

# Generation of Contaminant Standards

Soil ingestion rate

Inhalation rate

Body Weight

Exposure duration

Exposure Frequency

Exposure duration





# What is a soil contaminant standard?

They are a concentration threshold (mg/kg dry weight soil) at which certain actions are recommended or enforced. They are usually at a concentration where there is a potential calculated risk to human health or the environment.

Target Value

Screening Value

Soil Guideline Value

Cleanup Value

Intervention Value

Trigger Value

Reference Value

# Basis Equation for SCS

$$\text{Intake rate (bw. day)} = \frac{\text{soil concentration} \times \text{contact rate} \times \text{exposure frequency} \times \text{exposure duration}}{\text{body weight} \times \text{averaging time}}$$

Contact rate = values for pathway (ingestion rate, inhalation rate etc)

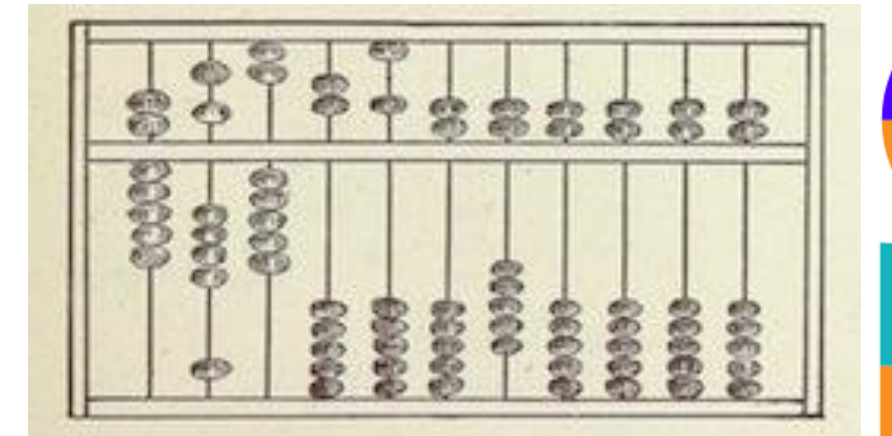
Exposure frequency = days/year

Exposure duration = years

Body weight = kg

Averaging time = exposure duration x 365 (threshold substance)

= life time (75 yrs) x 365 = 27,375 days (non-threshold substance)



# Basis Equation for SCS

Intake rate is compared to an acceptable intake rate for the substance.

Acceptable intake rate

- Tolerable daily intake (TDI) for threshold compounds
- Dose that yields a specified increased cancer risk (in NZ = one additional cancer in 1,000,000 people ( $10^{-5}$ ))

# Basis Equation for SCS

$$SCS = \frac{\textit{acceptable intake} \times \textit{body weight} \times \textit{averaging time}}{\textit{contact rate} \times \textit{exposure frequency} \times \textit{exposure duration}}$$

Acceptable intake = varies for pathway and substance (mg/kg)

Exposure frequency = days/year

Exposure duration = years

Body weight = kg

Averaging time = exposure duration x 365 (threshold substance)

= life time (75 yrs) x 365 = 27,375 days (non-threshold substance)

# Pathway Specific Equations (Threshold)





## DERMAL ABSORPTION

ABSORBING CONTAMINANTS THROUGH SKIN

- Body weight  $BW$
- Skin area  $AR$
- Soil loading on skin  $AD$
- Contaminant's ability to pass from soil through skin  $AF$
- How frequently people are exposed to contaminated soil  $EF$

$$SGV_d = \frac{RHS \times BW \times 365,000,000}{AD \times AF \times EF}$$

### ACCEPTABLE INTAKE OF CONTAMINANT $RHS$

- Contaminant dose that is unlikely to have significant effect on health  $TIV$
- Intake from sources other than soil  $BI$

$$RHS = TIV - BI$$



## SOIL INGESTION

### SWALLOWING DIRT AND DUST

- Body weight  $BW$
- Proportion of contaminant taken up by the body when soil is ingested (bioavailability)  $BA$
- Daily amount of soil ingested  $IR$
- How frequently people are exposed to contaminated soil  $EF$

$$SGV_{Inq} = \frac{RHS \times BW \times 365,000,000 \times BA}{IR \times EF}$$

## ACCEPTABLE INTAKE OF CONTAMINANT RHS

- Contaminant dose that is unlikely to have significant effect on health TIV
- Intake from sources other than soil  $BI$

