

# Eco-friendly technique to make artificial spring water



NAKAMOTO Nobutada, Dr. Science  
Prof. Emeritus of Shinshu University, Japan



[http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member\\_lmttd/doc25.pdf](http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member_lmttd/doc25.pdf)

Previous Principal Engineer Regulatory of DWS, Mr. Manasa Biusaya passed away on the last April 3rd, 2018, almost one year ago at the age of 48 years.



After his retirement in 2017, he passed away in the last year.

Director of DWS, Mrs. Susana Pulini Valemei passed away on this January 3rd. 2019 at the age of 34 years.



20180807 Noumea, New Caledonia  
at Pacific Water and Wastewater  
Conference & Expo 2018

These two unexpected events are so sad in my mind, in our mind.  
I believe that they are watching Fijian EPS project from the heaven.

[http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member\\_lmtd/doc25.pdf](http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member_lmtd/doc25.pdf)

*At the first, I have to tell about my health problem.*

Early in the morning till midnight  
Wrestling with PC for a long time.

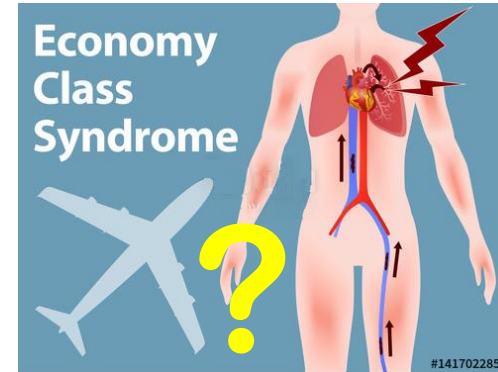
It does not move but  
it lasts for a long time.



Like a statue



Low  
back  
pain



Something smothery

Last  
December



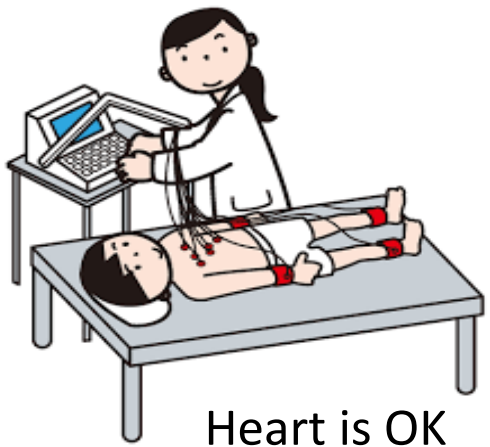
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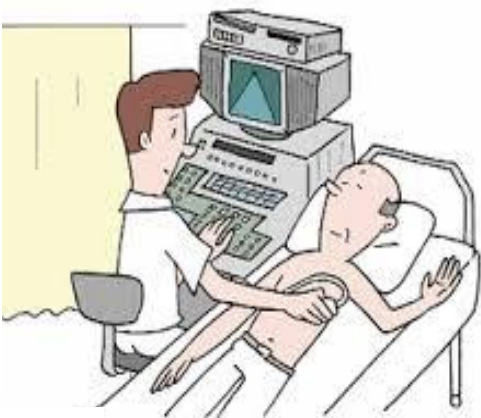


huh!

Lung function  
is 95 yrs.



Heart is OK



Lung is  
normal by CT

Cause  
unknown  
in Western  
medicine



Then,  
Acupuncture  
of Oriental  
medicine



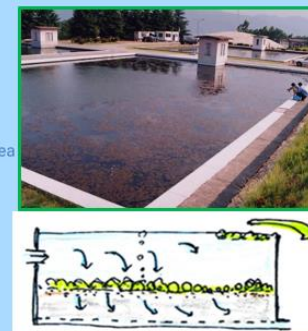
*Looks a  
little  
nice*

*It's not  
easy to  
recover  
my body*

*Then, I give up  
my travel in  
abroad.*



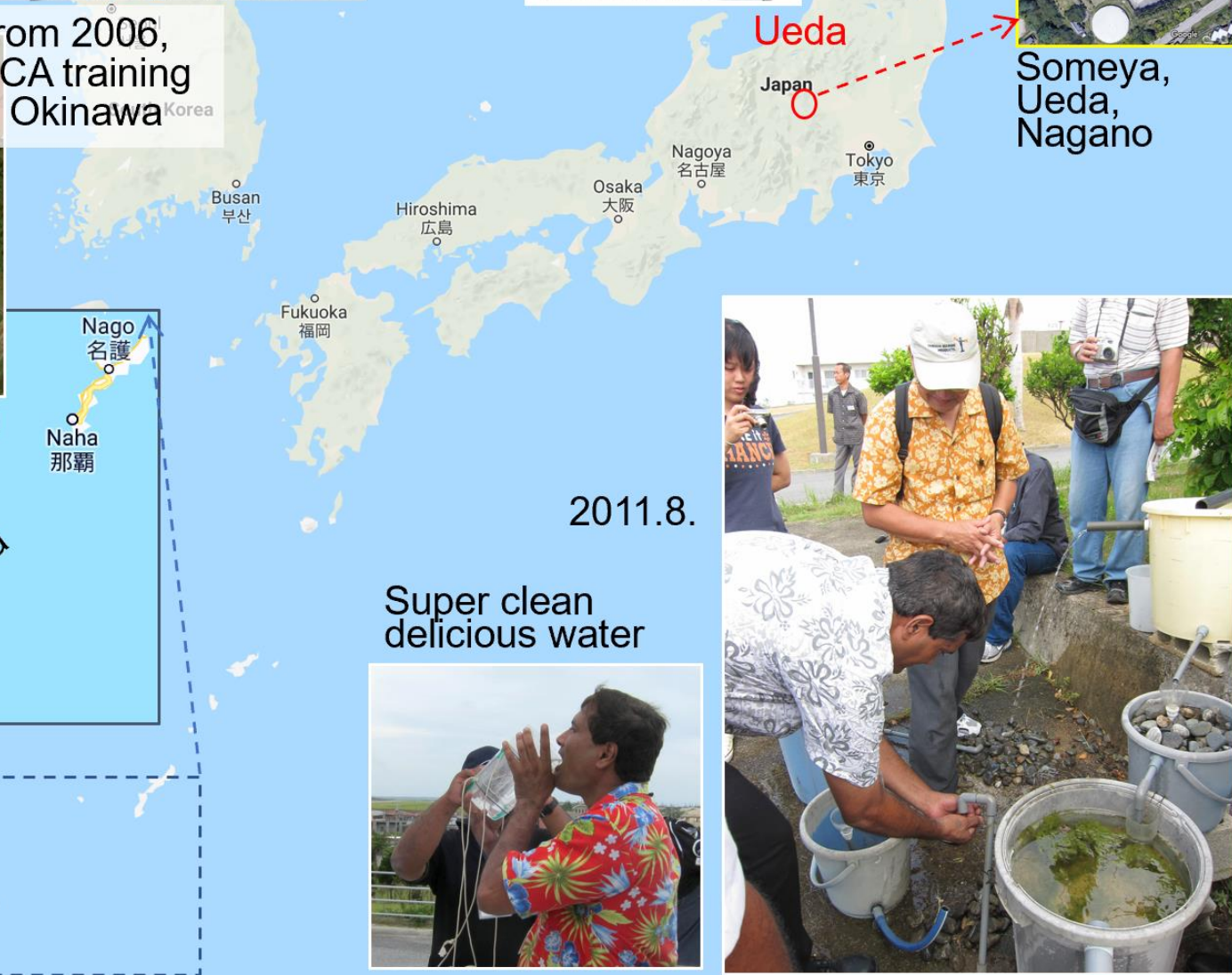




1984.4.~



From 2006,  
JICA training  
in Okinawa



Someya,  
Ueda,  
Nagano

2011.8.

Super clean  
delicious water





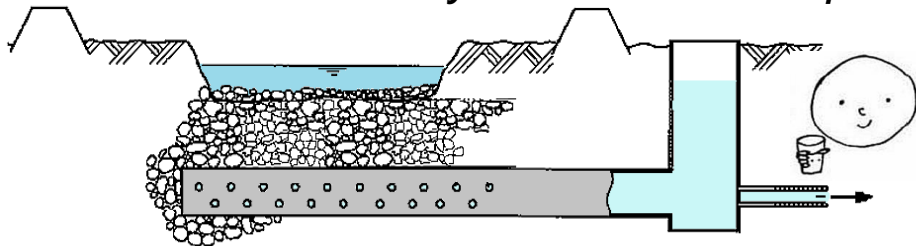
*Ueda city is located in the center of Japan where is surrounded by mountains.*



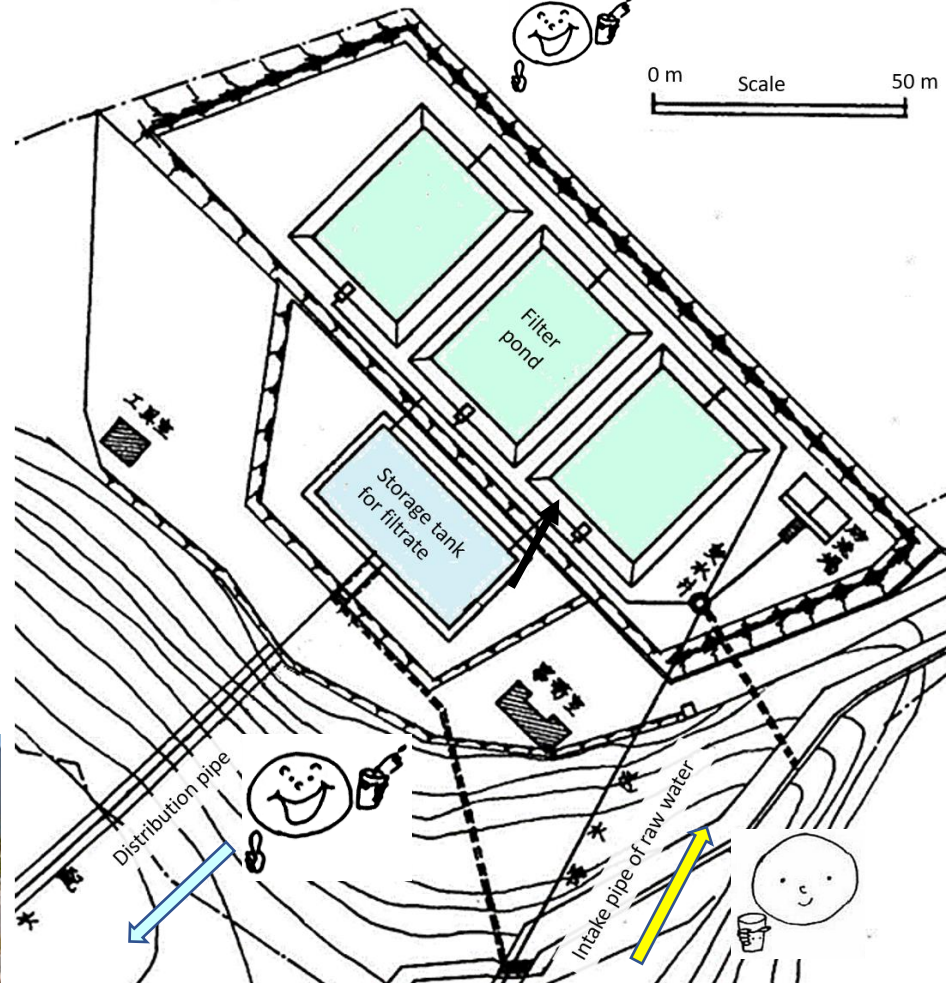
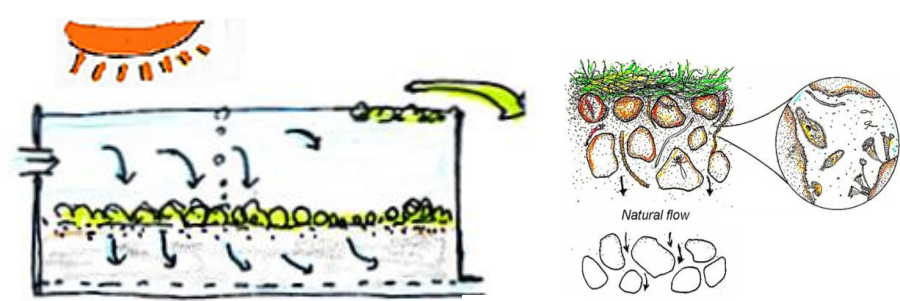




