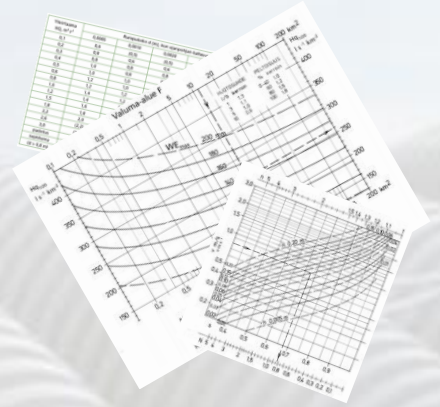


# DRAINAGE DESIGN



In drainage design, understanding of hydrology, basics of soil water balance, and the technical aspects of drain function are required.



To achieve a functioning drainage system, it should be designed by a professional drainage designer

[Contact information of drainage designers](#)  
and [a model contract for a drainage design](#) can be found in the  
[Finnish Field Drainage Association](#) homepage (in Finnish)

The most crucial job of the designer is to establish the optimal drain spacing, drain depth and location

**Recommendations for drain spacing**

- Peat 8-14 m
- Clay, Silt and loam soils 10-14 m
- Fine sand 14-18 m
- Ripe acid sulfate gyttja and gyttja clay 16-24 m

**Drain depth**

- Mineral soils 1,0 m
- Peat soils 1,2 m

**Factors in drain placing:**

- Topography and objects
- Placing of the outlet

These decisions affect the depth of groundwater after rain and snowmelt.



It is important that the farmers participate in the design process, because they know their fields, and other factors affecting the design

# Preliminary assessment 1/3

- Location and information on the field plot
- Mapping of the plot on the national ETRS-TM35FIN –co-ordination system
- Topography of the field in the N2000 –system
- State of arterial drainage and placing of the outlet
- State of local drainage



[SEE VIDEO](#)



# Preliminary assessment 2/3

- Directing external water away from the plot and confined groundwater
- Environmental issues, such as acid sulphate soils and groundwater areas
- Risk factors to drain function, such as formation of rust deposits



# Preliminary assessment 3/3

- Soil information and hydraulic conductivity from surface to drainage depth
- Stones and difficulty in digging
- Other information, such as cables, water pipes and other constructs
- Surrounding landscape, such as shading from a forest
- The crop
- Field traffic and direction of cultivation



Preliminary  
assessment

Test pit is used to find out the soil profile  
(soil types, soil permeability,  
possible compaction, silting up etc)





## Notes for peatlands

- Type of peat (sphagnum or sedge)
- Level of decomposition
- Subsidence of the soil
- Hydraulic conductivity and water retention of the peat
- Depth of mineral soil

