

Derivation of Leaching fraction calculation including rainfall

The Leaching Fraction (LF) equation used in the calculation of Nitrate -nitrogen loading to the ground water is:

$$LF = [C_{li} \cdot ET \cdot 10^{-6} - C_{lc} - V_r(C_{li} - C_{lr}) \cdot 10^{-6}] / [E_t \cdot C_{lp} \cdot 10^{-6} - C_{lc} - V_r \cdot (C_{li} - C_{lr}) \cdot 10^{-6}]$$

Where:

LF= Leaching Fraction.

ET= Seasonal evapotranspiration (kg/ha).

C_{li}= Chloride concentration in the irrigation water (mg/l)

C_{lp}= Chloride concentration in the percolating water below the crop root zone (mg/l).

C_{lc}= Amount of chloride taken up by the crop (kg/ha).

V_r=volume of rainfall Kg/ha

C_{lr}= chloride of rainfall(mg/l)

The equation is derived using the definition of leaching fraction and the mass balance equation for chloride

The Leaching Fraction (LF) is defined as:

$$LF = V_p / V_i + V_r \dots (1)$$

where:

V_p: Volume of percolating water below the crop root zone (l).

V_i: Volume of irrigation water

V_r Volume of rainfall or water supplied from a second source of irrigation water. (i.e. surface water source 1 ground water source 2 both having different chloride content)

Volume of the irrigation plus rainfall is:

$$V_r + V_i = V_p + ET$$

$$V_i = V_p + ET - V_r \dots (2)$$

where ET is seasonal evapotranspiration (l)

Substituting eq.2 into eq. 1 and solving for V_p results in eq 3.

$$V_p = [LF \cdot ET] / [1 - LF] \dots (3)$$

**By Mass balance under steady state conditions, the chloride input equals the chloride output
input=output**

$$C_{li} \cdot V_i + C_{lr} \cdot V_r = C_{lp} \cdot V_p + C_{lc} \dots (4)$$

Substitute eq 2 into 4 and solve for V_p

$$C_{li}(V_p + ET - V_r) + C_{lr} \cdot V_r = C_{lp} \cdot V_p + C_{lc}$$

$$C_{li} \cdot V_p + C_{li} \cdot ET - C_{li} \cdot V_r + C_{lr} \cdot V_r = C_{lp} \cdot V_p + C_{lc}$$

$$C_{li} \cdot V_p - C_{lp} \cdot V_p = C_{lc} - C_{lr} \cdot V_r + C_{li} \cdot V_r - C_{li} \cdot ET$$

$$V_p = C_{lc} - C_{lr} \cdot V_r + C_{li} \cdot V_r - C_{li} \cdot ET / C_{li} - C_{lp} \dots (4)$$

Take eq. 3 and substitute into equation 4

$$LF*ET/1-LF= Clc-Clr*Vr+Cli*Vr-Cli*Et/ Cli-Clp$$

$$:LF*Et(Cli-Clp)=(1-LF)(Clc-Clr*Vr+Cli*Vr-Cli*Et)$$

$$(LF*Et*Cli) - (LF*ET*Clp)= Clc-(LF*Clc)-(Clr*Vr)+(LF*Clr*Vr)+(Cli*Vr)-(LF*Cli*Vr)-(Cli*Et)+(LF*Cli*ET)$$

Simplify remove left and right side $LF*Et*Cli$

$$- (LF*ET*Clp)= Clc-(LF*Clc)-(Clr*Vr)+(LF*Clr*Vr)+(Cli*Vr)-(LF*Cli*Vr)-(Cli*Et)+(LF*Cli*ET)$$

move terms with Lf on left side

$$-(LF*ET*Clp)+(LF*Clc)-(LF*Clr*Vr)+(Lf*Cli*Vr)= Clc- (Clr*Vr)+(Cli*Vr)- (Cli*ET)$$

$$Lf(-ET*Clp+Clc- (Clr*Vr)+(Cli*Vr))= Clc+Vr(Cli-Clr)-Cli*Et$$

$$LF= Clc+Vr(Cli-Clr) - Cli*ET/ (Cli*Vr) - (Clr*Vr) -ET*Clp+Clc$$

Multiple numerator and denominator by - sign

$$LF= Cli*ET-Clc- Vr(Cli-Clr)/ Et* Clp - Clc -Vr*(Cli-Clr) eq. 5$$

$$LF= [Cli*ET10^{-6}-Clc- Vr(Cli-Clr)10^{-6}]/[Et* Clp10^{-6} - Clc -Vr*(Cli-Clr)10^{-6}]eq. 6$$

ET and Vr and Clc in units of Kg/ha and Cli , Clr, and Clp are in units of (mg/l)