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Water-Quality Data of Soil Water from Three Watersheds, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, 1999-2000

Open-File Report 01-236



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By Karen C. Rice¹, Suzanne W. Maben², and James R. Webb²

¹U.S. Geological Survey

²University of Virginia

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For additional information write to:

District Chief
U.S. Geological Survey
1730 East Parham Road
Richmond, VA 23228
dc_va@usgs.gov

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CONVERSION FACTORS AND ABBREVIATED WATER-QUALITY UNITS

Multiply	By	To obtain
<u>Length</u>		
inch (in.)	25,400	micrometer
inch (in.)	25.4	millimeter
inch (in.)	2.54	centimeter
foot (ft.)	0.3048	meter
<u>Area</u>		
mile (mi)	1.609	kilometer
square mile (mi ²)	2.590	square kilometer
<u>Volume</u>		
ounce, fluid (fl. oz)	29,570	microliter
ounce, fluid (fl. oz)	29.57	milliliter
ounce, fluid (fl. oz)	0.02957	liter
pint (pt)	0.4732	liter
quart (qt)	0.9464	liter
gallon (gal)	3.785	liter

Water temperature is reported in degrees Celsius (°C), which can be converted to degree Fahrenheit (°F) as follows: °F = 1.8 (°C) + 32°

Abbreviated water-quality units: Chemical concentration is reported in micrograms per liter (µg/L), microequivalents per liter (µeq/L), or micromoles per liter (µmol/L). Micrograms per liter is a unit expressing the concentration of chemical constituents in solution as mass (micrograms) of solute per unit volume (liter) of solution. One thousand micrograms per liter is equivalent to one milligram per liter. For concentrations less than 7,000 mg/L, the numerical value is the same as for concentrations in parts per million. Microequivalents per liter is a unit expressing the concentration of chemical constituents in solution as charge equivalents of solute per unit volume (liter) of solution. One thousand microequivalents per liter is equal to one milliequivalent per liter. Micromoles per liter is a unit expressing the concentration of chemical constituents in solution as moles of solute per unit volume (liter) of solution. One thousand micromoles per liter is equal to one millimole per liter. Specific electrical conductance of water is reported in microsiemens per centimeter at 25 degrees Celsius (µS/cm).

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ABSTRACT

Data on the chemical composition of soil-water samples were collected quarterly from three watersheds in Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, from September 1999 through July 2000. The soil-water samples were analyzed for specific conductance and concentrations of sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, chloride, nitrate, sulfate, acid-neutralizing capacity, silica, and total monomeric aluminum. The soil-water data presented in this report can be used to support water-quality modeling of the response of streams to episodic acidification. Laboratory analytical data as well as laboratory quality-assurance information also are presented.

INTRODUCTION

This report presents data for soil-water samples that were collected by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) from three watersheds in Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, as part of the interagency Water-Quality Partnership Program with the National Park Service. As part of this partnership, which began in 1998, USGS is performing high-priority water-quality work on National Park lands. The soil-water data presented in this report can be used to support water-quality modeling of the response of streams to episodic acidification. The soil-water samples were analyzed for specific conductance and concentrations of sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, chloride, nitrate, sulfate, acid-neutralizing capacity, silica, and total monomeric aluminum.

Purpose and scope

The purpose of this report is to present data on the chemical composition of soil-water samples that were collected approximately quarterly from three watersheds in Shenandoah National Park, Virginia,

from September 1999 through July 2000. The instrumentation and methods used to collect soil-water samples and the methods and quality assurance for laboratory analyses of the samples are described. Locations of the lysimeter sites, laboratory methods, quality-assurance results, and data from the water-quality analyses of the soil-water samples are presented in tables.

Description of study area

Shenandoah National Park is located in the Blue Ridge Physiographic Province in north-central Virginia. The Park straddles the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains along a 112-km segment stretching from Front Royal in the north to Waynesboro in the south (Gathright, II, 1976). Three watersheds that represent a gradient in acidity of streamwater were selected for this study. The three streams, from most acidic to least acidic, are Paine Run, Staunton River, and Piney River (fig. 1). The respective watershed areas are 12.4, 10.5, and 12.6 km².

Acknowledgments

Appreciation is given to Shenandoah National Park personnel, in particular Christi Gordon and Shane Spitzer, for permission to install the lysimeters, for support of the study, and for assistance in conducting the study. The authors thank the following University of Virginia students and staff: Charles J. Fievet, Jr., and Cory Gray for assistance with installation of the lysimeters, Daniel L. Welsch for collection of the soil-water samples, and Frank A. Deviney, Jr., for database assistance.