*Clear water is easily found in a flood plain.*



*Subsurface intake system is the best for raw water to a filter plant.*

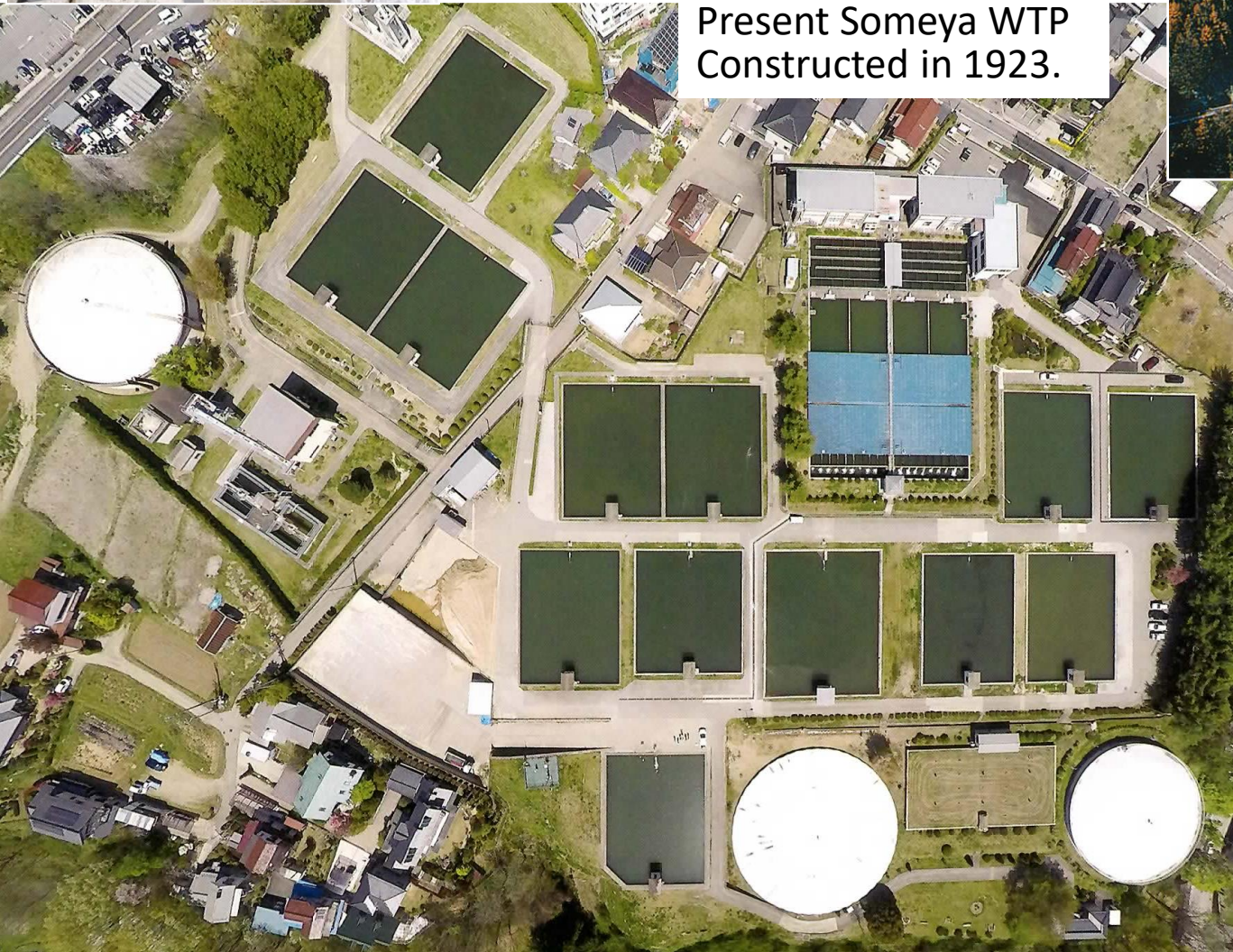


*Someya Filter plant was constructed in 1923 in Ueda city.*





Sugadaira reservoir was constructed in 1968.



Present Someya WTP Constructed in 1923.



Intake point was changed from the river Kangawa. This is present main water source.

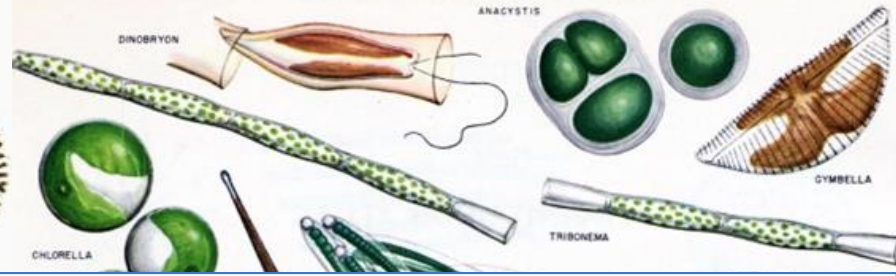


# ALGAE IMPORTANT IN WATER SUPPLIES

## TASTE AND ODOR ALGAE



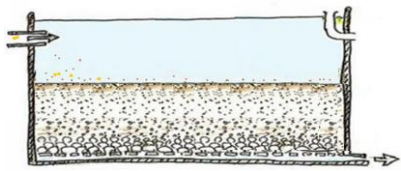
## FILTER CLOGGING ALGAE



*Algae had been trouble for the conventional filter (rapid sand filter) in US. Taste and odor algae, filter clogging algae are important in water supplies (Rapid Sand Filter).*



**Algicide**



**Mechanical filter**



*Algae grew well after the stop of the chemicals.*



*Filtrate became delicious.*



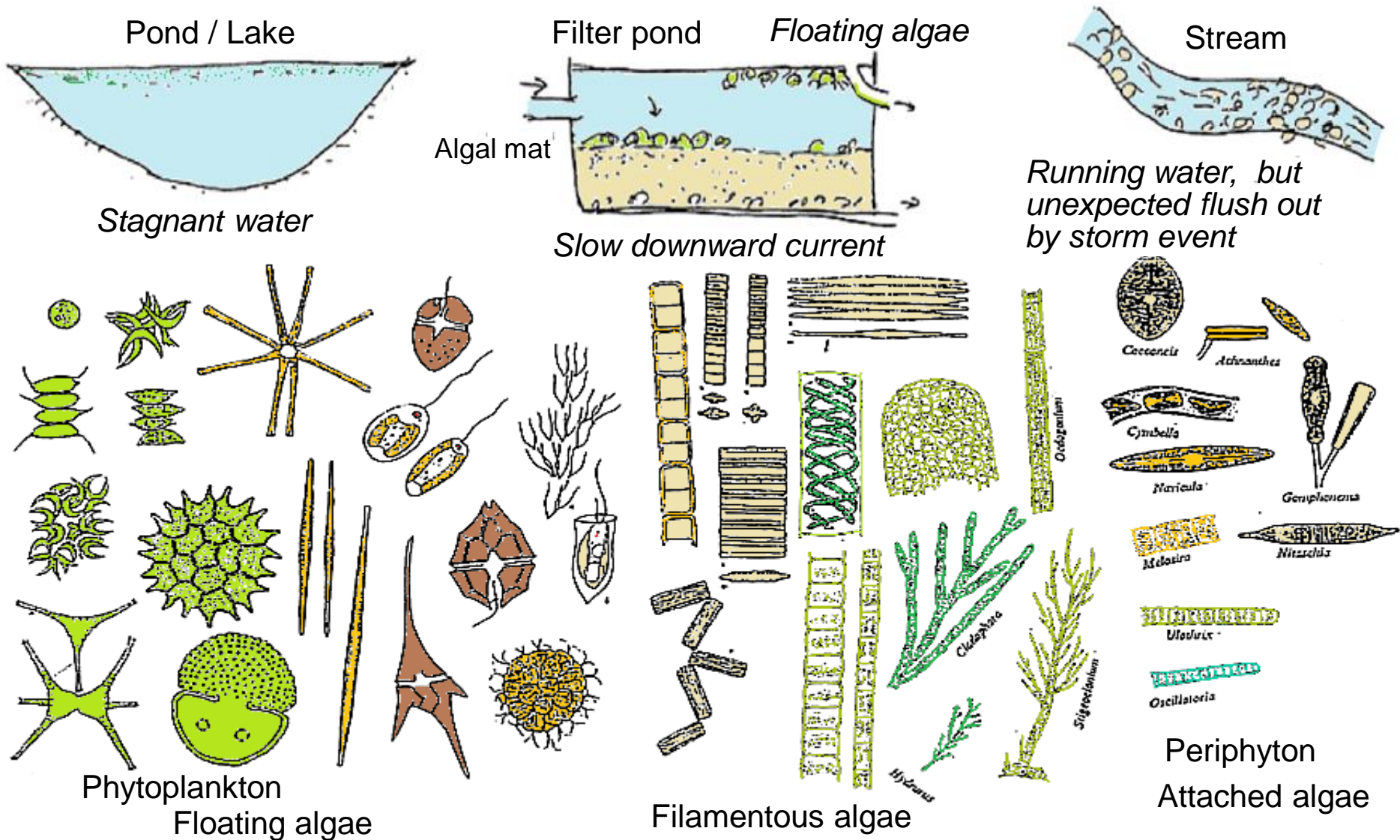
*After the construction of a reservoir, odor problem happened.*

*Dissolved odor substances are passed through the sand filter.*

*I studied "Role of algae in SSF" with my students from 1984.*

Filamentous algae dominate in a shallow slow sand filter pond.

Filter pond where is slow down-ward current is the suitable environment for filamentous algae.



Suitable algae grow in that environment. But this algae die in un-suitable site.

*Growth ⇒ death ⇒ algicide=bad smell (odor): don't kill algae*





*Clear surface water turns to muddy water by a storm event.*



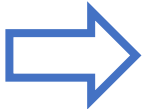
*Muddy water is something risky. This water is not suitable to drink directly.*

*River Chikuma in Ueda city.*





After heavy rain, river water change colour from clear water colour to brown



Mechanical Clean Up

After heavy rain, muddy soil washed away and flew into a river from the water catchments.



Small animals are washed away after heavy rain

Natural Water Purification by Biological Community.

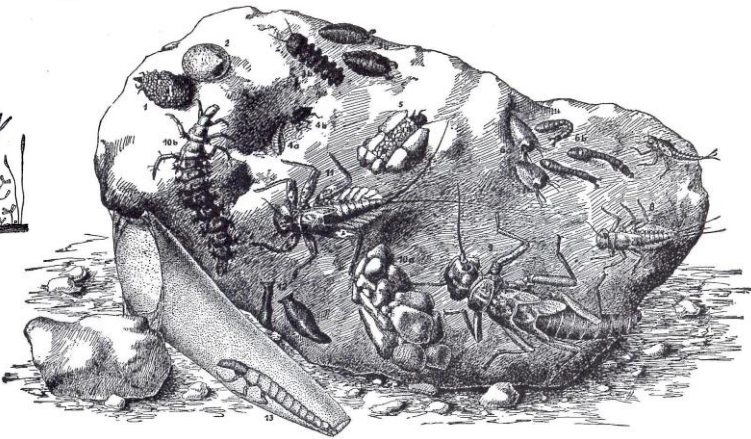
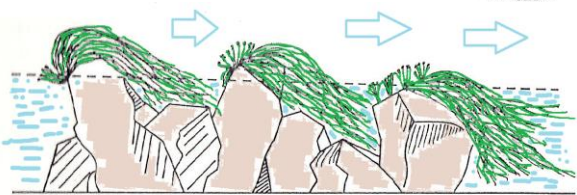
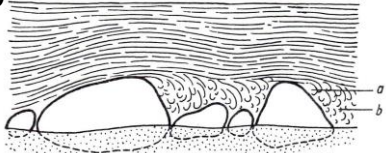


Sand, stone and rocks **don't** role and move in a small creak among dense forest.

