



# **RuFaS: Soil and Crop**

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Cornell University



**U.S. Dairy Forage  
Research Center**

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# Presentation Outline

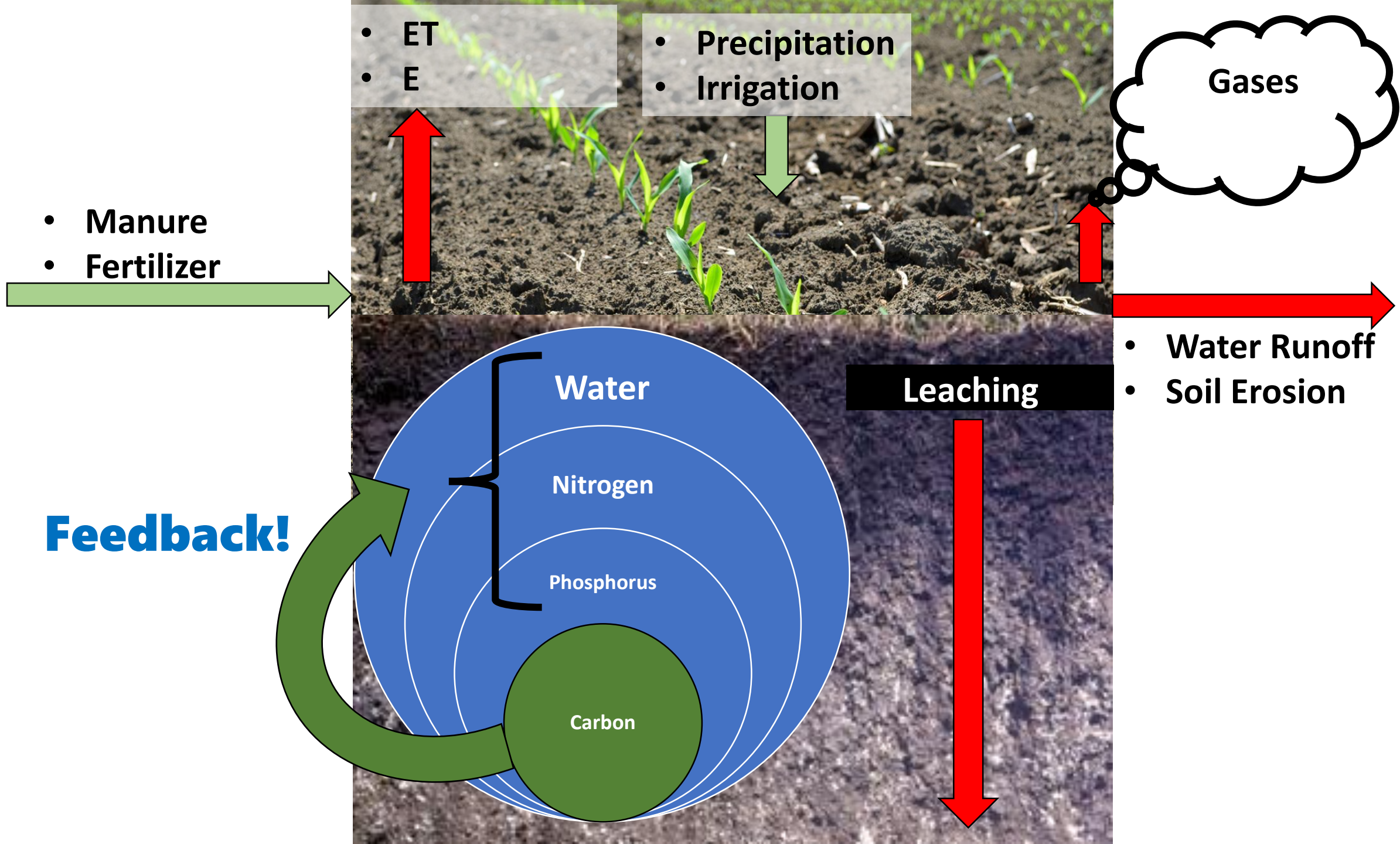
- **Manure Module Overview**
- **Soil and Crop Overview**
  - Models used in Soil and Crop
  - Summer Goals/Milestones
- **Data**
- **Calibrations:**
  - Manure and Crop System 1: Kimberly, Idaho
    - Management functionality
    - Grasses, root, and tubers
  - Manure, Crop and Forage System 2: Columbia, Wisconsin
    - Fertilizer functionality
- **Carbon Sub-model**
  - 100 year extreme conditions test
- **Mass Balance**
- **Next Steps**
- **Feed Storage Overview**

# Manure Module

## Output: Manure (kg/ha)



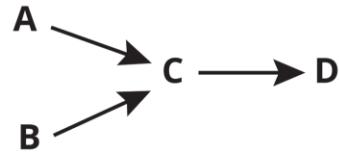




# “Structure Drives Behavior”

## Event Oriented Thinking

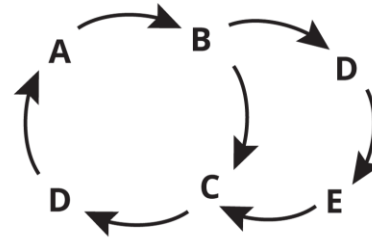
Thinks in straight lines



In event oriented thinking everything can be explained by causal chains of events. From this perspective the **root causes** are the events starting the chains of cause and effect, such as A and B.

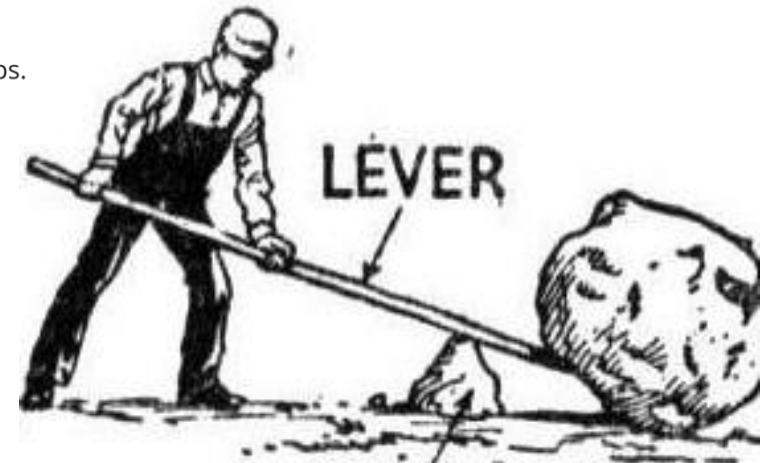
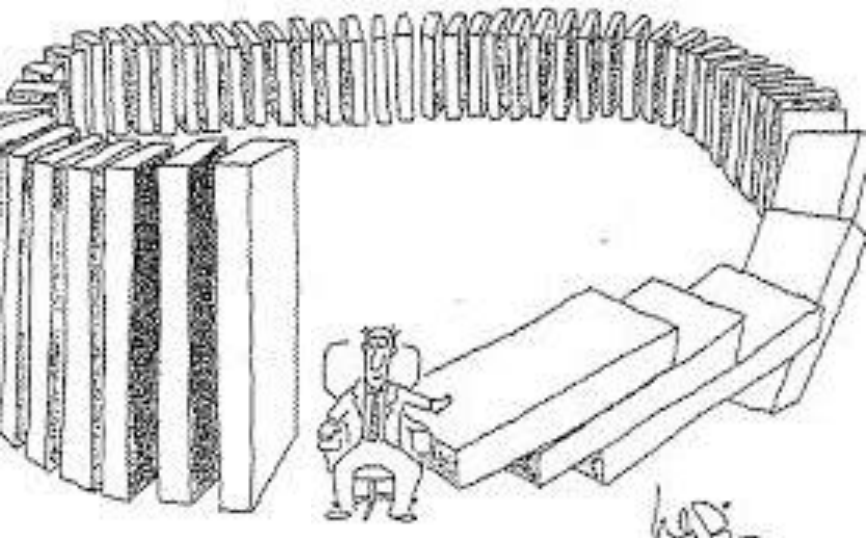
## Systems Thinking

Thinks in loop structure



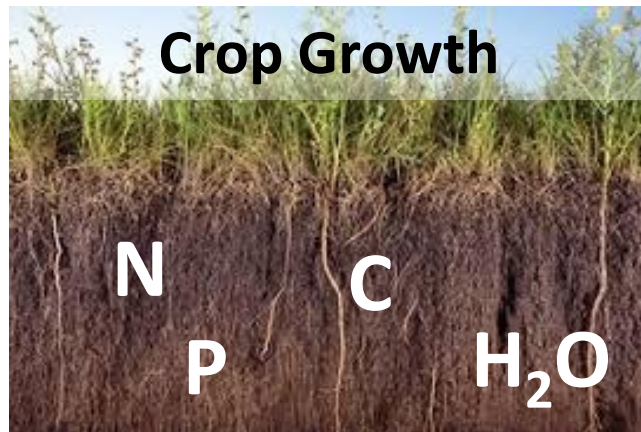
In systems thinking a system's behavior emerges from the structure of its feedback loops. **Root causes** are not individual nodes. They are the forces emerging from particular feedback loops.