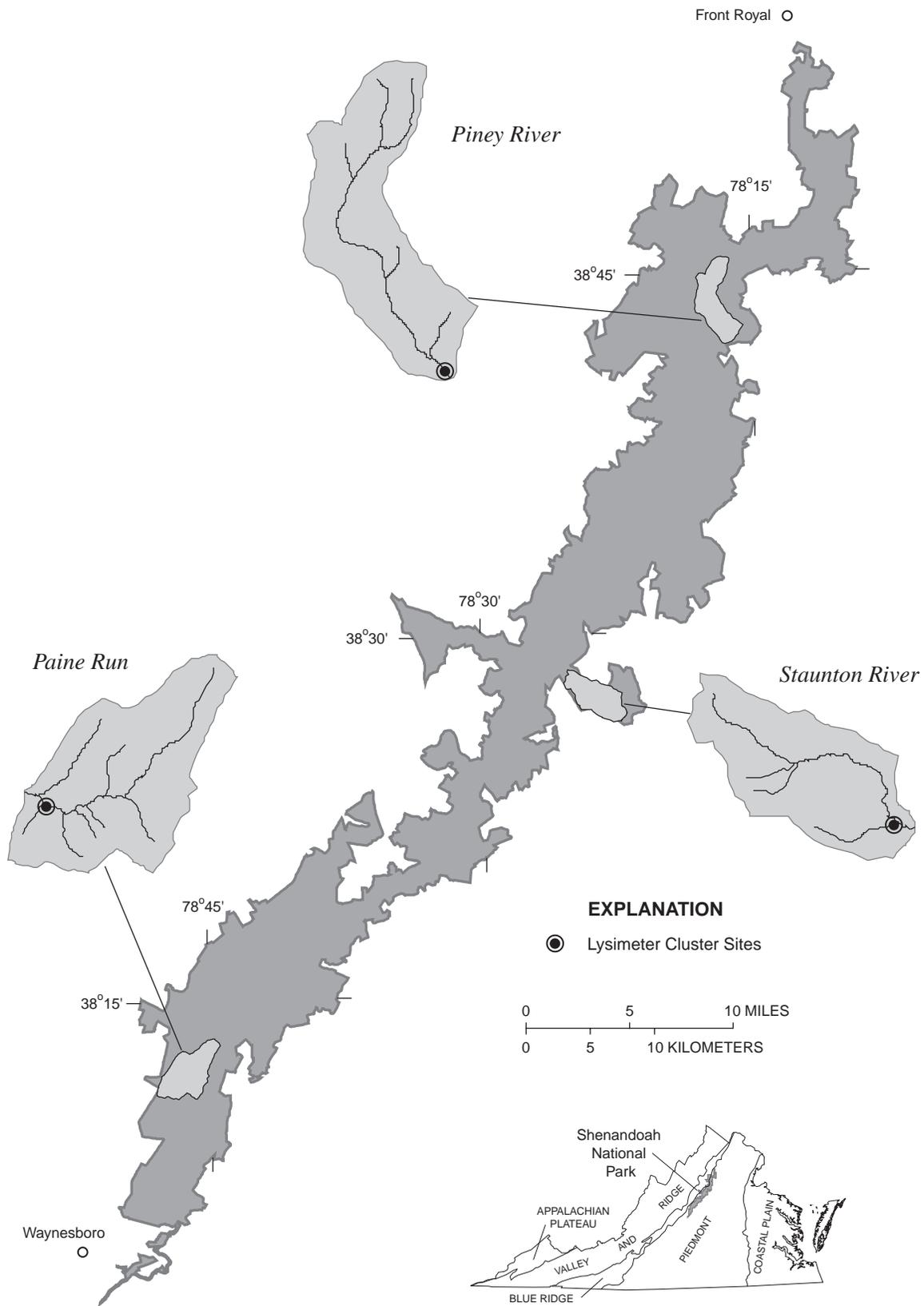


Figure 1. Lysimeter sites in three watersheds in Shenandoah National Park, Virginia.

COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES

Soil-water samples were collected from the three watersheds approximately quarterly, starting in September 1999 and ending in July 2000. Lysimeters were installed during the summer of 1999. The lysimeters were allowed to equilibrate to the soil environment before the first samples were collected in September 1999. Additional samples were collected in January, April, and July 2000.

Instrumentation of field collection sites

Soil-water samples were collected by use of Soilmoisture Equipment Corp. suction lysimeters installed at three sites in each of the watersheds (table 1, at end of report). Lysimeters consisted of 4.8-cm-diameter polyvinylchloride (PVC) tubes with a 5.7-cm-long, round-bottom, porous ceramic cup at the base. A Tygon sample-collection tube extended from the porous cup through a neoprene stopper at the top of each PVC tube. Sample-collection tubes were sealed with plastic pinch clamps. The porous ceramic cups had a 2-bar air entry and a maximum pore size of 1.3 μm .

At each site, three lysimeters were installed vertically at depths of approximately 36, 66, and 97 cm below land surface. Holes for the lysimeters were dug with hand augers, and rocks were removed by loosening with trowels, picks, and by hand. The porous-cup ends of the lysimeters were soaked in deionized water for several weeks prior to field installation and were kept submerged in the field until the lysimeters were transferred to the holes. Once the lysimeter was placed in the hole, the void space around the porous cup was backfilled with the native soil that was removed from the hole. Care was taken to tamp the soil down firmly around the porous ceramic cup to ensure an adequate soil contact with the cup. The rest of the hole was backfilled with native soil, which also was tamped firmly to prevent surface water from running down the augured hole.

