

# Solar Water Purification for the Border: Solar Distillation

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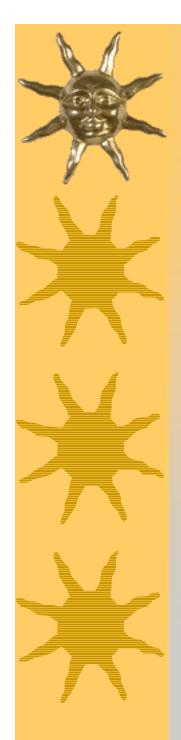
**SWTDI - New Mexico State University** 

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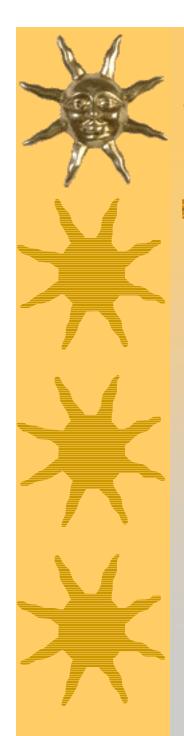
# Solar Water Purification through Distillation

- \* Distillation Process
- \*Water Production
- **\*** Water Quality
- \*Economics
- \*BorderPACT Project



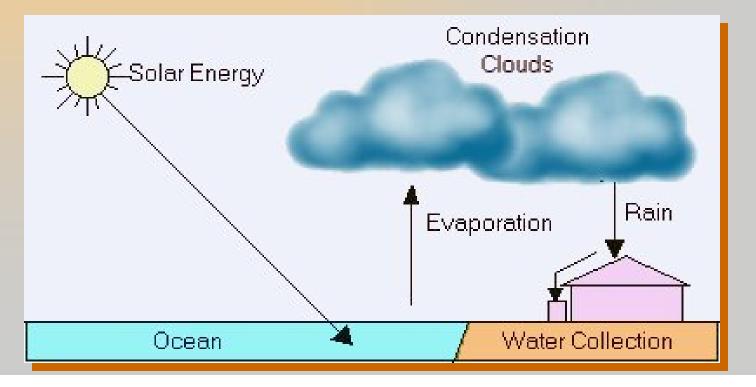
#### Solar Distillation

- **\*Solar Stills are effective in removing** 
  - Salts/Minerals (e.g., Na, Ca, As, Fl, Fe, Mn)
  - Bacteria (e.g., E. Coli, Cholera, Botulinus)
  - Parasites (e.g., Giardia, Cryptosporidium)
  - Heavy Metals (e.g., Pb, Cd, Hg)
- \*Stills can effectively purify seawater and even raw sewage



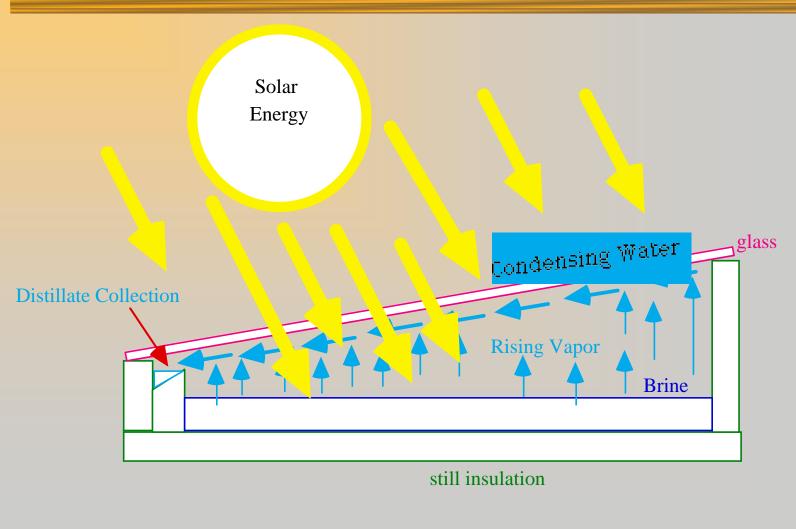
### Distillation is same as Rainwater Process

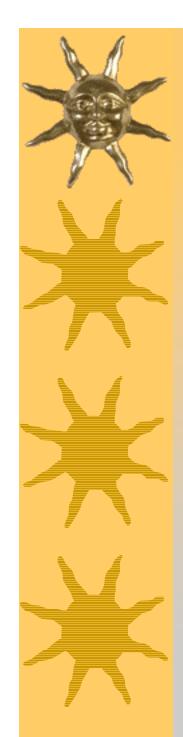
\* Solar energy heats water, evaporates it (salts and microbes left behind), and condenses as clouds to return to earth as rainwater.