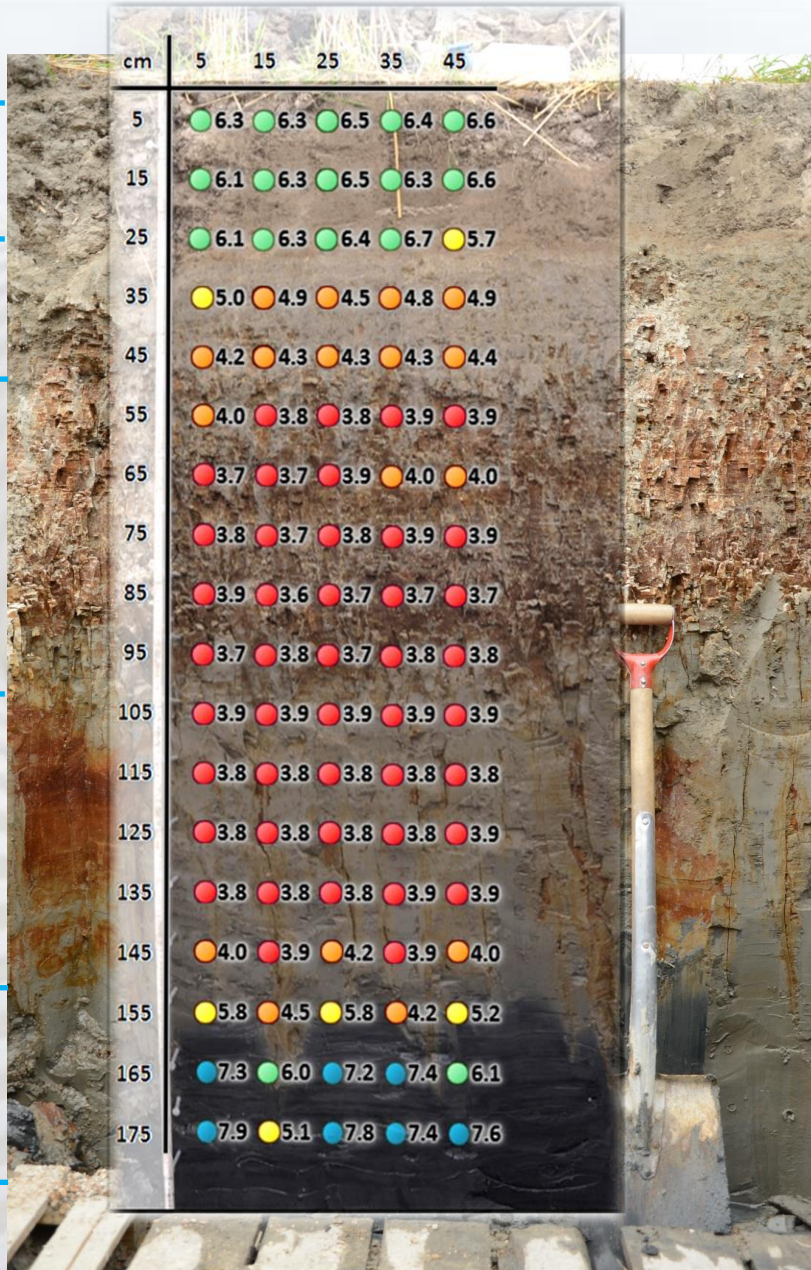


- Open ditches before drainage
- Deeper drainage than normal
- • Tighter drain spacing than normal
- Controlled drainage decreases subsidence and greenhouse gas emissions

Preliminary assessment

# pH-profile of an acid sulphate soil

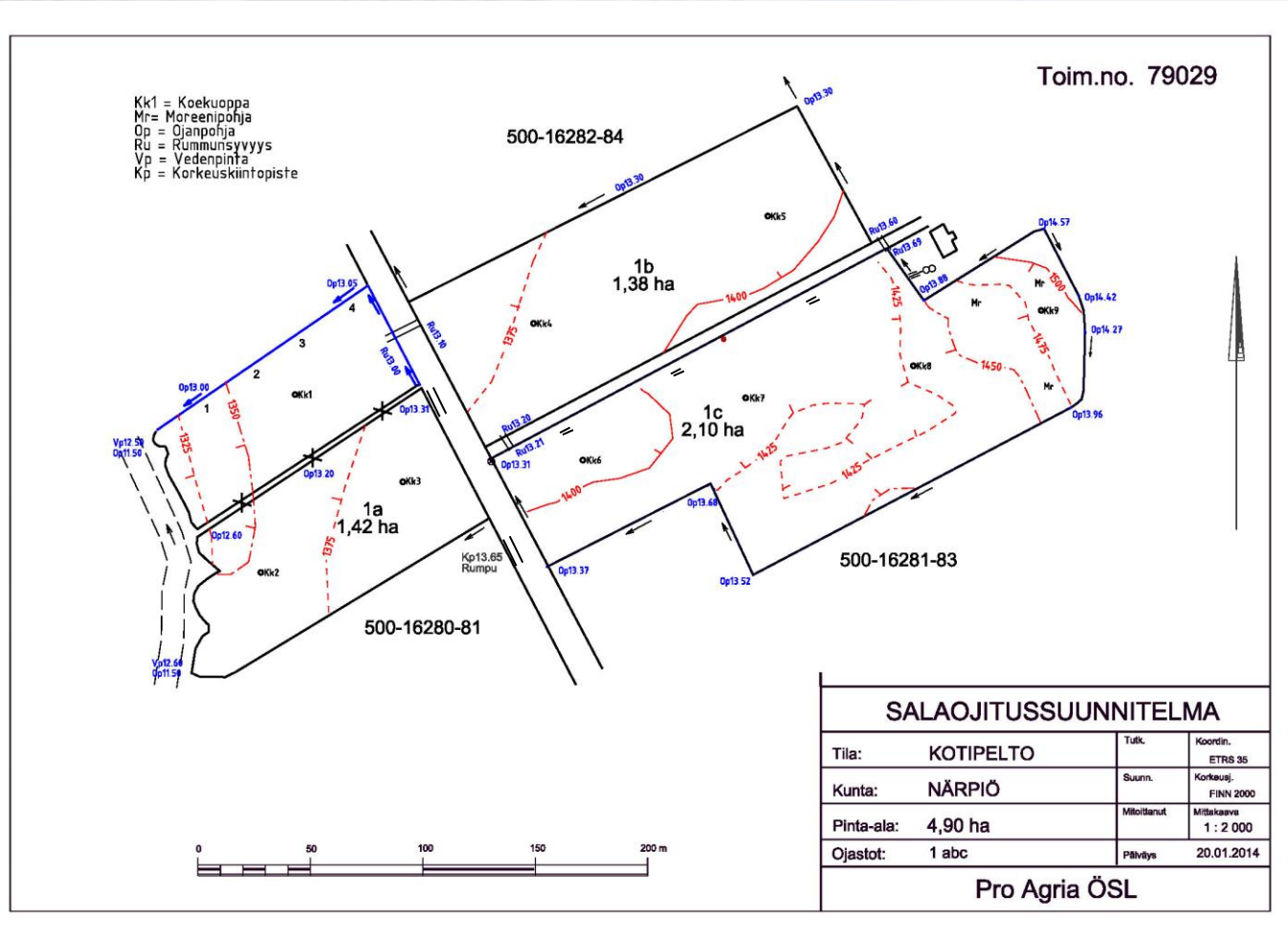
0 m  
0,25 m  
0,50 m  
1,00 m  
1,50 m  
1,80 m



