8<sup>th</sup> Network Conference on Persistent Organic Pollutants 09/05/2014

Assessment and improvement of plant uptake and cattle biotransfer models used in exposure assessment tools for soils contaminated with organic pollutants

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# Contents of the talk

Overview of my research

Modelling on plant uptake

Modelling on cattle transfer

# Contents of the talk

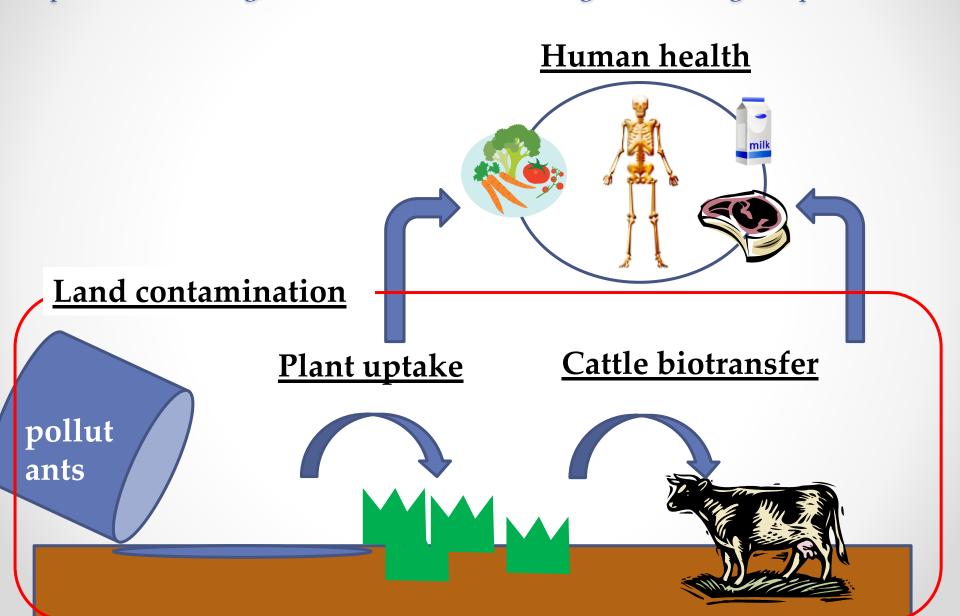
Overview of my research

Modelling on plant uptake

Modelling on cattle transfer

## Overall image of my research

~Exposure modelling, risk assessment and management of organic pollutants



# Contents of the talk

Overview of my research

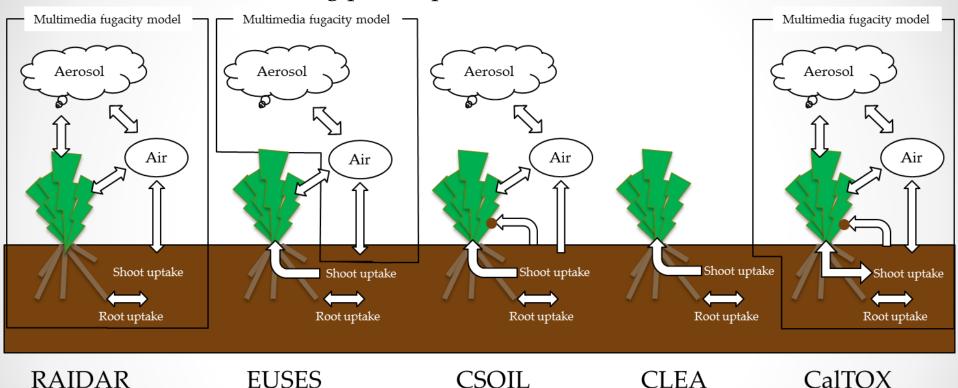
Modelling on plant uptake

Modelling on cattle transfer

