ecotech oil foam

- Environmental friendliness (mineralisation to N and P)
- Flexibility (on site production, 6 min/m<sup>3</sup>, 25 kg)
- Oiled water can run through fast (also very saline)
- No algal stress responses
- Works at low temperatures/ice
- Oil could be recovered (*by pressing*)
- Next: characterisation & step to field practise



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Thank you for  
your attention!

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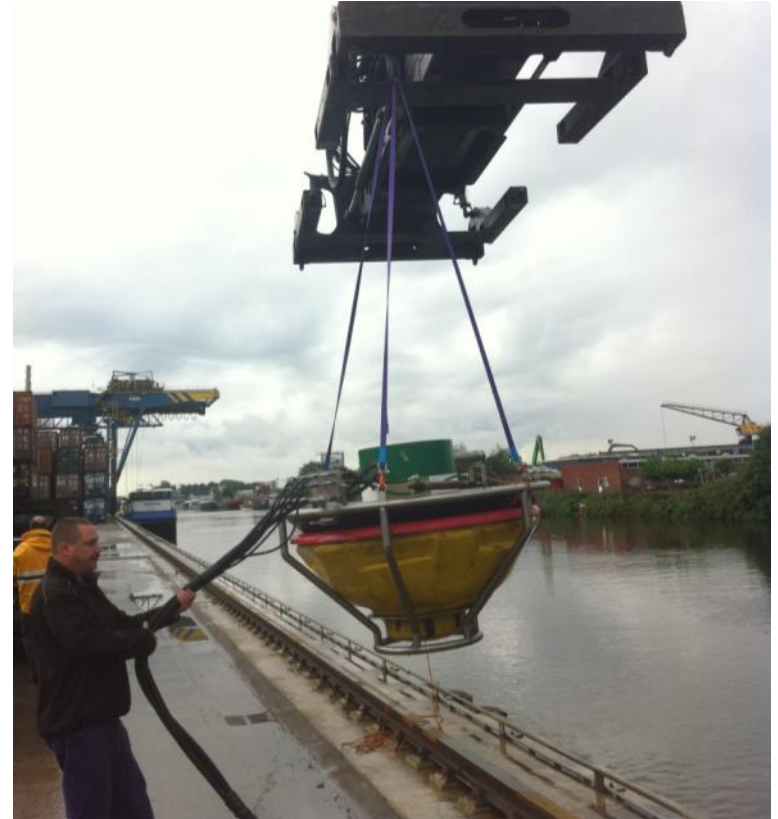
More info:

[Tinka.Murk@WUR.nl](mailto:Tinka.Murk@WUR.nl)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaWyXKjacE8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jaWyXKjacE8)

*(keywords: offshore energy Amsterdam Murk)*

# Successful informal trial removing oil from skimming water of Oil Swallow



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For quality of life



# Research needs for application

## Short term:

- Optimal 'ball and pore' sizes for oil types/conditions ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- Analyse compounds in cleaned skimming water (more hydrophilic compounds?)
- Recovery of oil from absorbent
- Demonstrate safety for marine life in mesocosms

## Long term:

- Develop enhanced in situ degradation of collected oil
- Field tests and development with experienced & business partners!

