



# INDIRECT NITROGEN LOSSES OF MANAGED SOILS CONTRIBUTING TO GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSIONS OF AGRICULTURAL AREAS IN AUSTRIA OR

## HOW WE CALCULATED THE FACTOR $FRAC_{LEACH}$

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# BACKGROUND

- The Kyoto protocol asks for legally binding reductions in national greenhouse gas emissions
- Special emphasis on N<sub>2</sub>O (global warming potential 296 times of CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Main sources of N<sub>2</sub>O emissions are agriculture, forestry and other land uses (59% of total N<sub>2</sub>O emissions) but only 9.1% of total greenhouse gases are emissions from agriculture, forestry and other land uses
- Annual national inventory reports must be compiled using methodology according to IPCC guidelines (IPCC, 2006)
  - CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Other gases than CO<sub>2</sub> (N<sub>2</sub>O)
    - Direct emissions from managed land
    - Indirect emissions from managed land
      - ✓ Volatilisation
      - ✓ **Leaching**

# The IPCC 'Tier 1' method

$$N_2O_{(L)} - N = (F_{SN} + F_{ON} + F_{PRP} + F_{CR} + F_{SOM}) \cdot \text{Frac}_{LEACH} \cdot EF_5$$

$N_2O_{(L)} - N$  = annual amount of  $N_2O$  nitrogen by leaching and runoff of nitrogen additions to managed soils ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ )

$F_{SN}$  = annual amount of synthetic fertilizer nitrogen applied to soils ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ )

$F_{ON}$  = annual amount of managed animal manure, compost, sewage sludge and other organic nitrogen additions applied to soils ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ )

$F_{PRP}$  = annual amount of urine and dung nitrogen deposited by grazing animals ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ )

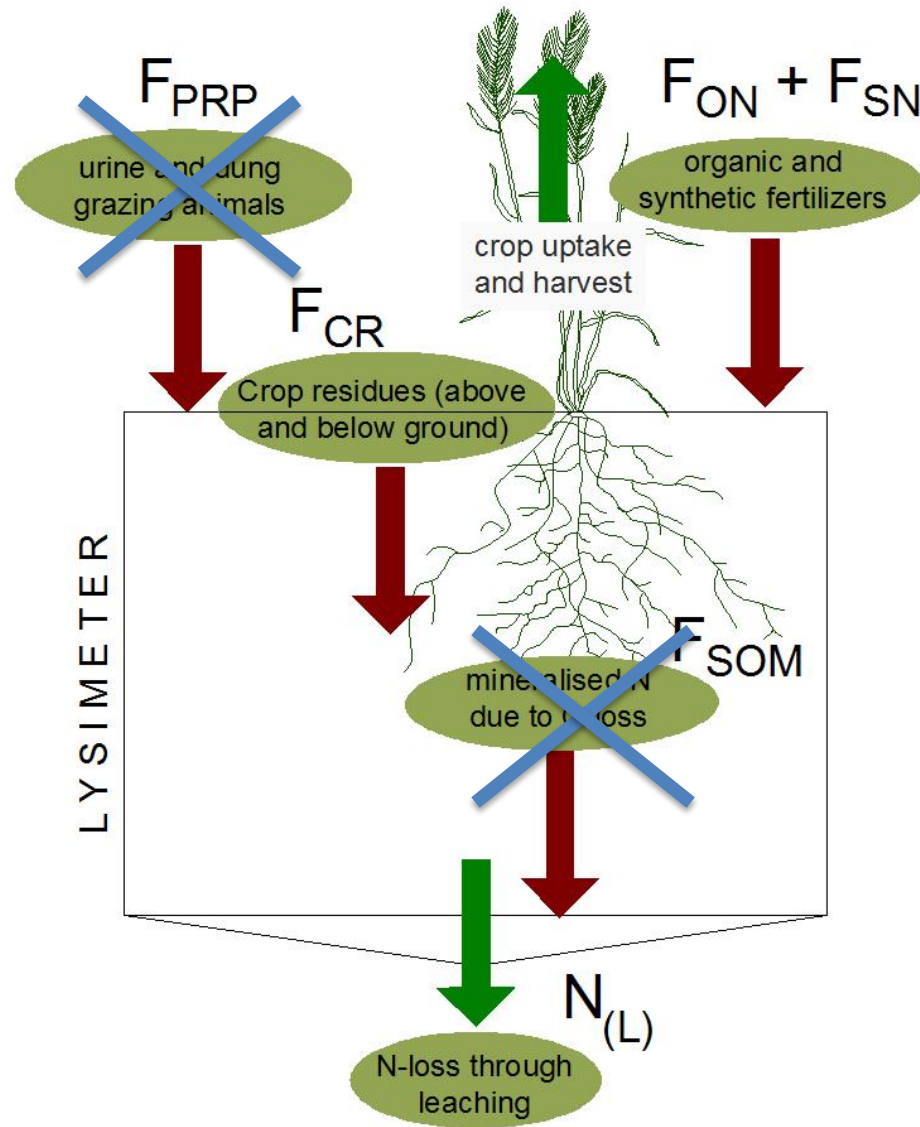
$F_{CR}$  = amount of nitrogen in crop residues (above and below ground, including nitrogen fixing crops, and from forage/pasture renewal, returned to soils annually ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ )

$F_{SOM}$  = annual amount of nitrogen mineralised in soils associated with loss of soil carbon from soil organic matter as a result of changes in land use or land management ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{yr}^{-1}$ )

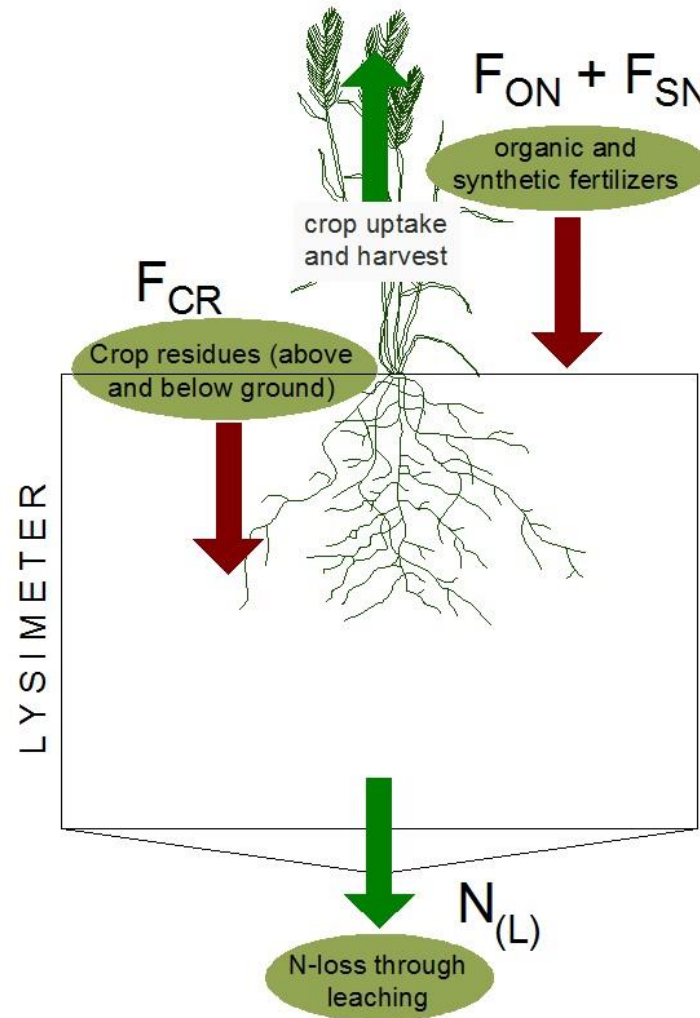
$\text{Frac}_{LEACH}$  = fraction of all nitrogen added to or mineralised in managed soils that is lost through leaching and runoff ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ )

$EF_5$  = emission factor for  $N_2O$  emissions from nitrogen leaching and runoff ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{kg}^{-1}$ )