When plants and animals do not flush out, water is always clear.



Small animals on the surface of rocks collect turbid matters.

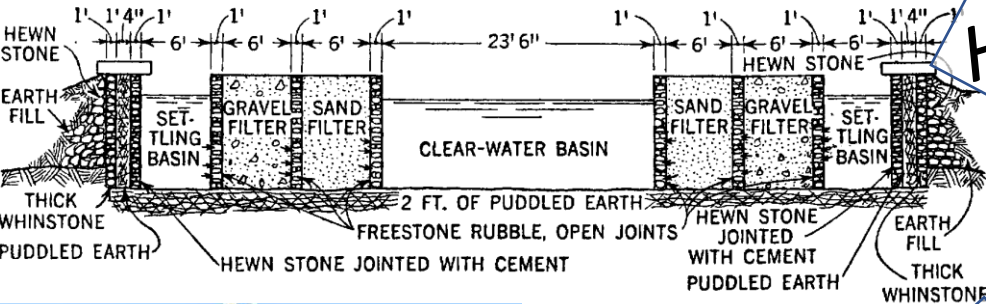




The history of the modern water purification system is only 200 years.

Origin of Slow Sand Filter

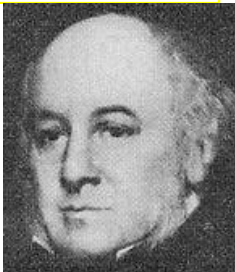
**John Gibb in Paisley near Glasgow, Scotland.**  
He made an artificial clear seepage water of the flood plain in 1804, in industrial period.



**James Simpson (1799-1869)**  
Chelsea Water Works Co.,  
in London: **1829.**



James Simpson made  
"2,000-mile inspection  
trip" all over the Britain.



**Original filter rate  
was 2-3 m/d (10cm/h).**

Horizontal

Vertical

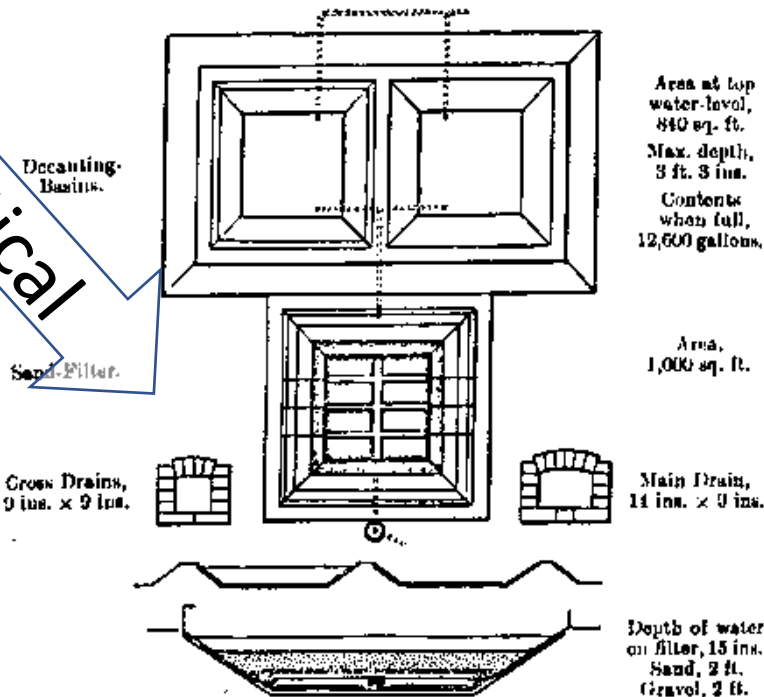


FIG. 28. JAMES SIMPSON'S EXPERIMENTAL FILTER OF 1827-1828



# THIS is FOOD CHAIN

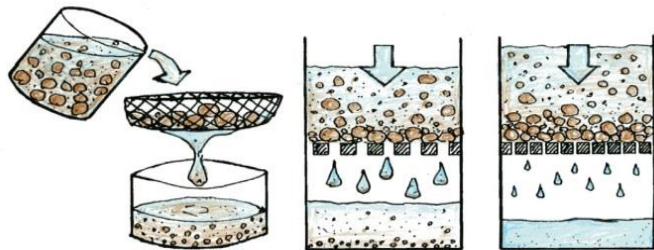
- 1) The present vertical type of slow sand filter provided safe drinking water, free of pathogens to residents in London.
- 2) Slow sand filter has been believed that it was a mechanical filter with fine sand under slow current.
- 3) However, the major contribution of the purification of the impurities is the food chain in this system.
- 4) The word of “**slow**” was “**gentle for organisms**”. Recently, “**Slow Sand Filter**” has been recognized as “**Ecological Purification System**” in Japan.

## *New Concept and New Name*

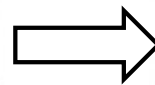
*Slow Sand Filter* → *Biological Filter* → **Ecological Purification System**

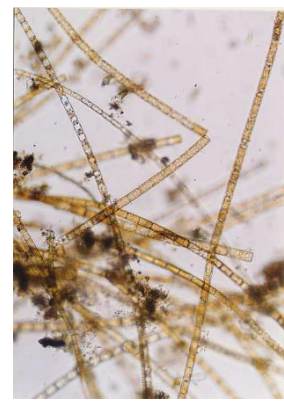
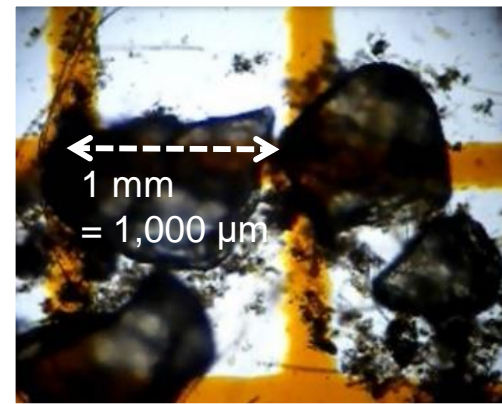
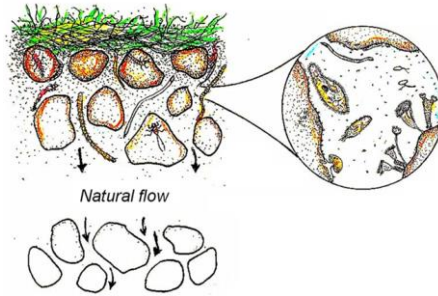
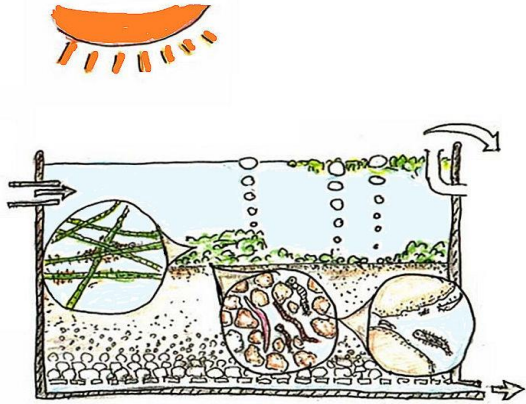
**Short time work**

**Long term action**

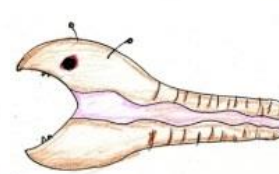
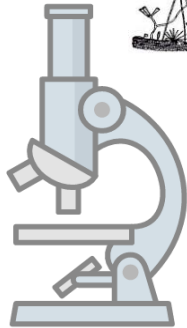