## Plant uptake model

### ~Do existing models represent the real world?

5 models for estimating plant uptake

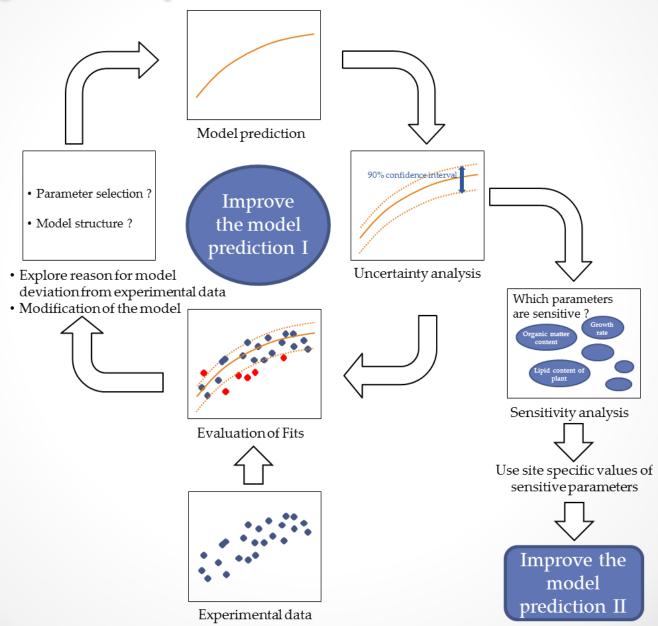


- 74 chemical data for root uptake
- 39 chemical data for shoot uptake (PCBs, PAHs, CBs, pesticides)

Bioconcentration factor (BCF) = concentration in plant / concentration in soil

## Plant uptake model

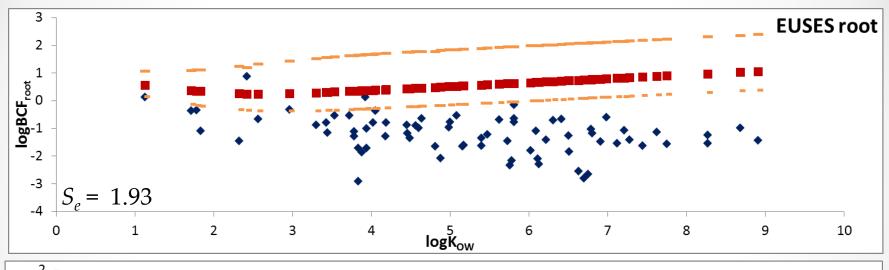
~Do existing models represent the real world?

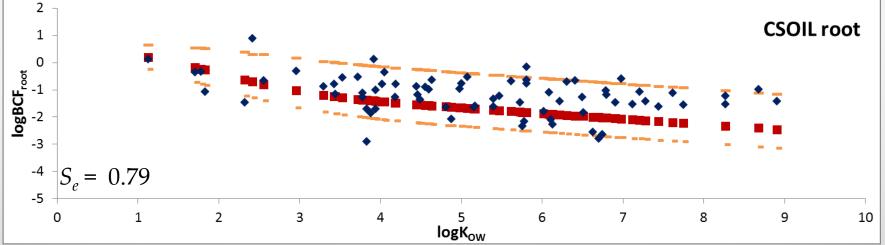


## Root uptake model

### ~Do existing models represent the real world?

Models used: RAIDAR, EUSES, CSOIL, CLEA, CalTOX



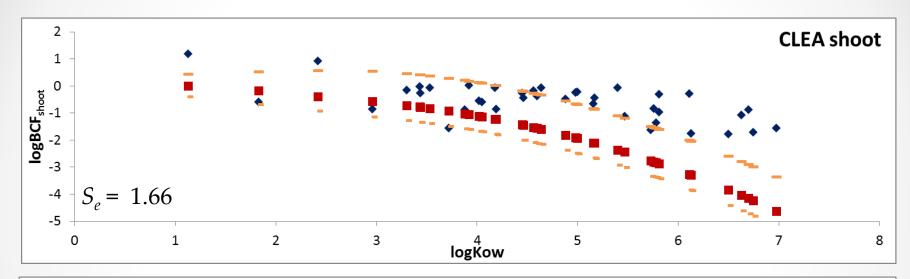


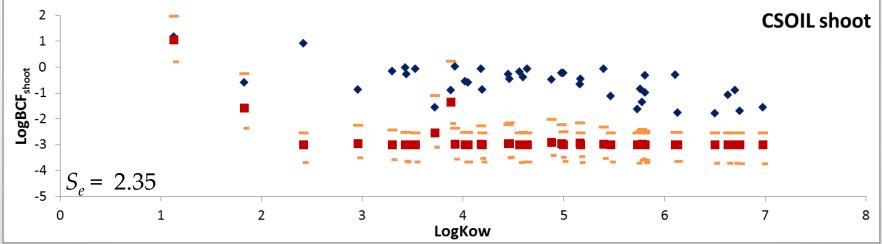
Blue: experimental data, Red: model prediction, Orange: 90% prediction interval