Created by Thwink.org



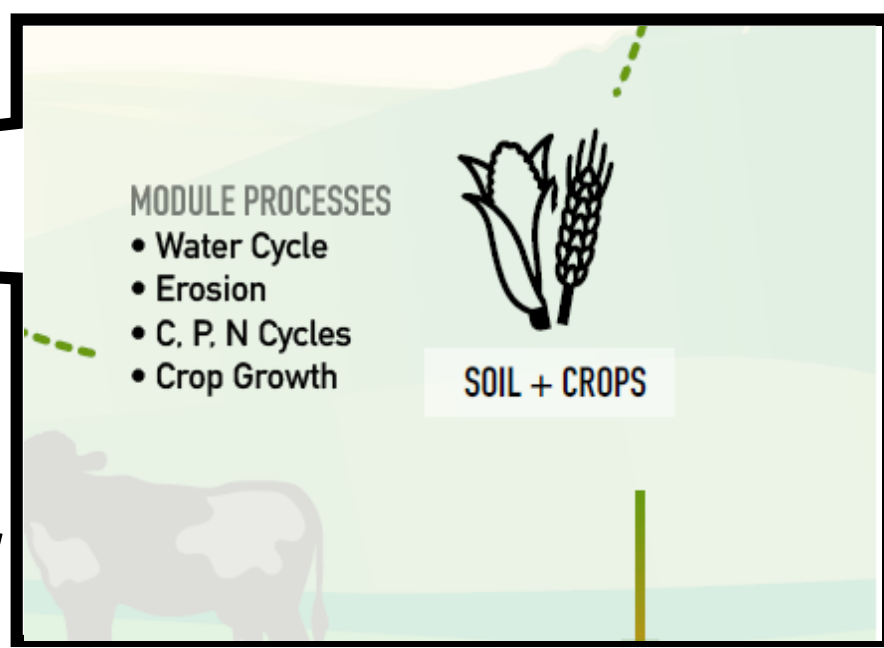
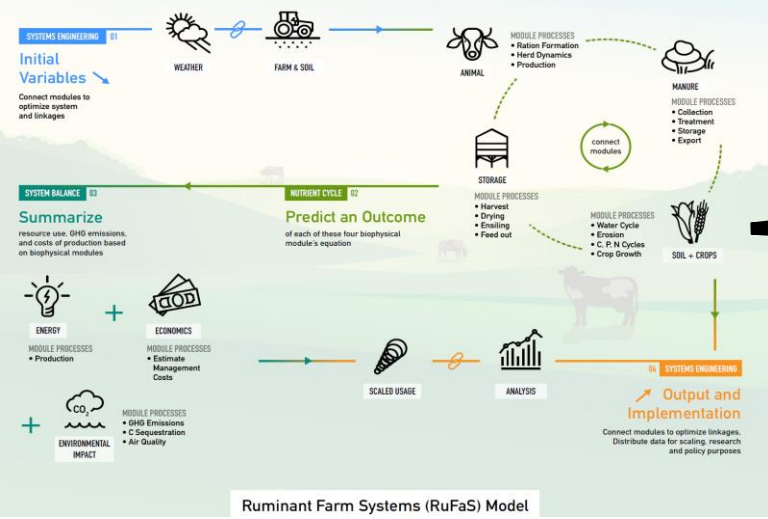
Man lifting a stone with a lever

# Modeled Processes



**Carbon  
Sequestration**





## Existing Models

**Key Equations**

Soil & Water Assessment Tool | **SWAT**

Century 100 DayCent

**SurPhos**  
Surface Phosphorus Runoff Model

 python

**Interoperable**



# Crop and Soil Module: Timeline



1. Prepare  
simplistic carbon  
model

2. Identify grass  
growth  
parameters

3. Complete data  
requests

1. Input simplistic  
carbon model

2. Input grass  
parameters

1. Input refined  
code in RuFaS

2. Identify  
problems

1. Finalize code

2. Finalize  
documentation

# Crop and Soil Module: Milestones



1. Data collection
2. Agile project management

1. Develop RuFaS Carbon Model
2. Model testing

1. Add management functionality:  
Manure, fertilizer, tillage

1. Annual and perennial grasses
2. Functionality of “Fields”
3. Connection between animal management
4. manure storage, and soil via field management
5. Connection between crop and feed storage
6. Model calibration (3X)
7. **Document**

# Data Collection

- ★ 1. Ron Alverson
- ★ 2. Dakota Lakes

- ★ 1. Lakeland Agricultural Complex (LAC)

- ★ 2. UW Arlington Ag. Research Station ARL

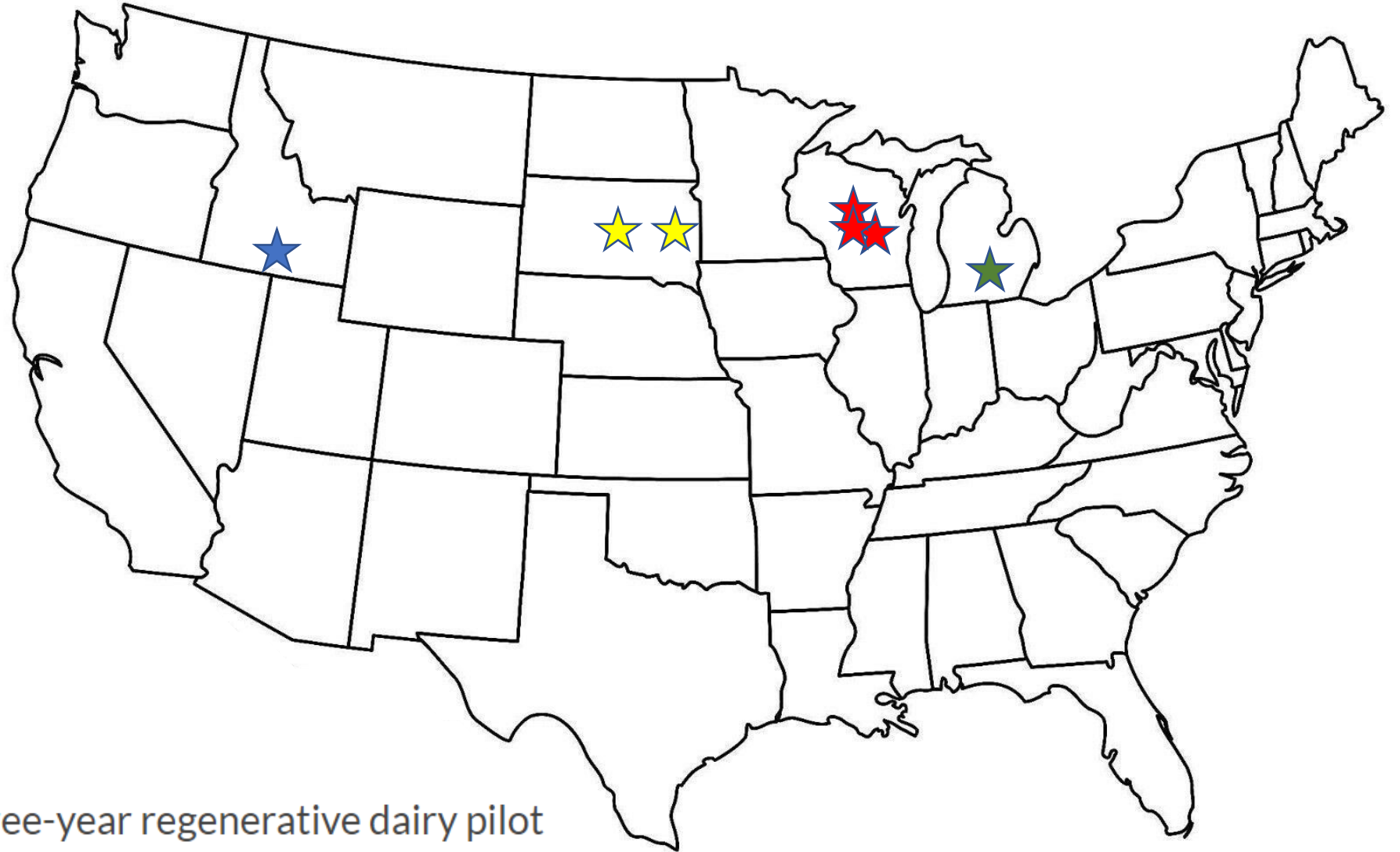
- ★ 3. Prairie du Sac (Vadas)

- ★ 1. USDA-ARS NORTHWEST (3X)

## Future Datasets

JUN 16, 2020

- ★ General Mills launches three-year regenerative dairy pilot in Michigan in partnership with Foremost Farms and Understanding Ag





## Calibration Sites



1. USDA-ARS Northwest  
(3X) LTGHG



2. UW Arlington Ag.  
Research Station **ARL**



## Calibration Ticket\*

- Documentation of calibration data by model branch ID on ***Git Hub***
- Reproducibility
- Model Transparency
- Publication

# Kimberly Idaho Calibration: Yield, N, P, C

Spring Wheat (2013)



Potatoes (2014)



Spring Barley (2015)



Sugar Beets (2016)

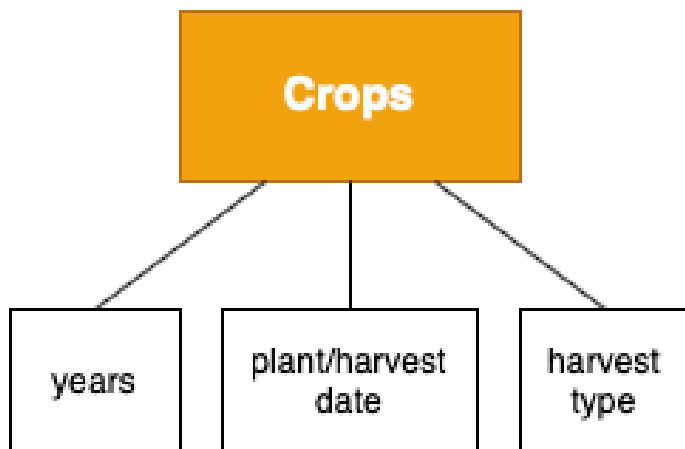


## Treatments:

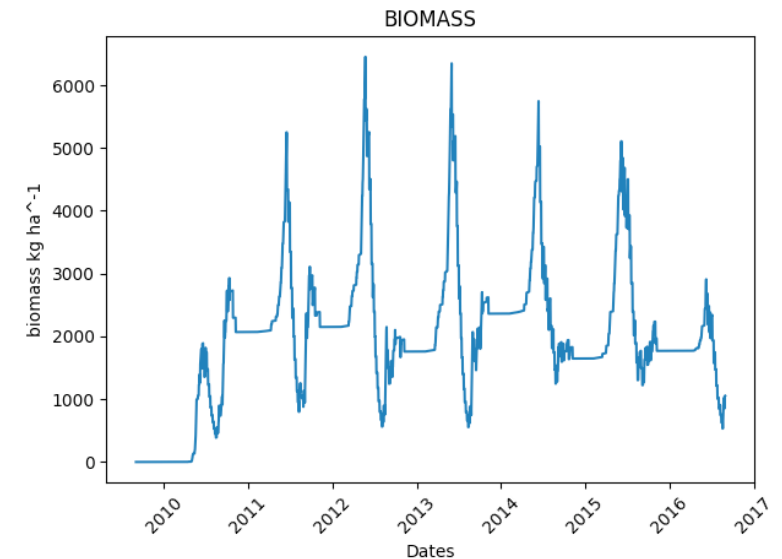
1. No fertilizer
2. Synthetic fertilizer
3. 18 mg ha<sup>-1</sup> Manure
4. 36 Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> Manure
5. 52 Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> Manure

