Measures for decreasing of water resources pollution in Slovak Republic

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The intensification and concentration of agriculture during the socialist period in Slovakia (over the years 1948 - 1989) caused, inter alia, also more than tenfold growth of industrial fertilizers consumption (in 1948 - 22,6 kg NPK.ha-1 of farmland and in 1989 - 239,7 kg NPK.ha-1 of farmland). It resulted not only in the increase of agricultural crops harvest but it also participated, together with industrialization of Slovakia, in the environment pollution including water resources, and probably, in the decrease of the average age of the Slovak population (in 1992 - 67,56 years in men and 76,22 years in women), too.

After the year 1990 there was a striking, almost fourfold, reduction of industrial fertilizers consumption but different legislative and administrative proceedings, which should contribute even for the decrease of water resources pollution caused by agricultural activity in Slovakia, have been also taken. There can be ranked among them for example the declaration of:

- more than 1000 protective zones of water resources,
- 10 protective water-resources areas,

and worked-out The Codes of Good Agricultural Practice, for example:

- soil protection,
- principles of good use of fertilizers,
- water protection from nitrate pollution from agricultural resources.

These materials include for example:

- acceptable (limited) values of soil erosion losses,
- terms and conditions of fertilizers application during the year,
- dose determination of industrial fertilizers and manure,
- identification of protective zones boundaries of water resources, etc.

We would like to present the basic principles of these proceedings in our presentation on prepared workshop.