Field data-collection methods

Approximately one week prior to sampling, a visit to the sites was made to place a vacuum on each lysimeter. The vacuum was created by pumping a hand-held vacuum pump until the suction value no longer changed, as indicated by a gauge on the pump. Average vacuum achieved upon pumping was 70 centibars. The vacuum drew water from the soil matrix through the ceramic cup and into the lysimeter. Approximately one week after the vacuum was placed on the lysimeter, the soil-water sample was drawn to the surface through the sample tube by use of a hand pump and into a clear 250-mL high-density polyethylene collection bottle. Prior to collecting the sample, the collection bottles were washed with detergent and acid (2 normal hydrochloric acid) and rinsed multiple times with deionized water. The cleanliness of the bottle was checked by partially filling the bottle with deionized water, shaking, and testing the specific conductance of the deionized water. The bottles were considered clean when the specific conductance of the rinse water was less than 1.3 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The bottles were stored filled with deionized water. At the collection site, the deionized water was discarded and the sample bottle was rinsed with sample water, which was discarded before the rest of the sample was collected. Samples were transported in coolers with refrigerant to the laboratory.

Laboratory-analysis methods and instrumentation

In the laboratory, 0.5 mL of chloroform was added to the sample bottles to prevent microbial degradation of the samples. The unfiltered samples were analyzed for specific conductance (SC), sodium (Na^+), potassium (K^+), calcium (Ca^{2+}), magnesium (Mg^{2+}), ammonium (NH_4^+), chloride (Cl^-), nitrate (NO_3^-), sulfate (SO_4^{2-}), acid-neutralizing capacity (ANC), silica (SiO_2), and total monomeric aluminum (Al) (McAvoy and others, 1992). All samples were kept at room temperature until chemical analysis was performed.

Analyses were conducted at the University of Virginia Shenandoah Watershed Study (SWAS) Laboratory, using instrumentation and methods summarized in table 2, at end of report. More detailed methods descriptions and the Standard Operation Procedure document for the SWAS laboratory are in the Laboratory Procedure Manual (University of Virginia, 1996).

Quality assurance and quality control

Quality-assurance and quality-control information for analysis of soil-water samples by the SWAS laboratory was determined by calculation of percent ion difference; analyses of natural- and synthetic-matrix reference samples, laboratory split samples, and process blanks; and by participation in interlaboratory quality-assurance studies.

Percent ion differences were calculated for soil-water samples for which sufficient sample was available; these were calculated by comparing measured total anion and cation equivalents (eq) (all decimal places retained), as follows:

$$\text{percent ion difference} = \frac{\text{sum of anion eq} - \text{sum of cation eq}}{\text{sum of anion eq} + \text{sum of cation eq}} \times 100$$

A percent ion difference close to zero generally indicates a complete ion analysis. Most of the soil-water samples have percent ion differences within 10 percent (table 3, at end of report). All but one of the samples has an excess of cations. A percent ion difference greater than 10 percent indicates the presence of unmeasured ions; in this study, the unmeasured ions likely are organic anions, which were not analyzed.

Natural- (FN09 and FN10) and synthetic-matrix (EPA1) reference samples also were analyzed for quality-assurance purposes. Reference samples FN09 and FN10 are performance-evaluation samples distributed and used as a part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Episode Response Project (USEPA ERP). Reference sample EPA1 is distributed by the USEPA Environmental Monitoring and Support Laboratory (Cincinnati, Ohio). Results of these analyses by the SWAS laboratory during the period July 1998 through June 1999 and comparisons to the target values are shown in tables 4 and 5 (at end of report).

Reference-sample values obtained by the SWAS laboratory were compared to the target values provided by the USEPA as an indication of accuracy (percent difference from target in tables 4 and 5). On the basis of the three reference samples, the accuracy of the laboratory results for Na^+ , K^+ , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , NH_4^+ , Cl^- , SO_4^{2-} , and SiO_2 in the soil-water samples is acceptable, because the percent difference from the target value is, at most, 8.4. The analyte values that show significant deviation from target values are concentrations of NO_3^- (-25.7 percent) and Al (89.2 percent) for FN09

(table 4). If only the results for NO_3^- and Al were considered, the accuracy of the laboratory for these two analytes might be in question. Other indications of the laboratory's accuracy, however, are given by the results for FN10 (table 4) and EPA1 (table 5), as well as by results of interlaboratory quality-assurance studies (discussed later in the report). The acceptable performance of the laboratory for these analytes in FN10 indicates that the concentration of the two analytes in FN09 possibly has changed by degradation or alteration since collection and distribution of the reference samples by the USEPA ERP, which reported the target values in 1989.

Laboratory-split samples and process blanks also were analyzed for quality-assurance purposes. Results of laboratory-split analyses of selected soil-water samples are shown in table 6 (at end of report). Values obtained for laboratory-split analyses can be compared as an indication of analytical precision. The percent difference between analyses performed on split samples varied from a minimum of 0 to a maximum of 7.2. This indicates that the precision of analyses is acceptable. Results of process-blank analyses are shown in table 7 (at end of report). These results are one indication of whether analyte concentrations in the soil-water samples could have been compromised by collection, transport, storage, or analysis methods. The mean values for each analyte of the process-blank samples are near or below the minimum analytical detection limit (table 7). This demonstrates that there is no processing effect on the concentrations reported for the soil-water samples.