## Shoot uptake model

### ~Do existing models represent the real world?

Models used: RAIDAR, EUSES, CSOIL, CLEA, CalTOX

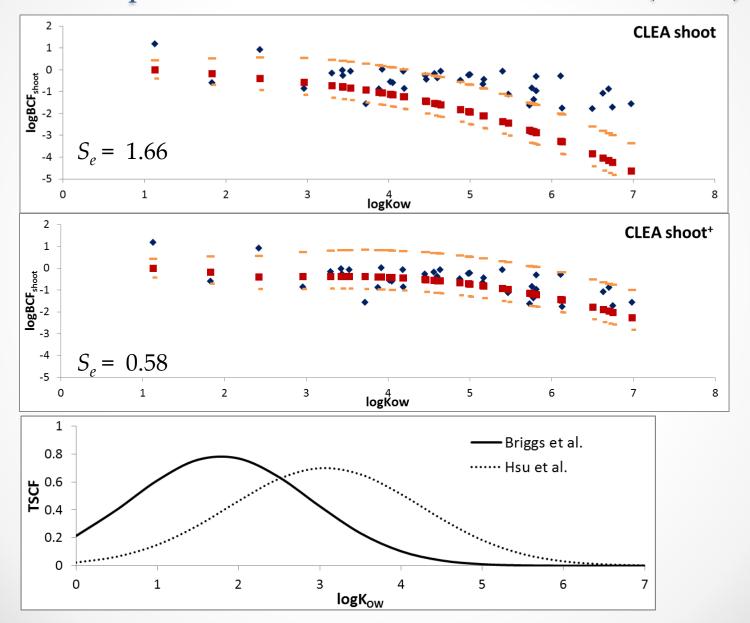




Blue: experimental data, Red: model prediction, Orange: 90% prediction interval

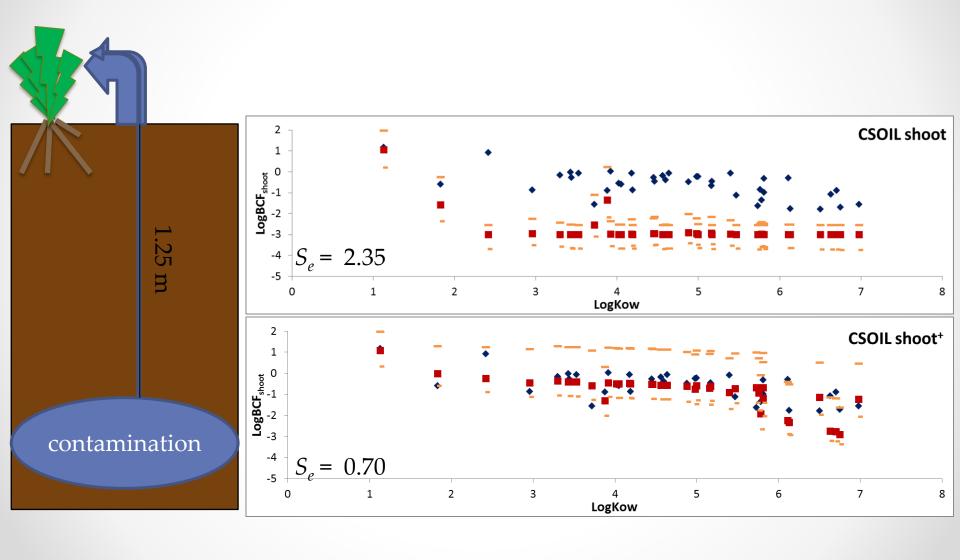
## Modification of CLEA shoot model

~ focus on transpiration stream concentration factor (TSCF)



## Modification of CSOIL shoot model

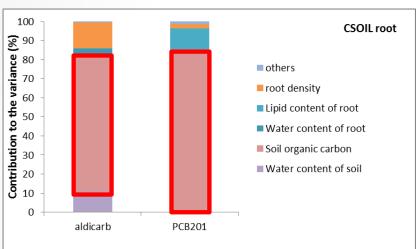
~ focus on soil-air-plant pathway

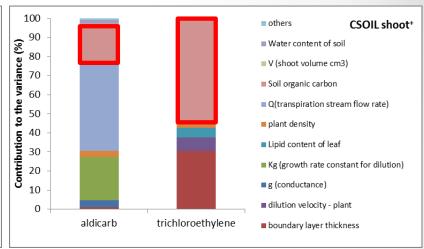


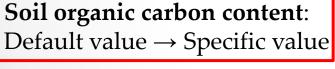
## Improvement of the model performance

~ focus on the sensitive parameter (soil organic carbon content (f<sub>OC</sub>))