# The IPCC 'Tier 1' method as graph (I)



# The IPCC 'Tier 1' method as graph (II)



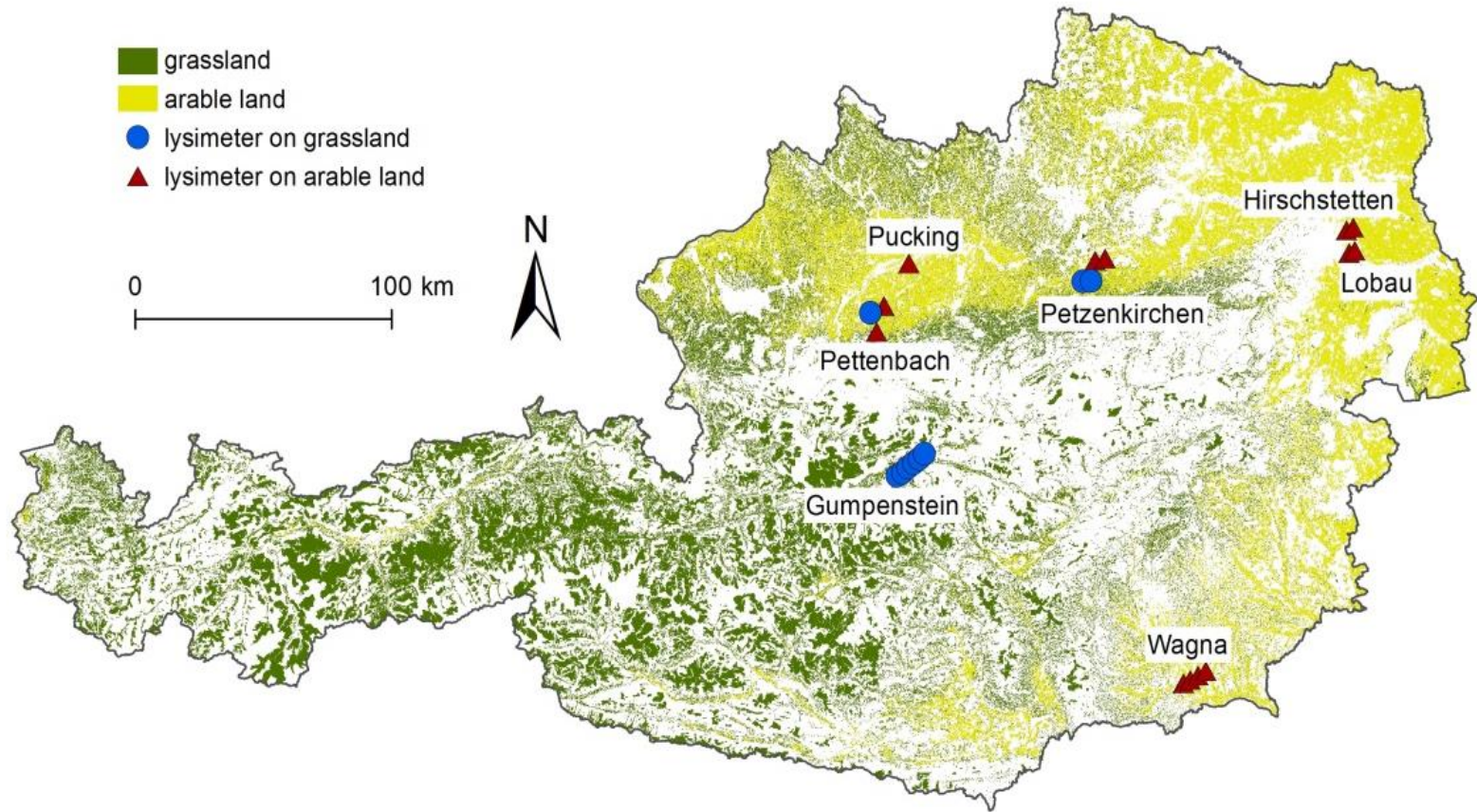
$$Frac_{LEACH} = N_{(L)} / (F_{SN} + F_{ON} + F_{PRP} + F_{CR} + F_{SOM})$$