Picture:  
Mattbäck,  
Dalhem,  
Åbo  
Academy

Preliminary assessment

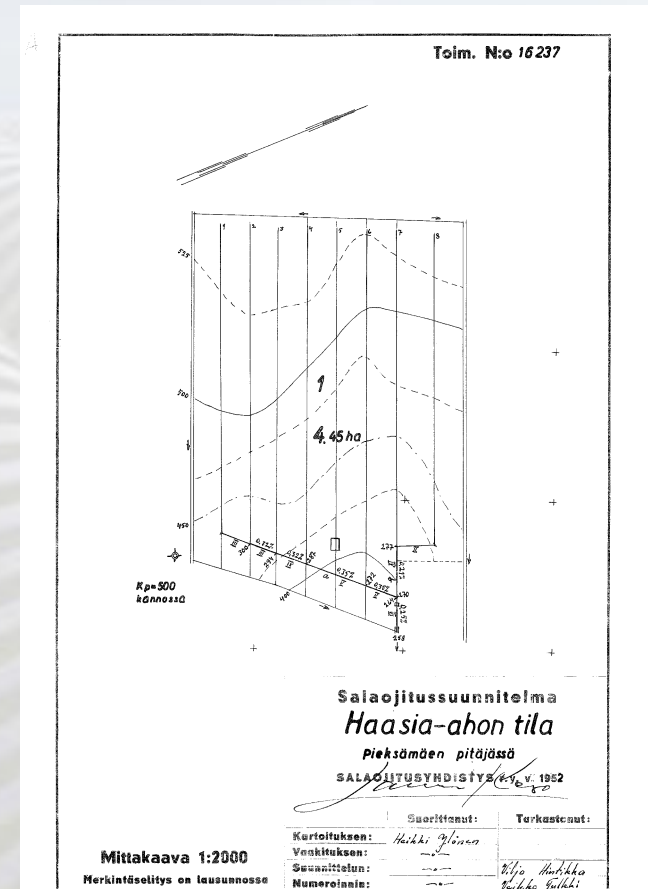
# A topographic map is drawn as a base of the drainage design



The Finnish Field Drainage Association has archived nearly all drainage maps since 1918.


A map of a drained field can be ordered from the Association

<https://www.salaojayhdistys.fi/fi/kartat/>



# Based on the preliminary assessment, the designer

- Determines drained depth and design discharge
- Determines drain spacing and depth
- Places the drains and well on the map
- Quantifies the drainage pipes
- Makes a cost estimate and a work plan
- Draws a list of accessories and the chamber card
- Draws the drainage map



**Osterbottens Svenska Lantbrukssällskap**

**Kaivokortti / Brunnskort**

Tilaus / Beställning: 6.01.2020


Tilaaaja / Beställare: Ville Viljelija  
PuV/Tel.: 045-790 487

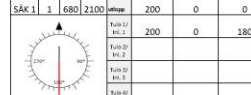
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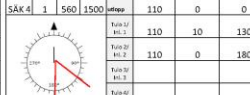
Yhteyshenkilö / Kontaktperson: Ville Viljelija  
PuV/Tel.:

Tilausnro/merkki / Beställ.nr./märke:

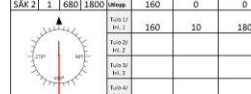


SÄK	l	l	680	2100	Utsp.	l	0	0	0
									
* Lähöllittymä vesijokusta kaivon yläreunaan Utlöppis rören botten upp till brunnsrens över kart Lisäksi litemäen syvyys / + siamficka: <input type="checkbox"/> 105 cm Maks. Padotuskorkeus / Max. FH: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 105 cm									

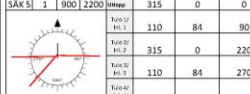
  

SÄK 4	l	1	560	1500	Utsp.	l	110	0	0
									
* Lähöllittymä vesijokusta kaivon yläreunaan Utlöppis rören botten upp till brunnsrens över kart Lisäksi litemäen syvyys / + siamficka: <input type="checkbox"/> 80 cm Maks. Padotuskorkeus / Max. FH: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 80 cm									

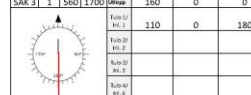
  

SÄK 2	l	1	680	1800	Utsp.	l	160	0	0
									
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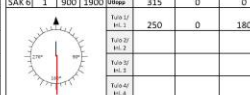
  

SÄK 5	l	1	900	2200	Utsp.	l	315	0	0
									
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SÄK 3	l	1	560	1700	Utsp.	l	110	0	0
									
* Lähöllittymä vesijokusta kaivon yläreunaan Utlöppis rören botten upp till brunnsrens över kart Lisäksi litemäen syvyys / + siamficka: <input type="checkbox"/> 50 cm Maks. Padotuskorkeus / Max. FH: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 95 cm									

SÄK 6	l	1	900	1900	Utsp.	l	315	0	0
									
* Lähöllittymä vesijokusta kaivon yläreunaan Utlöppis rören botten upp till brunnsrens över kart Lisäksi litemäen syvyys / + siamficka: <input type="checkbox"/> 50 cm Maks. Padotuskorkeus / Max. FH: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 130 cm									

## Design discharge

- Design discharge is usually  $1 \text{ l/s/ha} = 8,6 \text{ mm / day}$
- A smaller or larger design discharge can be used, depending on soil type, slope, and other conditions

## Drained depth

- Distance between soil surface and groundwater level between the drains (at least 0,6 m)
- The necessary drained depth is determined by the crop and the load bearing requirements, defined by the field machinery

## Hydraulic conductivity of the soil

- Both the particle size and the crumb structure of the soil affect hydraulic conductivity.

Drain spacing is affected by

- Design discharge
- Drained depth
- Hydraulic conductivity
- slope

Recommendation for drain spacing

- Peat soils: 8 – 14 m
- clay-, silt- and loam soils: 10 – 14 m
- Fine sand soils: 14 – 18 m
- ripe acid sulfate gyttja and gyttja clays: 16 – 24 m

Recommendation for drain depth

- Mineral soils: 1,0 m
- Peat soils: 1,2 m

If the soil is prone to alluviation, or it has signs of rust or confined groundwater, the drainage system should be planned flushable





# Envelope material and backfill of the drain excavation

Ensuring the permeability of the drain excavation is especially important if the soil is poorly permeable



An envelope material is used to improve the permeability of the drain excavation and soil surrounding the drain pipe, to prevent soil material from entering the pipe, and to protect the pipe under difficult installation conditions