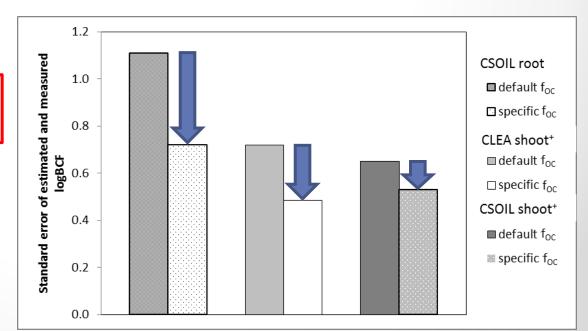
#### **Sensitivity analysis**











## Summary of the modelling on Plant uptake

- Model assessments identified the CSOIL model to reproduce the observed root uptake of organic chemicals most accurately.
- None of the models simulated the observed shoot uptake of chemicals well.
- Modifications to transpiration and volatilisation for shoot uptake enable a much improved performance of the CSOIL and CLEA models.
- Soil organic carbon content was a particularly sensitive parameter in all the models tested, and using a site specific value reduced the standard errors substantially between model estimation and observations.

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### ~Do existing models represent the real world?

• 10 models for estimating milk and beef transfer

#### Regression-based models

- Travis & Arms
- EUSES
- CalTOX
- Maclachlan & Bhula
- RTI
- Dowdy et al.



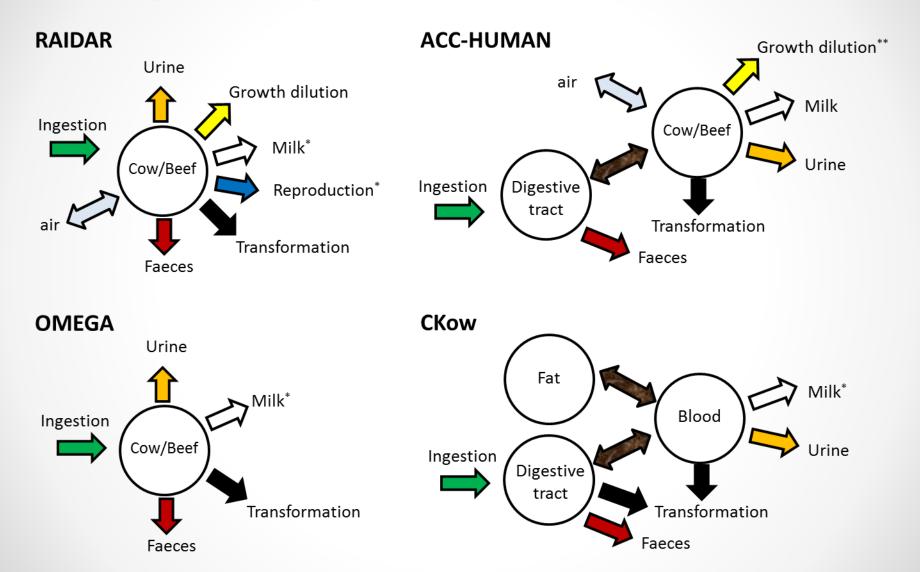
#### Mechanistic models

- RAIDAR
- ACC-HUMAN
- OMEGA
- CKow

- 129 chemical data for milk transfer
- 91 chemical data for meat transfer (PCBs, PCDD/Fs, PBDEs, pesticides...)

