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Invertebrate life cycle responses to PAC exposure

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Publication date

2009

Document Version

Final published version

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

León Paumen, M. (2009). *Invertebrate life cycle responses to PAC exposure*. Universiteit van Amsterdam.

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Miriam León Paumen holds an M.Sc. in General Biology and Ecology from the University of Barcelona, Spain (2002). From 2002 to 2004 she worked as research assistant at the department of Aquatic Ecology and Ecotoxicology of the University of Amsterdam, on a project dealing with (bio)availability and community effects of heavy metal contamination in floodplains of the River Rhine. In 2004 she started her PhD project, splitting her time between the University of Amsterdam and the VU University of Amsterdam. This project dealt with the long term effects of several Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds on benthic and terrestrial invertebrates, with the goal of gaining insight in the implications of long term exposure for PAC risk assessment. In October 2008 she joined the Brussels office of the Toxicology and Environmental Sciences Division of ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences (EMBSI).

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