## Some values presently used for $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$

Default value for  $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$  (IPCC) = 0.3

<b>Country</b>	<b><math>\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}</math></b>
Belgium	0.12
Canada	0.18
Finland	0.15
Ireland	0.10
Kazakhstan	0.06
Liechtenstein	0.20
Netherlands	0.12
New Zealand	0.07
Norway	0.18
Slovakia	0.14
Switzerland	0.20
Ukraine	0.21

# Lysimeter sites and distribution of agricultural land use in Austria



## Necessary steps for a joint analysis

- Correcting for type, size and depth of lysimeter

Example: gravity lysimeters yield different amount of seepage water compared to lysimeters with suction rack

- Dealing with missing data

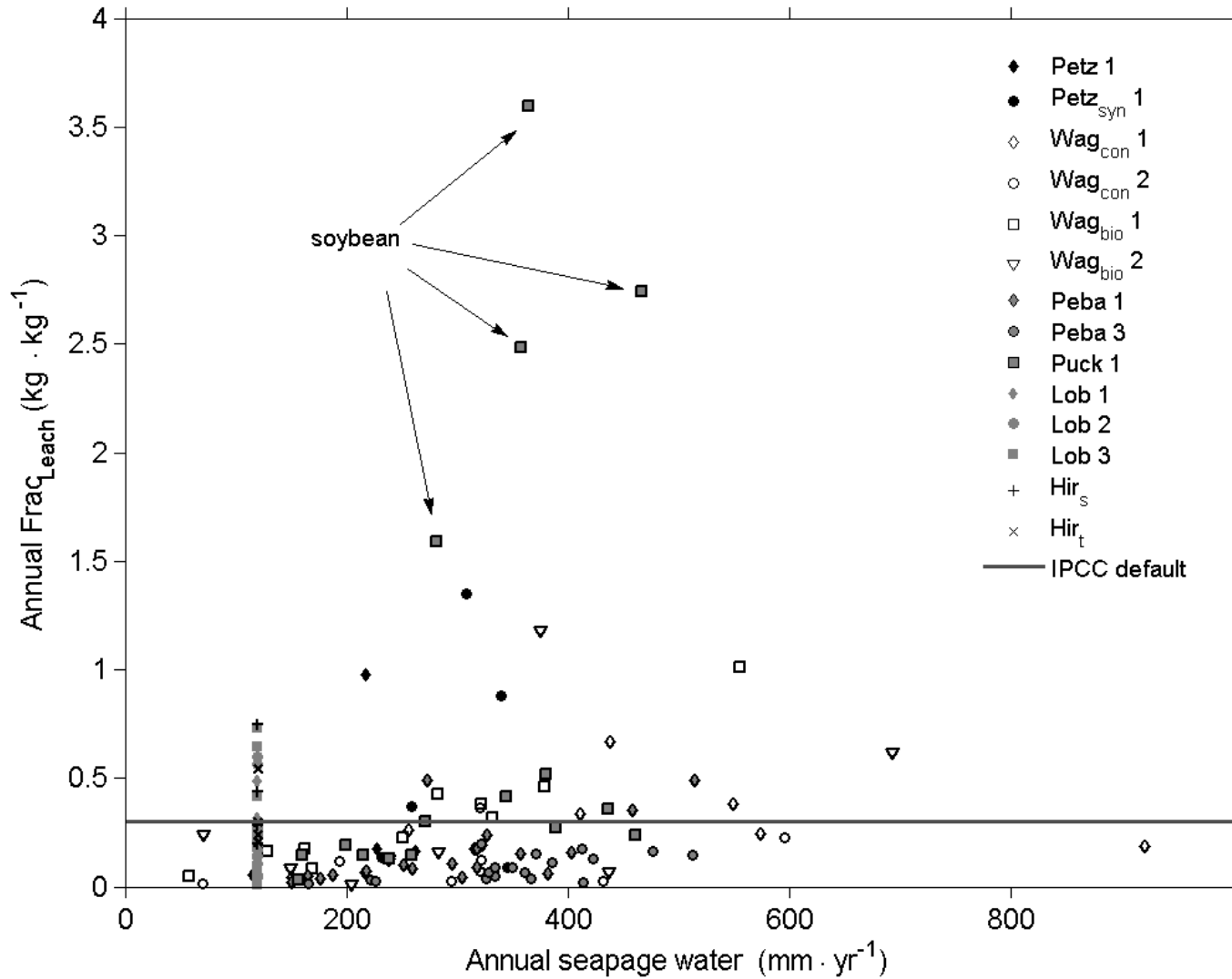
Example: No data available, therefore calculation of below ground plant residues according to IPCC as a fraction of yield



