## Occurrence and fate of veterinary pharmaceuticals and antibiotics in soils fertilized with manure and evaluation of their persistence and potential to migrate to groundwater bodies



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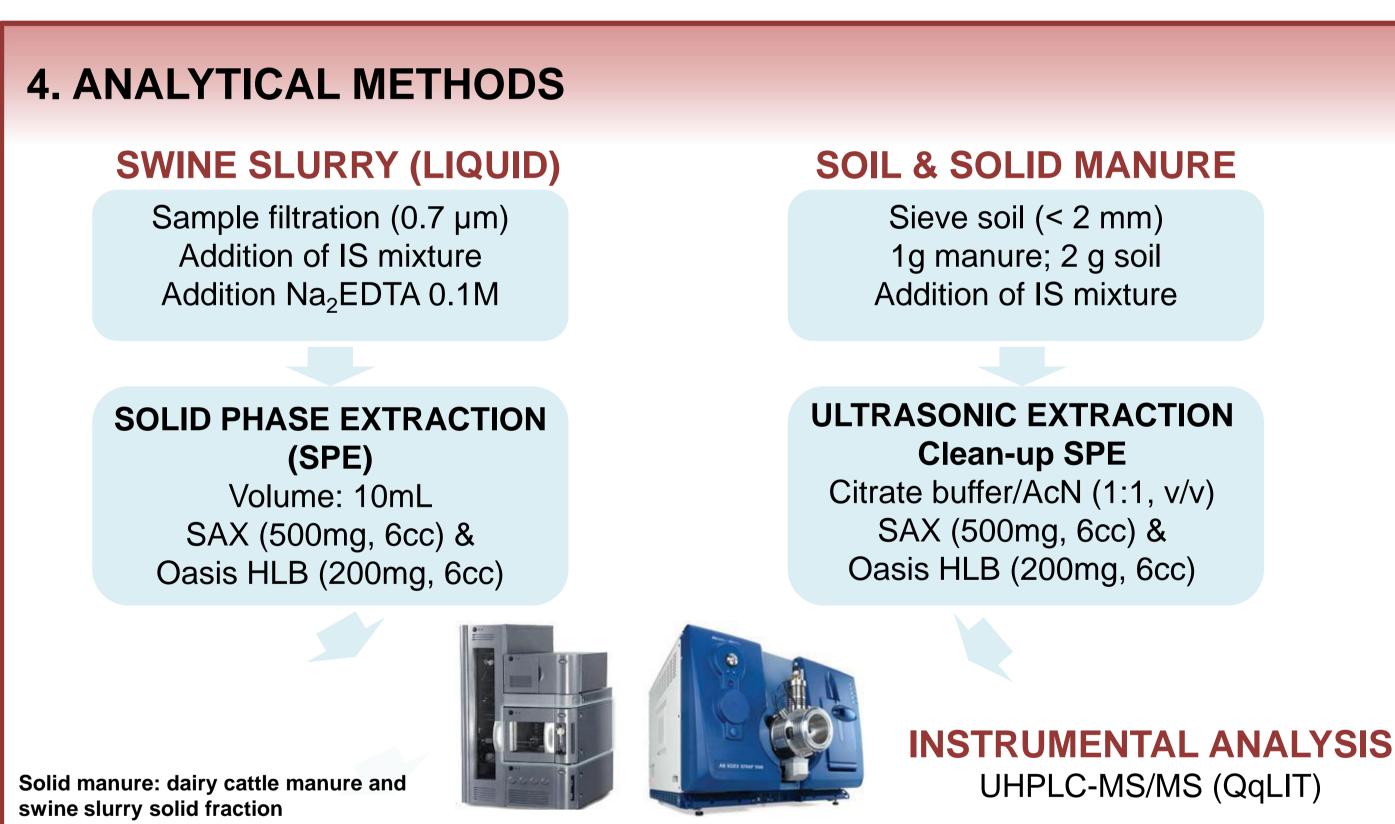


