Woda - Środowisko - Obszary Wiejskie

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DEGRADATION OF A RURAL RIVER IN CLOSE VICINITY OF BIAŁYSTOK

Key words: DOC, nutrients, river, semi-natural catchment, rural, urban, water quality

Summary

Water quality in three small rivers draining areas of different degree of human impact near Białystok was analysed. Physical and chemical parameters of waters in rural and urban areas affected by anthropogenic influence were confronted with semi-natural conditions (a river of forested catchment). Drainage area and specific runoff were the most important factors affecting concentrations of analysed ions (mg·s\(^{-1}\)·km\(^{-2}\)). Water quality of the rural river was similar to that in the urban river. Specific load of nutrients delivered from the agricultural catchment area to the river was considerably smaller than that delivered to the urban river and similar to values found in the semi-natural catchment basin.

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