

# Monitoring and modeling of nitrogen leaching caused by nitrogen fertilizer application to green tea fields in Japan

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## Background

1970s ~

Large amounts of nitrogen fertilizer was applied to tea fields.

→ Nitrate leaching, nitrous oxide emissions,  
and soil acidification

In the late 1990s ~

The amount of fertilizer applied has been reduced to address these problems.

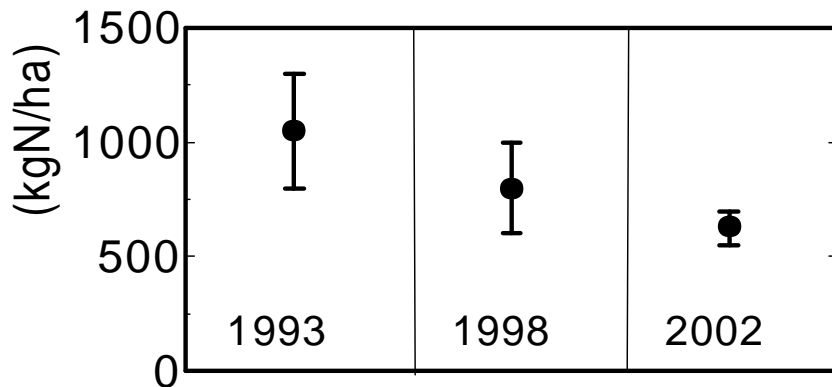


➤ The objectives of this study is:

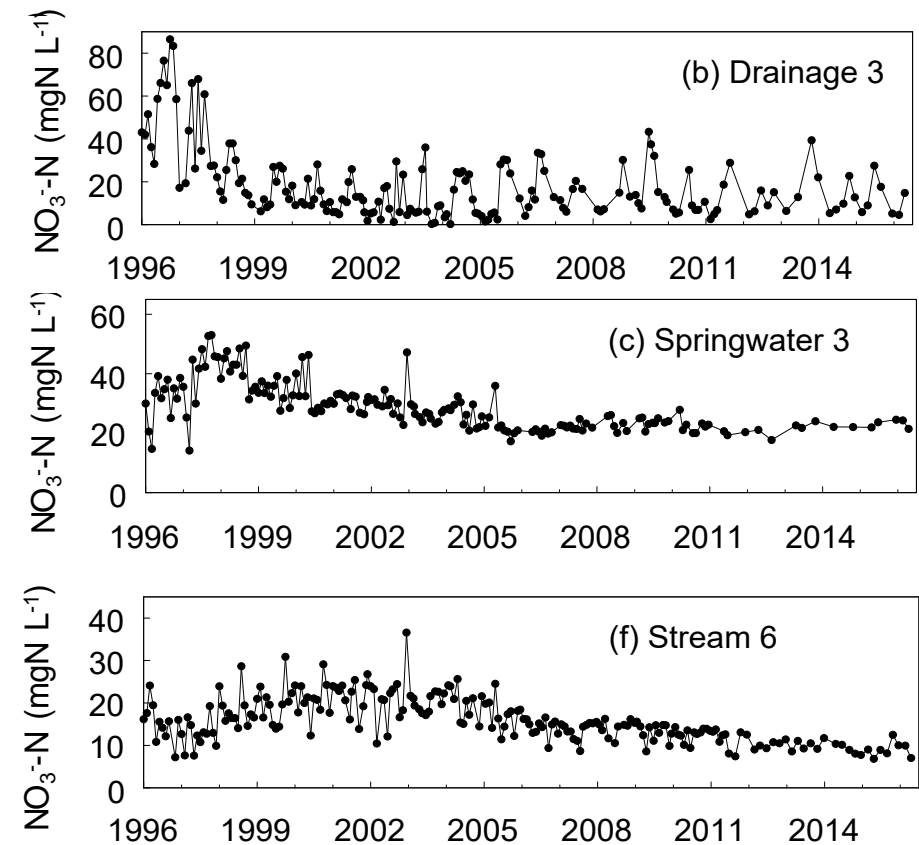
- (i) To reveal how the reduction of N use influences local water quality.
- (ii) To model the N leaching from green tea fields.

# Changes in $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ concentrations in water systems around an intensive tea-growing area

- $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$  concentrations successively improved in the first decade of the study by reduction of N input to tea fields.
- The  $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$  concentration changes at drainage and spring water sites reach a steady state in the second decade because the fertilizer application rates leveled off in this area.



Changes in annual N application rates in green tea fields.

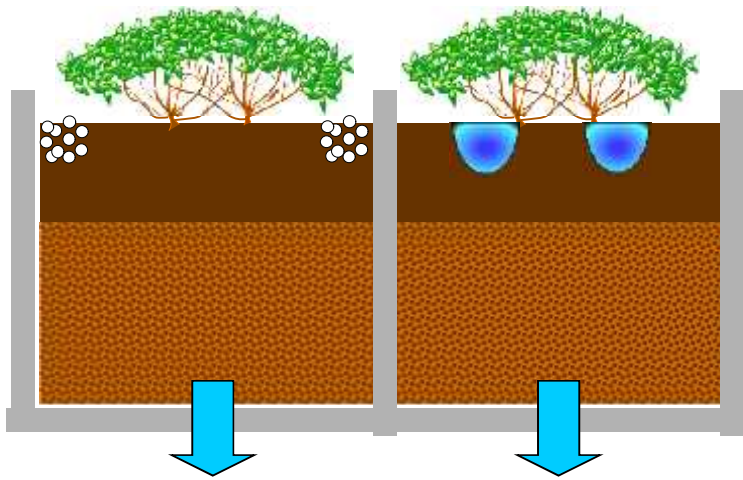


# Modeling of N leaching from green tea fields

## ➤ Lysimeter experiment

### Methods of fertilizer application

#### Conventional      Fertigation



The amount of leachate  
 $\text{NH}_4\text{-N}$  and  $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$  concentrations

## ➤ Simulation using one dimensional water and solute transport model (HYDRUS-1D, Šim nek et al., 2013)

