



The percentage-wise contribution of different MPs sources in the agricultural soils.

2. Indirect Pathways

Indirect pathways involve

- atmospheric deposition
- surface runoff
- flooding and soil erosion
- contaminated groundwater

Atmospheric Deposition: Airborne MPs are deposited onto soils during rainfall, even in remote agricultural areas.

Surface Runoff: Rainwater runoff collects and transports MPs from urban and industrial surfaces into soils and nearby ecosystems.

Flooding and Soil Erosion: Flood events mobilise and redistribute MPs into floodplains and agricultural soils through erosion and sediment transport.

Contaminated groundwater: MPs can indirectly contaminate groundwater by leaching through soil layers during rainfall or irrigation. These particles, along with adsorbed toxins, infiltrate aquifers, posing risks to water quality and health.

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PATHWAYS OF MICROPLASTICS CONTAMINATION IN SOIL ECOSYSTEMS



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