Biotransfer factor (BTF) = concentration in milk or meat / chemical daily intake

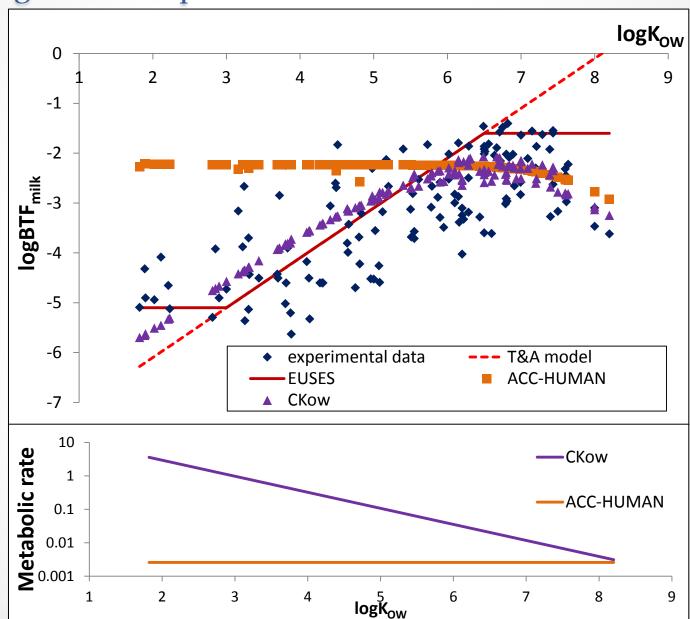
### ~Do existing models represent the real world?



\*Only for lactating cow. \*\*Only for non-lactating beef

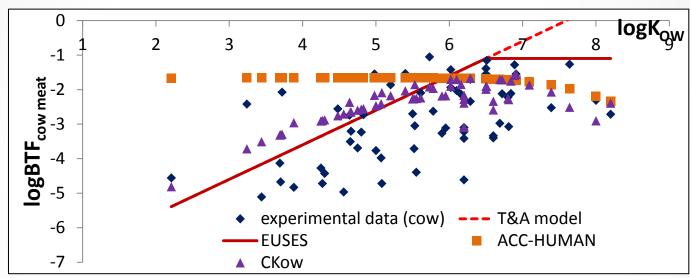
~Do existing models represent the real world?

