

Formula/Conversion Table

Wastewater Treatment, Collection, Industrial Waste,
& Wastewater Laboratory Exams



$$\text{Alkalinity, mg/L as CaCO}_3 = \frac{(\text{Titrant Volume, mL})(\text{Acid Normality})(50,000)}{\text{Sample Volume, mL}}$$

$$\text{Amps} = \frac{\text{Volts}}{\text{Ohms}}$$

$$\text{Area of Circle}^* = (0.785)(\text{Diameter}^2)$$

$$\text{Area of Circle} = (3.14)(\text{Radius}^2)$$

$$\text{Area of Cone (lateral area)} = (3.14)(\text{Radius})\sqrt{\text{Radius}^2 + \text{Height}^2}$$

$$\text{Area of Cone (total surface area)} = (3.14)(\text{Radius})(\text{Radius} + \sqrt{\text{Radius}^2 + \text{Height}^2})$$

$$\text{Area of Cylinder (total exterior surface area)} = [\text{End \#1 SA}] + [\text{End \#2 SA}] + [(3.14)(\text{Diameter})(\text{Height or Depth})]$$

Where SA = surface area

$$\text{Area of Rectangle}^* = (\text{Length})(\text{Width})$$

$$\text{Area of Right Triangle}^* = \frac{(\text{Base})(\text{Height})}{2}$$

$$\text{Average (arithmetic mean)} = \frac{\text{Sum of All Terms}}{\text{Number of Terms}}$$

$$\text{Average (geometric mean)} = [(X_1)(X_2)(X_3)(X_4)(X_n)]^{1/n} \quad \textit{The nth root of the product of n numbers}$$

$$\text{Biochemical Oxygen Demand (seeded), mg/L} = \frac{[(\text{Initial DO, mg/L}) - (\text{Final DO, mg/L}) - \text{Seed Correction Factor, mg/L}][300 \text{ mL}]}{\text{mL of Sample}}$$

$$\text{Biochemical Oxygen Demand (unseeded), mg/L} = \frac{[(\text{Initial DO, mg/L}) - (\text{Final DO, mg/L})][300 \text{ mL}]}{\text{mL of Sample}}$$

$$\# \text{ CFU/100mL} = \frac{[(\# \text{ of Colonies on Plate})(100)]}{\text{mL of Sample}}$$

$$\text{Chemical Feed Pump Setting, \% Stroke} = \frac{\text{Desired Flow}}{\text{Maximum Flow}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Chemical Feed Pump Setting, mL/min} = \frac{(\text{Flow, MGD})(\text{Dose, mg/L})(3.785 \text{ L/gal})(1,000,000 \text{ gal/MG})}{(\text{Feed Chemical Density, mg/mL})(1,440 \text{ min/day})}$$

$$\text{Chemical Feed Pump Setting, mL/min} = \frac{(\text{Flow, m}^3/\text{day})(\text{Dose, mg/L})}{(\text{Feed Chemical Density, g/cm}^3)(\text{Active Chemical, \% expressed as a decimal})(1,440 \text{ min/day})}$$

*Pie Wheel Format for this equation
is available at the end of this document

$$\text{Circumference of Circle} = (3.14)(\text{Diameter})$$

$$\text{Composite Sample Single Portion} = \frac{(\text{Instantaneous Flow})(\text{Total Sample Volume})}{(\text{Number of Portions})(\text{Average Flow})}$$

$$\text{Cycle Time, min} = \frac{\text{Storage Volume, gal}}{(\text{Pump Capacity, gpm}) - (\text{Wet Well Inflow, gpm})}$$

$$\text{Cycle Time, min} = \frac{\text{Storage Volume, m}^3}{(\text{Pump Capacity, m}^3/\text{min}) - (\text{Wet Well Inflow, m}^3/\text{min})}$$

$$\text{Degrees Celsius} = \frac{(\text{°F} - 32)}{1.8}$$

$$\text{Degrees Fahrenheit} = (\text{°C})(1.8) + 32$$

$$\text{Detention Time} = \frac{\text{Volume}}{\text{Flow}} \quad \text{Units must be compatible}$$

$$\text{Electromotive Force, volts*} = (\text{Current, amps})(\text{Resistance, ohms})$$

$$\text{Feed Rate, lb/day*} = \frac{(\text{Dosage, mg/L})(\text{Flow, MGD})(8.34 \text{ lb/gal})}{\text{Purity, \% expressed as a decimal}}$$