### Solar Still Operation





### Typical Still Installation

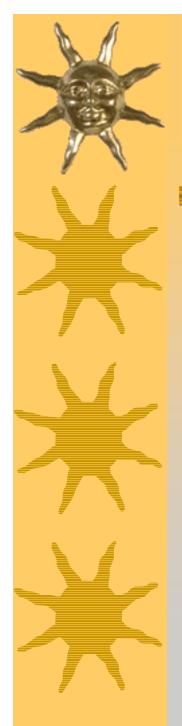


\*3'x6' family-sized still in Columbus which produces 3-4 gpd in the summer, and half that amount in winter. Water is typically collected in a 5 gal glass container.

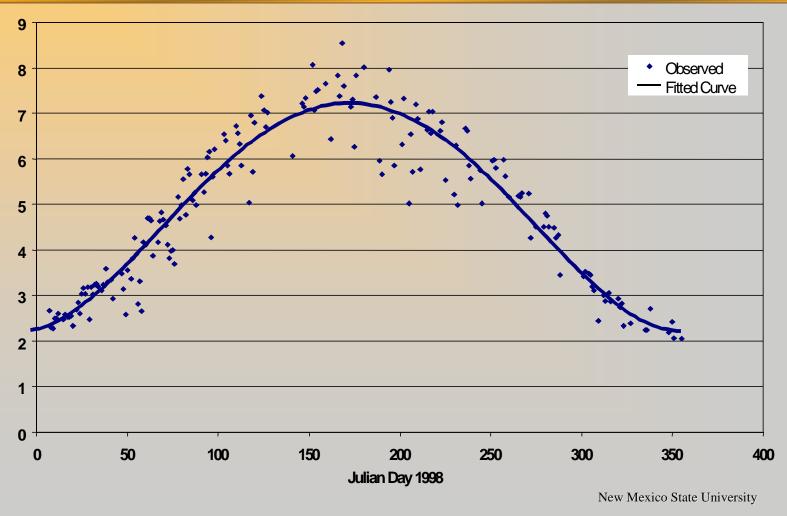


## Simple Operation

- **\*Face still due south**
- **\*Level Still**
- \*Add make-up water once a day at 2-3 times daily production rate (depending on make-up water salinity)

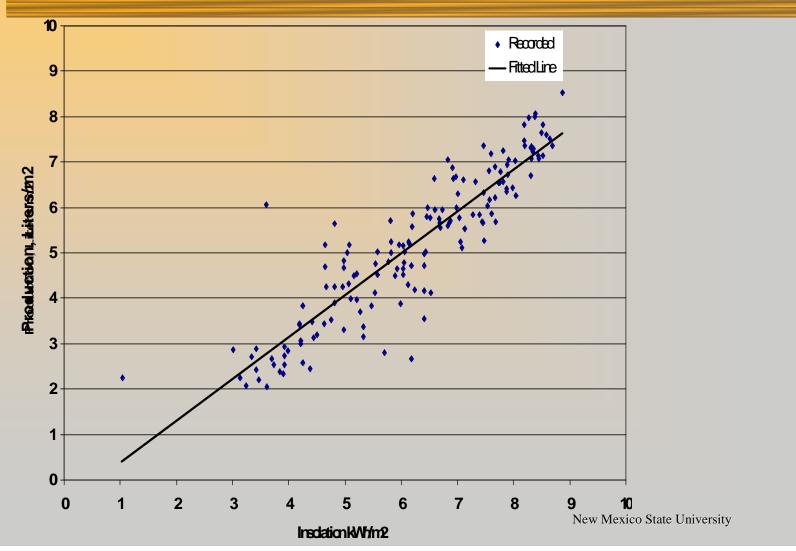


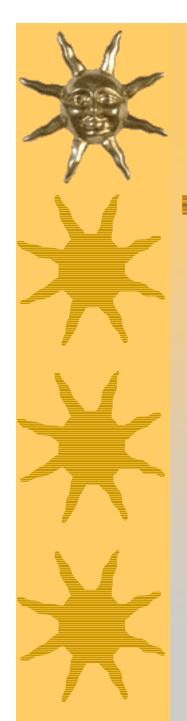
#### Annual Solar Still Production Las Cruces, NM