# Nitrogen losses through leaching, nitrogen sources and values for $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$ on arable sites

site	$N_{(L)\text{tot}}$ kg N · ha <sup>-1</sup>	$F_{\text{SN}_{\text{tot}}}$ kg N · ha <sup>-1</sup>	$F_{\text{ON}_{\text{tot}}}$ kg N · ha <sup>-1</sup>	$F_{\text{CR}_{\text{tot}}}$ kg N · ha <sup>-1</sup>	$\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}_{\text{tot}}}$ -	$\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}_{\text{mean}}}$ -	std. dev. -	n
Petz 1	225	908	366	357	<b>0.138</b>	0.288	0.390	5
Petz <sub>syn</sub> 1	278	0	506	398	<b>0.307</b>	0.565	0.541	5
Wag <sub>con</sub> 1	638	1608	0	910	<b>0.253</b>	0.261	0.172	10
Wag <sub>con</sub> 2	164	548	476	1151	<b>0.075</b>	0.121	0.120	8
Wag <sub>bio</sub> 1	818	1370	293	1077	<b>0.299</b>	0.330	0.278	10
Wag <sub>bio</sub> 2	270	0	0	1625	<b>0.166</b>	0.309	0.398	8
Peba 1	479	1571	769	1552	<b>0.123</b>	0.153	0.147	18
Peba 3	301	116	1888	1568	<b>0.084</b>	0.088	0.059	18
Puck 1	815	725	793	885	<b>0.921</b>	0.832	1.126	16
Lob 1	183	0	0	1041	<b>0.176</b>	0.207	0.151	13
Lob 2	248	0	285	929	<b>0.204</b>	0.230	0.173	13
Lob 3	241	302	0	1087	<b>0.173</b>	0.240	0.230	13
Hir <sub>s</sub>	168	0	311	156	<b>0.359</b>	0.416	0.241	4
Hir <sub>t</sub>	163	0	373	203	<b>0.282</b>	0.320	0.152	4