$$\text{Feed Rate, kg/day*} = \frac{(\text{Dosage, mg/L})(\text{Flow Rate, m}^3/\text{day})}{(\text{Purity, \% expressed as a decimal})(1,000)}$$

$$\text{Filter Backwash Rate, gpm/ft}^2 = \frac{\text{Flow, gpm}}{\text{Filter Area, ft}^2}$$

$$\text{Filter Backwash Rate, L/m}^2 = \frac{\text{Flow, L/sec}}{\text{Filter Area, m}^2}$$

$$\text{Filter Backwash Rise Rate, in/min} = \frac{(\text{Backwash Rate, gpm/ft}^2)(12 \text{ in/ft})}{7.48 \text{ gal/ft}^3}$$

$$\text{Filter Backwash Rise Rate, cm/min} = \frac{\text{Water Rise, cm}}{\text{Time, min}}$$

$$\text{Filter Yield, lb/hr/ft}^2 = \frac{(\text{Solids Loading, lb/day})(\text{Recovery, \% expressed as a decimal})}{(\text{Filter Operation, hr/day})(\text{Area, ft}^2)}$$

$$\text{Filter Yield, kg/hr/m}^2 = \frac{(\text{Solids Concentration, \% expressed as a decimal})(\text{Sludge Feed Rate, L/hr})(10)}{(\text{Surface Area of Filter, m}^2)}$$

$$\text{Flow Rate, ft}^3/\text{sec*} = (\text{Area, ft}^2)(\text{Velocity, ft/sec})$$

$$\text{Flow Rate, m}^3/\text{sec*} = (\text{Area, m}^2)(\text{Velocity, m/sec})$$

$$\text{Food/Microorganism Ratio} = \frac{\text{BOD}_5, \text{ lb/day}}{\text{MLVSS, lb}}$$

*Pie Wheel Format for this equation is available at the end of this document

$$\text{Food/Microorganism Ratio} = \frac{\text{BOD}_5, \text{ kg/day}}{\text{MLVSS, kg}}$$

$$\text{Force, lb}^* = (\text{Pressure, psi})(\text{Area, in}^2)$$

$$\text{Force, newtons}^* = (\text{Pressure, pascals})(\text{Area, m}^2)$$

$$\text{Hardness, as mg CaCO}_3/\text{L} = \frac{(\text{Titrant Volume, mL})(1,000)}{\text{Sample Volume, mL}} \quad \text{Only when the titration factor is 1.00 of EDTA}$$

$$\text{Horsepower, Brake, hp} = \frac{(\text{Flow, gpm})(\text{Head, ft})}{(3,960)(\text{Pump Efficiency, \% expressed as a decimal})}$$

$$\text{Horsepower, Brake, kW} = \frac{(9.8)(\text{Flow, m}^3/\text{sec})(\text{Head, m})}{(\text{Pump Efficiency, \% expressed as a decimal})}$$

$$\text{Horsepower, Motor, hp} = \frac{(\text{Flow, gpm})(\text{Head, ft})}{(3,960)(\text{Pump Efficiency, \% expressed as a decimal})(\text{Motor Efficiency, \% expressed as a decimal})}$$

$$\text{Horsepower, Motor, kW} = \frac{(9.8)(\text{Flow, m}^3/\text{sec})(\text{Head, m})}{(\text{Pump Efficiency, \% expressed as a decimal})(\text{Motor Efficiency, \% expressed as a decimal})}$$

$$\text{Horsepower, Water, hp} = \frac{(\text{Flow, gpm})(\text{Head, ft})}{3,960}$$

$$\text{Horsepower, Water, kW} = (9.8)(\text{Flow, m}^3/\text{sec})(\text{Head, m})$$

$$\text{Hydraulic Loading Rate, gpd/ft}^2 = \frac{\text{Total Flow Applied, gpd}}{\text{Area, ft}^2}$$

$$\text{Hydraulic Loading Rate, m}^3/\text{day/m}^2 = \frac{\text{Total Flow Applied, m}^3/\text{day}}{\text{Area, m}^2}$$

$$\text{Loading Rate, lb/day}^* = (\text{Flow, MGD})(\text{Concentration, mg/L})(8.34 \text{ lb/gal})$$

$$\text{Loading Rate, kg/day}^* = \frac{(\text{Volume, m}^3 / \text{day})(\text{Concentration, mg/L})}{1,000}$$

