



USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference

Status of Microbial Sources Tracking and its Implications for Water Protection

Safe drinking water begins with source water protection.

MST is a valuable tool for watershed management and TMDL development.

MST techniques are still under development.

Needs for further research:

- Other source identifiers: *Bacteroides*

- Library size

- Geographic variability

- Temporal variability

- Search for better library-independent methods

- Host specificity of microorganisms

- Genetic change associated with habitat change

Author: Yucheng Feng Department of Agronomy & Soils Auburn University