Milk

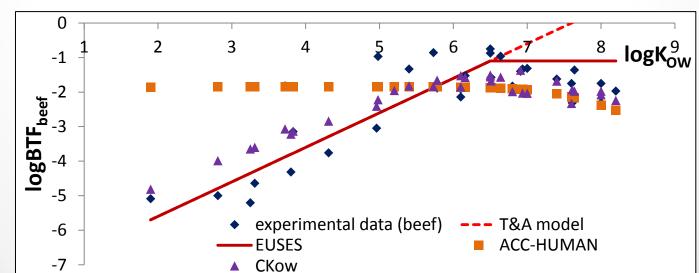


### ~Do existing models represent the real world?

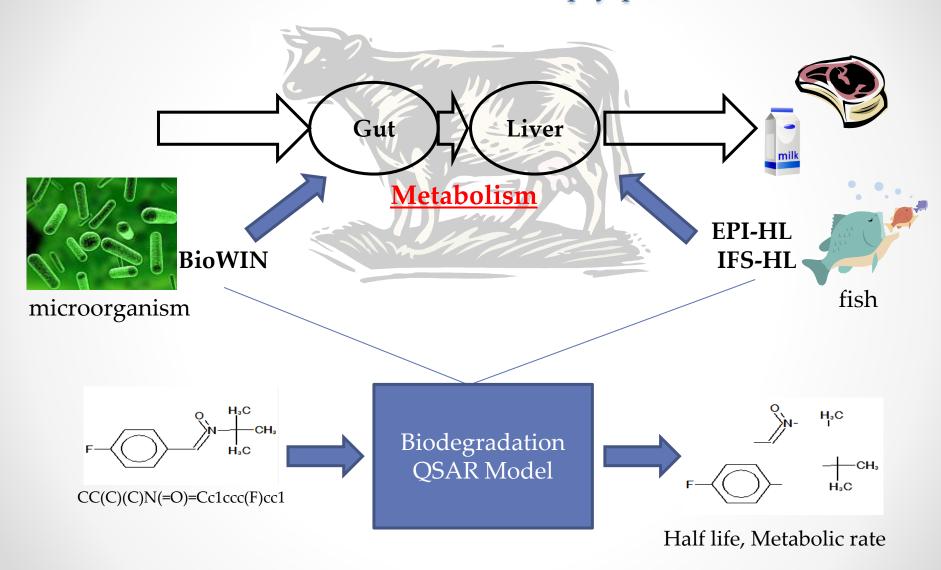
#### **Cow meat**



#### **Beef**

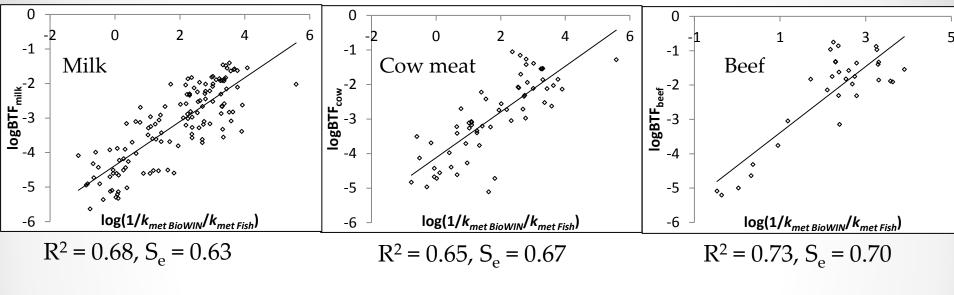


~ Can the metabolic rate in cattle be simply predicted?

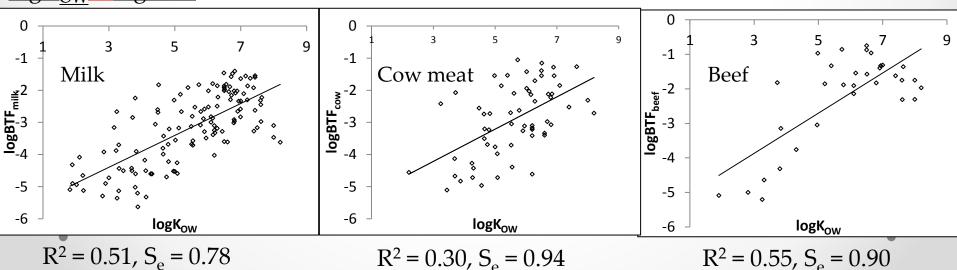


## ~ Brand new regressions using simulated metabolic rate

## Simulated metabolic rate v logBTF



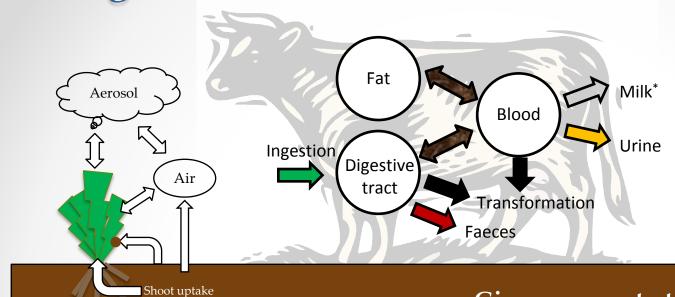
## logK<sub>OW</sub> v logBTF



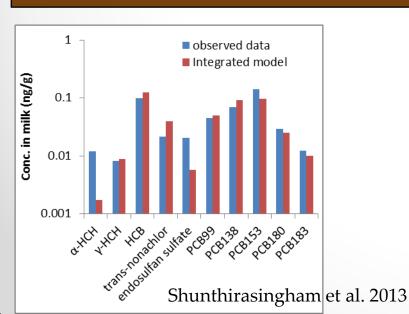
## Summary of the modelling on Cattle transfer

- About 130 chemical data showed that cattle biotransfer of organic pollutants has too much variability to be estimated well by existing models.
- Metabolic rate in cattle was a crucial parameter to estimate the biotransfer but it could not easily be obtained.
- The metabolic rate in cattle was simulated using biodegradation QSAR models and the brand new regressions for the simulated metabolic rate showed the best performance of all models including the most popular K<sub>OW</sub> regression.

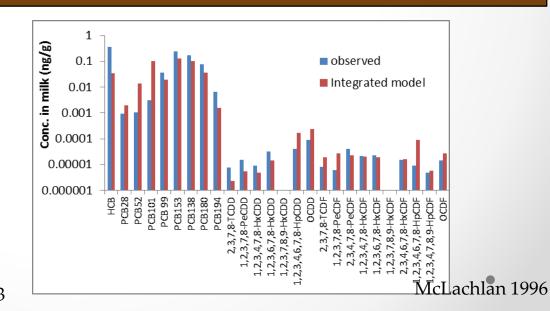
## Integrated model



Given: concentration in soil (and air)
Predicted: concentration in milk and meat



Root uptake



# Thank you very much!