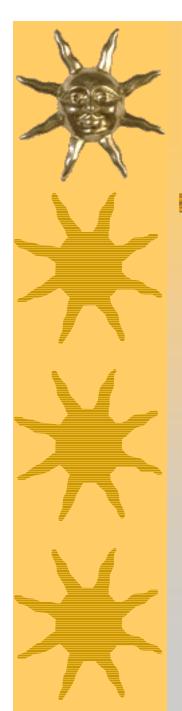
# Still Water Production Compared to Solar Insolation





# Still Water Quality Results Sandia National Laboratories

SamplType				<b>SolarDistilled</b>
	<b>feedwater</b>	water(13%case)	<b>feedwater</b>	water(16%case)
Calciun(total)	340	1.5	371	<0.10
Iron(total)	0.27	< 0.05	0.48	<0.06
Magnesiu(total)	2.1	2.1	< 0.005	< 0.005
Manganes(total)	0.04	<0.02	0.07	<0.02
Ammonius N	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Chloride	19000	<1.0	25000	2.6
FixedSolids	32000	<1.0	41000	31
NitratesNO <sub>3</sub>	34	0.1	26	<0.1
Nitrates NO2	0.013	<0.01	0.02	<0.01
TDS	36000	<1.0	48000	<1.0
Volatiles& Organic	4200	<1.0	6000	13



# Water Quality Test Results New Mexico State University

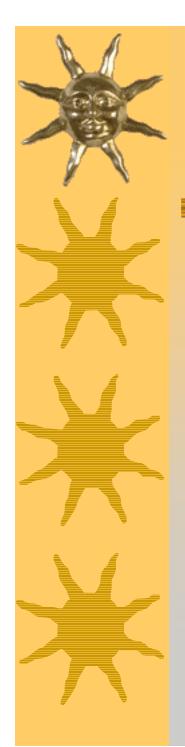
Sample	Volume Tested ml	Total Organisms per liter
Supply	50	16,000
Distillate	1,000	4
E. coli Seed		2,900,000,000
Distillate	<b>750</b>	11 (No <i>E. coli</i> )
E. coli Seed		7,500,000,000
Distillate	1,000	18 (No <i>E. coli</i> )
Supply	10	24,000
Distillate	1,000	13
Supply	1	12,000
Distillate	1,000	6



# Water Quality Results - NMSU Columbus, New Mexico

Field Still	Conductivity,	Hardness,	Fluoride,	
Ref. No.	μS/cm	mg/L CaCO3	mg/L	рН
#20 input	1190	260	6.2	7.9
#20 output	4.8	4	0.1	9.2
#22 input	1180	250	8.2	7.4
#22 output	1.8	0	0.10	9.1
#29 input	1200	250	6.0	8.1
#29 output	5.8	8	0	8.8
#30 input	2390	480	n/a	6.8
#30 output	4	4	n/a	9.4

New Mexico State University



#### Solar Distilled Water Taste

- **★Equivalent or superior taste to**commercially available bottled water
  (NMS U Taste Tests)
- \*Water only comes in contact with food grade materials and glass
- \*Natural bicarbonate buffering produces excellent taste compared to steam distillation



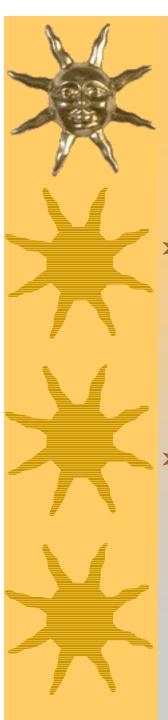
# Cost Comparison: Amortization 7% for 10 years