$$RHS = TIV - BI$$



## DUST INHALATION

INHALING DUST INTO THE LUNGS

- Body weight  $BW$
- Proportion of soil fine enough to become dust  $PEF$
- Daily amount of air inhaled  $IH$
- How frequently people are exposed to contaminated soil  $EF$
- Proportion of dust retained in lungs  $R$

$$SGV_{th} = \frac{RHS \times BW \times PEF \times 365}{IH \times EF \times R}$$

## ACCEPTABLE INTAKE OF CONTAMINANT $RHS$

- Contaminant dose that is unlikely to have significant effect on health  $TIV$
- Intake from sources other than soil  $BI$

$$RHS = TIV - BI$$





## PRODUCE CONSUMPTION

### EATING HOME-GROWN VEGETABLES

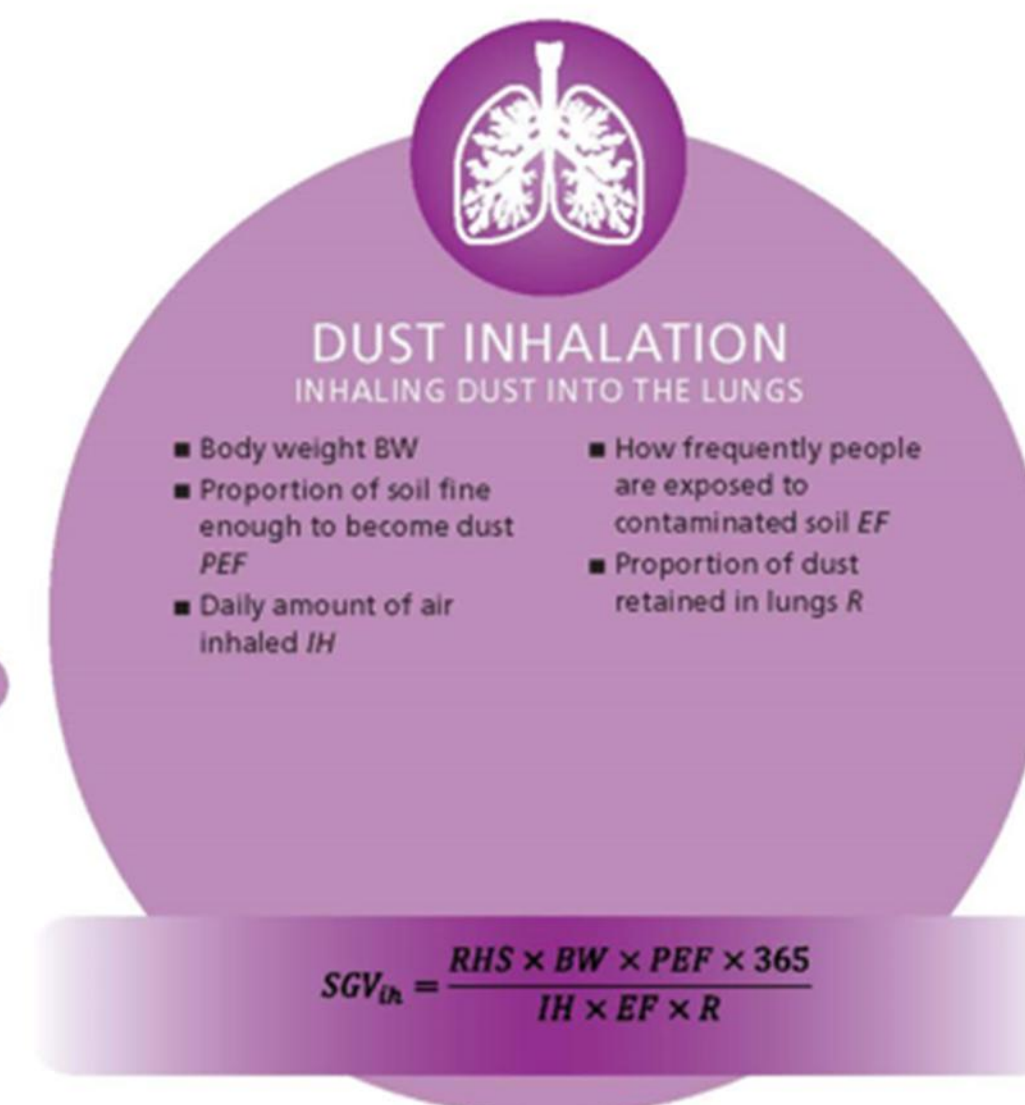
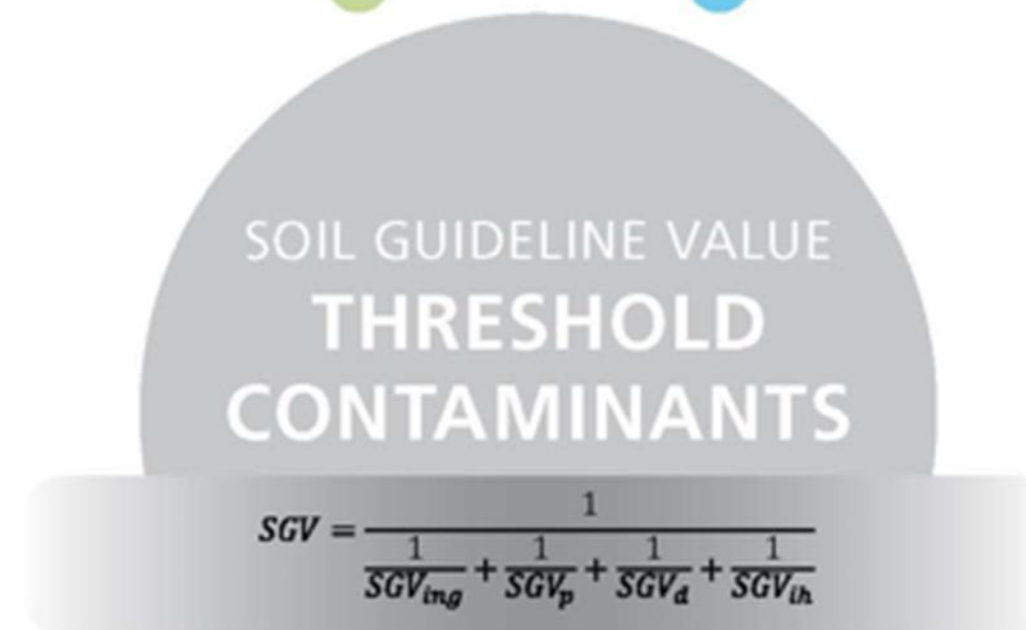
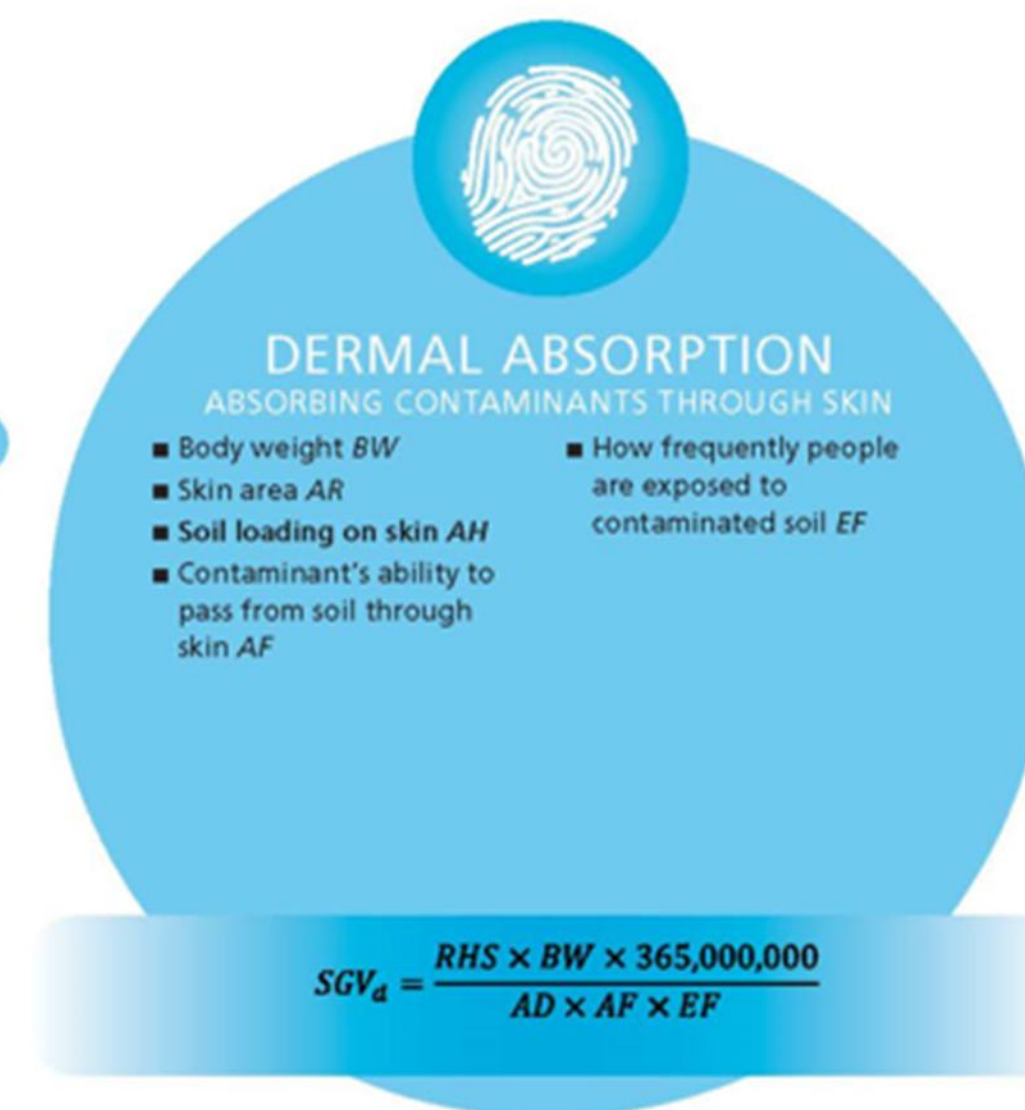
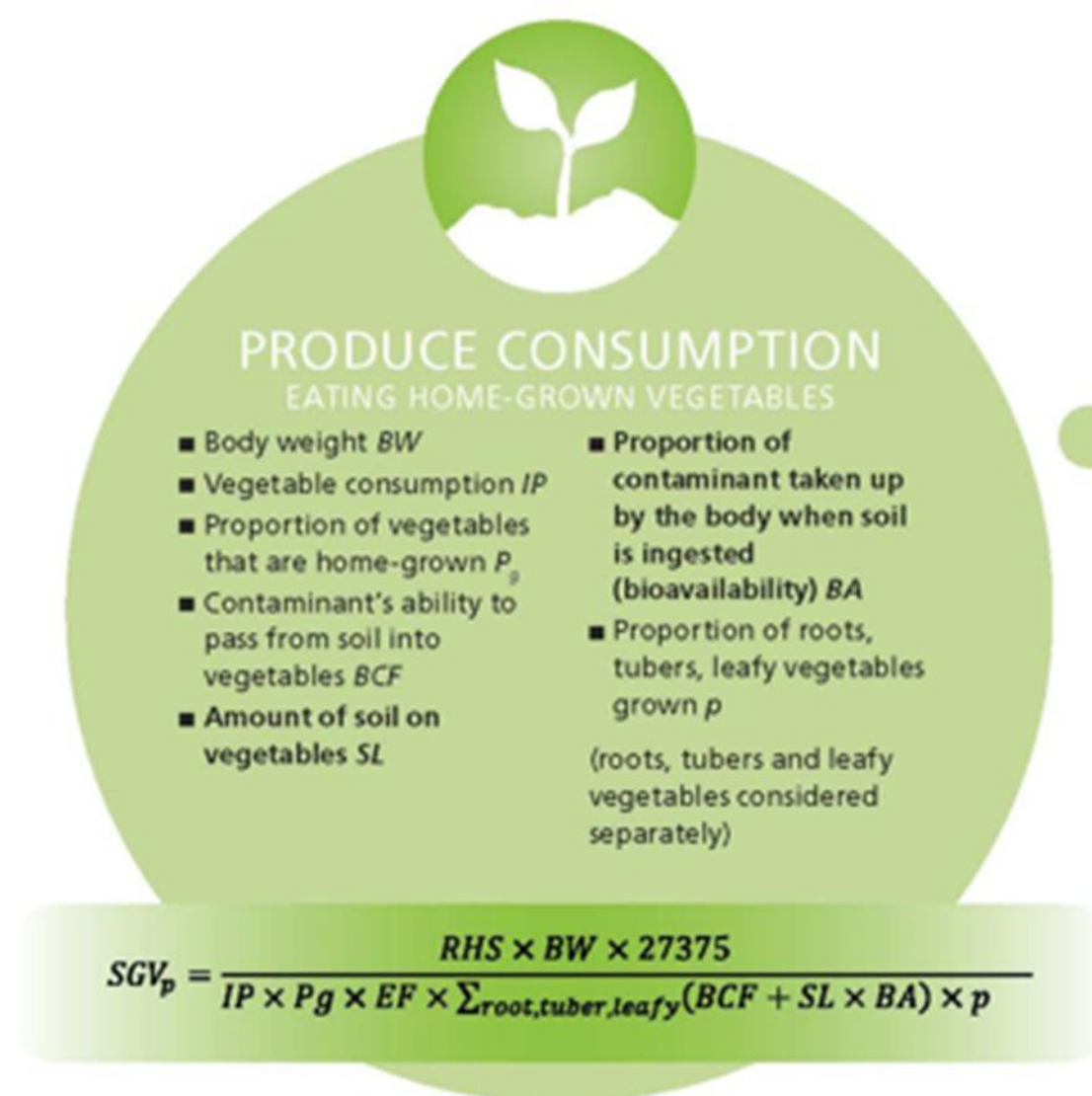
- Body weight  $BW$
- Vegetable consumption  $IP$
- Proportion of vegetables that are home-grown  $P_g$
- Contaminant's ability to pass from soil into vegetables  $BCF$
- Amount of soil on vegetables  $SL$
- Proportion of contaminant taken up by the body when soil is ingested (bioavailability)  $BA$
- Proportion of roots, tubers, leafy vegetables grown  $p$   
(roots, tubers and leafy vegetables considered separately)