$$\text{Mass, lb}^* = (\text{Volume, MG})(\text{Concentration, mg/L})(8.34 \text{ lb/gal})$$

$$\text{Mass, kg}^* = \frac{(\text{Volume, m}^3)(\text{Concentration, mg/L})}{1,000}$$

$$\text{Mean Cell Residence Time or Solids Retention Time, days} = \frac{(\text{Aeration Tank TSS, lb}) + (\text{Clarifier TSS, lb})}{(\text{TSS Wasted, lb/day}) + (\text{Effluent TSS, lb/day})}$$

$$\text{Milliequivalent} = (\text{mL})(\text{Normality})$$

$$\text{Molarity} = \frac{\text{Moles of Solute}}{\text{Liters of Solution}}$$

$$\text{Motor Efficiency, \%} = \frac{\text{Brake hp}}{\text{Motor hp}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Normality} = \frac{\text{Number of Equivalent Weights of Solute}}{\text{Liters of Solution}}$$

$$\text{Number of Equivalent Weights} = \frac{\text{Total Weight}}{\text{Equivalent Weight}}$$

$$\text{Number of Moles} = \frac{\text{Total Weight}}{\text{Molecular Weight}}$$

$$\text{Organic Loading Rate-RBC, lb SBOD}_5\text{/day/1,000 ft}^2 = \frac{\text{Organic Load, lb SBOD}_5\text{/day}}{\text{Surface Area of Media, 1,000 ft}^2}$$

$$\text{Organic Loading Rate-RBC, kg SBOD}_5\text{/m}^2\text{ days} = \frac{\text{Organic Load, kg SBOD}_5\text{/day}}{\text{Surface Area of Media, m}^2}$$

$$\text{Organic Loading Rate-Trickling Filter, lb BOD}_5\text{/day/1,000 ft}^3 = \frac{\text{Organic Load, lb BOD}_5\text{/day}}{\text{Volume, 1,000 ft}^3}$$

$$\text{Organic Loading Rate-Trickling Filter, kg/m}^3\text{ days} = \frac{\text{Organic Load, kg BOD}_5\text{/day}}{\text{Volume, m}^3}$$

$$\text{Oxygen Uptake Rate or Oxygen Consumption Rate, mg/L/min} = \frac{\text{Oxygen Usage, mg/L}}{\text{Time, min}}$$

$$\text{Population Equivalent, Organic} = \frac{(\text{Flow, MGD})(\text{BOD, mg/L})(8.34 \text{ lb/gal})}{0.17 \text{ lb BOD/day/person}}$$

$$\text{Population Equivalent, Organic} = \frac{(\text{Flow, m}^3\text{/day})(\text{BOD, mg/L})}{(1,000)(0.077 \text{ kg BOD/day/person})}$$

$$\text{Power, kW} = \frac{(\text{Flow, L/sec})(\text{Head, m})(9.8)}{1,000}$$

$$\text{Recirculation Ratio-Trickling Filter} = \frac{\text{Recirculated Flow}}{\text{Primary Effluent Flow}}$$

$$\text{Reduction of Volatile Solids, \%} = \left(\frac{\text{VS in} - \text{VS out}}{\text{VS in} - (\text{VS in} \times \text{VS out})} \right) \times 100\%$$

All information (In and Out) must be in decimal form

$$\text{Removal, \%} = \left(\frac{\text{In} - \text{Out}}{\text{In}} \right) \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Return Rate, \%} = \frac{\text{Return Flow Rate}}{\text{Influent Flow Rate}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Return Sludge Rate-Solids Balance} = \frac{(\text{MLSS, mg/L})(\text{Flow Rate, MGD})}{(\text{RAS Suspended Solids}) - (\text{MLSS, mg/L})}$$

$$\text{Slope, \%} = \frac{\text{Drop or Rise}}{\text{Distance}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Sludge Density Index} = \frac{100}{\text{SVI}}$$

$$\text{Sludge Volume Index, mL/g} = \frac{(\text{SSV}_{30}, \text{mL/L})(1,000 \text{ mg/g})}{\text{MLSS, mg/L}}$$

$$\text{Solids, mg/L} = \frac{(\text{Dry Solids, g})(1,000,000)}{\text{Sample Volume, mL}}$$

$$\text{Solids Capture, \% (Centrifuges)} = \left[\frac{\text{Cake TS, \%}}{\text{Feed Sludge TS, \%}} \right] \times \left[\frac{(\text{Feed Sludge TS, \%}) - (\text{Centrate TSS, \%})}{(\text{Cake TS, \%}) - (\text{Centrate TSS, \%})} \right] \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Solids Concentration, mg/L} = \frac{\text{Weight, mg}}{\text{Volume, L}}$$

$$\text{Solids Loading Rate, lb/day/ft}^2 = \frac{\text{Solids Applied, lb/day}}{\text{Surface Area, ft}^2}$$

$$\text{Solids Loading Rate, kg/day/m}^2 = \frac{\text{Solids Applied, kg/day}}{\text{Surface Area, m}^2}$$