The SWAS laboratory also participates in interlaboratory quality-assurance studies administered by Environment Canada's National Water Research Institute (NWRI). Environmental programs in both the United States and Canada participate in these studies, which are designed for laboratories analyzing acid rain and surface waters. The purpose of these studies is to provide a useful means of quantifying laboratory performance and data quality. The report for each study includes an assessment of any systematic bias and indicates any results flagged as a result of poor precision. Each study consists of 10 samples, which are analyzed by the SWAS laboratory by the same means as the environmental samples. The quality-assurance samples usually are included in laboratory analysis sessions along with environmental samples. The analytical results are then reported to the NWRI. Results of analy-

ses of the quality-assurance samples by the SWAS laboratory for the period 1994 through 2000 are shown in table 8 (at end of report).

WATER-QUALITY DATA OF SOIL-WATER SAMPLES

Water-quality data of soil-water samples collected from Paine Run watershed are shown in table 9; data from Staunton River watershed are shown in table 10; and data from Piney River watershed are shown in table 11 (tables 9-11 at end of report).

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- Gathright, II, T.M., 1976, Geology of the Shenandoah National Park, Virginia: Virginia Division of Mineral Resources Bulletin 86, 93 p.
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TABLES 1-11

Table 1. Locations of lysimeter sites

[°, degrees; ', minutes; ", seconds; datum is North American Datum of 1927]

Lysimeter site	Latitude	Longitude
Paine Run watershed		
1	38° 11' 46"	78° 47' 19"
2	38° 11' 41"	78° 47' 13"
3	38° 11' 41"	78° 47' 14"
Staunton River watershed		
1	38° 26' 42"	78° 22' 38"
2	38° 26' 42"	78° 22' 35"
3	38° 26' 43"	78° 22' 34"
Piney River watershed		
1	38° 42' 06"	78° 16' 02"
2	38° 42' 05"	78° 16' 03"
3	38° 42' 07"	78° 16' 02"

Table 2. Laboratory analytical methods

[° C, degrees Celsius; Li/La, lithium/lanthanum; μL , microliter; mL, milliliter; mM Na_2CO_3 /minute, millimolar sodium carbonate per minute; N, normal; H_2SO_4 /minute; sulfuric acid per minute; HCl, hydrochloric acid; \leq , less than or equal to; minimum analytical detection limits given in microequivalents per liter, except for silica, which is in micromoles per liter and total monomeric aluminum, which is in micrograms per liter]

Analyte	Minimum analytical detection limit	Instrumentation	Method
Specific conductance	None	YSI Model 31 Conductivity Bridge; Beckman CEL-GO1 cell	Standard conductivity bridge and cell. Values adjusted to 25° C.
Sodium	0.06	Thermo Jarrel Ash AA/AE Spectrophotometer Model Smith-Hieftje 22	Flame atomic absorption spectrophotometry. Li/La added to aliquot.
Potassium	0.27		
Calcium	0.66		
Magnesium	0.30		
Ammonium	0.60	Technicon Autoanalyzer II	Colorimetric detection by indophenol blue technique.
Chloride	0.24	Dionex Model 14 Ion Chromatograph; HPIC AS4A Separator Column; HPIC AG4A Pre-Column; AMMS Anion Micro-Membrane Suppressor	Simultaneous determination by ion chromatography. Injection volume: 200 μL . Eluent: 2.2 mL 3.4-4.5 mM Na_2CO_3 /minute. Regenerant: 3-4 mL 0.035 N H_2SO_4 /minute.
Nitrate	0.06		
Sulfate	0.42		
Acid-neutralizing capacity	None	Beckman Psi pH Meter (No. 123114); Corning Calomel Combination pH Electrode (No. 476530)	Two-point Gran titration with 50-mL sample aliquot and 0.005 N HCl titrant. Within-aliquot stability (≤ 0.01 units/min.) obtained for endpoint determinations.
Silica	2.1	Technicon Autoanalyzer II	Colorimetric detection by molybdate blue technique.
Aluminum, total monomeric	1.2	Technicon Autoanalyzer II	Colorimetric detection with open-system samples by pyrocatechol violet technique.