*English Filter : Mechanical filter*

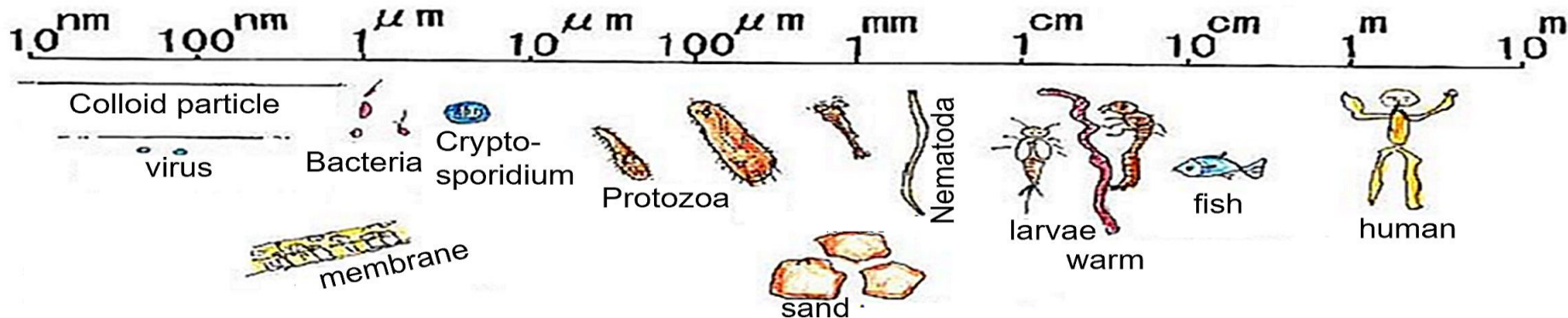




*Food chain by small animals is the key for purification system.*



Dissolved molecule

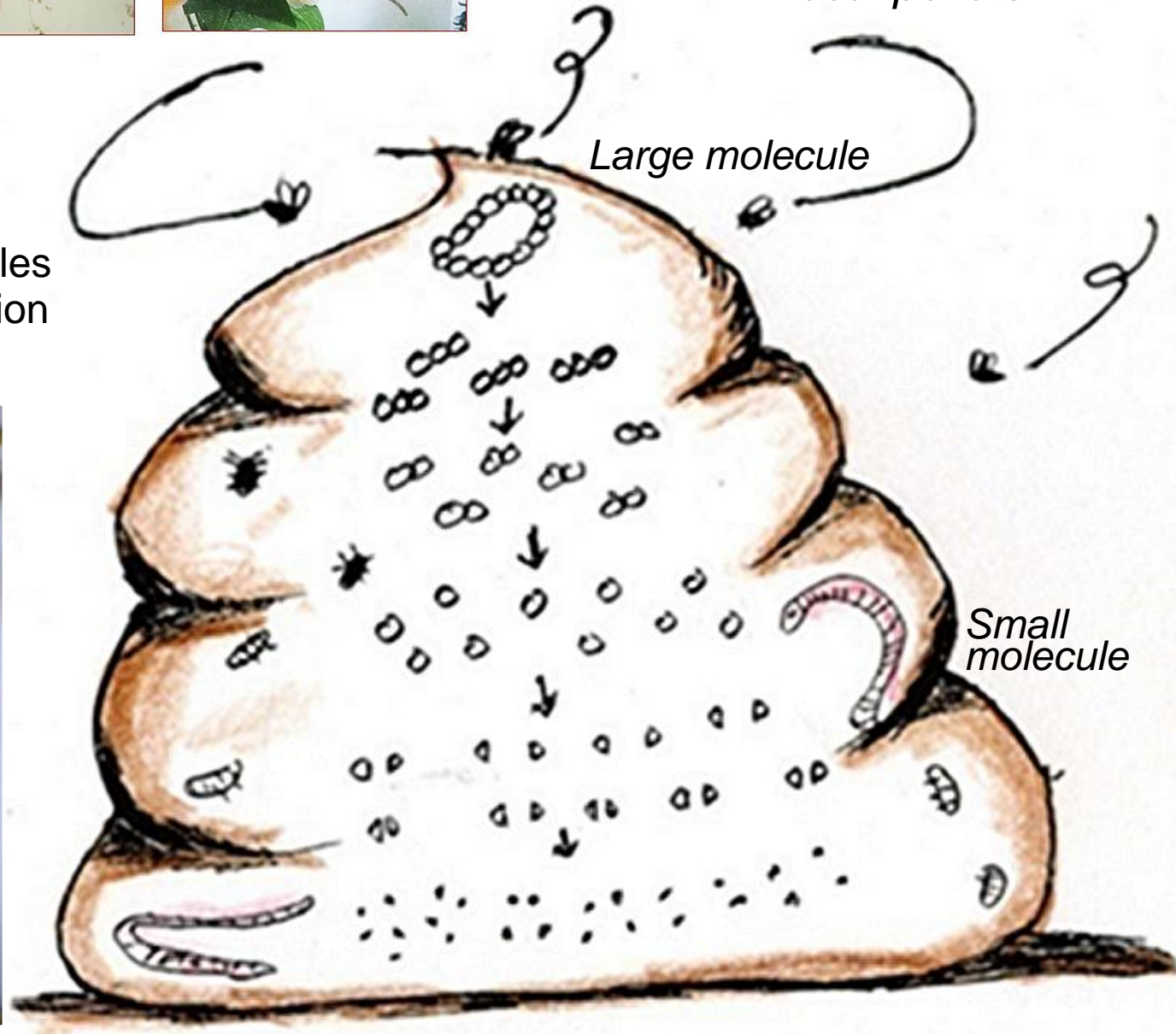






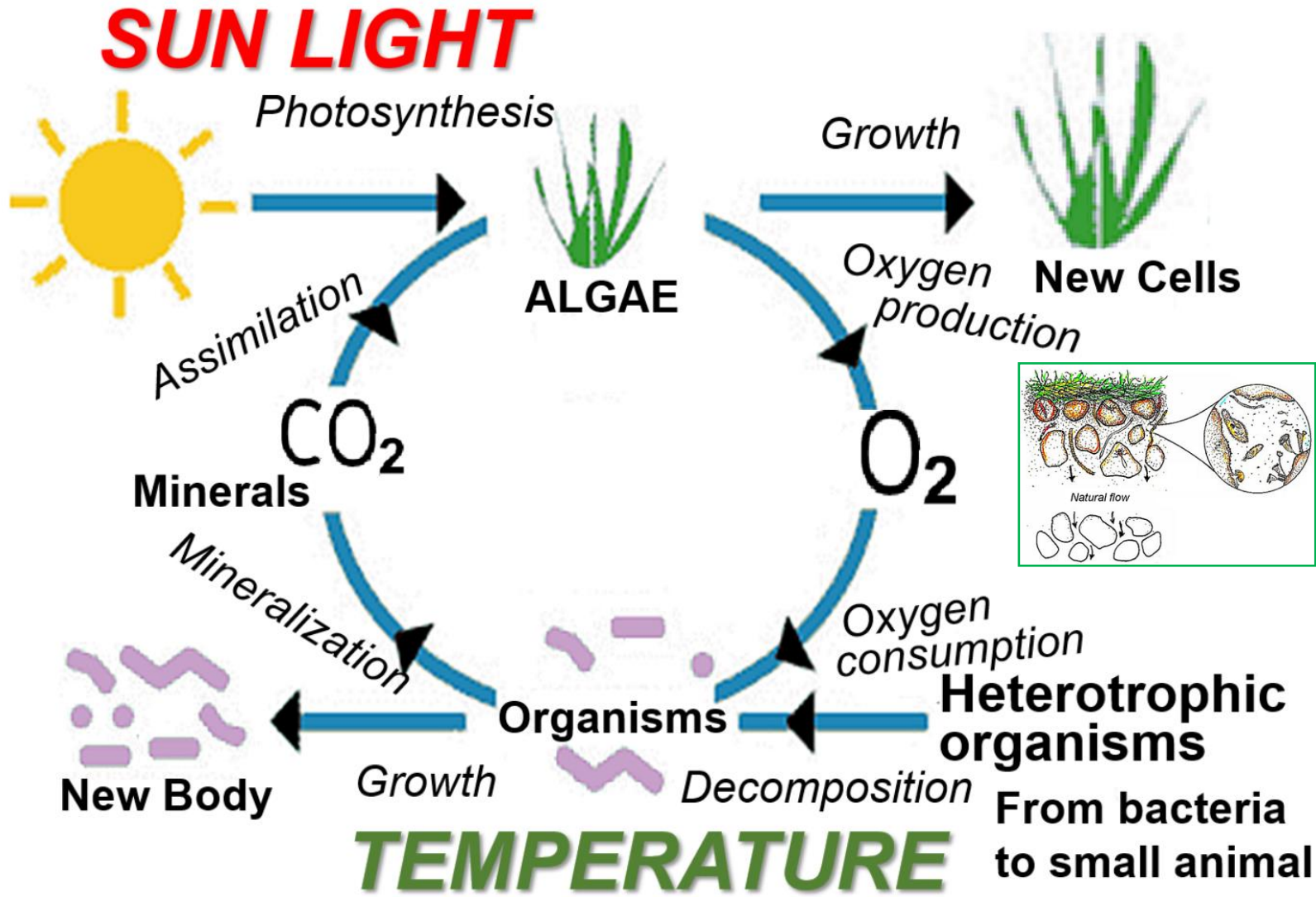
*Decomposition  
and fermentation  
in fecal pellets*

Large molecules are broken to small molecules under anaerobic condition in fecal pellets.

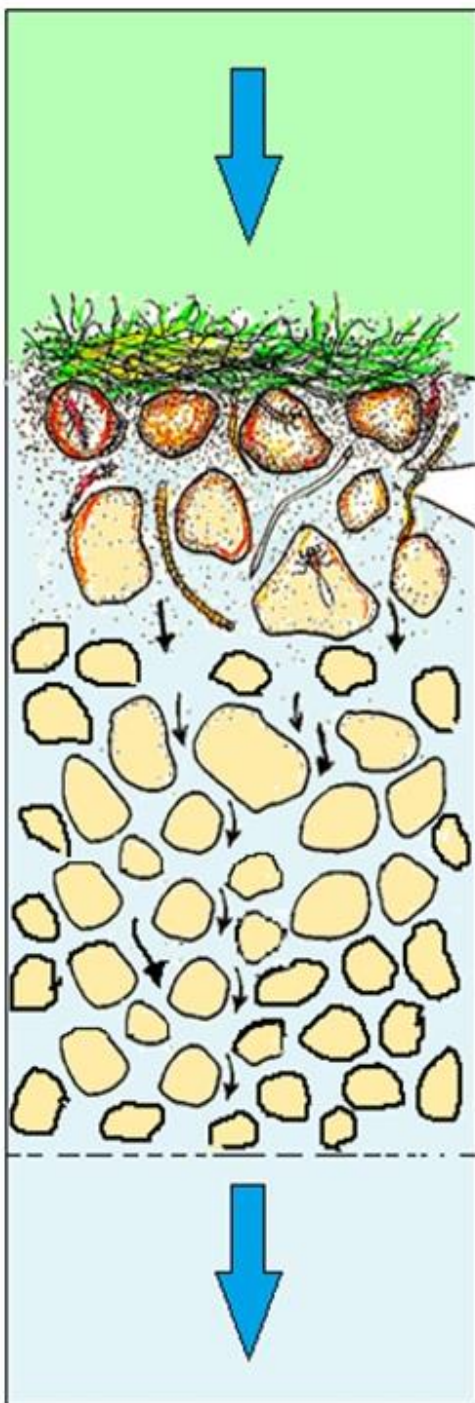




# *Symbiotic relationship between bacteria and algae in water*



Algal photosynthesis relates to solar radiation and the activities of bacteria and animals relate to temperature.



English standard  
filter rate  
4.8m/d (20cm/h)

**Passing time during  
biological active  
layer is very short.**

Purification is  
done during  
the passing  
time of 1 to 2  
minutes  
through the  
biological  
active layer.

**Purification  
time is very  
short near  
the surface.**

When the porosity is  
50% in sand layer, filter  
rate becomes double.  
9.6m/d (40cm/h)

**Guarantee  
and  
insurance  
layer for  
emergency**

**“Slow” means “Gentle  
for living organisms”.**

English standard  
filter rate  
4.8m/d (20cm/h)

The real mechanism  
has been misled by  
the name of “Slow  
sand filter”.