# Old and New Crops

- Main crop types are annual and perennial
  - **Old crops:** Corn, Alfalfa, Soybean
  - **New crops:** Tall Fescue, Spring Barley, Sugar Beets, Spring Wheat, Potato

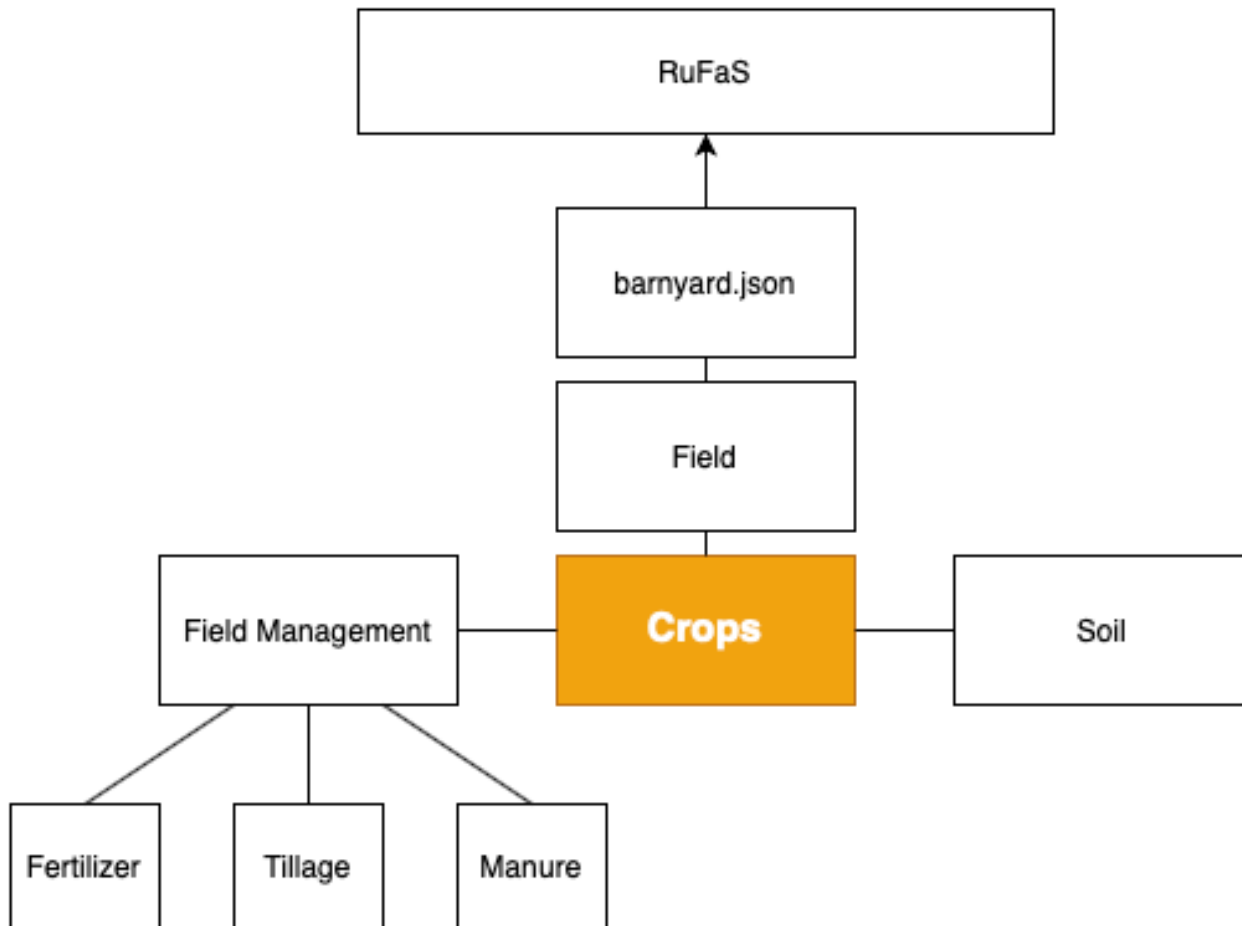


```
1 {  
2   "latitude": 43.332708,  
3  
4   "crops": {  
5     "tall_fescue": {  
6       "grow_years": [2009],  
7       "repeat": 1,  
8       "planting_date": 121,  
9       "harvest_date": 319,  
10      "harvest_type": "optimal"  
11     }  
12   }  
13 }
```





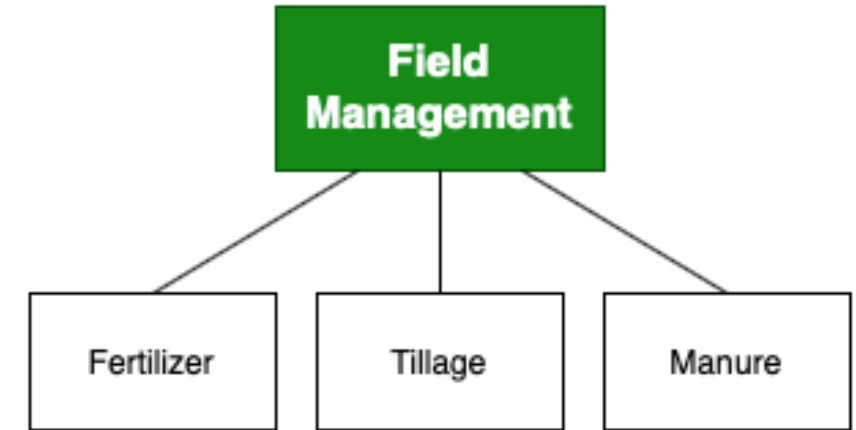
# Moving towards database functionality



```
"farm":  
{  
  "fields": {  
    "field_1": {  
      "soil": "barnyard_soil.json",  
      "crop": "tall_fescue_rotation.json",  
      "field_management": "barnyard_field_management.json"  
    }  
  },  
  "animal": "barnyard_animal.json",  
  "feed": "panke_buisse_feed.json"  
}
```

# New Management Structure

- Old Method:
  - Individual specification
- New Method:
  - Working towards database implementation



```
"tillage":  
{  
  "rotation_years": [],  
  "repeat": 0,  
  
  "year": [],  
  "day": [],  
  "perc_incorporated": [],  
  "perc_mixed": [],  
  "depth": []  
}
```

Old tillage application

## Specifying tillage\_type considers variables:

- perc\_mixed
- depth

```
"tillage":  
{  
  "rotation_years": [2009],  
  "repeat": 1,  
  
  "tillage_type": "DUCKFTC",  
  "year": [],  
  "day": []  
}
```

New tillage application

Project

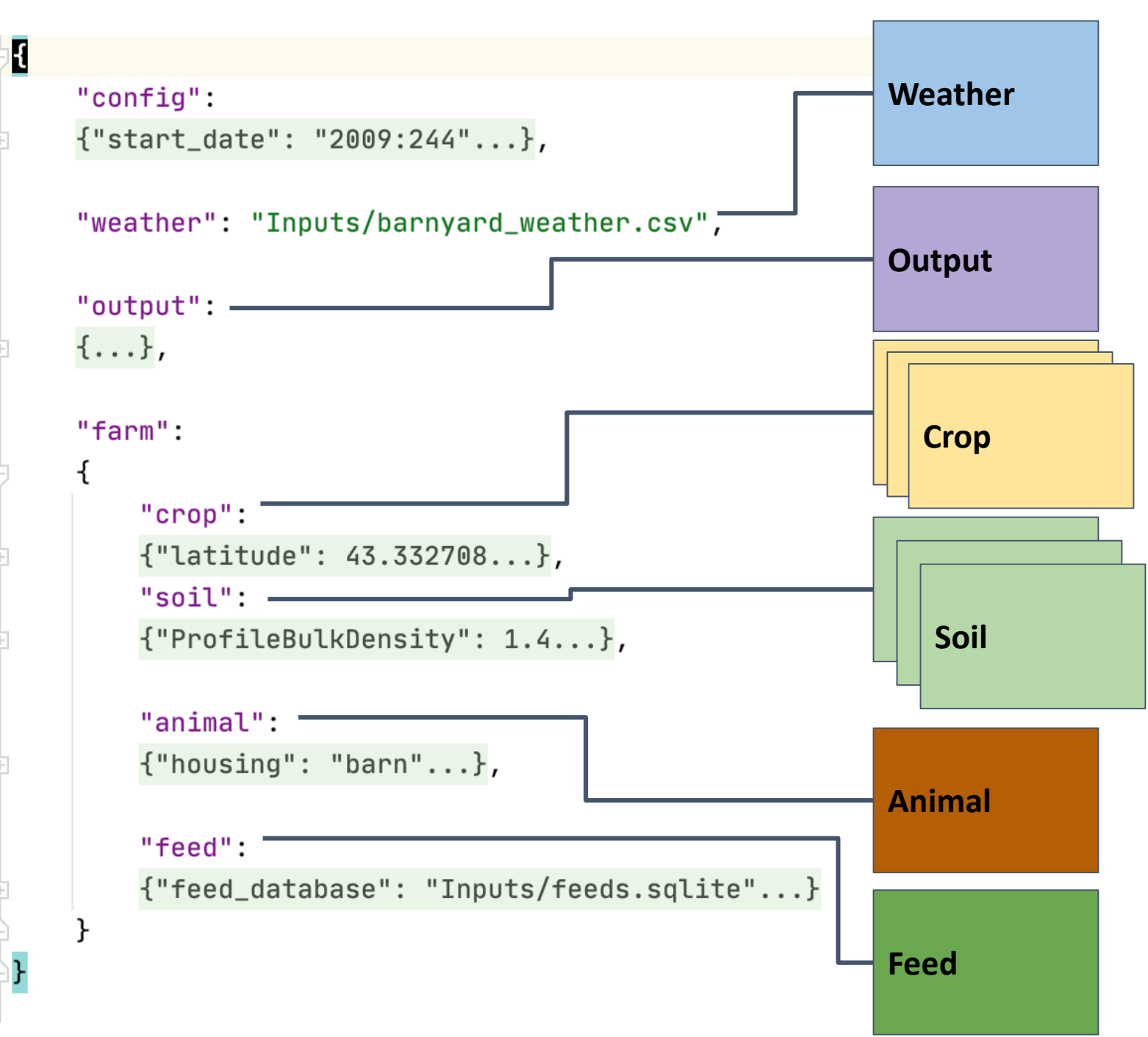
- MASM ~/Dropbox/Work/USDA/RUFAS/MASM
  - Inputs
    - animal\_management.json
    - barnyard.json
    - barnyard\_weather.csv
    - crop\_module\_testWeather\_3.4.csv
    - feeds.sqlite
    - Weather.csv
  - output
    - CSVs
    - graphics
    - Outputs
  - RUFAS
    - output
    - output\_handler
      - reports
    - routines
    - test
      - \_\_init\_\_.py
      - classes.py
      - errors.py
      - simulation\_engine.py
      - user\_prompt.py
      - util.py
    - save\_directory
      - ARL
      - LT
      - LT\_corn
      - LT\_corn\_N\_fix
      - LT\_N\_fix
    - .gitignore
    - createCropWeatherDoc.py
    - fileReader.py
    - main.py
    - README.md
    - requirements.txt
    - RUFAS\_build\_macos
    - RUFAS\_RUN
    - RUFAS\_TEST
    - setup.py