Table 3. Results of ion-difference calculations

[Sums of anion and cation equivalents are in microequivalents per liter, rounded to the nearest whole number; depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; %, percent; minor differences between the % ion difference using the original laboratory data and that calculated using the data shown are the result of rounding]

Site	Depth	Sum anions	Sum cations	% ion difference
Paine Run watershed, sampled 09/22/1999				
1	36	183	196	-3.5
1	66	226	237	-2.3
1	97	487	488	-0.1
2	36	135	236	-27
2	66	289	307	-3.0
2	97	217	222	-1.0
3	36	350	399	-6.6
3	97	188	196	-1.9
Paine Run watershed, sampled 01/11/2000				
1	36	213	238	-5.7
2	36	138	221	-23
2	66	231	241	-2.1
2	97	155	160	-1.4
3	36	305	344	-6.0
3	97	148	150	-0.5
Paine Run watershed, sampled 04/28/2000				
1	97	187	196	-2.5
2	36	125	216	-27
2	66	218	229	-2.3
2	97	159	167	-2.4
3	36	146	153	-2.3
3	97	320	358	-5.6
Paine Run watershed, sampled 07/28/2000				
1	36	603	844	-17
1	97	159	167	-2.4
2	66	198	225	-6.4
Staunton River watershed, sampled 09/26/1999				
1	36	432	472	-4.4
2	36	392	413	-2.6
2	66	380	391	-1.5
2	97	293	303	-1.6
3	36	421	440	-2.2
3	66	400	420	-2.4

Table 3. Results of ion-difference calculations—Continued

[Sums of anion and cation equivalents are in microequivalents per liter, rounded to the nearest whole number; depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; %, percent; minor differences between the % ion difference using the original laboratory data and that calculated using the data shown are the result of rounding]

Site	Depth	Sum anions	Sum cations	% ion difference
Staunton River watershed, sampled 01/11/2000				
1	36	272	285	-2.4
1	66	305	322	-2.8
2	66	243	249	-1.2
2	97	209	211	-0.5
3	66	281	284	-0.5
Staunton River watershed, sampled 04/29/2000				
1	36	285	297	-2.2
1	66	242	257	-3.0
1	97	320	398	-11
2	36	292	314	-3.7
2	66	249	256	-1.4
2	97	183	189	-1.6
3	36	267	275	-1.4
Staunton River watershed, sampled 07/28/2000				
2	36	560	552	0.7
Piney River watershed, sampled 10/18/1999				
1	36	344	402	-7.7
1	66	350	392	-5.7
1	97	2,779	3,346	-9.3
2	36	438	456	-2.0
2	97	1,210	1,519	-11
3	36	229	314	-16
3	66	836	866	-1.8
3	97	304	313	-1.5
Piney River watershed, sampled 01/11/2000				
1	36	309	346	-5.7
1	66	322	337	-2.3
1	97	457	493	-3.8
2	36	351	380	-3.9
2	97	650	947	-19
3	36	182	241	-14
3	97	265	276	-2.1
Piney River watershed, sampled 04/29/2000				
1	36	324	363	-5.6
1	66	290	306	-2.7
1	97	381	417	-4.5

Table 3. Results of ion-difference calculations—Continued

[Sums of anion and cation equivalents are in microequivalents per liter, rounded to the nearest whole number; depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; %, percent; minor differences between the % ion difference using the original laboratory data and that calculated using the data shown are the result of rounding]

Site	Depth	Sum anions	Sum cations	% ion difference
2	36	326	335	-1.4
2	97	429	485	-6.1
2	36	192	257	-15
3	66	383	403	-2.6
3	97	259	261	-0.5
Piney River watershed, sampled 07/28/2000				
1	36	372	440	-8.5
1	66	314	322	-1.1
1	97	440	492	-5.7
2	36	336	357	-3.1
2	97	677	763	-6.0
3	66	4,226	5,441	-13
3	97	685	868	-12

Table 4. Results of analysis of natural-matrix reference samples (FN09 and FN10)

[All concentrations in microequivalents per liter, except silica, which is in micromoles per liter, and aluminum, which is in micrograms per liter; %, percent; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate; SiO₂, silica; Al, total monomeric aluminum; target, the mean of the median concentration values reported for each interlaboratory round-robin study in which the natural-matrix reference sample was included (minimum of three round-robin studies) prior to use by the University of Virginia Shenandoah Watershed Study laboratory]

Summary statistics	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	SiO ₂	Al
FN09									
Number of samples	1	2	1	2	14	15	15	19	8
Mean	110	11.5	254	65.6	114	12.7	137	71.3	24.6
Standard deviation	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.08	0.87	0.08	0.87	0.64	2.80
Target	113	12.0	251	64.2	112	17.1	132	67.6	13.0
% difference from target	-2.7	-4.2	1.2	2.2	1.8	-25.7	3.8	5.5	89.2
FN10									
Number of samples	2	2	2	2	14	15	14	16	6
Mean	24.6	8.0	88.4	24.5	9.0	14.9	125	61.0	163
Standard deviation	0.30	0.01	1.00	0.12	0.18	0.11	0.35	0.45	8.56
Target	24.8	8.2	90.8	23.9	8.5	14.3	118	57.6	158
% difference from target	-0.8	-2.4	-2.6	2.5	5.9	4.2	5.9	5.9	3.2

Table 5. Results of analysis of synthetic-matrix reference samples (EPA1)

[All concentrations in microequivalents per liter; %, percent; NO₃⁻, nitrate; NH₄⁺, ammonium; target, the theoretical concentration value]

