

Avløp fra landbruk forurenses grunnvannet i Mammoth

Drainage from agriculture pollutes the groundwater in Mammoth Cave

Mammoth Cave in Kentucky is the world's largest, with 530 km of passages. The catchment area is 300 km² and contains much karst and subterranean rivers. Much of the area is agriculture.

The content of chemicals from agriculture has been frequently measured in the groundwater in the cave, which has been shown to be heavily polluted.

In order to find out more about the causes of the pollution a data model has been constructed by means of the programme ArcGIS 9. The model calculates possible drainage volumes from various agricultural areas, taking account of inclining angle, area utilization, and which areas are draining to which surface rivers. Several hundred areas were pinpointed as possible contributors to the cave pollution.