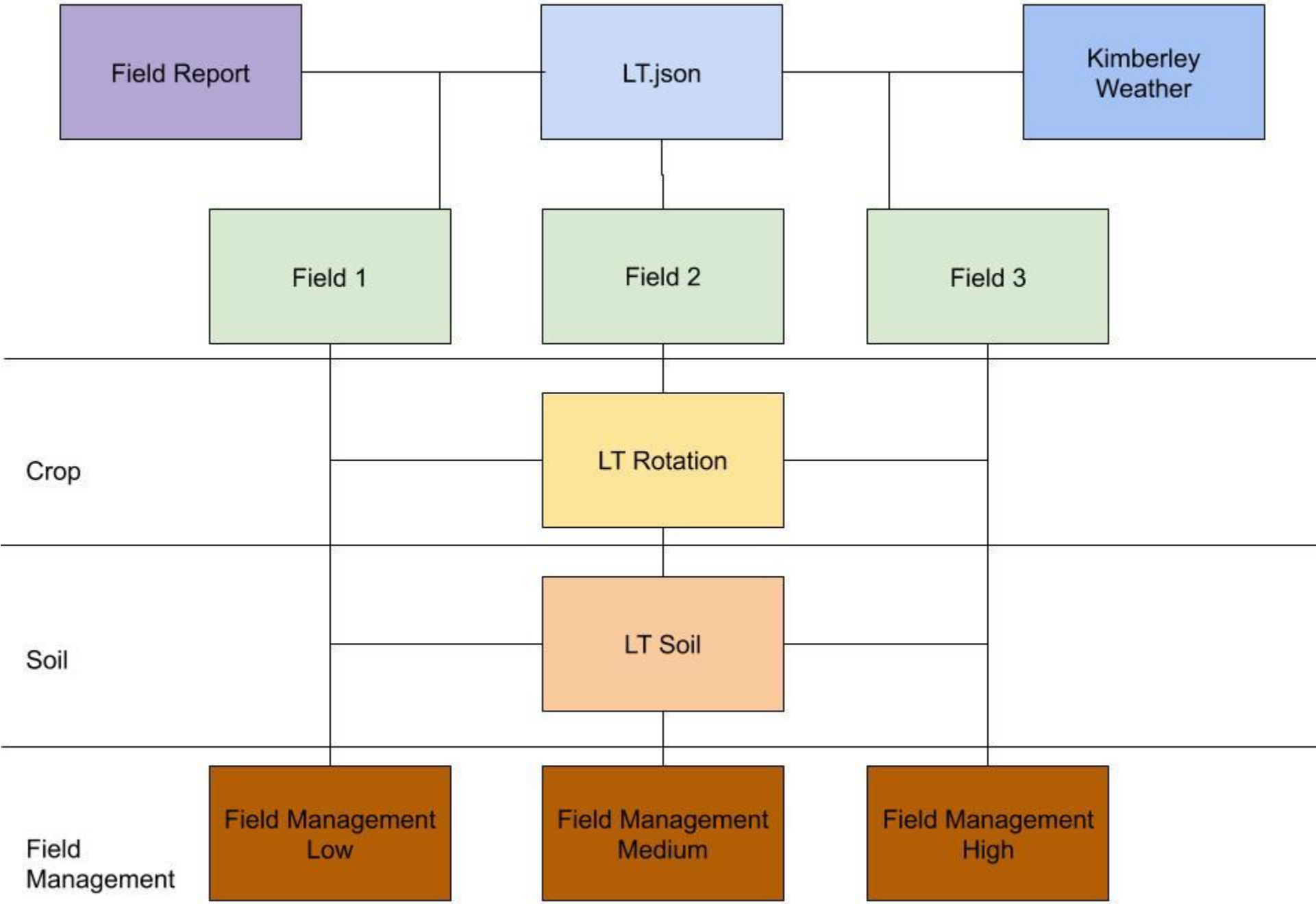
```

166     "ActiveMineralRate": 0.0003,
167     "VolatileExchangeFac": 0.15,
168     "DenitrificationRate": 0.1,
169     "SoilWaterRatio": 0.3,
170     "OM%": 1.9
171   },
172   "Layer2":
173   {
174     "BottomDepth": 300,
175     "WiltingPoint": 0.1,
176     "FieldCapacity": 0.3,
177     "Saturation": 0.5,
178     "Ksat": 20,
179     "CationExclusionFraction": 0.0,
180     "Clay": 20,
181     "InitialTemperature": 14.50797297,
182     "BulkDensity": 1.3,
183     "OrgC%": 1.2,
184     "NH4": 1,
185     "FracActiveN": 0.02,
186     "LabileP": 10,
187     "ActiveMineralRate": 0.0003,
188     "VolatileExchangeFac": 0.15,
189     "DenitrificationRate": 0.1,
190     "SoilWaterRatio": 0.3,
191     "OM%": 1.9
192   },
193   "Layer3":
194   {
195     "BottomDepth": 450,
196     "WiltingPoint": 0.1,
197     "FieldCapacity": 0.30,
198     "Saturation": 0.5,
199     "Ksat": 20,
200     "CationExclusionFraction": 0.0,
201     "Clay": 20,
202     "InitialTemperature": 13.38623.