$$SGV_p = \frac{RHS \times BW \times 27375}{IP \times P_g \times EF \times \sum_{\text{root, tuber, leafy}} (BCF + SL \times BA) \times p}$$

## ACCEPTABLE INTAKE OF CONTAMINANT RHS

- Contaminant dose that is unlikely to have significant effect on health TIV
- Intake from sources other than soil  $BI$

$$RHS = TIV - BI$$



Parameters that can be varied in site-specific assessment are shown in bold

1. Schematic only, not to be interpreted as an engineering design or construction drawing  
2. DRAWN BY: VG REVIEWED BY: HG

# Assumptions – Lots of them

Body weight (kg) – 70kg adult, 15 kg child

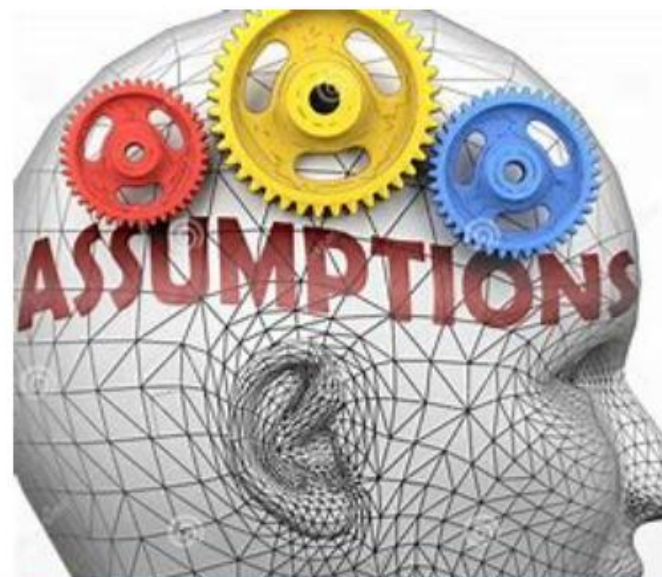
Exposed skin area (cm<sup>2</sup>) – Can change with PPE requirements

Ingestion rate (mg/soil/day) – (25 to 100 mg/day)