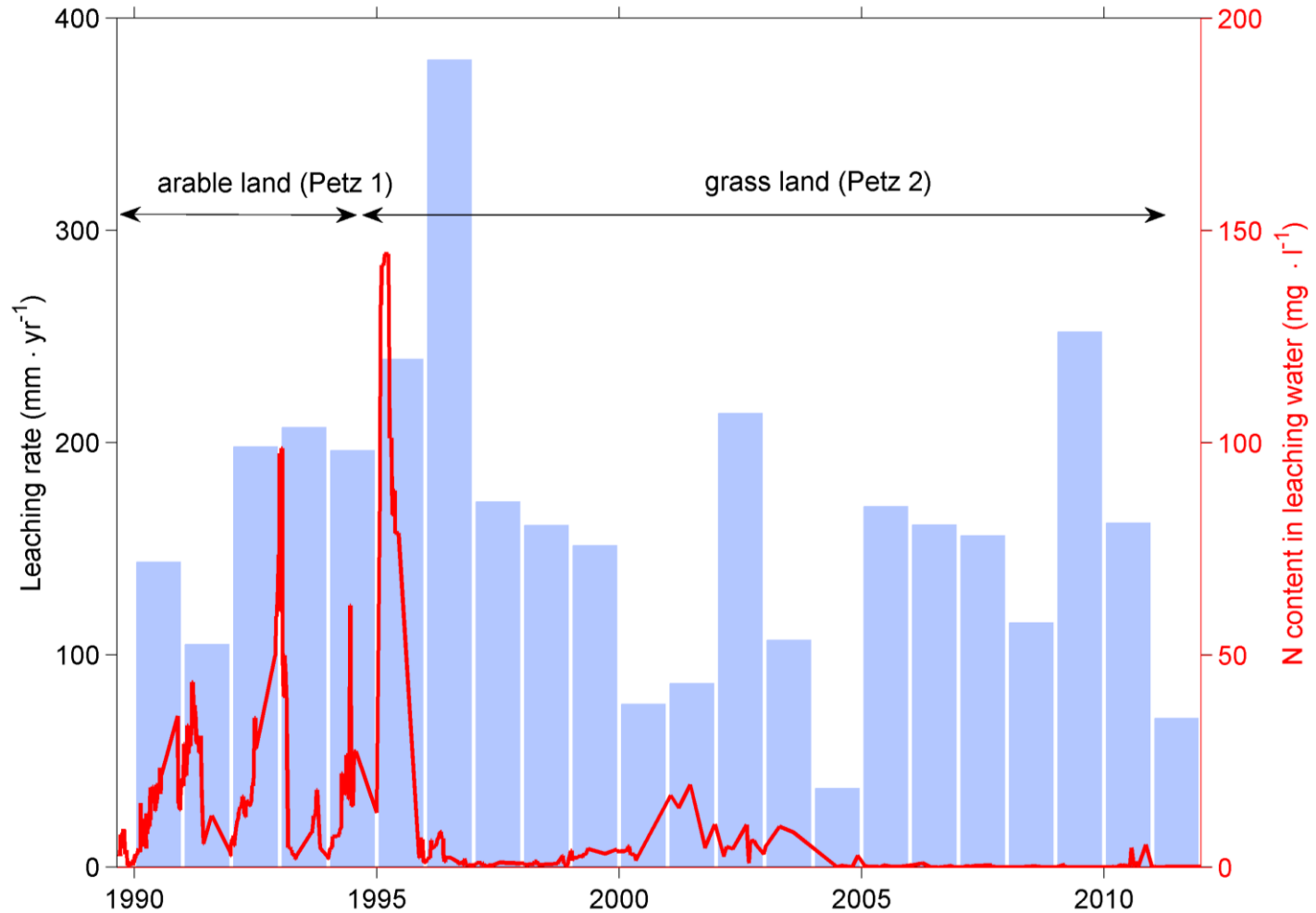
# Annual values of $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$ as a function of annual seepage water



# Nitrogen losses through leaching, nitrogen sources and values for $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$ on grassland sites

site	$N_{(L)\text{tot}}$ $\text{kg N} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$	$F_{\text{SN}_{\text{tot}}}$ $\text{kg N} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$	$F_{\text{ON}_{\text{tot}}}$ $\text{kg N} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$	$F_{\text{CR}_{\text{tot}}}$ $\text{kg N} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1}$	$\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}_{\text{tot}}}$ -	$\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}_{\text{mean}}}$ -	std. dev. -	n
Petz 2	36	0	0	2279	<b>0.016</b>	0.018	0.015	6
Petz <sub>syn</sub> 2	18	0	0	1753	<b>0.011</b>	0.010	0.011	4
Peba 2	121	955	597	708	<b>0.054</b>	0.057	0.033	6
Gump 1	3	120	0	201	<b>0.011</b>	0.010	0.012	3
Gump 2	5	238	0	327	<b>0.008</b>	0.007	0.009	3
Gump 3	23	214	0	319	<b>0.043</b>	0.038	0.053	3
Gump 4	4	311	0	377	<b>0.006</b>	0.006	0.002	3
Gump 5	13	409	0	331	<b>0.017</b>	0.018	0.004	3

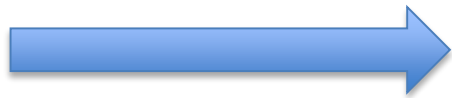
# The grassland effect for leaching



## Adding runoff

No measurements available – Data from simulation study on national balances of nitrogen input into rivers (BMLFUW, 2011) = 30 % addition for nitrogen in runoff, includes