```







```
{
  "config":
  {
    "start_date" : "1980:1",
    "end_date" : "2019:365",
    "csv_dir": "output/CSVs/",
    "graphic_dir": "output/graphics/",
    "run_tests": false
  },

  "weather": "LT_weather.csv",

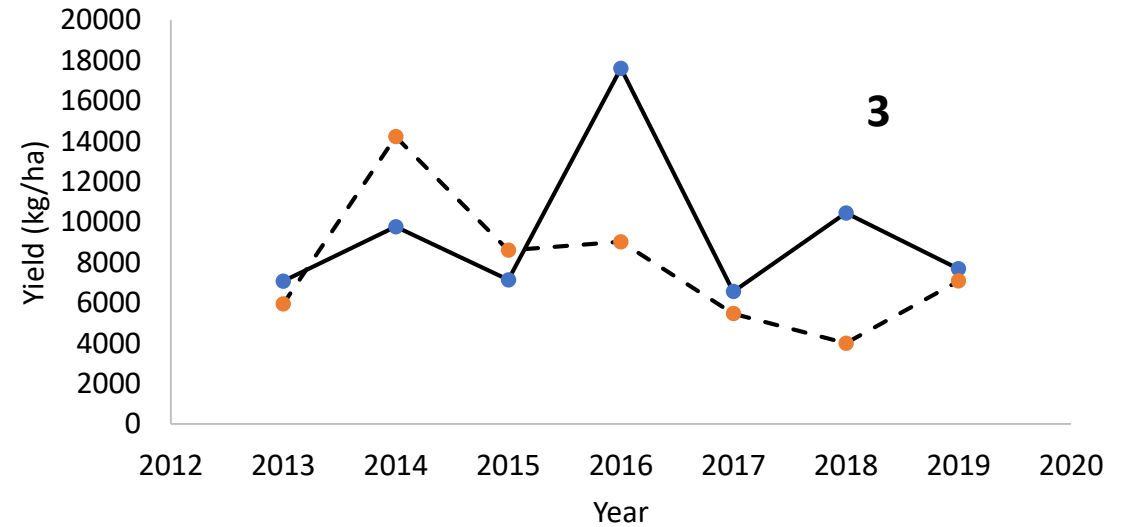
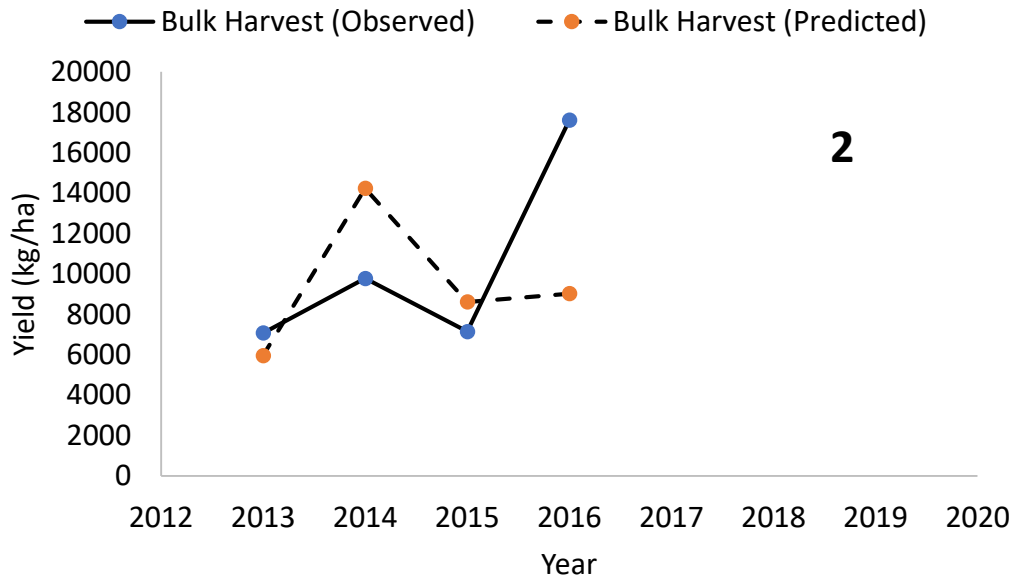
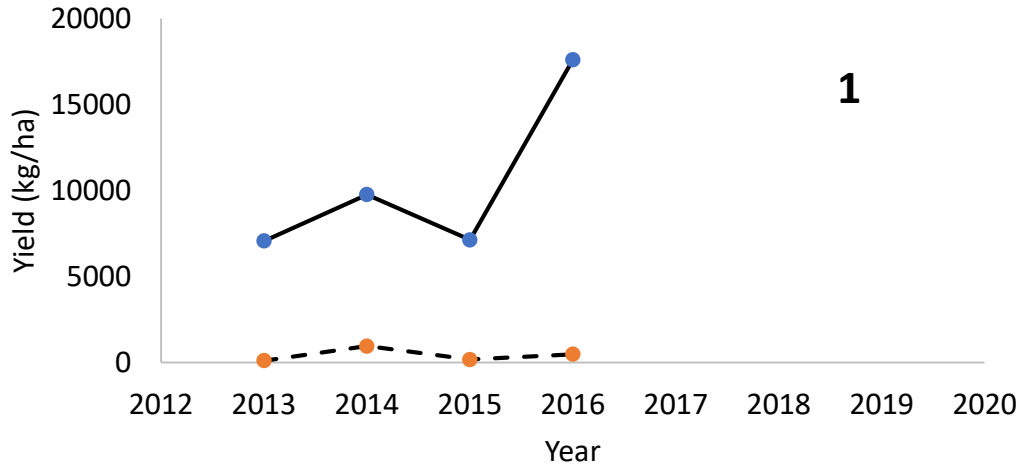
  "output": "field_report.json",

  "farm":
  {
    "fields": {
      "field_1": {
        "soil": "LT_soil.json",
        "crop": "LT_rotation.json",
        "field_management": "LT_field_management_1.json"
      },
      "field_2": {
        "soil": "LT_soil.json",
        "crop": "LT_rotation.json",
        "field_management": "LT_field_management_2.json"
      },
      "field_3": {
        "soil": "LT_soil.json",
        "crop": "LT_rotation.json",
        "field_management": "LT_field_management_3.json"
      }
    },
    "animal": "barnyard_animal.json",
    "feed": "panke_buisse_feed.json"
  }
}
```

```
"farm":
{
  "fields": {
    "field_1": {
      "soil": "LT_soil.json",
      "crop": "LT_rotation.json",
      "field_management": "LT_field_management_1.json"
    },
    "field_2": {
      "soil": "LT_soil.json",
      "crop": "LT_rotation.json",
      "field_management": "LT_field_management_2.json"
    },
    "field_3": {
      "soil": "LT_soil.json",
      "crop": "LT_rotation.json",
      "field_management": "LT_field_management_3.json"
    }
  },
  "animal": "barnyard_animal.json",
  "feed": "panke_buisse_feed.json"
}
```