Summary statistics	NO ₃ ⁻	NH ₄ ⁺
Number of samples	15	20
Mean	12.8	9.8
Standard deviation	0.13	0.40
Target	12.9	10.7
% difference from target	-0.8	-8.4

Table 6. Results of laboratory-split analyses of selected soil-water samples

[All concentrations in microequivalents per liter; depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; n.a., not analyzed; b.d., below minimum analytical detection limit; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; NH₄⁺, ammonium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate]

Site	Depth	Date sampled	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻
Samples collected from Paine Run watershed										
3	97	09/22/99	25.9	81.7	38.9	49.1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
3	97	09/22/99	27.6	84.7	40.2	47.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
3	97	01/11/00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	19.6	6.6	115
3	97	01/11/00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	19.5	6.5	115
3	36	04/28/00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	b.d.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
3	36	04/28/00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	b.d.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Samples collected from Staunton River watershed										
2	66	09/26/99	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.3	b.d.	181
2	66	09/26/99	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.1	0.15	181
1	36	01/11/00	31.8	18.0	141	93.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1	36	01/11/00	34.1	18.9	142	92.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
3	97	04/29/00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
3	97	04/29/00	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	1.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Samples collected from Piney River watershed										
1	36	10/18/99	28.8	77.3	174	122	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1	36	10/18/99	30.7	76.0	174	116	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
3	97	10/18/99	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	39.4	59.1	226
3	97	10/18/99	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	39.3	58.9	225
2	66	04/29/00	46.3	22.0	285	132	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
2	66	04/29/00	47.6	22.9	278	130	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Table 7. Results of process-blank analyses

[All concentrations in microequivalents per liter, except silica, which is in micromoles per liter, and aluminum, which is in micrograms per liter; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; NH₄⁺, ammonium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate, ANC, acid-neutralizing capacity; SiO₂, silica; Al, total monomeric aluminum]

Summary statistics	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	ANC	SiO ₂	Al
Number of samples	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Mean	-0.04	-0.01	-0.10	0.08	0.01	0.25	-0.02	0.83	-1.9	0.31	2.4
Minimum analytical detection limit	0.06	0.27	0.66	0.30	0.60	0.24	0.06	0.42	none	2.1	1.2
Standard deviation	0.06	0.15	0.20	0.15	0.20	0.13	0.02	0.14	1.56	0.30	1.16
Standard error	0.03	0.07	0.10	0.08	0.10	0.07	0.01	0.07	0.78	0.15	0.58

Table 8. Results for National Water Research Institute interlaboratory quality-assurance studies

[A, acceptable; N, no results; 1, although no results are flagged, ranking indicates a slight bias low; 2, although no results are flagged, ranking indicates a slight bias low; after these results were submitted, the ion chromatography column used for chloride analyses was replaced; 3, acceptable, except for high on 1 out of 10 samples; 4, although no results are flagged, ranking indicates a slight bias high; 5, flagged very high on 1 out of 10 samples, due to a calculation error made after analysis; 6, 2 out of 10 samples flagged: one extremely low, one low; 7, 2 out of 10 samples flagged: both very low; 8, flagged extremely low on 1 out of 10 samples; SC, specific conductance; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; NH₄⁺, ammonium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate, ANC, acid-neutralizing capacity; SiO₂, silica]

Study date	pH	SC	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	ANC	SiO ₂
05/10/94	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	N	A
01/15/95	A	1	A	A	A	4	A	2	A	A	A	3
09/05/95	A	A	A	A	A	A	N	A	A	A	A	A
09/01/96	A	A	5	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
09/02/97	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
09/01/98	A	A	A	A	A	A	6	A	A	A	A	A
09/01/99	A	A	A	A	A	A	7	A	A	A	A	A
08/28/00	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	8

Table 9. Water-quality data of soil-water samples collected from Paine Run watershed, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, 1999-2000

[Depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; SC, specific conductance in microsiemens per centimeter at 25°C; all concentrations in microequivalents per liter, except for silica, which is in micromoles per liter and total monomeric aluminum, which is in micrograms per liter; b.d., below minimum analytical detection limit; -, insufficient sample for analysis; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; NH₄⁺, ammonium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate, ANC, acid-neutralizing capacity; SiO₂, silica; Al, total monomeric aluminum]