- emissions from non agricultural land
- denitrification losses



**Upper boundary**

## CONCLUSIONS

Mean values for  $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$  (only leaching) and modified  $\text{Frac}_{\text{Leach}}^*$  (leaching and runoff) of all arable and grassland sites estimated from lysimeter data

	$\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$	$\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}^*$
arable land	0.254	0.277
grassland	0.021	0.027
Austria overall	0.135	0.150

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# **Indirect nitrogen losses of managed soils contributing to greenhouse emissions of agricultural areas in Austria: results from lysimeter studies**

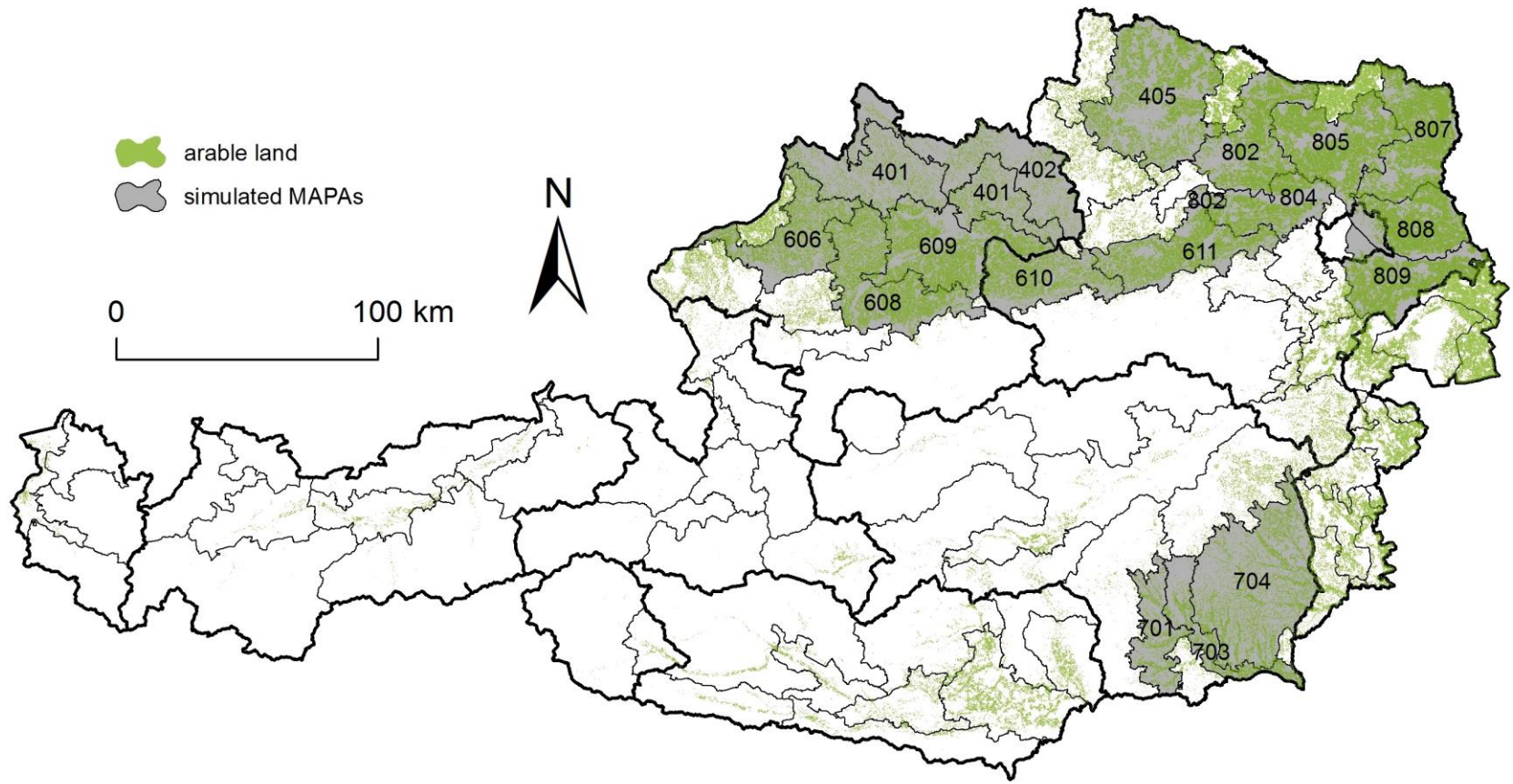
