

# **Alternative Method To Remove Nitrate And Phosphorus From Waste Water Based On A Swedish Invention And Used In Denmark, Germany, Holland, Austria, New Zealand, Australia, China...**

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## References

- Bibbi Söderberg idea and design.
- Swedish Department of Environment.
- BB Innovation&Co Dubbletten design.([www.dubbletten.nu](http://www.dubbletten.nu))
- Wost Man Ecology AB.([www.wost-man-ecology.se](http://www.wost-man-ecology.se))
- EAWAG, Swiss Federal Institut for Environmental science and Technology/ Novaquatis

# What Do We Know About Sewage and Nutrients?

	URINE	FECES	<b>OTHER SOURCES</b> Laundry, Shower, dishwasher,kitchen wastes
<b>NITROGEN</b>	<b>80% to 90%</b>	<b>10% to 20%</b>	<b>+/- 5%</b>
<b>PHOSPHORUS</b>	<b>45% to 65%</b>	<b>35% to 50%</b>	<b>+/- 5%</b>
<b>POTASSIUM</b>	<b>60% to 80%</b>	<b>10% to 20%</b>	

# What Do We Know About Urine ?

Also Called Yellow Water

- Human being discharge .33 gallons/ 1.25 liters of urine per day. (Gutt Tornsens 1978 study system design master class part II and personal testing).
- A family of four people discharge about 1.33 gallons of urine per day/ 5 liters per day.
- A family of three people discharge about 1 gallon of urine per day/ 3.76 liters per day.
- Urine represents less than 1% of our total sewage.



# Three different styles of urine diverting toilet/NoMix toilet



# Study By NOVAQUATIS

## A Branch of EAWAG

Swiss Federal Institute Of Aquatic Science And Technology

### 4 Projects From 1997 to 2006

NoMix toilet is a urine diverting toilet

- Private apartment  
4 apartments with NoMix toilet  
For household measurements  
Urine collected 1<sup>st</sup> year 60% to 75%
- EAWAG office building  
Government building  
For institutional setting with  
well-educated participants  
Urine collected 1<sup>st</sup> year > 90%
- Vocational college 2004/2006  
university of applied science of  
northwest Switzerland  
3 NoMix toilets, 6 waterless urinal
- Basel Landschaft cantonal library  
with 200 000 visitors per year. All  
toilets are NoMix/urine separator

# Acceptance From the Public

1750 persons surveyed:

- Well accepted and highly favorable
- 79% call it a great idea.
- 84% would move in residence with NoMix toilet.
- 72% would eat food fertilized with urine provided that health risk are excluded.

Public is prepared to give this unconventional technology a chance provided cost is affordable, meets modern sanitary and safety standards and problem occurred during testing are fixed.

# Problem Encountered

- Regular drain line blockage due to crystallization build up ( salt precipitation deposit) of waste. Fixed with bigger drain line and dilution. Advice 2" drain line and .15 liter/flush for dilution.
- Smell occurring with non diluted/waterless toilet. Fixed with dilution flushing toilet with water. .1 to .2 liter per flush. Better result with rain water (different mineralogy).
- Men may need to sit to urinate unless can aim properly.

Problems have been fixed with last generation of toilet manufactured in July 2008.

# TKN/ Nitrogen Input and Output With Urine Separator Toilet

	Input	80% reduction	Output (80% reduction at source + 30% denitrification in drainfield and soil)
Per Residence	29 Lbs/Yr.	-23 Lbs/Yr.	4.2 Lbs/Yr
Per person	10 Lbs/Yr.	-8 Lbs/Yr.	1.4 Lbs/Yr.

Calculation based on the Mactec/DOH Phase I study

# Disposal Solution For Yellow Water Tank

Mini passive system with denitrification for 2 gallons per day high concentration of TKN.

Mini performance base system.

Evaporation with coils/heating element with power supplied by 2 solar panels 5 hours of sunlight to evaporate 4 gallons at 250°F.  
Need to study redeposition of evaporated material.

Flower/plant bed with liner capable of absorbing 2 gallons of yellow water/day and resist pH 9.

Discharge yellow water inside 1500 gallons and collect once/year at time of inspection. Install auto dial with alarm system.

# Disposal Solution For Yellow Water Tank with Holding/Storage Tank

- 1500 gallons at 1.5 gallons/day gives 1000 days of storage.
- Treated by treatment plant (Need to check if facility can receive this form of high nutrients waste).
- Can recycle waste as fertilizer (phosphate, nitrate, potassium).
- No more phosphate mine in America in next 20/30 years  
reserve are in hostile countries but can be provided in recycling  
yellow water.

# Cost of Urine Separator

Standard toilet    \$ 200.00 Urine Separator    \$1000.00	Difference +\$ 800.00 per toilet X2 = \$ 1,600.00
Installation of 2 inches pvc schedule 40 at construction time / plumbing cost	Difference        + \$ 500.00
Installation of 1500 gallons holding tank with riser and concrete round cover resistant to pH 9	Difference        + \$2,500.00

**Total**

**\$ 4.600.00**



# Conclusion

- Very cost effective technology for nutrient removal.
- No technology can separate nitrate and phosphorus as efficiently and as cheaply as the urine diverting toilet.

[www.novaquatis.eawag.ch](http://www.novaquatis.eawag.ch)

[www.dubblatten.nu](http://www.dubblatten.nu)

[www.wost-man-ecology.se](http://www.wost-man-ecology.se)