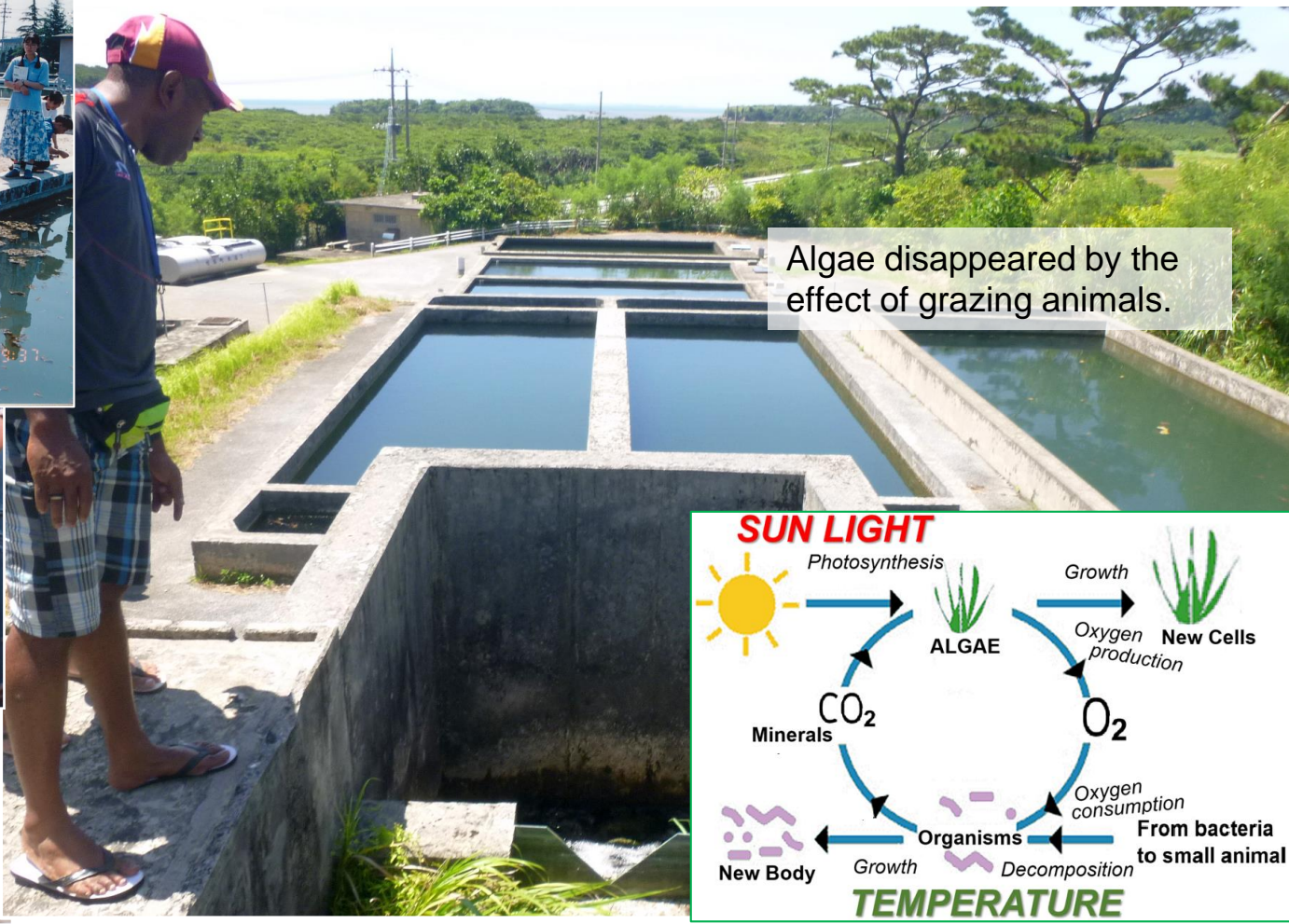
**Ecological  
Purification  
System**



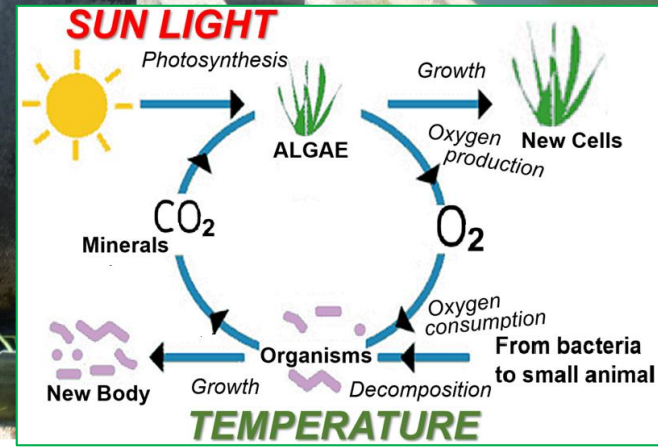




Filamentous diatom is remarkable in cold water.



Algae disappeared by the effect of grazing animals.



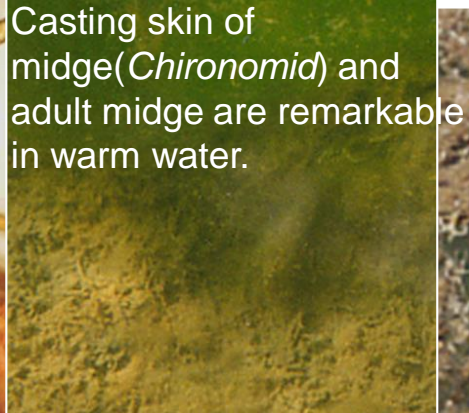
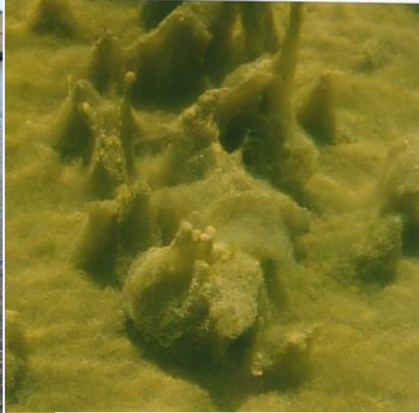
Grazing animals are active in warm period and region.



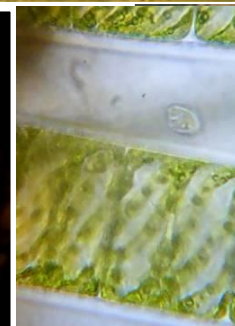
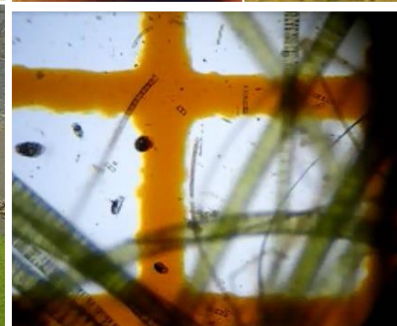




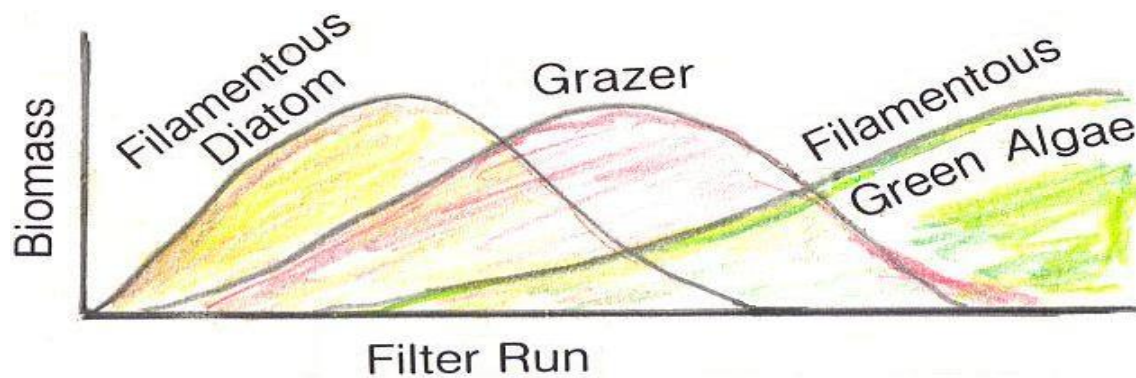
Filamentous diatom is remarkable in cold water.



Casting skin of midge(*Chironomid*) and adult midge are remarkable in warm water.



Filamentous diatom was grazed up and filamentous green algae are remarkable in warm water or in case of long filter run.

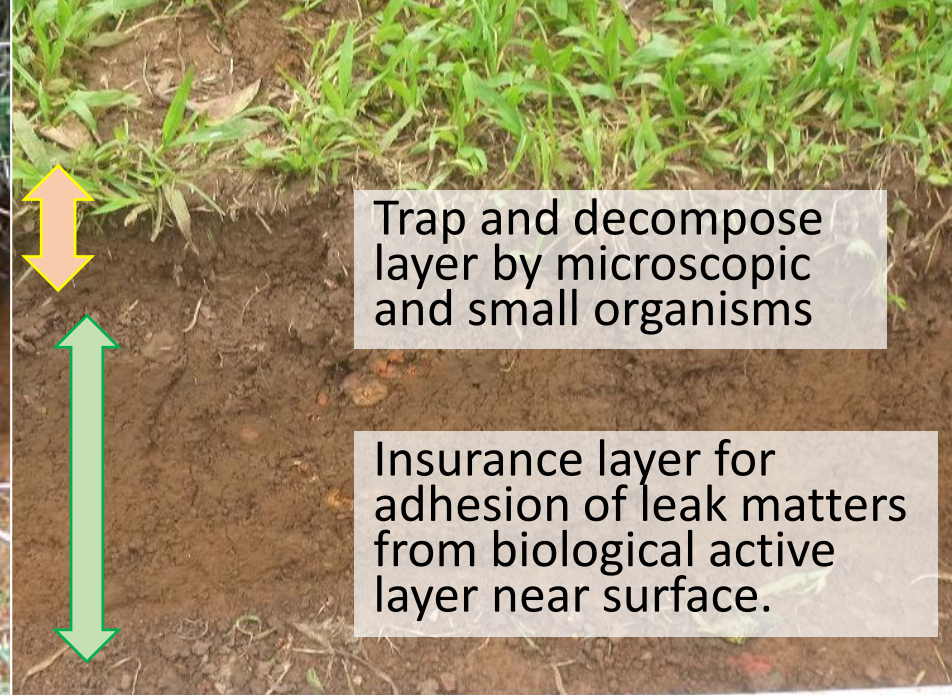


At the beginning, filamentous diatom dominates. However, filamentous green algae becomes dominant during the long filter run.



After diatom is grazed by small animals, filamentous green algae (*Cladophora*, *Spirogyra*, *Hydrodictyon*, etc.) are remarkable. These green algae have hard cell wall and larger size. After that, Mollusk appears as a grazer of green alga.

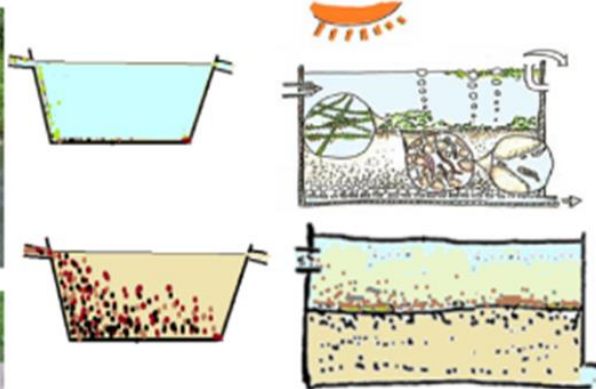




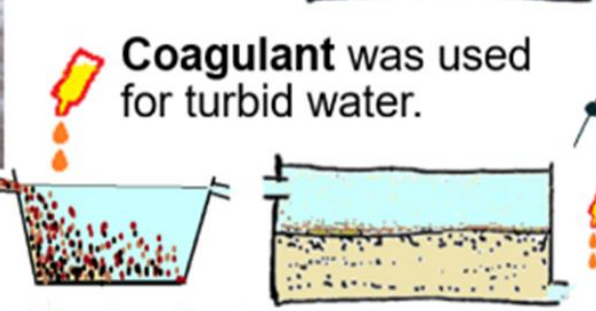
*Mr. Vishwa Jeet participated JICA Okinawa training in 2011. He transferred new EPS to Fiji.*







Ecological Purification System is functioning to make safe and delicious drinking water.



**Coagulant** was used for turbid water.

The filter was blocked with turbid matter. Sedimentation basin is not so effective to remove colloidal matter.



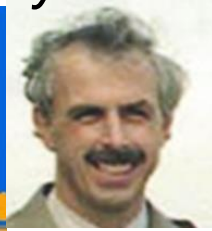
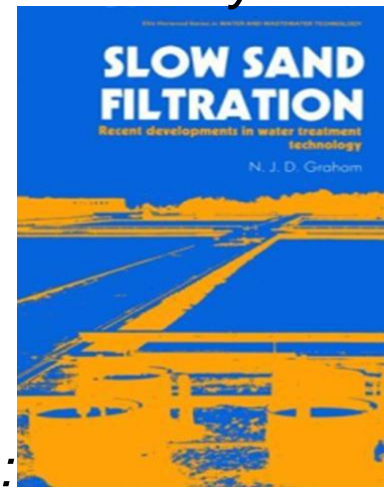
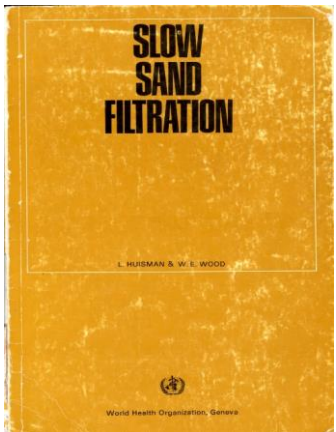
IS THE WATER SAFE TO DRINK?  
PART 1: THE PROBLEM

Harris pointed out on cancer risk by chlorination in 1974.

