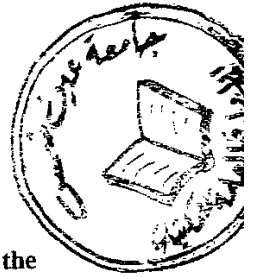


**AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING
IRRIGATION AND HYDRAULICS DEPARTMENT**

**WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT OF DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
IN THE EASTERN NILE DELTA**

by

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M.Sc., Civil Engineering - Cairo University



**A Thesis Submitted for the Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
in Civil Engineering**

67896

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**Cairo, Egypt
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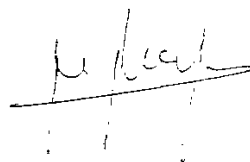
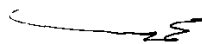

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STATEMENT

This thesis is submitted to Ain Shams University, Faculty of Engineering for the degree of Doctor of philosophy in Civil Engineering.

The work included in this thesis was carried out by the author in the Department of Irrigation and Hydraulics, Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, from November 1994 to June 1997.

No Part of this thesis has been previously submitted for a degree of a qualification at any other University or Institution.

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ABSTRACT

**Title: WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT OF DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
 IN THE EASTERN NILE DELTA**

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The surface water is one of the world's most precious resources and its management is responding to environmental standards and legislation aimed at sustainable development. Water resources planners worldwide are starting to balance the conflicting claims on the streams through integrated watershed management. Considering the behaviour of the entire watershed enables to assess the likely impact. This helps to target often limited human and financial resources on developing the most effective catchment management plans.

Due to lack of integrated management, the streams in Egypt currently suffer from increasing pollution load caused by the discharges of untreated domestic and industrial wastewater. In addition, the drainage systems contain toxic chemicals which are used to control particular members of biota.

In Egypt, Bahr El Baqar drainage system, which is the main concern of this study, is located at the Eastern part of the Nile Delta. It discharges about 1.2×10^9 m³/year into Lake Manzala which in turn discharges freely into the Mediterranean Sea. The agricultural drainage water, domestic and industrial wastewater represent 58%, 40% and 2% of the total drainage water in Bahr El Baqar drain respectively.

The main objective of this study is to develop a system that can formulate alternative strategies to improve the water quality in Bahr El Baqar drainage system to allow its safe usage for irrigation and livestock watering.

To identify the major pollution problems in reusing Bahr El Baqar drainage water in irrigation, two activities have been carried out. The first is identification of the water quality characteristics through a monitoring program which has been carried out in 1995. The second is to compare and evaluate the drainage water quality characteristics based on the relevant standards and guidelines.

A number of possible quality improvement interventions are formulated and simulated through several scenarios using unsteady one dimensional hydrodynamic model, DUFLOW. A water quality module has been developed to fit with the drainage system circumstances and compiled to DUFLOW. To understand the water quality process in the drainage system, the decay rates for the water quality variables are estimated through spreadsheet programs. The calculated decay rates are used as input parameters in model calibration phase.

The results of simulated scenarios show different possibilities for using Bahr El Baqar drainage water in irrigation and livestock watering. For restricted use, the secondary treatment at the East Bank of Greater Cairo and major towns are required to meet the quality criteria for irrigation use. For unrestricted use, partial chlorination after secondary treatment at the East Bank of Greater Cairo should be done. The maximum flow of drainage water which can be reused for El Salam canal project at the downstream diversion point is anticipated without an increase in salinity at the abstraction point due to salt intrusion problems from Lake Manzala.

Based on the results of this study, further studies are recommended, these include an environmental impact assessment study for selecting the best water quality improvement option, taking into account the economic and socio-cultural aspects; and the impact of Bahr El Baqar water quality improvement on the water quality and fishery activities in Lake Manzala.

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TABLES OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT	i
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	x
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF SYMBOLS	xiv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xx
CHAPTER 1	MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR THE WATERSHED
1.1	BACKGROUND 1
1.2	PROBLEM DEFINITION 2
1.3	LAYOUT OF THE WATERSHED 2
1.4	MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES 3
1.5	MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 5
1.6	SCOPE AND ORGANIZATION 6
CHAPTER 2	WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN LITERATURE
2.1	WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT DEFINITION 7
2.2	WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT LEVELS 8
2.2.1	Crisis Management 8
2.2.2	Testing the System Management 9
2.2.3	Starting Control 9
2.2.4	Assisting the System to Comply 9
2.2.5	Enhance the Science 10
2.3	WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT FROM NATIONAL PERSPECTIVES 10
2.4	WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES 10

2.4.1	The Netherlands	1
2.4.2	Egypt	1
2.5	ROLE OF MODELLING IN WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT	1
2.5.1	Model Types	1
2.5.2	Water Quality Models	1
2.6	IRRIGATION WITH WASTEWATER	1
2.6.1	Wastewater Characteristics	2
2.6.2	Suitability of Wastewater for Agriculture	2
2.6.2.1	Salinity	2
2.6.2.2	Specific ion toxicity	2
2.6.2.3	Trace elements toxicity	2
2.6.3	Risk of Wastewater Irrigation	2
2.6.3.1	Nitrogen	2
2.6.3.2	Trace elements	2
2.6.3.3	Pathogens	2
2.6.4	Options for Risk Alleviation	2
2.6.4.1	Wastewater treatment	2
2.6.4.2	Crop restriction	3
2.6.4.3	Wastewater application methods	3
2.6.4.4	Human exposure control	3
2.7	CURRENT WASTEWATER REUSE PRACTICES IN AGRICULTURE	3
2.8	REUSE OF DRAINAGE WATER IN EGYPT	3
 CHAPTER 3 WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES		
3.1	SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES	3
3.2	WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES	3
3.3	POLLUTION SOURCES	3
3.4	STREAM CHARACTERISTICS	3
3.5	WATER QUALITY GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS	3
3.6	DESIGN OF WATER QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK	3
3.6.1	Water Sampling Stations Locations	3

