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Rainfall Infiltration Modeling

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Message from the Guest Editors

Rainfall infiltration is an important part of the physics of the hydrologic cycle and plays a crucial role in the formation of surface runoff, providing subsurface water that governs the water supply for agriculture, the transport of pollutants through the vadose zone and the recharge of aquifers.

The spatio-temporal evolution of the infiltration rate under natural conditions cannot be currently deduced by direct measurement at any scale of interest in applied hydrology, therefore the use of infiltration modeling that allows it to be described through measurable quantities is of fundamental importance.

In spite of the continuous development of infiltration modeling, the estimation of infiltration at different spatial scales, i.e. from the local to the watershed scale, is a complex problem because of the natural spatial variability of both soil hydraulic characteristics and rainfall.









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