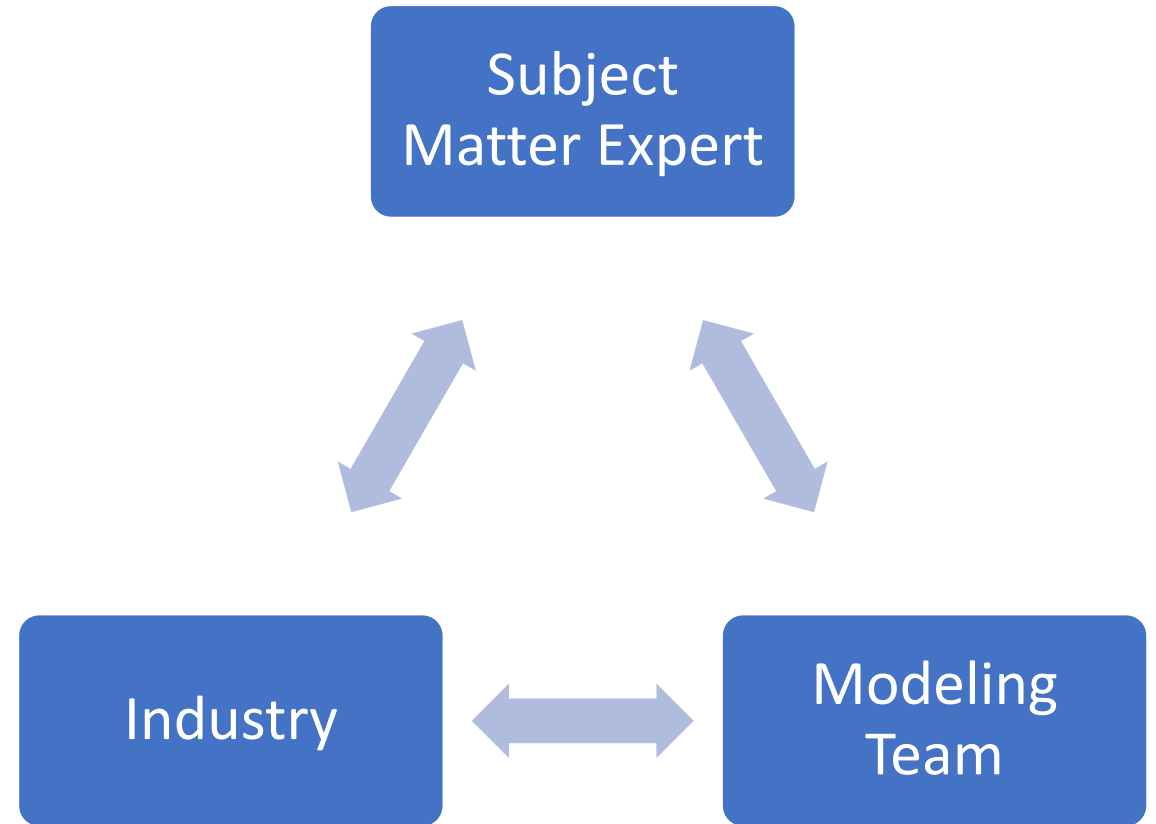
# Preliminary Results



# Nutrients and Triangulation

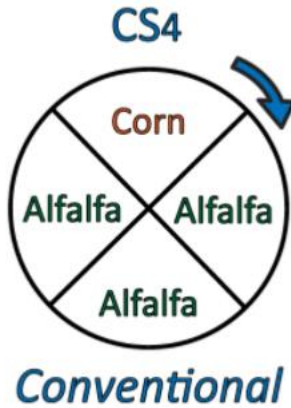
## Calibration

- Runoff and Erosion
- Soil N
- Soil P
- Soil C



# Columbia Wisconsin Calibration: Yield, P

DAIRY FORAGE SYSTEMS

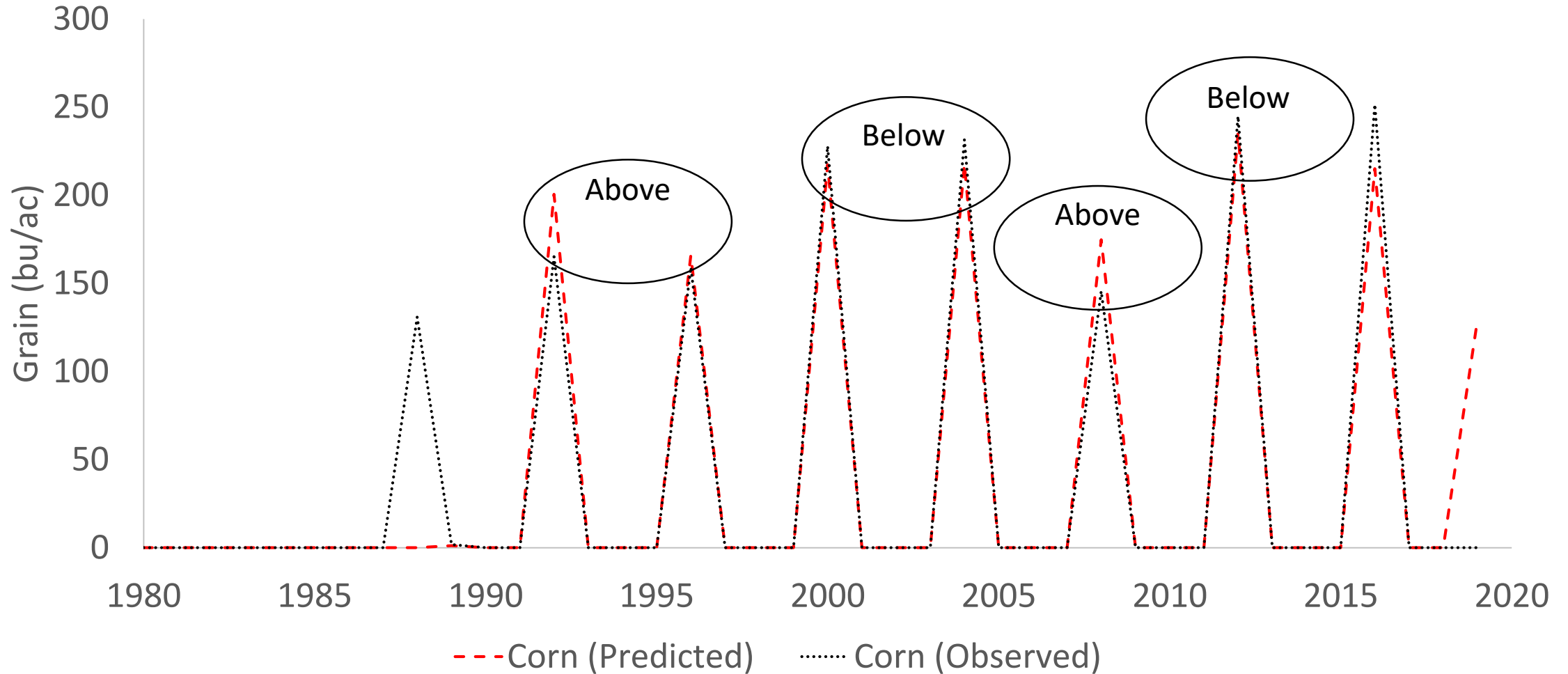


WISCONSIN INTEGRATED CROPPING SYSTEMS TRIAL  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES

1980 2018

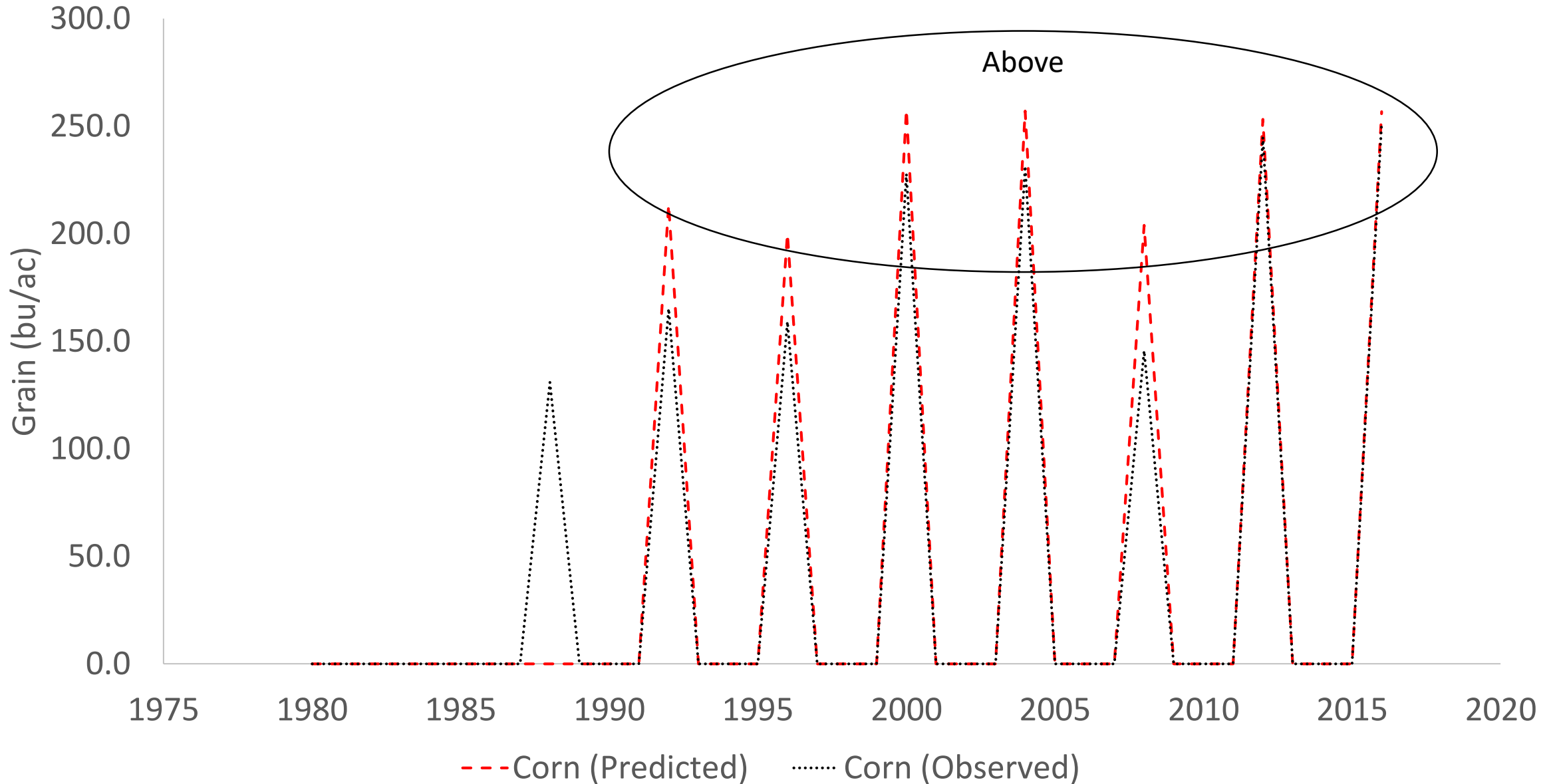


# Preliminary Results





# Management Inputs

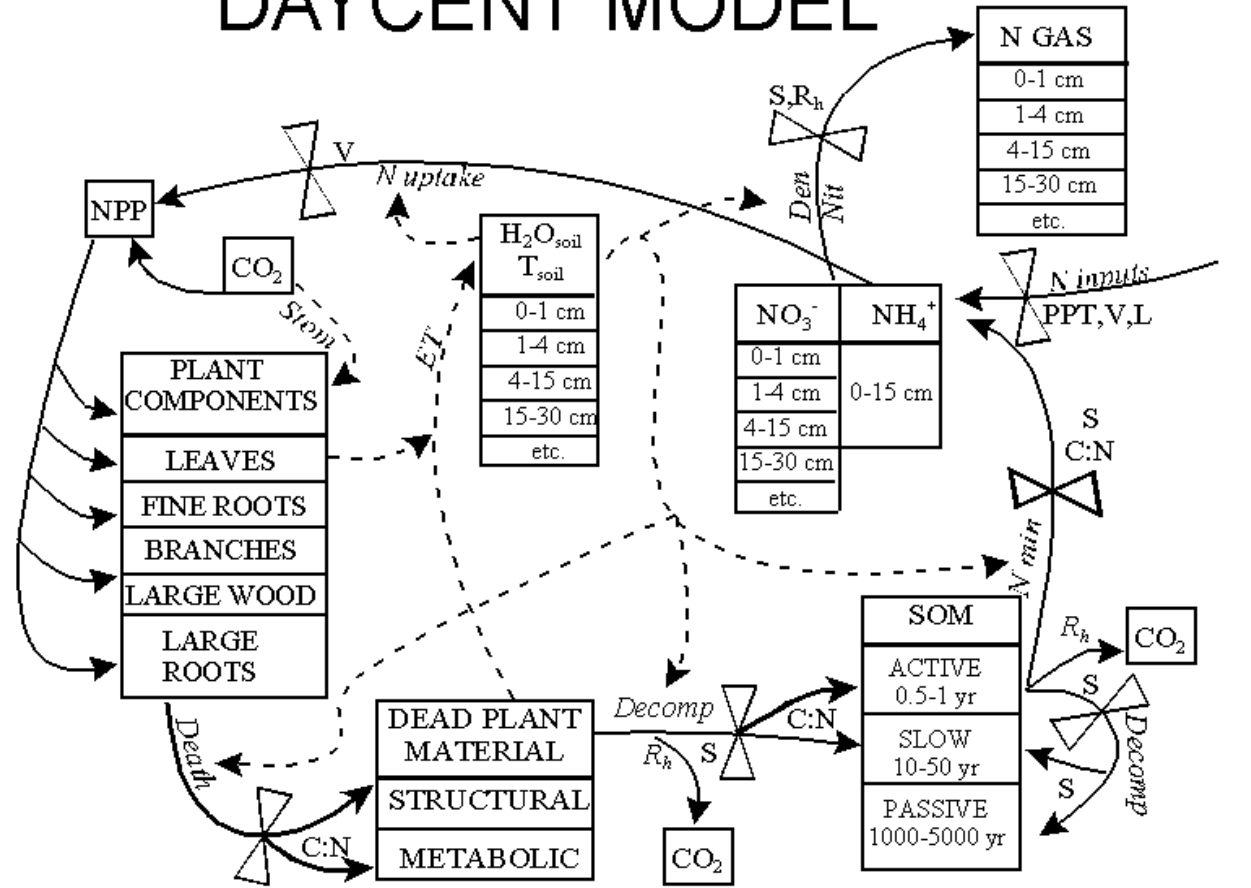


# RuFaS Carbon Model

Use key equations from the Century and DayCent Models to:

1. Estimate soil carbon
2. Capture carbon flux
3. Provide feedback regarding soil health

## DAYCENT MODEL

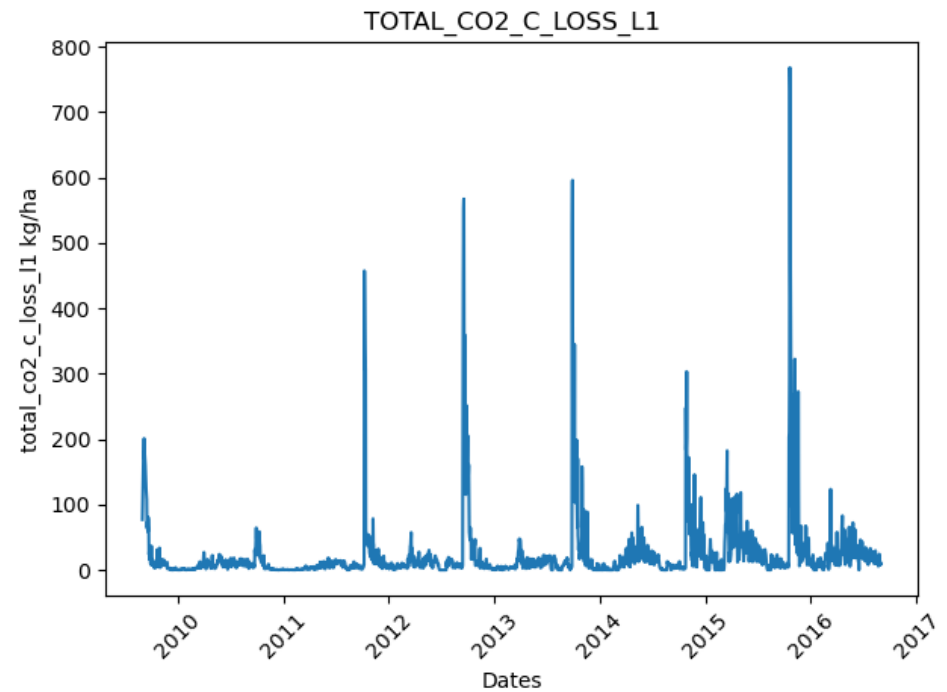
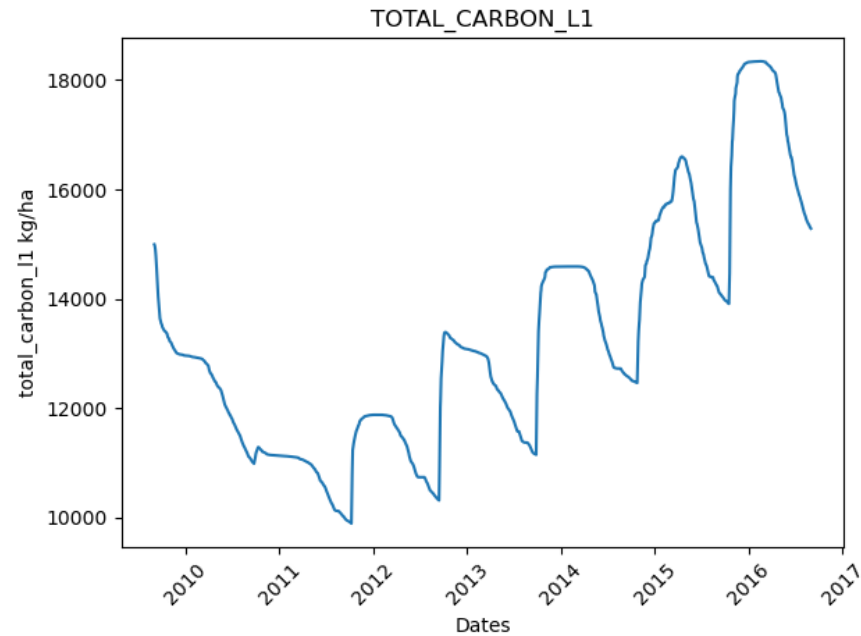


→ = C, N flows  
 - - → = Feedbacks, information flows  
 ⌘ = Control on process  
 H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>soil</sub> = Soil water content  
 T<sub>soil</sub> = Soil temperature  
 S = Soil texture  
 C:N = Carbon:Nitrogen ratio of material  
 V = Vegetation type  
 SOM = Soil Organic Matter  
 L = Land use  
 R<sub>h</sub> = Heterotrophic respiration

N GAS = N<sub>2</sub>O, NO<sub>x</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>  
 Processes designated by *italics*  
 Stom = Stomatal conductance  
 Death = Plant component death  
 Decomp = Decomposition  
 N<sub>inputs</sub> = N Fixation, N deposition, N fertilization  
 N<sub>nit</sub> = Nitrification  
 N<sub>den</sub> = Denitrification  
 N<sub>min</sub> = N mineralization  
 ET = Evapotranspiration

# RuFaS Carbon Model

- **Functionality**
- **Inputs and outputs** for the carbon model



# RuFaS Carbon Model

- Evaluation
- Advancement of the model

```
T_d = max(0.0, (teff_2 + (teff_3 / math.pi) * math.atan(math.pi * teff_4 * (
    weather.T_avg[time.year - 1][time.day - 1] - teff_1))) / normalizer)

soil.T_d = T_d

for layer in soil.soil_layers:
    base_1 = (layer.water_fac - b) / (a - b)
    base_2 = (layer.water_fac - c) / (a - c)
    M_d = (base_1 ** e1) * (base_2 ** e2)
    layer.M_d = M_d

    # above ground metabolic residue
    layer.metabolic_AG_to_C_active = metabolic_AG_active_decomp * layer.M_d * soil.T_d * layer.metabolic_AG

    metabolic_AG_to_BG = layer.metabolic_AG * layer.fr_tillage

    d_metabolic_AG = soil.residue_DM_harvest * metabolic_AG_frac - (
        (layer.metabolic_AG_to_C_active - metabolic_AG_to_BG) + metabolic_AG_to_BG)

    layer.metabolic_AG += d_metabolic_AG

    # above ground structural residue
    K1 = 0.076
    struct_AG_decomp = K1 * math.exp(-3) * (1 - metabolic_AG_frac)

    layer.struct_AG_to_C_active = struct_AG_decomp * layer.M_d * soil.T_d * layer.structural_AG
    layer.struct_AG_to_C_slow = struct_AG_decomp * layer.M_d * soil.T_d * layer.structural_AG

    struct_AG_to_BG = layer.structural_AG * layer.fr_tillage

    d_structural_AG = ((soil.residue_DM_harvest * (1 - metabolic_AG_frac)) - struct_AG_to_BG) - \
        (layer.struct_AG_to_C_active + layer.struct_AG_to_C_slow)

    layer.structural_AG += d_structural_AG
```



# Harvest

Plant Residue

1. Structural Carbon

2. Metabolic Carbon

+Tillage

## SOIL (Layer 1)

Plant roots

3. Structural Carbon

4. Metabolic Carbon

+Tillage

(2)

