

The many comments made over the years about pollution in the Waikato River always blame the farmers, while very little is caused by them.

The first pollution is in Taupo from the hundreds of old homes' septic systems. Environment Waikato told me that they had not been checked, but the large volume of water in the lake, dilutes their bad effect.

Helicopters spraying 1080 to kill possums had some blow over the far end of the lake, which again was not measurable.

After leaving Taupo, mercury, which is in the deep bore water, that generates power, enters the river and is measurable.

Farmers have recently been blamed for the stagnant water problems, but it is because the nine Hydro Power dams stagnate their dammed water and don't aerate it, so it is Hydro Power's fault. Water could be improved if the hydro dams all sprayed the exiting water into the air, as done in almost all other countries. Google for 'Hydro dams photos' to see some.



Generated water in China.



Surplus water in Australia.

The bacteria E. coli figures in the Waikato River, mainly from dogs, but also from human and all animal faeces are; in Taupo 1, Whakamaru 4, then it increases as it goes through the towns of Cambridge 31, Hamilton 105, Huntly 110, then decreases through farm land to 80 at Tuakau. Environment Waikato told me 16 years ago that dogs spread it, but they are still allowed to swim in the River at the Narrows and at Day's Park on River Road, Hamilton. Their droppings on the river banks run into the river. Farmers are fined up to \$50,000 for much less.

Hamilton City soils, waste and pollution run into the Waikato River as shown here taken in September 2016 near Fairfield Bridge. See Water in www.grazinginfo.com for more.

Environment Waikato told me in 1995 that Hamilton needed at least four sediment ponds. There are still none. Thousands have been built on farms at costs of half a million dollars each or more. This is another example showing that rules for farmers are stricter than for townies. The Waikato Council has forced some farmers to build sediment ponds, but they are negative mistakes because of the cost and that effluent is of more value when fresh and spread daily, not months later during which time much has been lost through the air, polluting it, and lost fertilising value.

To reduce pollution from Soils, read about perfect deep cultivation and shallow drainage in Cultivation and Drainage.

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The many comments made over the years about pollution in the Waikato River always blame the farmers, while very little is caused by them. Some people have accused dairy farmers, for polluting the lake, so I ask them how many there were, and the most said there were about 50. There are only five dairy farms there, all apparently obeying the rules.