Solids Retention Time: *see Mean Cell Residence Time*

$$\text{Specific Gravity} = \frac{\text{Specific Weight of Substance, lb/gal}}{8.34 \text{ lb/gal}}$$

$$\text{Specific Gravity} = \frac{\text{Specific Weight of Substance, kg/L}}{1.0 \text{ kg/L}}$$

$$\text{Specific Oxygen Uptake Rate or Respiration Rate, (mg/g)/hr} = \frac{\text{SOUR, mg/L/min (60 min)}}{\text{MLVSS, g/L (1 hr)}}$$

$$\text{Surface Loading Rate or Surface Overflow Rate, gpd/ft}^2 = \frac{\text{Flow, gpd}}{\text{Area, ft}^2}$$

$$\text{Surface Loading Rate or Surface Overflow Rate, Lpd/m}^2 = \frac{\text{Flow, Lpd}}{\text{Area, m}^2}$$

Three Normal Equation = $(C_1 \times V_1) + (C_2 \times V_2) = (C_3 \times V_3)$ *Where $V_1 + V_2 = V_3$; C = concentration, V = volume or flow; Concentration units must match; Volume units must match*

$$\text{Total Solids, \%} = \frac{(\text{Dried Weight, g}) - (\text{Tare Weight, g})(100)}{(\text{Wet Weight, g}) - (\text{Tare Weight, g})}$$

Two Normal Equation = $(C_1 \times V_1) = (C_2 \times V_2)$ *Where C = Concentration, V = volume or flow; Concentration units must match; Volume units must match*

$$\text{Velocity, ft/sec} = \frac{\text{Flow Rate, ft}^3 / \text{sec}}{\text{Area, ft}^2}$$

$$\text{Velocity, ft/sec} = \frac{\text{Distance, ft}}{\text{Time, sec}}$$

$$\text{Velocity, m/sec} = \frac{\text{Flow Rate, m}^3 / \text{sec}}{\text{Area, m}^2}$$

$$\text{Velocity, m/sec} = \frac{\text{Distance, m}}{\text{Time, sec}}$$

$$\text{Volatile Solids, \%} = \left[\frac{(\text{Dry Solids, g}) - (\text{Fixed Solids, g})}{(\text{Dry Solids, g})} \right] \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Volume of Cone}^* = (1/3)(0.785)(\text{Diameter}^2)(\text{Height})$$

$$\text{Volume of Cylinder}^* = (0.785)(\text{Diameter}^2)(\text{Height})$$

$$\text{Volume of Rectangular Tank}^* = (\text{Length})(\text{Width})(\text{Height})$$

$$\text{Waste Milliequivalent} = (\text{mL})(\text{Normality})$$

$$\text{Water Use, gpcd} = \frac{\text{Volume of Water Produced, gpd}}{\text{Population}}$$

$$\text{Water Use, Lpcd} = \frac{\text{Volume of Water Produced, Lpd}}{\text{Population}}$$

$$\text{Watts (AC circuit)} = (\text{Volts})(\text{Amps})(\text{Power Factor})$$

$$\text{Watts (DC circuit)} = (\text{Volts})(\text{Amps})$$

$$\text{Weir Overflow Rate, gpd/ft} = \frac{\text{Flow, gpd}}{\text{Weir Length, ft}}$$

$$\text{Weir Overflow Rate, Lpd/m} = \frac{\text{Flow, Lpd}}{\text{Weir Length, m}}$$

$$\text{Wire-to-Water Efficiency, \%} = \frac{\text{Water hp}}{\text{Motor hp}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Wire-to-Water Efficiency, \%} = \frac{(\text{Flow, gpm})(\text{Total Dynamic Head, ft})(0.746 \text{ kW/hp})(100\%)}{(3,960)(\text{Electrical Demand, kW})}$$