Drain gravel is typically used as an envelope material

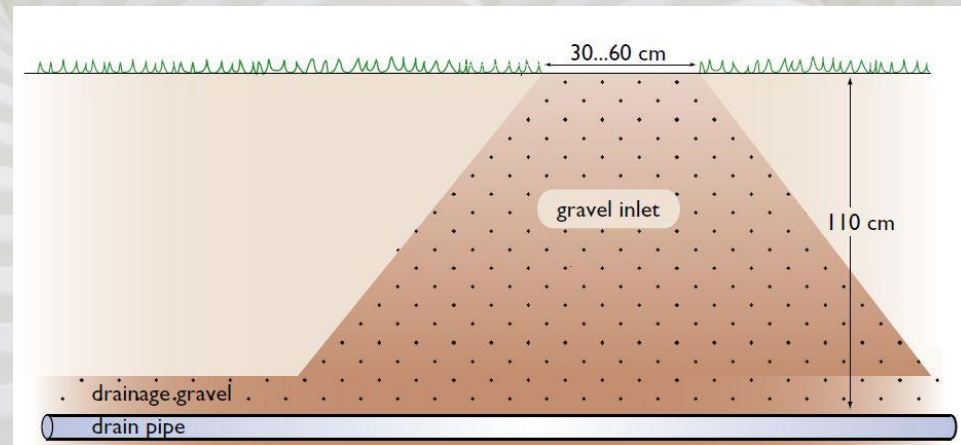
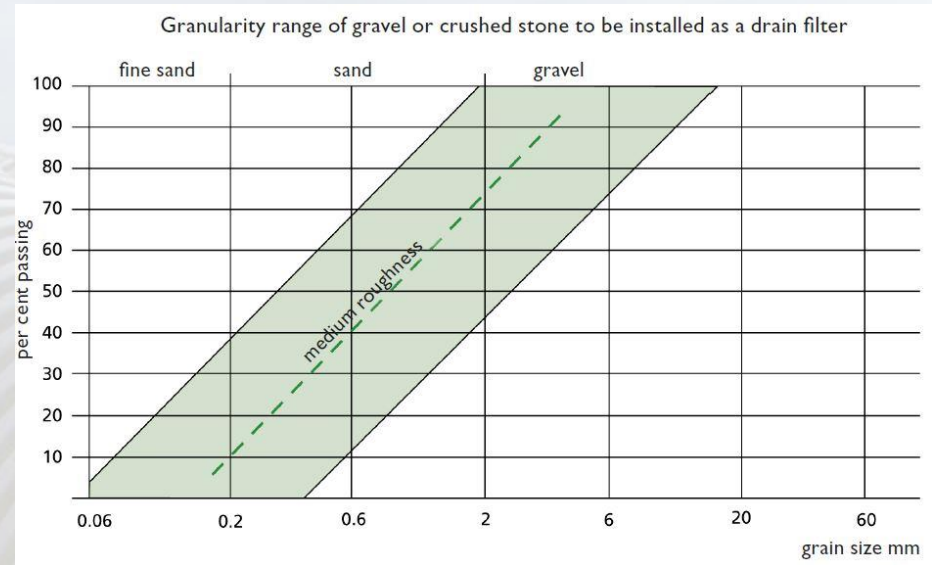
Other possible envelope materials include crushed stone or coating materials wrapped around the pipe

Coconut coir and organic or synthetic textiles are the most common coating materials



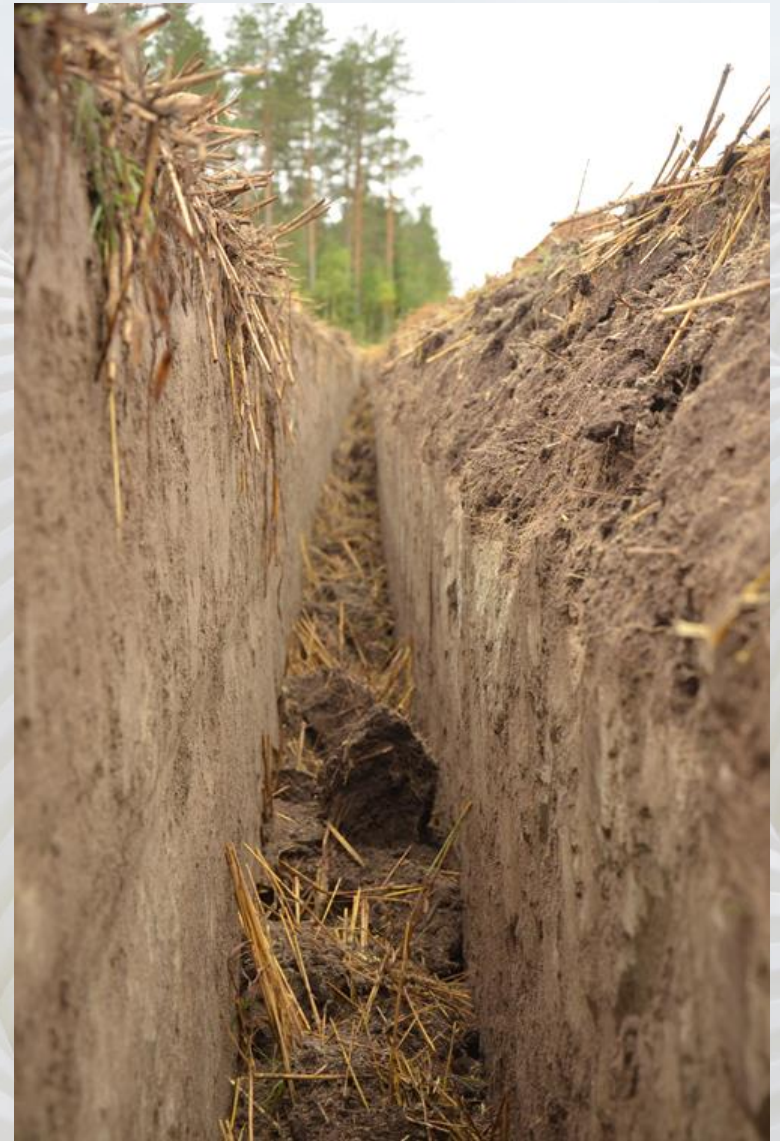
A layer of no less than 8 cm of gravel over the drainage pipe should be used, equalling 6–7 m<sup>3</sup> / 100 m (9,5-11 t / 100 m)