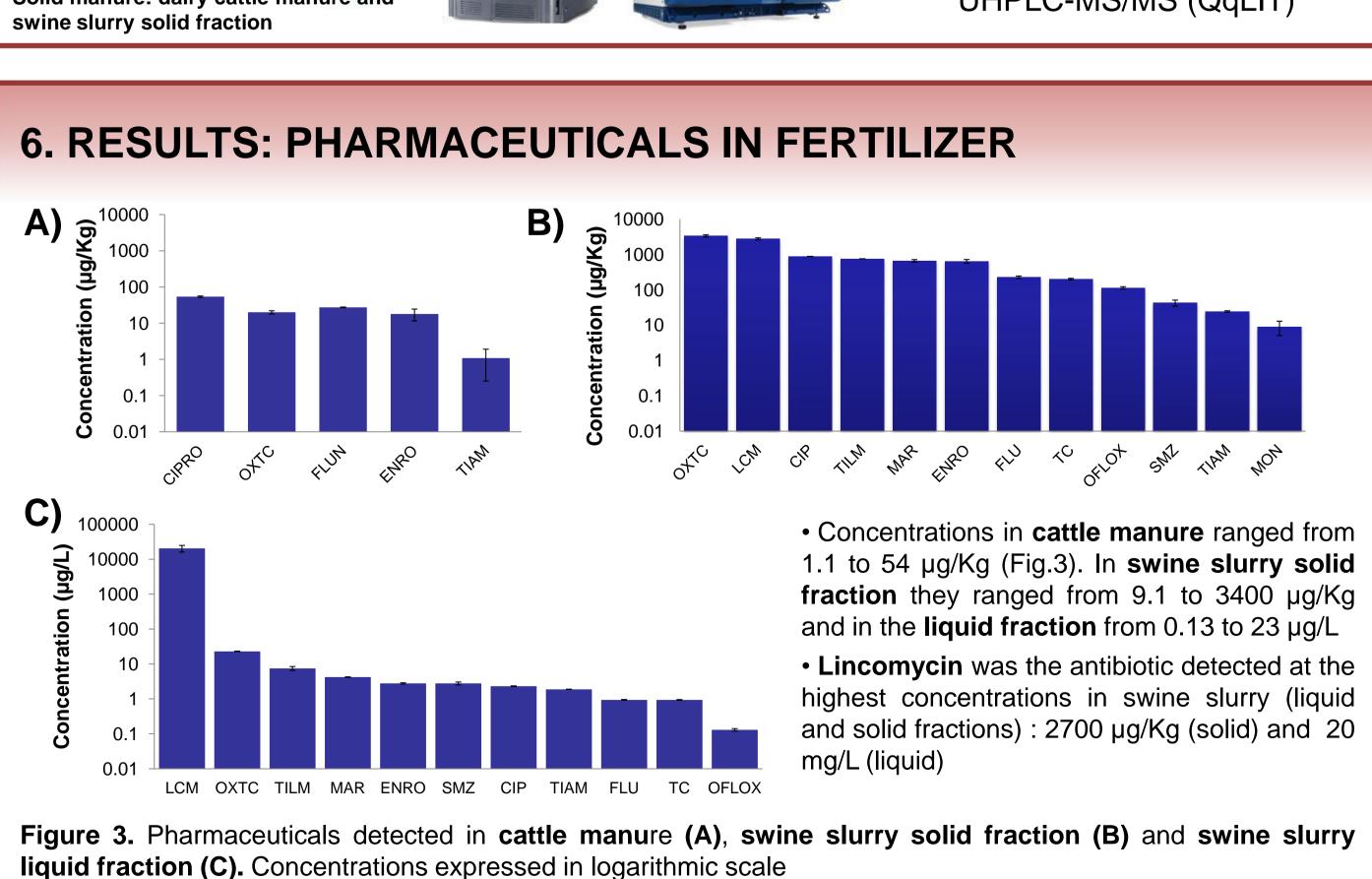
### 1. INTRODUCTION

Animal manure is extensively used as soil fertilizer in agricultural fields as it is rich in nutrients that are beneficial for crop growth and soil conditioning. Nevertheless, animal manure may be an important reservoir of antibiotics and veterinary medicines used in animal husbandry operations. From manure-amended soils, antibiotics and veterinary drugs could be taken up by crops and, thus, enter the human food chain [1], they could leach to surface and groundwater bodies [2] or recalcitrant pharmaceuticals may persist and accumulate in the soil [3]. In this study, the occurrence, distribution and fate of 40 multiple-class antibiotics and veterinary pharmaceuticals was investigated in field experiments fertilized with animal manure, including control plots without fertilization. The fields under study were cultivated with wheat and barley, alternatively. Soil sampling was performed in December 2015, prior to fertilization, and in February and July 2016, two and seven months after fertilization, respectively. Moreover, manure used as soil amendment was also analyzed. Soil samples were taken at four different soil depths to identify the most persistent pollutants that accumulate in soil over time and those with the highest mobility and that are more liable to leach to groundwater bodies and deteriorate groundwater quality.

### 2. FIELD EXPERIMENTS Plots fertilized with 170 kg N/ha: A) cattle manure (2); B) swine slurry (2); 2 control plots (nonfertilized) per treatment. PLOT 1 0-30 cm PLOT 2 30-60 cm **CONTROL 1** 60-90 cm **CONTROL 2** 3 m 90-120 cm Soil texture: sandy loam, calcareous 8-10 m