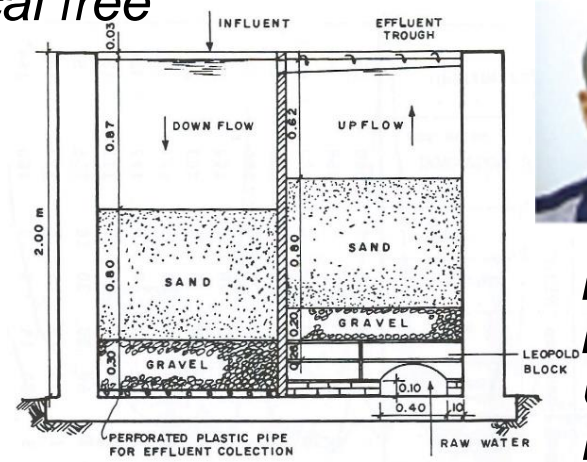
**Chlorine dose to kill germ bacteria.**

*Ecological Purification System is weakened by chemicals.*

*Refocus to Safe treatment system by chemical free*



N.J.D. Graham



Luiz Di Bernardo  
Univ. São Paulo

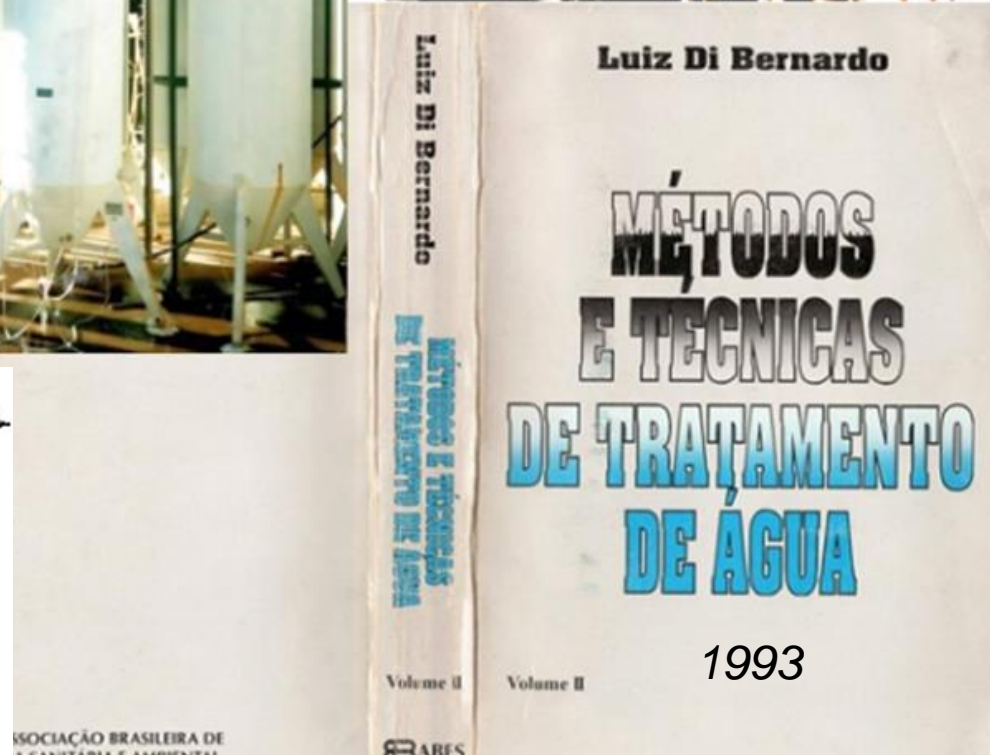
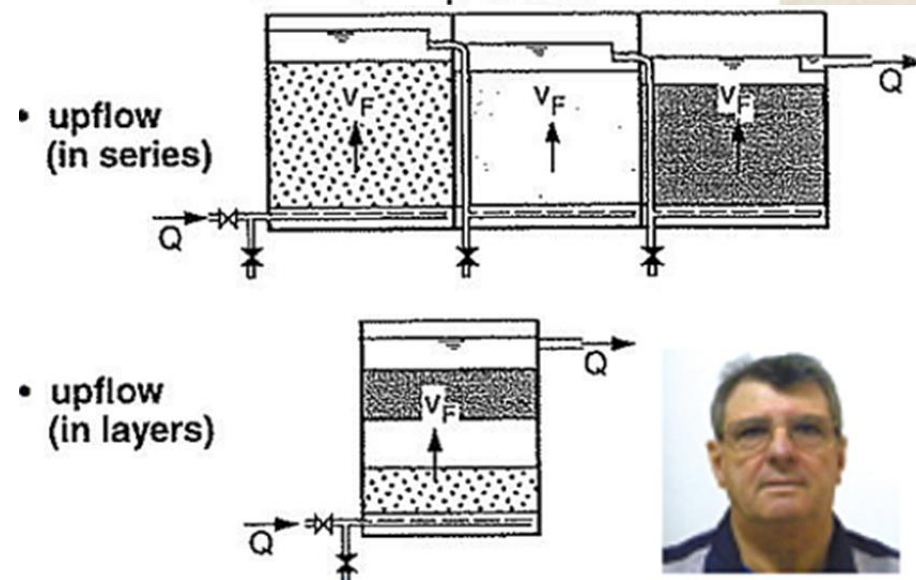
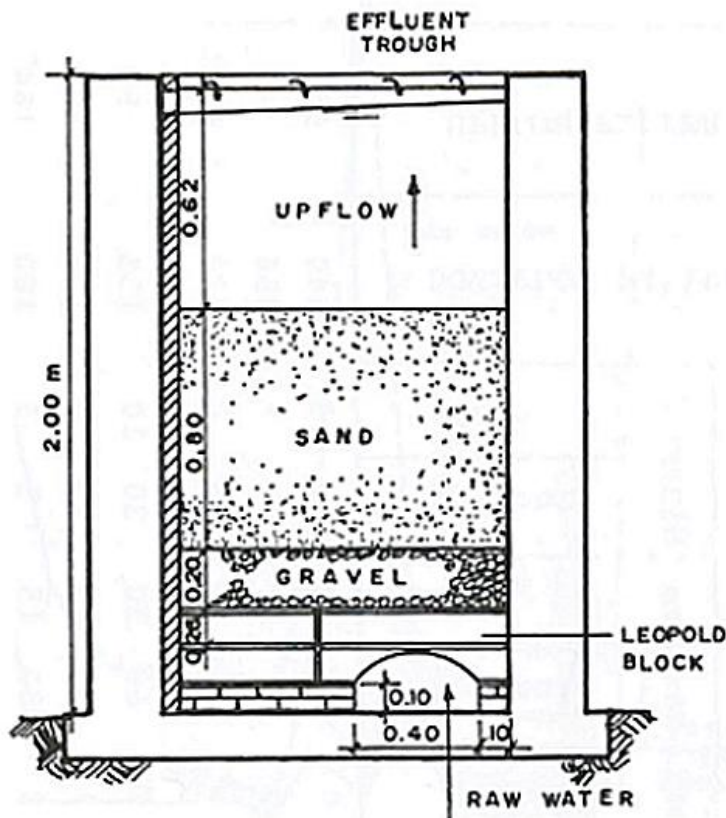
FIGURE 1 UPFLOW AND DOWNFLOW FILTERS (2)

*Up-flow and down-flow roughing filters were reported.*

*Huisman & Wood :  
Slow Sand Filtration 1988, London  
WHO 1974 Int. Conf. SSF*



Prof. Luiz Di Bernardo, Univ. São Paulo, Brazil  
1980: Thesis of his master student



Luiz Di Bernardo reported about URF to reduce turbidity without chemicals on his Portuguese textbook (1993).





# Surface Water Treatment by Roughing Filters

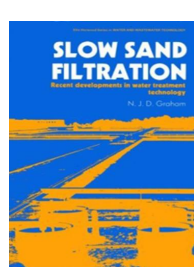
A Design, Construction and Operation Manual

Martin Wegelin

Swiss Federal Institute for Environmental Science and Technology (EAWAG)  
Department Water and Sanitation in Developing Countries (SANDEC)

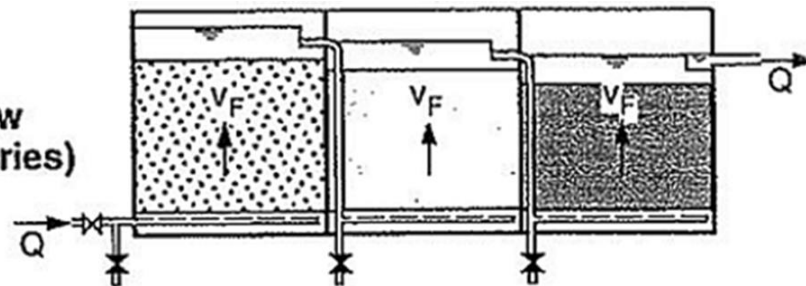


Swiss Centre for Development Cooperation in Technology and Management (SKAT)

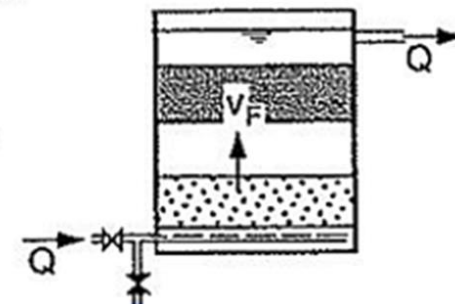


*Roughing filter working group was organized after Luiz Di Bernardo report in 1988. And Martin Wegelin summarized and published a book "Surface Water Treatment by Roughing Filters" from Switzerland in October, 1996.*

• upflow (in series)

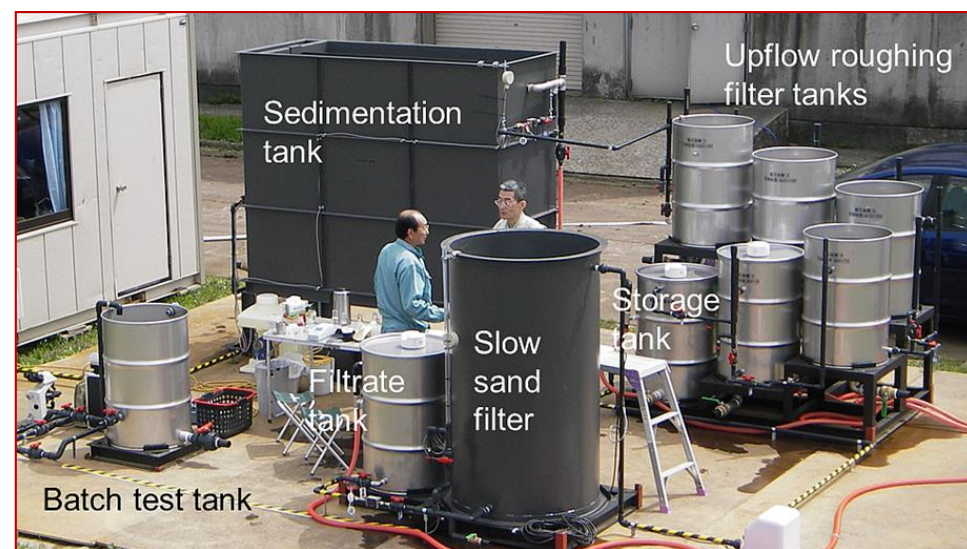


• upflow (in layers)



1996.

*Performance of URF was examined.*







## SLOW SAND FILTRATION

October, 1991

An International  
Compilation of Recent  
Scientific and  
Operational  
Developments



October, 1991, Prof. Michael Robin Collins of University of New Hampshire organized the 2nd. SSF Conf. in New Hampshire, USA, supported by AWWA.