Site	Depth	SC	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	ANC	SiO ₂	Al
Lysimeters sampled 09/22/1999													
1	36	24.8	28.6	52.2	54.5	59.9	0.67	6.20	4.8	123	48.6	85.7	82.1
1	66	33.0	29.2	78.6	66.9	61.7	b.d.	26.6	15.3	157	27.2	103	5.2
1	97	66.0	46.1	143	135	164	b.d.	49.0	309	111	17.2	117	48.0
2	36	30.3	24.4	49.4	111	50.0	0.89	7.50	0.06	111	15.7	101	562
2	66	41.0	26.8	78.9	126	74.4	b.d.	39.7	0.87	216	32.2	137	46.6
2	97	30.5	32.0	70.6	61.8	56.3	1.0	40.4	2.9	136	38.6	126	5.9
3	36	51.0	61.5	125	98.7	114	b.d.	55.8	0.06	258	35.6	169	147
3	66	-	92.1	77.5	65.4	60.1	1.6	31.5	1.6	172	-	149	25.7
3	97	27.0	25.9	81.7	38.9	49.1	b.d.	19.0	21.9	117	30.6	95.8	41.3
Lysimeters sampled 01/11/2000													
1	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	97	32.3	23.2	62.8	50.4	68.8	33.1	20.6	34.4	139	18.6	80.2	8.7
2	36	30.2	18.0	45.7	104	47.7	6.0	11.4	0.47	126	0.74	64.7	393
2	66	33.7	18.9	56.4	110	55.8	b.d.	38.4	0.95	185	7.2	77.8	109
2	97	21.5	19.4	48.3	54.3	37.4	b.d.	26.6	2.8	110	15.3	75.9	32.0
3	36	46.5	39.2	115	78.3	110	b.d.	58.7	b.d.	239	7.5	116	258
3	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	97	22.1	20.0	59.8	24.7	45.1	b.d.	19.6	6.6	115	7.2	77.2	93.5
Lysimeters sampled 04/28/2000													
1	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	97	27.5	21.9	62.6	46.2	64.9	0.83	20.4	29.2	128	8.6	81.4	44.5
2	36	28.6	15.0	43.5	113	43.9	b.d.	15.8	0.08	103	6.2	66.5	496
2	66	33.1	20.1	60.1	101	47.5	b.d.	34.0	1.8	175	7.2	81.0	119
2	97	23.5	24.7	53.7	53.4	35.1	b.d.	36.8	0.06	105	17.2	80.2	37.8
3	36	22.2	21.6	70.3	21.5	39.4	b.d.	28.3	1.1	106	10.4	88.9	67.7
3	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	97	49.9	44.6	146	71.6	96.0	b.d.	73.9	0.06	236	10.4	131	246
Lysimeters sampled 07/28/2000													
1	36	75.9	26.3	82.0	366	85.6	284	17.1	0.45	77.0	508	61.1	20.7
1	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	97	24.3	31.8	56.4	35.6	42.9	b.d.	22.2	b.d.	116	20.0	110	9.1
2	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	66	30.5	29.8	57.5	93.7	44.2	b.d.	14.0	5.0	160	18.6	109	37.7
2	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 10. Water-quality data of soil-water samples collected from Staunton River watershed, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, 1999-2000

[Depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; SC, specific conductance in microsiemens per centimeter at 25°C; all concentrations in microequivalents per liter, except for silica, which is in micromoles per liter and total monomeric aluminum, which is in micrograms per liter; b.d., below minimum analytical detection limit; -, insufficient sample for analysis; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; NH₄⁺, ammonium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate, ANC, acid-neutralizing capacity; SiO₂, silica; Al, total monomeric aluminum]

Site	Depth	SC	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	ANC	SiO ₂	Al
Lysimeters sampled 09/26/1999													
1	36	50.4	78.1	23.3	233	137	0.67	21.9	0.60	216	194	99.6	6.4
1	66	-	134	22.9	273	153	0.94	47.8	3.3	140	-	195	17.5
1	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	36	48.8	43.7	26.8	230	112	b.d.	5.7	b.d.	271	115	66.8	3.9
2	66	45.4	49.5	38.6	202	101	b.d.	40.3	b.d.	181	159	85.5	3.2
2	97	34.1	59.9	18.5	148	75.4	1.1	37.1	4.0	112	140	109	4.1
3	36	48.3	77.7	25.5	229	106	1.4	14.4	1.0	205	201	111	3.3
3	66	47.2	84.9	32.9	201	99.9	1.3	38.2	4.3	164	194	124	11.7
3	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lysimeters sampled 01/11/2000													
1	36	34.6	31.8	18.0	141	93.5	0.61	27.9	b.d.	183	60.7	47.4	3.8
1	66	34.1	50.6	10.1	168	92.7	0.89	18.4	0.40	121	165	110	4.2
1	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	66	30.3	25.2	18.6	139	66.0	b.d.	11.6	0.27	146	85.4	60.0	2.6
2	97	24.8	34.8	9.5	110	56.1	b.d.	16.9	b.d.	115	76.9	87.5	4.2
3	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	66	33.9	37.7	22.5	152	71.7	b.d.	15.1	6.6	159	100	82.4	4.1
3	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lysimeters sampled 04/29/2000													
1	36	34.4	26.5	20.5	176	74.3	b.d.	17.2	3.9	165	98.6	57.6	9.8
1	66	31.1	31.4	23.6	139	63.3	b.d.	16.2	9.0	153	63.6	75.1	b.d.
1	97	43.8	40.9	20.0	242	89.5	5.8	25.7	51.2	138	105	93.0	b.d.
2	36	36.7	23.1	23.3	180	88.0	b.d.	18.7	b.d.	192	80.6	48.2	2.2
2	66	23.4	26.8	21.6	143	64.2	b.d.	19.5	17.1	137	75.4	64.5	b.d.
2	97	28.5	32.2	10.1	97.7	49.1	b.d.	11.6	b.d.	114	57.2	82.0	b.d.
3	36	34.5	32.7	19.9	134	86.4	1.3	17.9	22.9	169	56.9	49.8	b.d.
3	66	34.7	45.7	11.9	167	88.0	-	29.7	0.18	115	152	107	3.1
3	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lysimeters sampled 07/28/2000													
1	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	36	69.7	65.9	43.1	223	106	114	29.6	9.6	192	328	103	22.5
2	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	66	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	97	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 11. Water-quality data of soil-water samples collected from Piney River watershed, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, 1999-2000

