

## Fecal indicator concentrations of surface runoff in rural watersheds, Korea

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### ABSTRACT

To evaluate fecal contamination discharged from diffuse sources, flow rates and fecal indicator microorganism concentrations of rainfall runoff draining three rural watersheds were monitored. Land uses of the study watersheds were mainly unpolluted forestry and crop field with area of 14–70 ha. Monitored fecal indicators were total coliform (TC), fecal coliform (FC), *Escherichia coli* (EC), and fecal streptococcus (FS). Membrane filtration technique was adopted to measure all fecal indicators. Event mean concentrations of each fecal indicators were; TC was  $2.32 \times 10^2$ – $3.68 \times 10^5$  CFU/100 ml; FC was  $2.29 \times 10^2$ – $1.66 \times 10^5$  CFU/100 ml; EC was  $1.76 \times 10^2$ – $1.21 \times 10^2$  CFU/100 ml; and FS was  $1.42 \times 10^2$ – $8.48 \times 10^4$  CFU/100 ml.

**Keywords:** Coliform; Diffuse sources; Event mean concentration; Fecal contamination; Rainfall runoff; Water quality

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