3.6.2	Monitored Parameters	41
3.7	FIELD MEASUREMENTS	43
3.8	SAMPLING COLLECTION	43
3.9	LABORATORY ANALYSIS	43
3.10	DATA HANDLING AND ANALYSIS	44
3.11	INFORMATION UTILIZATION	44
3.11.1	Water Quality Assessment	45
3.11.1.1	Temperature	45
3.11.1.2	pH	45
3.11.1.3	Salinity	45
3.11.1.4	Water Infiltration Rate	46
3.11.1.5	Specific Ion Toxicity	47
3.11.1.6	Trace elements	48
3.11.1.7	Organic matters, suspended solids and dissolved oxygen	49
3.11.1.8	Nitrogen	50
3.11.1.9	Microbiological quality	51
3.11.2	Hydraulic Features	53
3.11.3	Estimation of Pollution Decay Rate	54
3.11.3.1	Microorganisms	56
3.11.3.2	Biodegradable Organic Matters	58
3.11.3.3	Total Nitrogen	59
3.11.3.4	Total Phosphorus	60
3.11.3.5	Total Suspended Solids	61

CHAPTER 4 NUMERICAL MODEL DESCRIPTION AND CALIBRATION

4.1	MODEL DESCRIPTION	62
4.1.1	Flow	62
4.1.2	Quality	63
4.1.3	Program Stability	64
4.2	SYSTEM SCHEMATIZATION	65
4.3	MODEL INPUT DATA	65

4.4	CALIBRATION CRITERIA	6
4.5	COMPARISON OF SIMULATED RESULTS WITH MEASUREMENTS	6
 CHAPTER 5 MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION OF WATER QUALITY PROCESS		
5.1	MATHEMATICAL FORMULATION OBJECTIVE	7
5.2	FORMULATION APPROACH	7
5.3	DOMINANT PROCESSES	7
5.4	MICRO-ORGANISMS	7
5.5	TOTAL PHOSPHORUS	8
	5.5.1 Organic Phosphorus	8
	5.5.2 Inorganic Phosphorus	8
5.6	TOTAL NITROGEN	8
	5.6.1 Organic Nitrogen	8
	5.6.2 Ammonia Nitrogen	8
	5.6.3 Nitrate Nitrogen	8
5.7	BIOLOGICAL OXYGEN DEMAND	8
5.8	DISSOLVED OXYGEN	8
5.9	SUSPENDED SOLIDS	8
 CHAPTER 6 PROPOSAL FOR IMPROVING INTERVENTIONS		
6.1	MAJOR POLLUTION PROBLEMS	8
6.2	SCOPE OF THE PROPOSED IMPROVING INTERVENTIONS	8
6.3	FIRST INTERVENTION Full Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) at the East Bank of Greater Cairo	8
	6.3.1 Wastewater Treatment Plants	9
	6.3.2 Working Status and Hydraulic Loads	9
	6.3.3 Treatment Efficiency	9
	6.3.4 Estimation of Effluent Concentrations from Cairo	9

6.4	SECOND INTERVENTION	
	Operation of Treatment Plants along the Stretch from Cairo to Lake	
	Manual	94
6.5	THIRD INTERVENTION	
	Wetland	95
	6.5.1 Advantages of Wetland Systems	96
	6.5.2 Objectives of Constructed Engineering Wetland	96
	6.5.3 Types and Treatment Mechanisms	97
	6.5.4 Treatment Efficiency	99
6.6	COMPARISON BETWEEN INTERVENTIONS	99

CHAPTER 7 ANALYSIS OF INTERVENTIONS AND PROPOSITIONS FOR REUSE

7.1	INTRODUCTION	101
7.2	SIMULATION OF WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INTERVENTIONS	101
	7.2.1 First Scenario	
	Primary Treatment WWTPs at Greater Cairo	102
	7.2.2 Second Scenario	
	Full Operation WWTPs at Greater Cairo	105
	7.2.3 Third Scenario	
	Full Operation of WWTPs at Greater Cairo and Major Towns	109
	7.2.4 Fourth Scenario	
	Full Operation WWTPs at Greater Cairo (partial chlorination) and Major Towns	111
	7.2.5 Fifth Scenario	
	Engineering Wetlands	112
7.3	WATER QUALITY INDICES FOR THE SIMULATED SCENARIOS	113
7.4	PROPOSITION FOR REUSE OF DRAINAGE WATER	116
	7.4.1 Existing Reuse Projects	116
	7.4.2 Under Construction Reuse Projects (El Salam Canal Project)	117

7.5	RISK FOR BACK FLOW FROM LAKE MANZALA	118
7.6	MAJOR FINDINGS	119
 CHAPTER 8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS		
8.1	Conclusions	12
8.2	Recommendations	12
 LIST OF REFERENCES		12
APPENDIX		13
ARABIC SUMMARY		