*After the large outbreak of diarrhea by cryptosporidium in Milwaukee, Michigan state, US, in April, 1993, SSF was refocused as more safe treatment system without chemicals. SSF workshop was held in Oregon by AWWA in September 1994.*



*Refocus, Re-discovery, Timeless technology for modern application.*

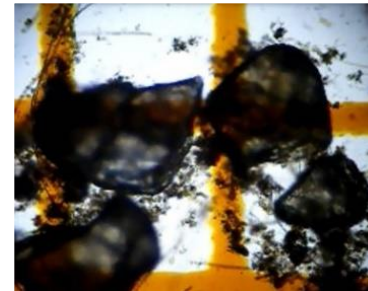
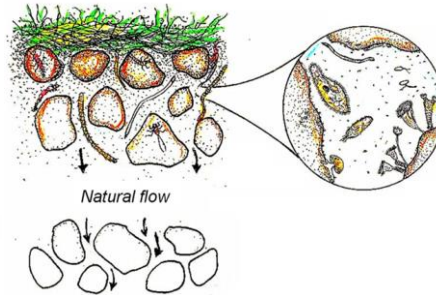
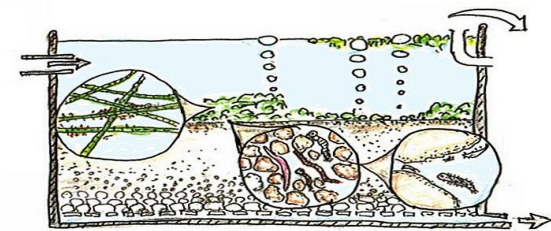


In the text, on the surface of the sand there is a thin slimy (gelatinous) mat known as the *Schmutzdecke*, or filter skin. This explanation is not correct.



On the surface of sand layer, there is a soft mat like light feather mat. Filamentous algal mat is just lay down.

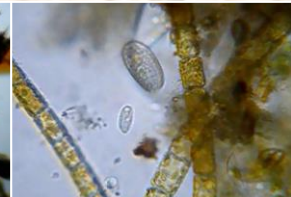
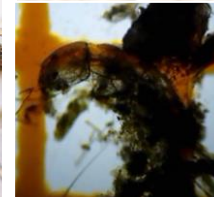
Sand is clear at the site in water. When we pull up this mat from the bottom to surface and in air, sand turns dirty color. A large amount of trapped SS among filamentous algal mat drops into sand layer.



On the shallow bottom, filamentous algae grow well.



Algae are the best food for animal.



Filamentous diatom is a pioneer plant in cold water.





The key of EPS  
is the function  
of microscopic  
organisms.



JICA training in Okinawa.

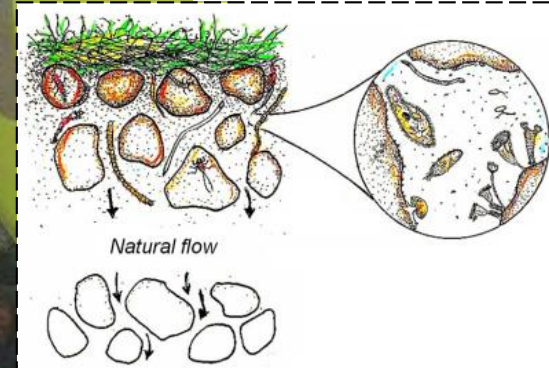
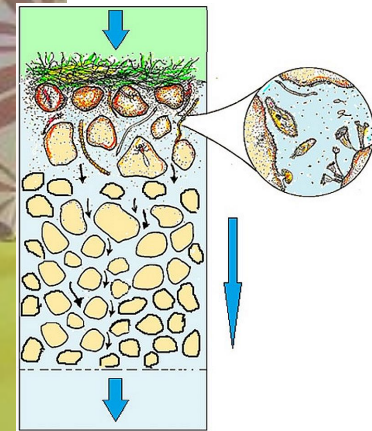
[http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member\\_lmtd/doc25.pdf](http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member_lmtd/doc25.pdf)





Key is  
upper  
dirty layer.

Gentle for  
small  
organisms.



At Alaoa WTP in Samoa

Every person must understand that EPS is real natural ecosystem.

[http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member\\_lmtd/doc25.pdf](http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member_lmtd/doc25.pdf)





JICA trainees understand the mechanism and principle of EPS.



JICA trainees made a EPS model.





At every JICA training, we made a bucket EPS model to understand the principle and mechanism.



*Mr. Makoto Yano helped JICA Okinawa training.*









URF

Over flow  
tank

Filtrate tank

pump

EPS  
Sand tank



Yano-san  
made EPS  
model at his  
house. Water  
is circulated  
using a pump.







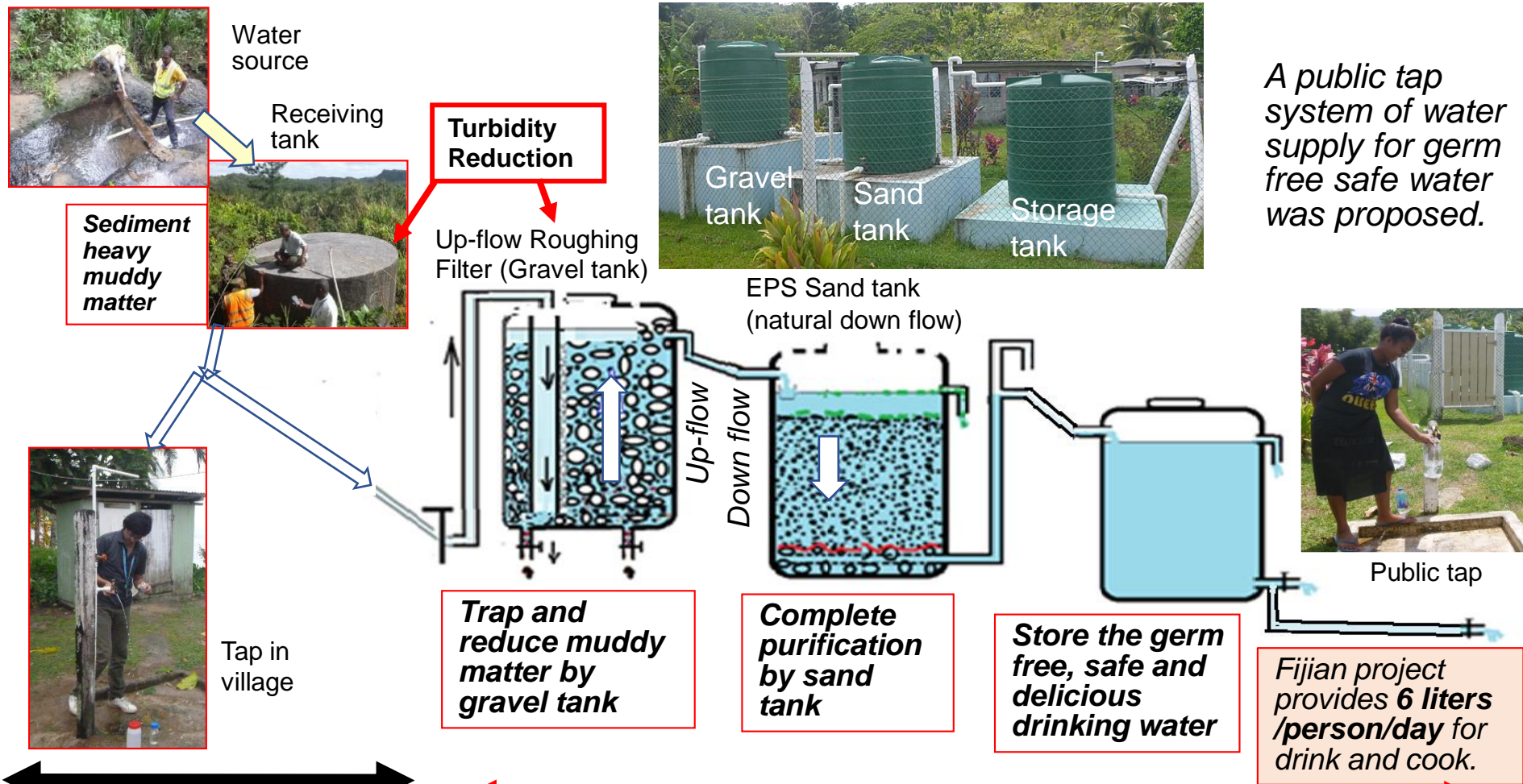
Yano-san

Isamu-san





*EPS was inserted in to the existing water supply system of non-treated water.*



Existing system in village  
*non-treated water*

EPS (Ecological Purification System) for germ free drinking water

August, 2011  
Mr. Vishwa Jeet learned EPS in Okinawa.

Jan. 16. 2013.  
Kick off Workshop on at Holiday Inn, by MoIT

July & September, 2013. Opening ceremonies in two pilot EPS plant.

JICA short term Expert  
N. NAKAMOTO  
Oct. 2014-Nov.2018

JICA Volunteer  
Hide EGUCHI  
2015-2016

JICA Volunteer  
Isamu SHIOIRI  
2017-2018

*8 times:  
Each about one month*

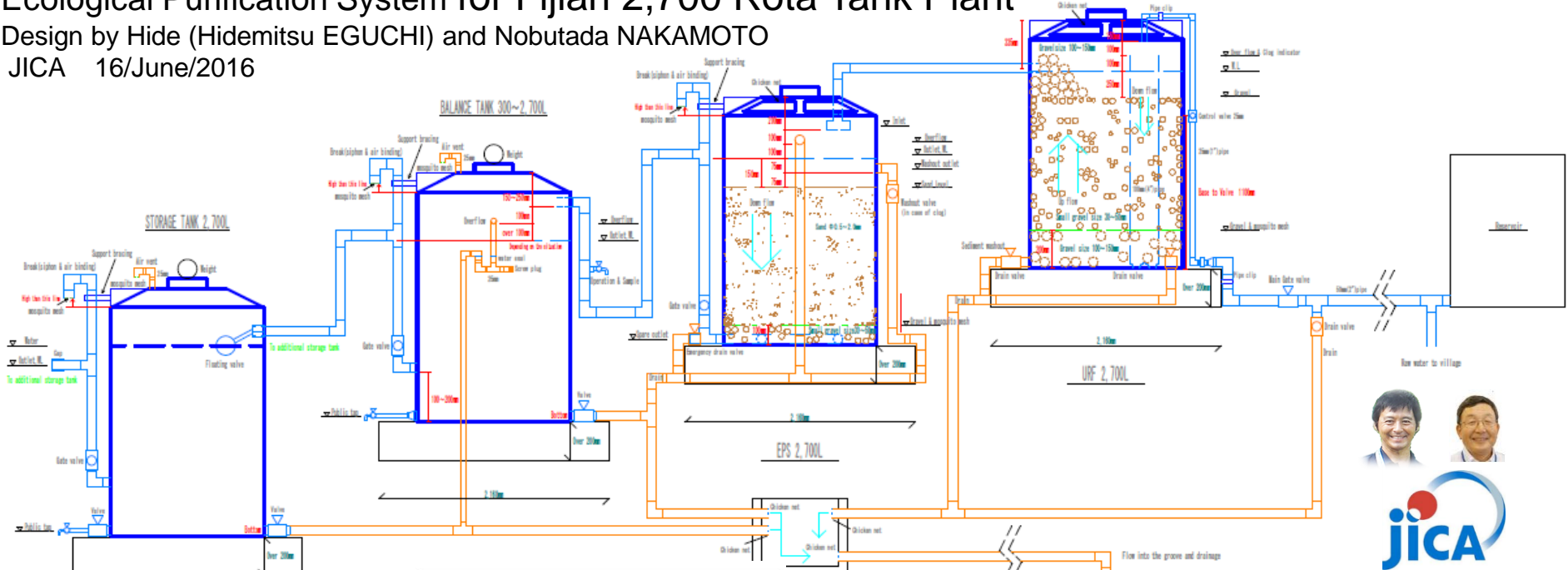







# Ecological Purification System for Fijian 2,700 Rota Tank Plant

Design by Hide (Hidemitsu EGUCHI) and Nobutada NAKAMOTO

JICA 16/June/2016




VERSION III-1 (16/06/2016)