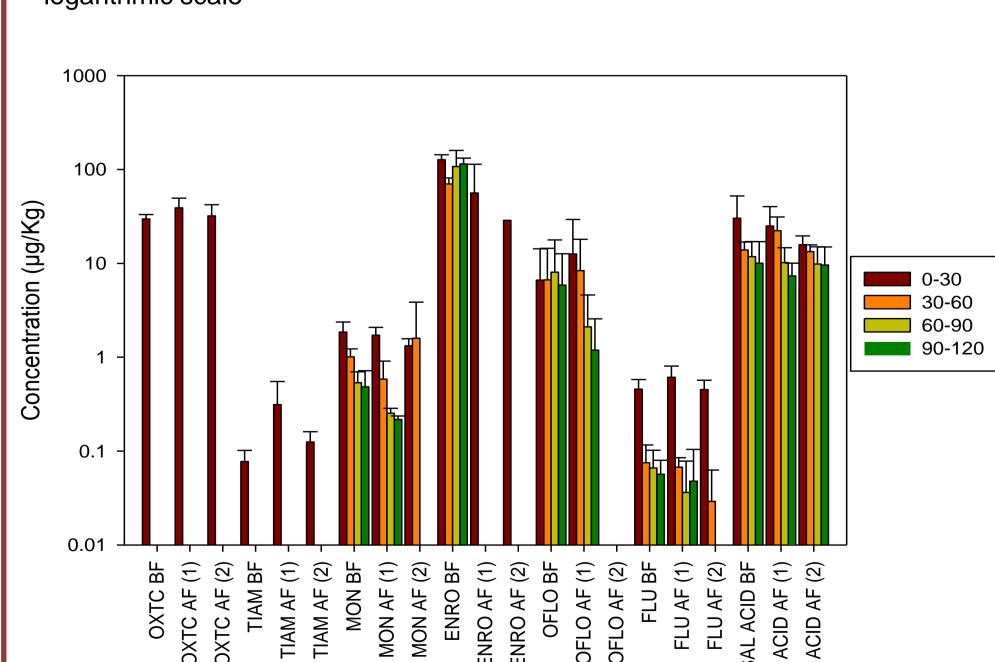
### 3. ANTIBIOTICS AND PHARMACEUTICALS **Antibiotics Antibiotics Pharmaceuticals** Compounds Compounds Compounds Salinomycin **Tetracyclines** Tetracycline **Macrolides** Tilmicosin Anti-protozoan Oxytetracycline **Tylosin** Monensin Doxycycline Spiramycin **Ivermectin** Chlorotetracycline Erythromycin Doramectin Tylvalosin **Toltrazuril Sulfonamides** Sulfamethoxazole Lincomycin Flunixin Lincosamides Ketoprofen Sulfamethazine inflammatories Sulfadimethoxine Diclofenac **B-lactams** Ceftiofur Salicylic acid Sulfamerazine Amoxicillin Flumequine Dexamethasone Quinolones **Glucocorticoids** Oxolinic acid Cinoxacin **Fluoroquinolones** Ciprofloxacin **Antihelmintics** Albendazole Fenbendazole Ofloxacin Enrofloxacin Flubendazole Tiamulin **Others** Danofloxacin Levamisole **Trimethoprim** Marbofloxacin





# 5. RESULTS: PHARMACEUTICALS IN AMENDED SOILS 1000 100 60-90 90-120

- In cattle manure amended soils, three compounds were detected: the fluoroquinolone antibiotic ofloxacin the analgesics and antiinflammatories flunixin and salicylic acid.
- Flunixin was detected at the lowest concentrations in soil (~0.1 µg/Kg)
- Ofloxacin was detected up to 50 μg/Kg in surface soil samples (0-30 cm).
- and ofloxacin flunixin concentrations were observed after fertilization
- Figure 1. Pharmaceuticals detected in plots fertilized with dairy cattle manure (BF: before fertilization; AF (1): samples collected 2 months after fertilization; AF(2): 7 months after fertilization). Concentrations expressed in logarithmic scale



- Up to eight pharmaceuticals were detected in swine slurry fertilized soils. The antibiotic tilmicosin was also found in before and after fertilization (data not shown) at low concentrations (< 3 μg/Kg)
- Enrofloxacin was detected at the highest concentrations (up 100 μg/Kg) at the top layers of soil
- Oxytetracycline and tiamulin showed higher concentrations after fertilization

Figure 2. Pharmaceuticals detected in plots fertilized with swine slurry (BF: before fertilization; AF (1): samples collected 2 months after fertilization; AF(2): 7 months after fertilization). Concentrations expressed in logarithmic scale

### 7. CONCLUSIONS

Preliminary results show that a wider range of veterinary pharmaceuticals were detected in swine slurry compared to cattle manure amended soils. Following the spread of fertilizers in the fields, most veterinary antibiotic residues were distributed at different soil depths (e.g. enrofloxacin, ofloxacin, flubendazole, salicylic acid and monensin), indicating their liability to leach to groundwater bodies. Other substances, such as oxytetracycline, tiamulin and flunixin, tend to accumulate in the surface layers of soil. These results will be complemented with another field experiment where separate solid and liquid fractions of swine slurry are used as soil amendment.

### REFERENCES

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