Drainage can be further enhanced with gravel inlets, where the excavation is filled entirely with gravel



Topsoil is dropped into the drain excavation over the envelope material

Topsoil, with a high organic matter content, is more permeable than solid subsoil




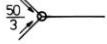




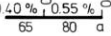


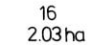


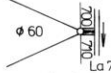









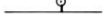













# Drainage plan

- Design map  
(topography, installation depth of the drains, pipe sizes etc.)
- Written plan
- Cost estimate
- List of supplies and their unit prizes for each drainage system
- Other relevant detailed drawings and plans
- Instructions for the farmer and the contractor
- Forms required for the undertaking
- Qualification of the designer

# Drainage plan –the map markings

## MERKINTÄSELITYKSET

	Valtaoja		Huuhteluliitos yksittäisojaan
	Avo-oja		Niskasilmäke jossa 3kpl $\phi$ 50 mm siiviläputkia tai 1 metri muovisalaajaputkea
	Täytetty avo-oja		Sorasilmäke
	Ojaton reuna		Sorasaarto
	Kokoojaoja (ojan merkki a, kaltevuus 0.40 % ja 0.55 %, pohjan korkeus 540, putken nimellishalkaisija $\phi$ 65 ja 80 mm)		Ojaston raja
	Imuoja n:o 5 (putken nimellismitta $\phi$ 40 mm, suurempien putkien koko on merkittävä)		16 2.03ha Ojaston numero ja pinta-ala
	Laskuaukko		Täyden metrin korkeuskäyrä
	Laskuaukkokaivo ( $\phi$ 60cm:n betonirenkaista, laskuaukon korkeus 740, tulevien putkien korkeus 700 ja 710)		Puolen metrin korkeuskäyrä
	Rinnekaivo (lähtevän salaajan pohjan korkeus 780, tulevan 790)		Neljännesmetrin korkeuskäyrä
	Tarkastuskaivo		Kiintopistekorkeus 900 cm
	Sulkukaivo		v. 1978 Vesijohto, viemäri, kaapeli tai muu maanalainen johto (v. 1978 rakentamivuosi)
	Putkiston vahvistus		Maalajialueen raja
	Lähdekaivo		Mittakaavaruudukon kulmaristi, vastaa piirrettyä mittakaavaa
	Niskakaivo		mp Muoviputki
	Välppäkaivo niskakaivona		bp Betoniputki
	Pintavesikaivo		tp Tiiliputki
	Huuhteluliitos kokoojaojaan		lp Lautaputki
			S Suoto-oja
			T

# Editors

Rainer Rosendahl, Heli Heikkilä

# Videos, animations and pictures

Rainer Rosendahl

# Producers

Luonnonhoidon koulutusyhdistys, Luoko ry  
Finnish Field Drainage Association

# Financier

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# CONTACT INFORMATION



FIELD DRAINAGE ASSOCIATION

Salaojayhdistys ry

Simonkatu 12 A 11

00100 Helsinki

Puh. 0400 882 136

[www.salaojayhdistys.fi](http://www.salaojayhdistys.fi)

[salaojayhdistys@salaojayhdistys.fi](mailto:salaojayhdistys@salaojayhdistys.fi)

**LUOKO RY**

Luonnonhoidon

koulutusyhdistys, Luoko ry

Simonkatu 12 A 11

00100 Helsinki

puh. 0400 882 136



Salaojituksen  
Tukisäätiö sr

Drainage Foundation sr

Simonkatu 12 B 25

00100 Helsinki

Puh: 050 4059478

[www.tukisaatio.fi](http://www.tukisaatio.fi)