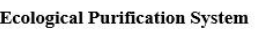



18 pages

DEPARTMENT OF WATER & SEWERAGE  
JUNE 2016




Version 2.2 20160614

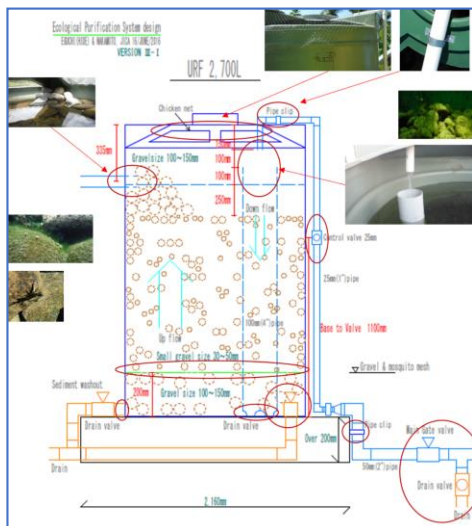


7 pages

DEPARTMENT OF WATER & SEWERAGE  
JUNE 2016



Construction Version 1.3 20160616



- 1) Inlet pipe size is 1 inch and is fixed with a clip to avoid any damage of the inlet pipe by shaking.
- 2) Flow rate can be controlled using a control valve (1 inch size) by watching the pouring of an inflow water. (Suitable valve setting height is 1,100 mm from the base.)
- 3) A gap of 100 mm between the inlet pipe (1 inch size) and the inner pipe (4 inches size) is necessary to confirm the flow rate and to sampling the raw water.
- 4) The height difference of 100 mm between the top edge of the inner pipe (4 inches) and the bottom height of the outlet (over-flow) pipe is requested to keep the level of seepage water from gravels. In order to guard the outlet pipe against the excess floating scum, the larger size of gravels are heaped up the outlet pipe
- 5) Insert a mosquito mesh (plastic) between the bottom a large gravel layer (100-150 mm size) and a gravel layer (30-50 mm size) to avoid dropping small stones from the gravel layer and to easy drain the accumulated muddy matter.
- 6) One drain pipe and valve are set near the bottom of the inner pipe to easy drain.
- 6) Open (cut) windows are covered with chicken mesh to avoid fallen leaves. And one cover near the inlet pipe can be lifted for a caretaker maintenance.
- 7) Each tank connector must be tightly connect from both sides (inside and outside) by two persons. Then the empty tank is filled with water. After the confirmation of no leakage from the connect point, this tank can be filled with the large gravel, mesh and small gravel.





# Ecological Purification System for Safe Drinking Water

- Application of Natural Process -

Eco-friendly technique to make artificial spring water

NAKAMOTO Nobutada, Dr. Science

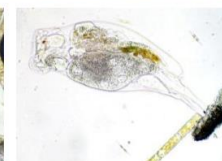
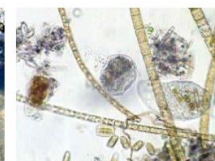
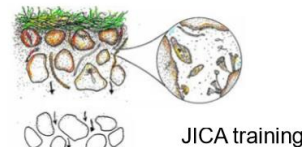
Prof. Emeritus of Shinshu University, Japan



August 2018

*Smart Treatment System to  
make artificial spring water  
by Eco-friendly technique.*

*Toward Zero Waste World  
by Chemical-free System*



Microscopic organism is the key of EPS.



Biological activity was evaluated by the diurnal change of dissolved oxygen.

Ecological Purification System

NAKAMOTO 2018

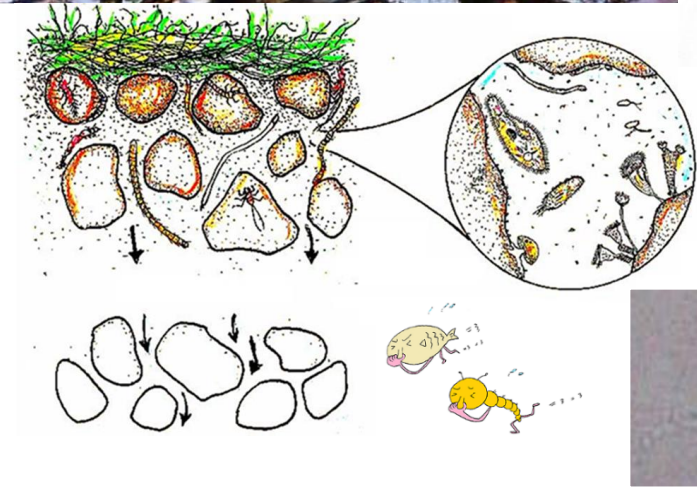
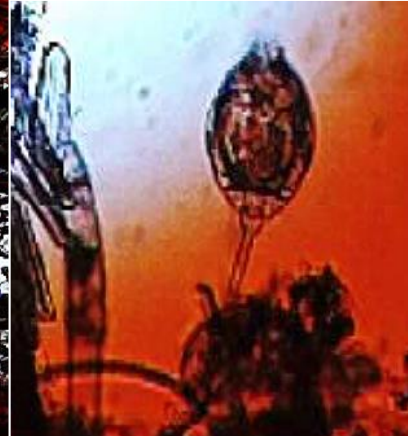






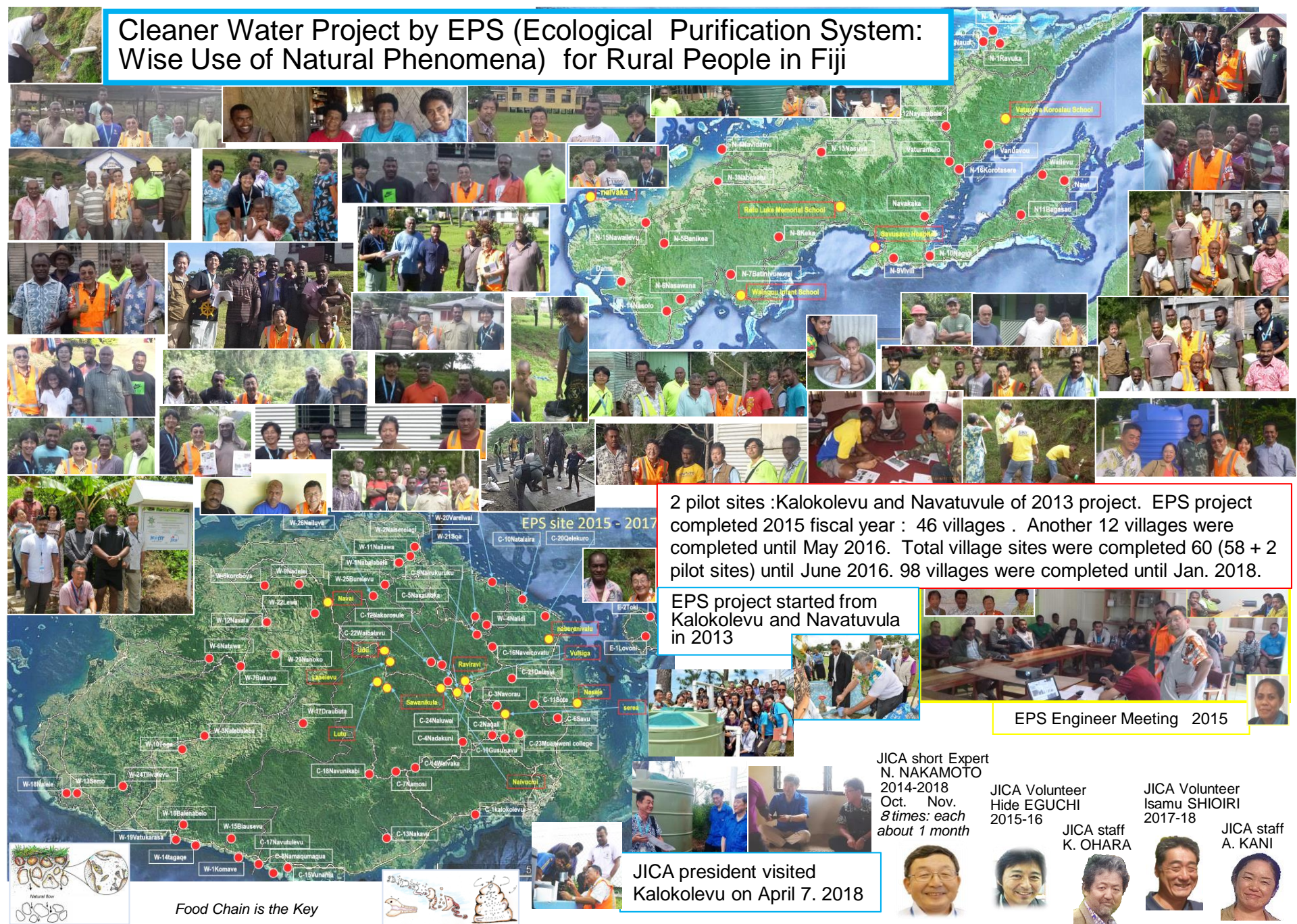


Look like dirty mud.  
There are so many  
microscopic organisms.





# Cleaner Water Project by EPS (Ecological Purification System: Wise Use of Natural Phenomena) for Rural People in Fiji



98 EPS plants were completed until Jan. 2018. Project was supported by Fijian government and JICA assisted only advice.





**Smart Treatment System to make artificial spring water by Eco-friendly technique.**

**Chemical Free : Gentle for small organisms**





JICA training on EPS  
from 7th to 12th August,  
2010 in Miyako and  
Ishigaki islands,  
Okinawa, Japan.

This speech by Ms.  
Manista from  
Solomon islands on  
September 1, 2010.

*It is also worth appreciating the Ecological Purification System as taught by you, Dr. Nakamoto; a simple, natural and yet an effective water purification technology, we can all agree to as the most relevant technology for the Islands. It is cheap to construct, operate and maintain which makes it even more attractive. We are grateful to your pioneering research on this technology and for generously impart this to us, so that the people of the pacific may in the very near future will have access to the high quality and delicious taste that this technology provides.*



# EPS

## Public Seminar/ Workshop

*"An approach to  
securing the safe water"*

Reviewing Fiji's successful EPS implementation at Rural Area  
and future perspective of implementation in PICs

12 & 13 March 2019

@ Japan-Pacific ICT Centre, USP Laucala Campus



Day 1 09:30~17:00 Public Seminar (inc. refreshments & lunch)

Main Presenter - Dr Nobutada NAKAMOTO\*

JICA Expert, EPS advisor for Rural Water Supply  
Professor Emeritus of Shinshu University, Japan  
\* Live lecture from JICA HQ, Tokyo, Japan

Day 2 09:00~18:30 Workshop & Study Tour (inc. lunch)\*\*

Workshop - Demonstration of EPS Construction

By Mr Makoto YANO, Okinawa Blue Water, Japan

Study Tour - EPS Site Visit to NAKINI Village

18:30~20:00 - Evening Reception (Cocktail Party)



\*\* Pre-registration is required at Day 1 (close at 11:30) due to limited space.

For further details, please contact JICA Fiji Office by email: [jicaf-recept@jica.go.jp](mailto:jicaf-recept@jica.go.jp)  
or telephone: +679 330 2522



EPS technology  
is open for every  
person.

**Chemical Free :**  
Gentle for small  
organisms

*Smart Treatment  
System to make  
artificial spring  
water by Eco-  
friendly technique.*

Ecological Purification System  
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NAKAMOTO Nobutada, Dr. Science  
Prof. Emeritus of Shinshu University, Japan



August 2018

*The people of the pacific may in the very near future will  
have access to the high quality and delicious taste water.*

*This EPS technology is not a commercial technology.  
You can make this EPS by yourselves. EPS is our technology.*

[http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member\\_lmtd/doc25.pdf](http://www.cwsc.or.jp/files/member_lmtd/doc25.pdf)