•	Method(s)	Initial Cost	Initial Cost	Replacement Parts	Power Cost	Total Cost
		per month (\$)	per gallon (\$)	per gallon (\$)	per gallon (\$)	Per gallon (\$)
	R.O4 stgs.	9.23	0.123	0.110		0.23
	R.O4 stgs.	8.71	0.116	0.086		0.20
	R.O3 stgs.	6.73	0.090	0.094		0.18
<b>=</b>	DistElec.	5.68	0.076	0	0.37	0.45
	DistElect.	16.22	0.216	0	0.35	0.57
	DistElect.	20.89	0.279	0	0.35	0.63
•	Solar still (2-man)	8.24	0.110	0		0.11
	Solar still (many)	5.54	0.074	0		0.07
	Plastic (PVC, Polyp.)	6.24	0.083	0		0.08
	Bottled Water	0.00	0.000	0	0	0.25



#### Solar Still Economics

- **\*Approximate Solar Still Costs** 
  - $-3' \times 8' \sim US$850$
  - $-3' \times 6' \sim US\$650$
  - $-3' \times 3' \sim US$450$
- \*Compared to purchasing bottled water, solar still simple payback is typically less than 2 years.



# El Paso Solar Energy Association Stills Project

- \* EPSEA received a
  BorderPACT/Conahec
  mini-grant to install 12
  solar water distillers in
  Ciudad Juárez, Mexico.
- \* EPSEA has just begun a community solar stills development project with EPA for Texas and New Mexico.





## El Paso Solar Energy Association Solar Still Development History

- \* 1995-97 Texas State
  Energy Conservation
  Office sponsors still
  design and
  demonstration in
  College Park Colonia
- \* 1998-99 U.S. Economic
  Development
  Administration
  sponsors extensive
  testing at NMSU with
  EPSEA demonstration
  in Columbus, NM

- \* 2000 BoderPACT
  EPSEA demonstration
  project in Ciudad
  Juárez colonias
- \* 2001 EPA Project for 80 families for Texas and New Mexico colonias



## Solar Distilled Water...

Natural Process	Renewable Energy	Economical	Ultra-Pure Product
Eliminates Chemicals	Eliminates Salts	Eliminates Sediments	= Elimina(es = Heavy = Meak
 Eliminates Coliform Bacteria	Eliminates Micro- organisms	On-Site Treatment and Energy	Supports Healthy Living!

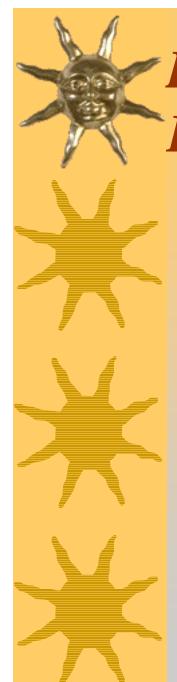


# EPSEA Still Installations in Mexico



**Solar still of Lupita Cruz Duran** 

\* Family Still installed at a home in the Anapra Colonia in the outskirts of Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. Family with one daughter and a baby on the way.



## BorderPACT/Conahec Grant Funds Stills for Families in Need



**BorderPACT Coordinator Marcos Rodríguez with the Valdez family in Anapra** 

\*The Valdez family
used to buy water at
13 pesos every 3 days
(US\$175/year) until
they received their
still. They say that
the still water tastes
better than storebought water!



### Stills at Anapra Orphanage



**Anapra orphanage solar distillation units** 

\* Reducing the high costs to provide potable water to the >30 children and workers at the Anapra Orphanage



## Clean Water for Everyone



\* Anapra Orphanage kitchen that provides meals for the many children that reside there.
Clean water is essential for cooking and drinking each day.



# Thanks to BorderPACT/CONAHEC!



\* Special thanks goes out to BorderPact/

Conahec from
EPSEA and
especially the
families and children
of the orphanage in
Mexico for the
chance to have clean
water in the border

colonia areas!



## This is Only One Step!

- \* EPSEA will continue with Solar Still Development along the Border.
- \* Education, projects, workshops, conferences, and Fairs are all part of continuing outreach and development by EPSEA.





#### El Paso Solar Energy Association



j j MUCHAS GRACIAS POR SU ATENCIÓN!!
THANK YOU!!!

**WWW.EPSEA.ORG**