*Pie Wheel Format for this equation is available at the end of this document

Abbreviations

atm atmospheres	MGDmillion US gallons per day
BOD₅ biochemical oxygen demand	mg/Lmilligrams per liter
C Celsius	minminutes
CBOD₅ carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand	mLmilliliters
cfs cubic feet per second	MLmillion liters
cm centimeters	MLDmillion liters per day
COD chemical oxygen demand	MLSSmixed liquor suspended solids
DO dissolved oxygen	MLVSSmixed liquor volatile suspended solids
EMF electromotive force	OCRoxygen consumption rate
F Fahrenheit	ORPoxidation reduction potential
F/M ratio food to microorganism ratio	OURoxygen uptake rate
ft feet	PEpopulation equivalent
ft lb foot-pound	ppbparts per billion
g grams	ppmparts per million
gal US gallons	psipounds per square inch
gfd US gallons flux per day	Qflow
gpcd US gallons per capita per day	RASreturn activated sludge
gpd US gallons per day	RBCrotating biological contactor
gpg grains per US gallon	RPMrevolutions per minute
gpm US gallons per minute	SBOD₅Soluble BOD
hp horsepower	SDIsludge density index
hr hours	secsecond
in inches	SOURspecific oxygen uptake rate
kg kilograms	SRTsolids retention time
km kilometers	SSsettleable solids
kPa kilopascals	SSV₃₀settled sludge volume 30 minute
kW kilowatts	SVIsludge volume index
kWh kilowatt-hours	TOCtotal organic carbon
L liters	TStotal solids
lb pounds	TSStotal suspended solids
Lpcd liters per capita per day	VSvolatile solids
Lpd liters per day	VSSvolatile suspended solids
Lpm liters per minute	Wwatts
LSI Langelier Saturation Index	WASwaste activated sludge
m meters	ydyards
MCRT mean cell residence time	yryears
MG million US gallons	

Conversion Factors

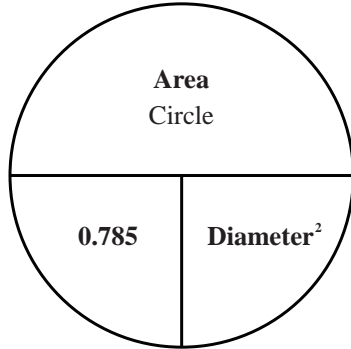
1 acre = 43,560 ft ² = 4,046.9 m ²	1 inch = 2.54 cm
1 acre foot of water = 326,000 gal	1 liter per second = 0.0864 MLD
1 atm = 33.9 ft of water = 10.3 m of water = 14.7 psi = 101.3 kPa	1 meter of water = 9.8 kPa
1 cubic foot of water = 7.48 gal = 62.4 lb	1 metric ton = 2,205 lb = 1,000 kg
1 cubic foot per second = 0.646 MGD = 448.8 gpm	1 mile = 5,280 ft = 1.61 km
1 cubic meter of water = 1,000 kg = 1,000 L = 264 gal	1 million US gallons per day = 694 gpm = 1.55 ft ³ /sec
1 foot = 0.305 m	1 pound = 0.454 kg
1 foot of water = 0.433 psi	1 pound per square inch = 2.31 ft of water = 6.89 kPa
1 gallon (US) = 3.785 L = 8.34 lb of water	1 square meter = 1.19 yd ²
1 grain per US gallon = 17.1 mg/L	1 ton = 2,000 lb
1 hectare = 10,000 m ²	1% = 10,000 mg/L
1 horsepower = 0.746 kW = 746 W = 33,000 ft lb/min	π or pi = 3.14
	Population Equivalent, hydraulic = 100 gal/person/day = 378.5 L/person/day
	Population Equivalent, organic = 0.17 lb BOD/person/day = 0.077 kg BOD/person/day

*Pie Wheel Format for this equation is available at the end of this document

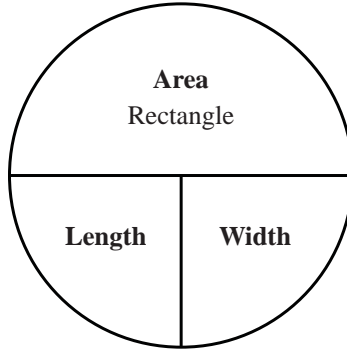
***Pie Wheels**

- To find the quantity above the horizontal line: multiply the pie wedges below the line together.
- To solve for one of the pie wedges below the horizontal line: cover that pie wedge, then divide the remaining pie wedge(s) into the quantity above the horizontal line.
- Given units must match the units shown in the pie wheel.
- When US and metric units or values differ, the metric is shown in parentheses, e.g. (m²).

