

CORRECTION

An unfortunate sequence of events led to only half of table 1 and incorrect versions of figures 2 and 7 being published in the paper 'A review of important and interesting technical findings regarding the tailings dam failure at Merriespruit' by J H Strydom and A A B Williams, which appeared in J SA Inst Civil Eng, 41(4), 1999:1-10. The full table and the correct versions of the figures appear below.

Table 1 Data on case histories, after Lucia et al (1981) and Internet (1999)

Dam	Failure date	Location	Probable cause of failure	Height (m)	Total quantity of material stored (tons)	Material involved in failure (tons)	Travel distance, (km)
Tailings Dam	-	Southwest USA	Seepage	44	-	2,0 x 10 ²	24
Barahona	1928	Chile	Seismic	65	-	-	-
Fort Peck	1938	USA	-	69	-	5,0 x 10 ⁶	0,4
Aberfan	1939	Wales	-	46	1,7 x 10 ⁷	-	0,7
Tip No. 4 East Chicago	1946	USA	-	20	-	-	0,02
Jupille	1961	Belgium	-	46	6,0 x 10 ⁵	1,5 x 10 ⁵	0,6
Louisville	1963	Kentucky	Seepage	31	1,0 x 10 ⁶	1,0 x 10 ⁶	0,1
Uetsu	1964	Japan	Seismic	10	-	-	0,11
El Cobre (old)	1965	Chile	Seismic	35	7,6 x 10 ⁶	1,9 x 10 ⁵	12
El Cobre (New)	1965	Chile	Seismic	15	5,0 x 10 ⁵	5,0 x 10 ⁵	12
Heino Viejo	1965	Chile	Seismic	5	-	1,2 x 10 ³	1
Los Maquis	1965	Chile	Seismic	15	6,0 x 10 ⁴	3,0 x 10 ⁴	5
La Patagua	1965	Chile	Seismic	15	-	5,0 x 10 ⁴	5
Cerro Negro	1965	Chile	Seismic	20	7,9 x 10 ⁵	1,2 x 10 ⁵	5
Bellavista	1965	Chile	Seismic	20	7,0 x 10 ⁵	1,0 x 10 ⁵	2,5
Ramayana	1965	Chile	Seismic	5	-	2,0 x 10 ²	-
Texas Gypsum	1966	USA	Seepage	11	7,0 x 10 ⁶	2,0 x 10 ⁵	0,3
Aberfan Tip No. 7	1966	Wales	-	37	4,3 x 10 ⁵	1,9 x 10 ⁵	0,6
Abercynon	1966	Abercynon, Wales	-	37	-	1,8 x 10 ⁵	0,6
Blackpool	1967	England	-	40	-	1,5 x 10 ⁴	0,1
Cholwich	1968	England	-	46	-	2,5 x 10 ⁴	0,2
Koda Numa	1968	Japan	Seismic	3	-	-	0,02
Phosphate	1971	Florida	Seepage	4	-	8,0 x 10 ⁶	120
Bafokeng	1974	South Africa	Seepage	20	2,0 x 10 ⁷	5,2 x 10 ⁶	25
Mochikoshi	1978	Japan	Seismic	32	8,2 x 10 ³	1,4 x 10 ³	30
Los Frailes	1998	Spain	-	-	-	8,6 x 10 ⁶	-
Marcopper	1996	Philippines	-	-	-	-	-
Placer	1995	Philippines	-	-	-	-	-
Omari	1995	Guyana	-	-	-	5,7 x 10 ⁶	-
Jinduicheng	1988	China	-	-	-	-	-
Stava	1985	Italy	Overtopping	-	-	-	-
Uetsu	1964	Japan	Seismic	10	-	-	0,11
Arcturus	1978	Zimbabwe	Poor drainage	-	-	3,0 x 10 ³	0,3
Saaiplaas	1993	S Africa	Slope failure	-	-	7,2 x 10 ⁵	0,2
Huelva	1998	Spain	-	-	-	9,5 x 10 ⁴	-
El Porco	1996	Bolivia	-	-	-	4 x 10 ⁵	-
Saskatchewan	1984	Canada	-	-	-	1,7 x 10 ⁵	-
New Mexico	1977	USA	-	-	-	5 x 10 ⁴	-

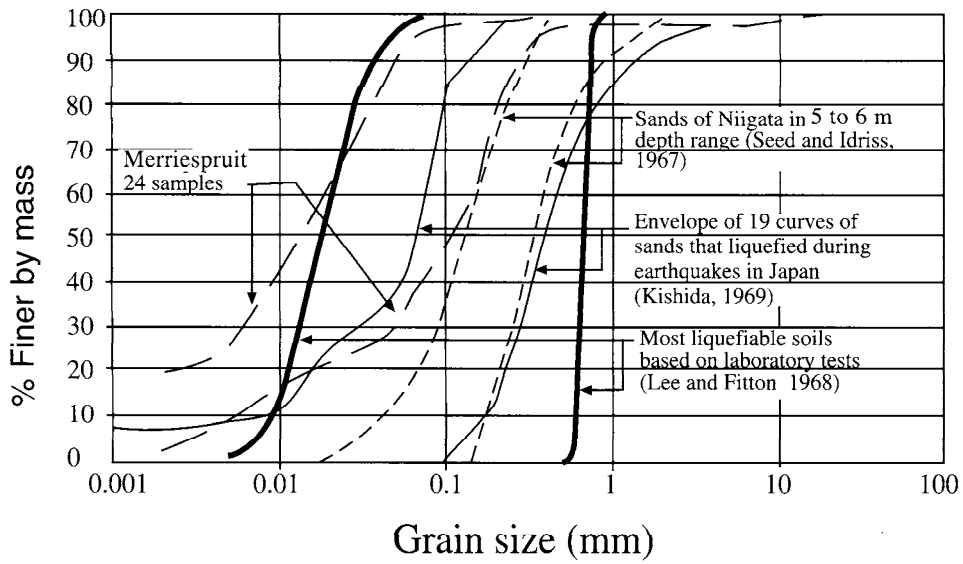


Figure 7 Grading envelopes of liquefiable material and Merriespruit tailings

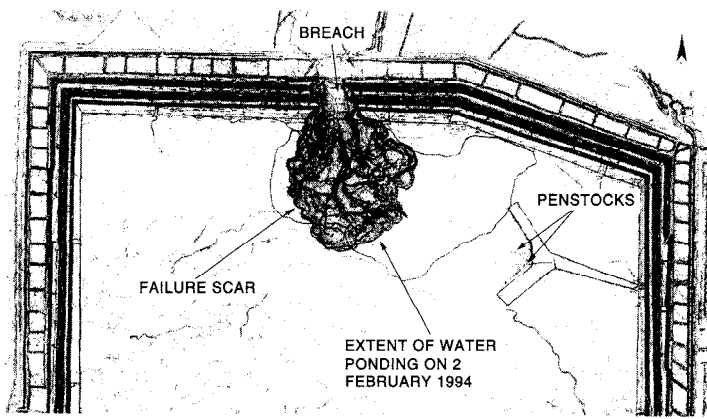


Figure 2 DTM model of the top of the failed dam

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 - Kempton, A W 1954. The pore pressure coefficients A and B. *Geotechnique*, 4(4):143–147.
 - Terzaghi, K 1999. *Theoretical soil mechanics*. New York: Wiley.
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