



Modeling Nitrous Oxide emissions and identifying emission controlling factors for a spruce forest ecosystem on drained organic soil

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High Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) emission has been identified in hemiboreal forests on drained organic soils. However, the controlling factors regulating the emissions are unclear. To examine the importance of different factors on the N₂O emission, a modeling approach was accomplished, using CoupModel with Monte-Carlo based multi-criteria calibration method. The model was made to represent a forest on drained organic soil in south-west Sweden (Skogaryd) where data of fluxes combined with basic information about soil and plant conditions were used. The model was constrained to a good performance with measurement data of soil temperature, groundwater level and soil moisture during 2008 and N₂O emissions during 2007-2009. Both dynamics and magnitude of N₂O emissions were well simulated compared to measurements (coefficient of determination R² = 0.31, simulated: 1.74 ± 0.49 kgN₂O-N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ and measured: 1.70 ± 0.34 kgN₂O-N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹).

Our modeling exercise primarily provide a parameter set for process modeling of N₂O emission for Northern forest systems on drained organic soils. By correlating posterior model parameter values with the simulated emissions, parameters regulating soil mineralization and nitrification processes show the highest correlation coefficients. N availability is therefore identified as the main controlling factor for N₂O emissions of Skogaryd. In addition, soil moisture at 30 cm depth is found to be important for N turnover regulation and hence influence the emissions. A suggested practical mitigation option for N₂O emission would thus be a reduced drainage.