Demonstrating Leaching

1. One-third fill a 250ml beaker with top soil and add an equal volume of distilled water.
2. Thoroughly stir the contents of the beaker, using filter paper that has been wetted with distilled water, and filter two or three times.
3. Place a clean watch-glass over a beaker of gently boiling water, add the filtered water to the watch-glass a little at a time and allow it to evaporate.
4. Arrange a control by setting identical apparatus alongside and evaporating distilled water from a watch-glass.
5. Examine both watch-glasses. The first watch-glass will have a coating of mineral salts over its surface; the control watch-glass will be clean.