[Depth, depth of sample below land surface in centimeters; SC, specific conductance in microsiemens per centimeter at 25°C; all concentrations in microequivalents per liter, except for silica, which is in micromoles per liter and total monomeric aluminum, which is in micrograms per liter; b.d., below minimum analytical detection limit; –, insufficient sample for analysis; Na⁺, sodium; K⁺, potassium; Ca²⁺, calcium; Mg²⁺, magnesium; NH₄⁺, ammonium; Cl⁻, chloride; NO₃⁻, nitrate; SO₄²⁻, sulfate, ANC, acid-neutralizing capacity; SiO₂, silica; Al, total monomeric aluminum]

Site	Depth	SC	Na ⁺	K ⁺	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	NH ₄ ⁺	Cl ⁻	NO ₃ ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	ANC	SiO ₂	Al
Lysimeters sampled 10/18/1999													
1	36	46.4	28.8	77.3	174	122	b.d.	12.9	b.d.	210	121	97.1	15.3
1	66	46.3	30.8	39.8	203	118	b.d.	20.4	b.d.	244	85.7	120	1.2
1	97	319	80.9	146	1,209	405	1,505	60.1	b.d.	143	2,576	123	51.8
2	36	56.3	56.3	64.8	181	154	b.d.	28.3	b.d.	335	74.4	158	2.7
2	66	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2	97	135	47.0	103	940	270	158	31.0	b.d.	55.6	1,123	118	34.6
3	36	33.8	31.7	61.4	108	112	b.d.	16.9	b.d.	101	111	86.1	89.0
3	66	100	47.6	57.3	253	189	319	39.4	59.1	226	511	143	8.3
3	97	39.0	36.6	46.3	95.4	134	b.d.	33.6	b.d.	192	77.5	141	3.0
Lysimeters sampled 01/11/2000													
1	36	40.8	23.5	62.3	152	108	b.d.	30.1	b.d.	200	78.6	78.0	49.2
1	66	41.8	23.4	35.0	176	101	1.1	27.6	0.79	235	58.6	87.0	1.2
1	97	52.5	22.6	10.3	339	119	1.3	19.3	14.6	197	225	122	13.6
2	36	47.8	39.0	40.1	167	132	1.8	29.4	b.d.	293	28.2	115	4.1
2	66	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2	97	77.7	41.6	21.7	675	177	32.0	21.7	4.9	156	468	127	21.8
3	36	26.5	21.0	44.1	85.7	89.0	1.4	25.4	0.71	83.1	72.9	67.9	122
3	66	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	97	35.3	28.4	37.0	81.8	129	b.d.	24.3	1.3	198	41.5	113	6.0
Lysimeters sampled 04/29/2000													
1	36	44.2	25.1	64.6	161	113	b.d.	34.0	0.06	204	86.5	86.0	22.0
1	66	37.6	21.7	37.1	158	89.0	b.d.	23.4	2.1	199	65.4	89.7	3.3
1	97	46.8	24.1	13.2	288	92.0	b.d.	27.7	b.d.	170	184	116	8.4
2	36	42.7	31.6	40.8	144	118	b.d.	33.7	b.d.	251	40.4	118	3.3
2	66	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2	97	49.2	46.3	22.0	285	132	b.d.	27.4	b.d.	136	266	125	14.2
3	36	28.6	20.1	48.3	92.8	95.7	b.d.	25.4	0.27	89.8	76.5	65.5	104
3	66	48.7	33.5	24.3	198	148	b.d.	35.9	b.d.	241	105	113	2.9
3	97	31.8	29.1	36.0	72.4	124	b.d.	28.1	2.6	186	42.2	114	b.d.
Lysimeters sampled 07/28/2000													
1	36	48.5	39.2	58.6	176	131	35.7	20.2	b.d.	185	167	124	19.4
1	66	41.1	34.2	32.3	146	79.3	30.1	19.8	34.8	175	85.0	143	1.8
1	97	58.9	36.2	27.7	301	105	23.2	34.3	91.9	172	142	154	10.3
2	36	48.4	46.6	37.1	147	117	9.8	20.6	b.d.	235	80.0	169	4.9
2	66	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2	97	75.7	52.9	49.9	398	171	91.1	21.3	0.21	141	514	172	16.6
3	36	5,675	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
3	66	442	86.6	342	2,632	974	1,407	57.7	0.26	195	3,973	81.8	38.1
3	97	94.5	45.8	148	339	254	80.4	29.7	138	234	283	125	32.0