Proportion of vegetables home grown – What is a good estimate

Exposure frequency and duration – days per year, hours per day

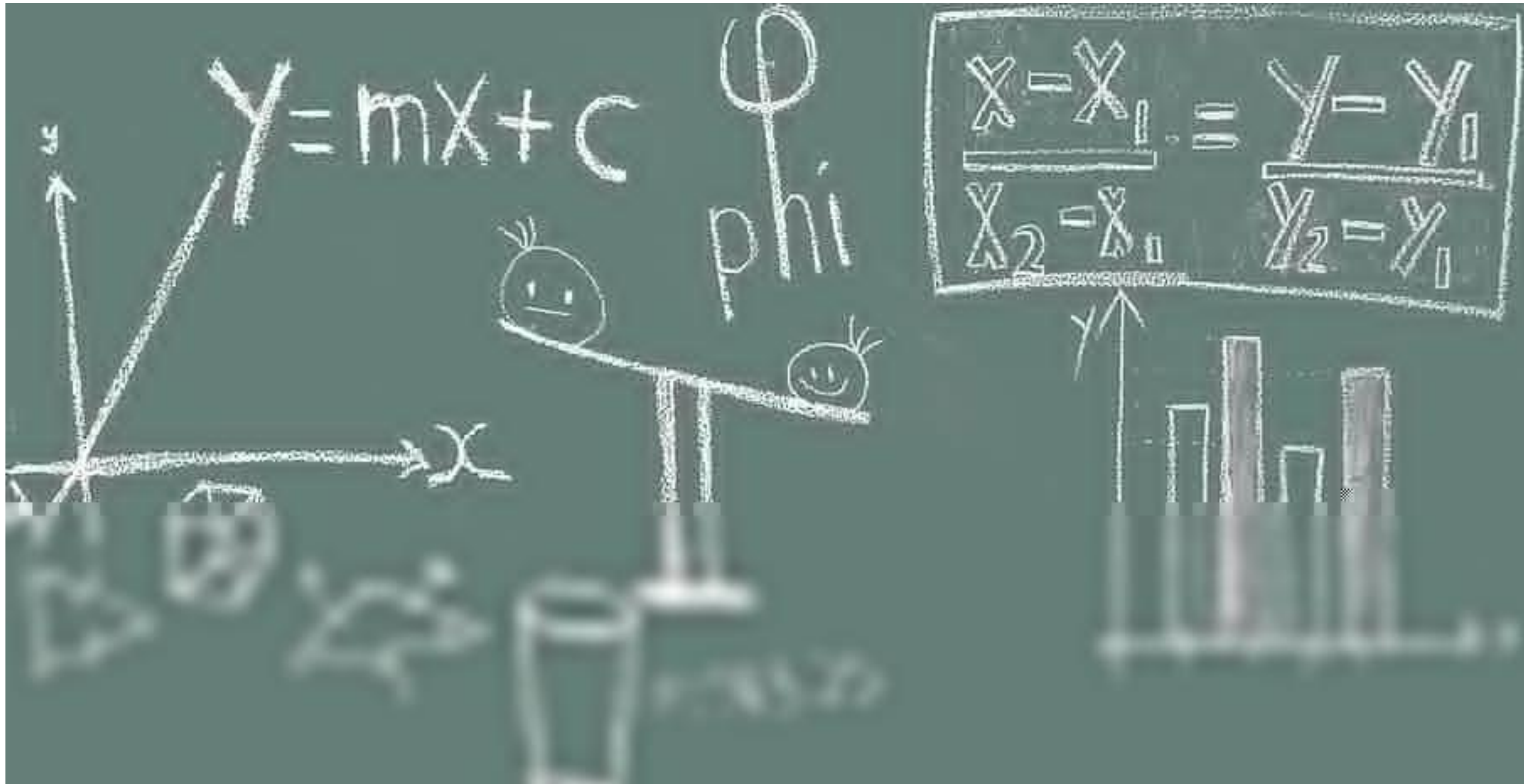
.....



## Assumptions

Essential educated guesses about future conditions that drive decision-making and forecasting.

# Examples



# Site Specific SCS for Arsenic

Exposure Factor		Units	Adopted Park User Specific Assumptions					
			Child Playing in Park		Parent Supervising Children	Jogger / Pedestrian	Park Groundsman	
Scenario			Residential		Lifestyle			
Body Weight	Receptor	kg	15	Child	Adult	Child	70	
Exposure duration	Years		6	12	12	24	24	
Averaging Time	Home-grown produce consumption	Years	70	10%	70	25%	70	70
CARCINOGENS	Combined soil guideline value	mg/kg	19	61	17	240	52	
Exposure frequency	Eliminate produce	days/year	104	24	10	21	100	
Soil Ingestion Rate	AND Reduce ingestion by	mg/day	100	48	4700	42	4700	
Area of Exposed Skin		cm <sup>2</sup>	2625	50%	0.5	104	1	
Soil Adherence		mg/cm <sup>2</sup>	0.5	80%	119	0.5	9.6	
Inhalation rate		m <sup>3</sup> /d	3.8	20	20		0.75	
Proportion of particles retained in lungs			0.75	0.75	0.75		0.75	
Acceptable Concentration		mg/kg	83.0	132.2	130.4		62.3	



# Takeaways

1. Tier 1 SGV are conservative
2. Assumptions are based on whole of population data
3. Challenge the status quo

**Warning: get calculations peer reviewed**