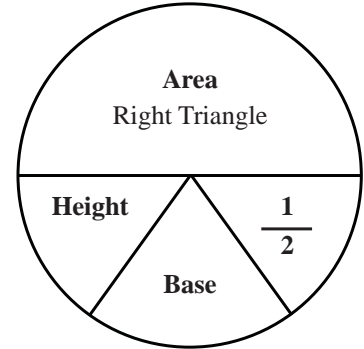
Area of Circle



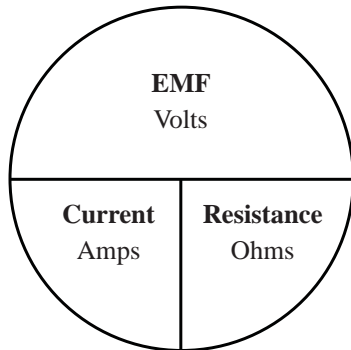
Area of Rectangle



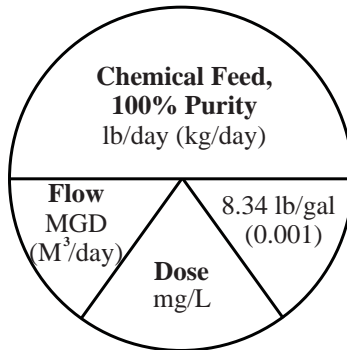
Area of Right Triangle



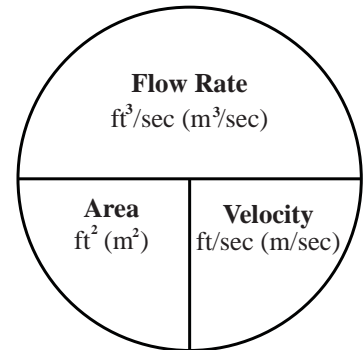
Electromotive Force (EMF), Volts



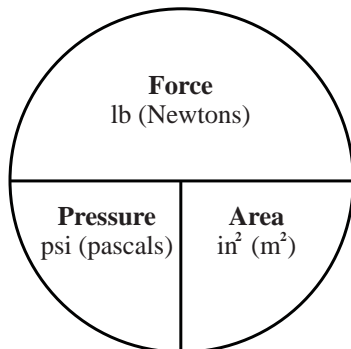
Feed Rate, lb/day (kg/day)



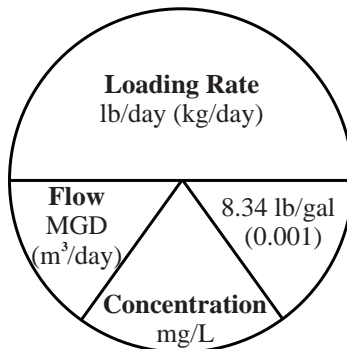
Flow Rate, ft³/sec (m³/sec)



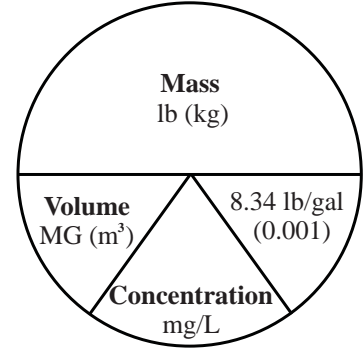
Force, lb (Newtons)



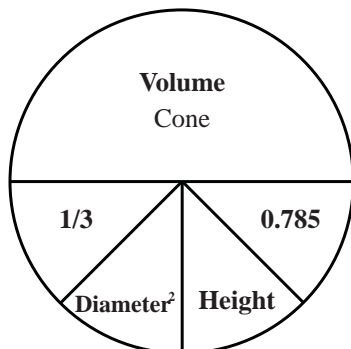
Loading Rate, lb/day (kg/day)



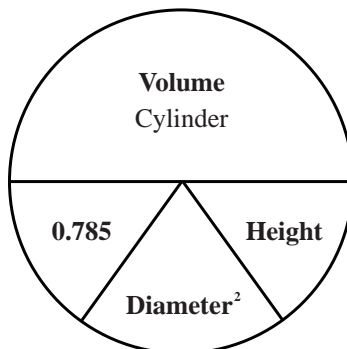
Mass, lb (kg)



Volume of Cone



Volume of Cylinder



Volume of Rectangular Tank