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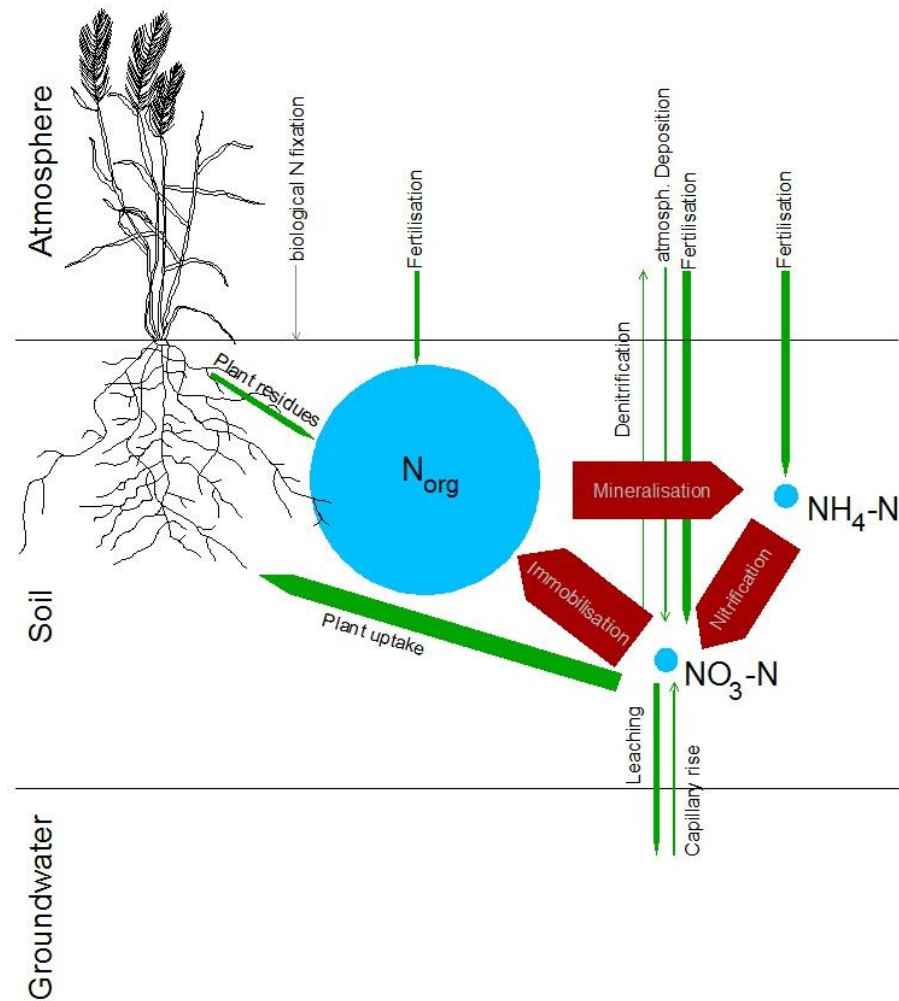
**ONGOING**

## Application of model simulations for the main arable areas in Austria





# Processes and intensities of the nitrogen cycle considered in STOTRASIM



transport = green

transformation = red

arrow width = mean annual nitrogen transport or transformation rate

cycles area = dimension of the nitrogen source

Mean values for  $\text{Frac}_{\text{LEACH}}$  (only leaching) and modified  $\text{Frac}_{\text{Leach}}^*$  (leaching and runoff) of all arable and grassland sites estimated from lysimeter data

	FracLEACH	FracLEACH*
Arable land	0.156	0.203
Grassland	0.021	0.027
Austria overall	0.087	0.113

**Thank you for your attention**

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