Plant roots

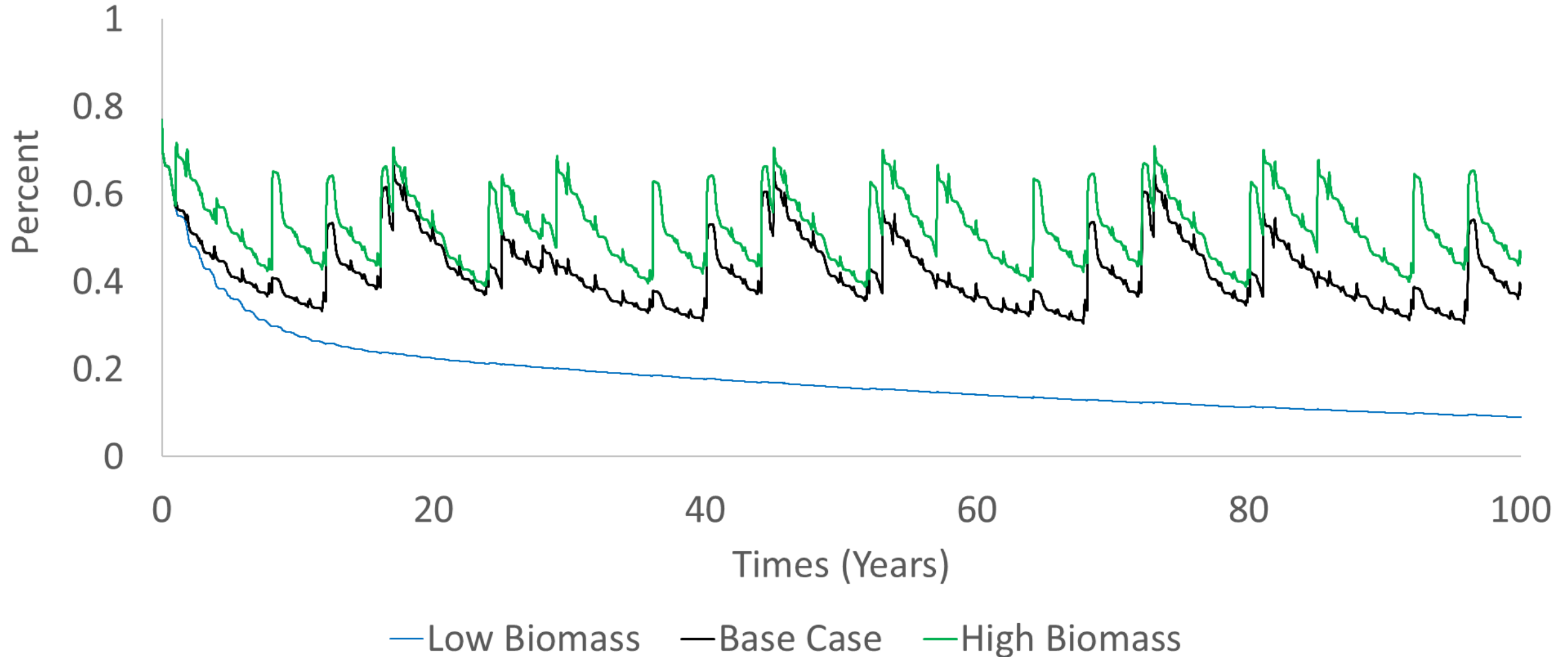
5. Structural Carbon

6. Metabolic Carbon

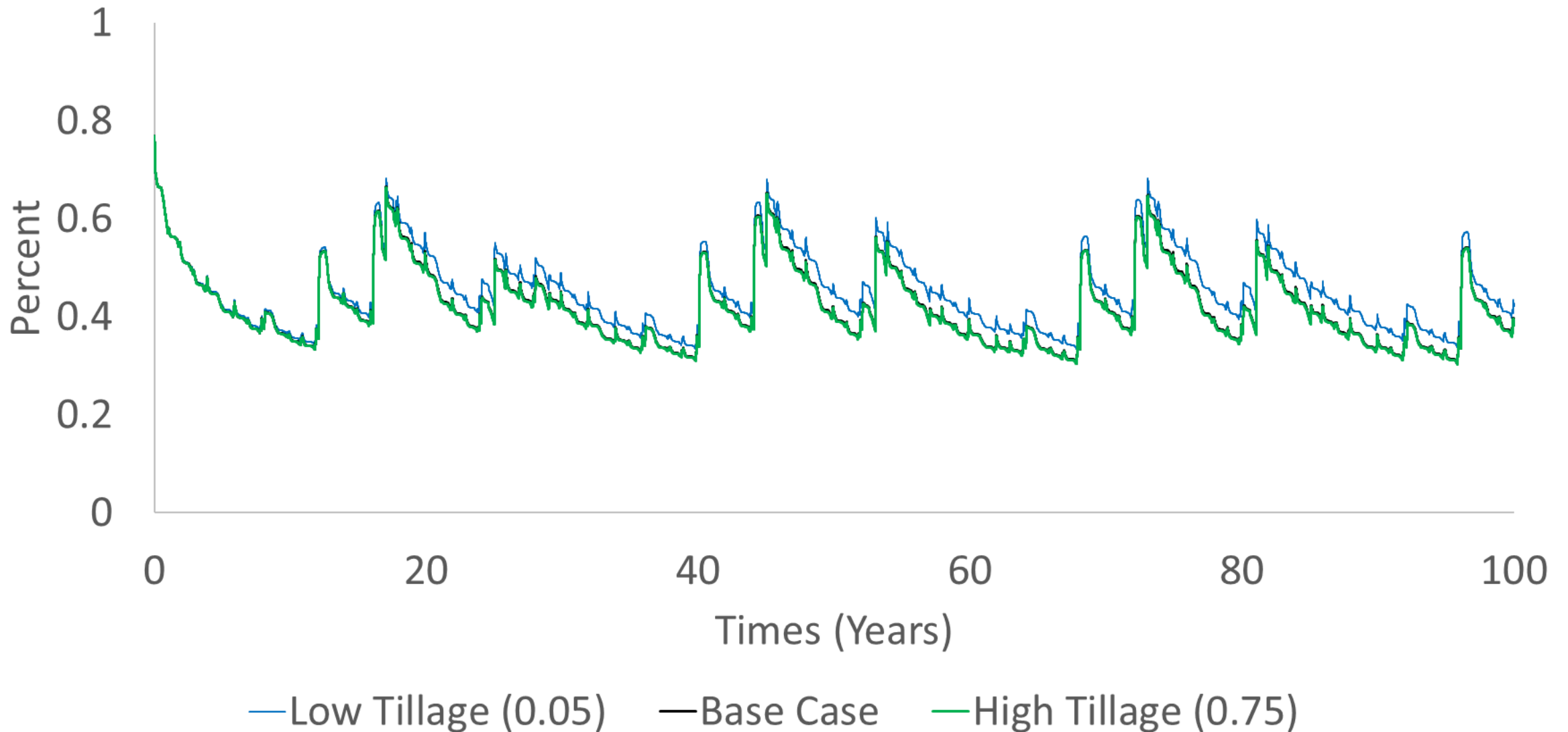
## SOIL (Layer 3..<sup>nth</sup> layer)

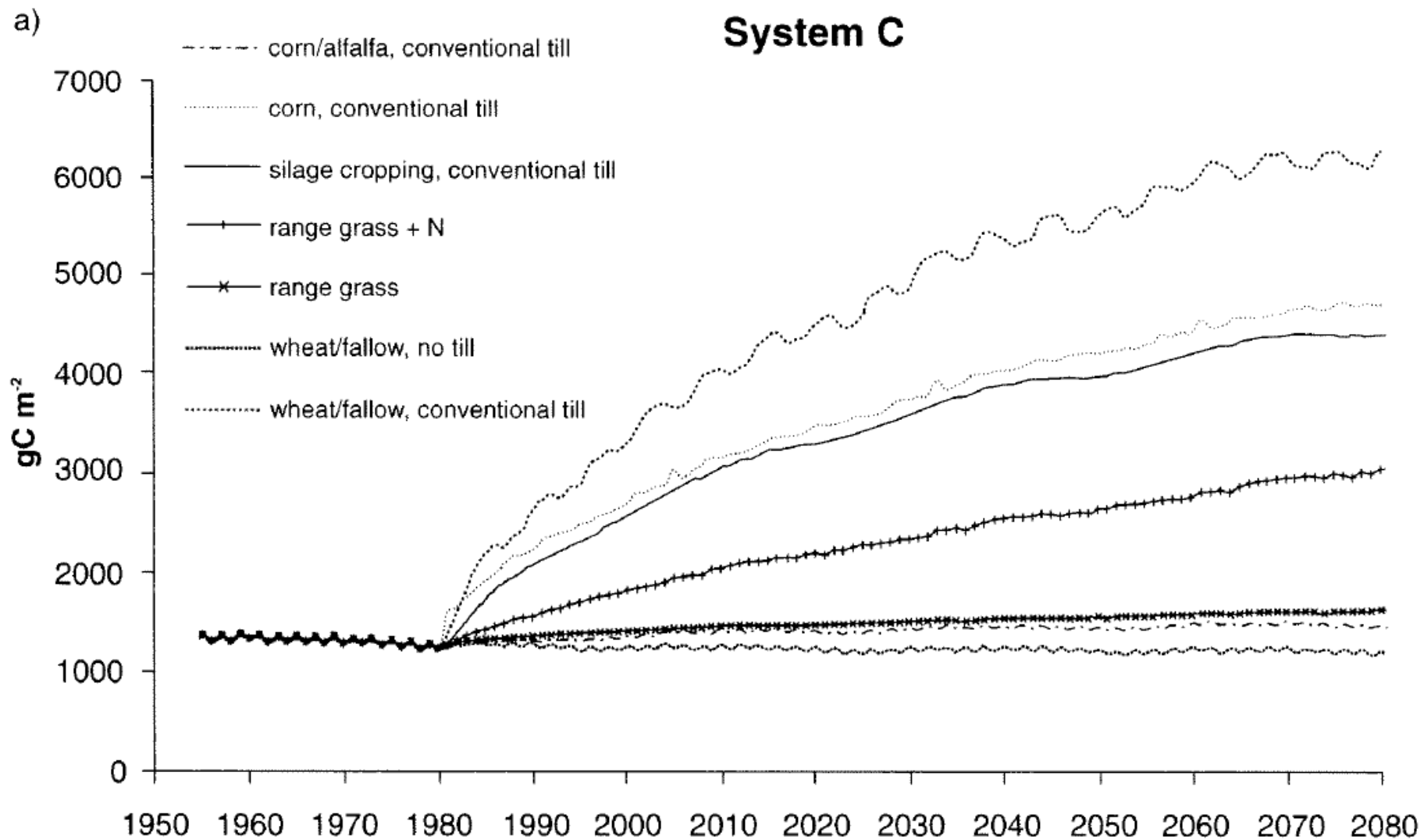
**Carbon Sequestration**

# Extreme Conditions Test: 100 Year Run, Biomass



# Extreme Conditions Test: 100 Year Run, Tillage



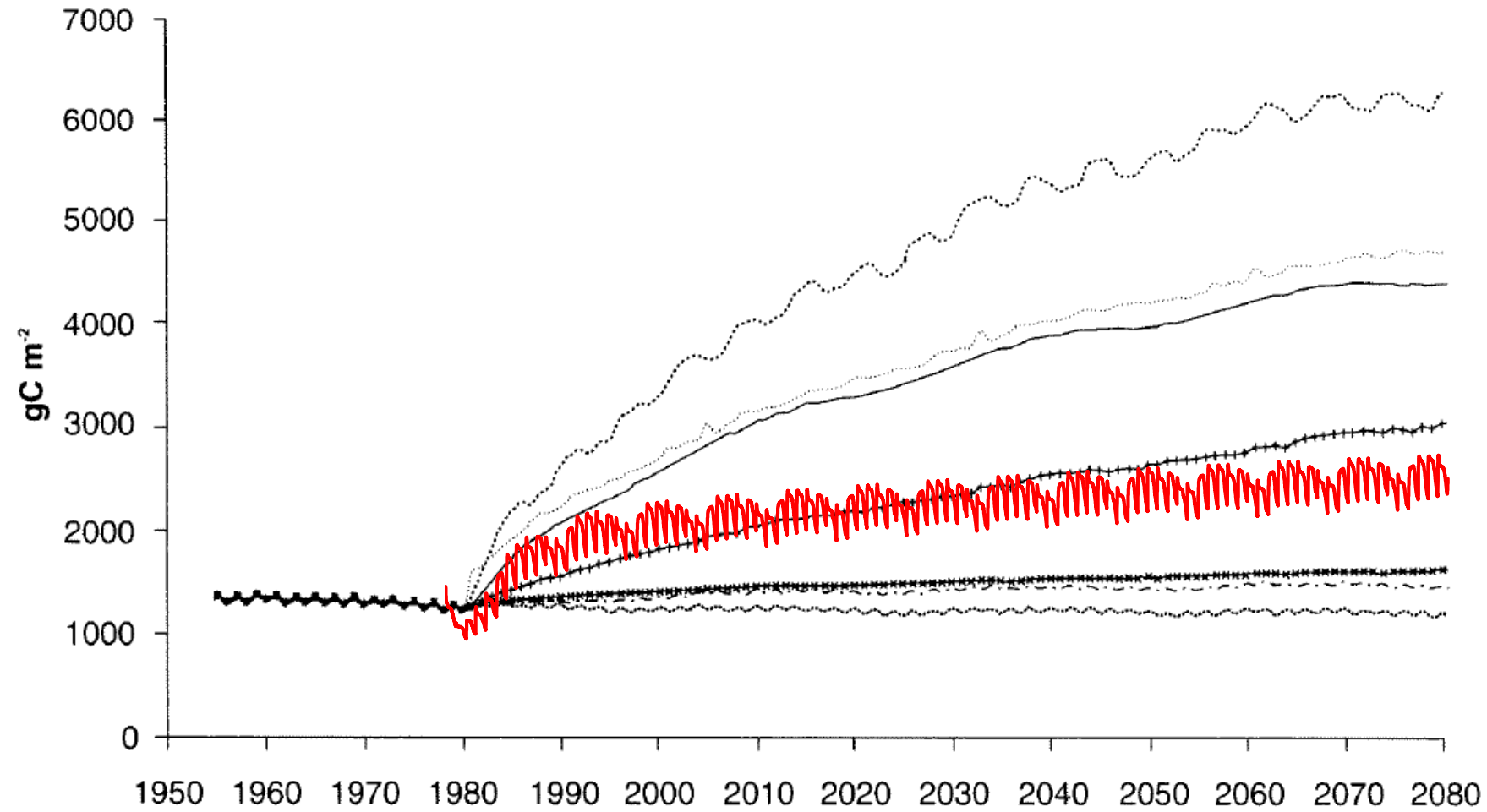


**Figure 8.7** Simulated yearly changes in system C (soil C + litter C + surface organic matter C) (a); cumulative yearly N<sub>2</sub>O emissions (b); and cumulative yearly NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> leaching (c) for a Great Plains soil under conventional till winter wheat/fallow rotations and six alternative land use scenarios.



a)

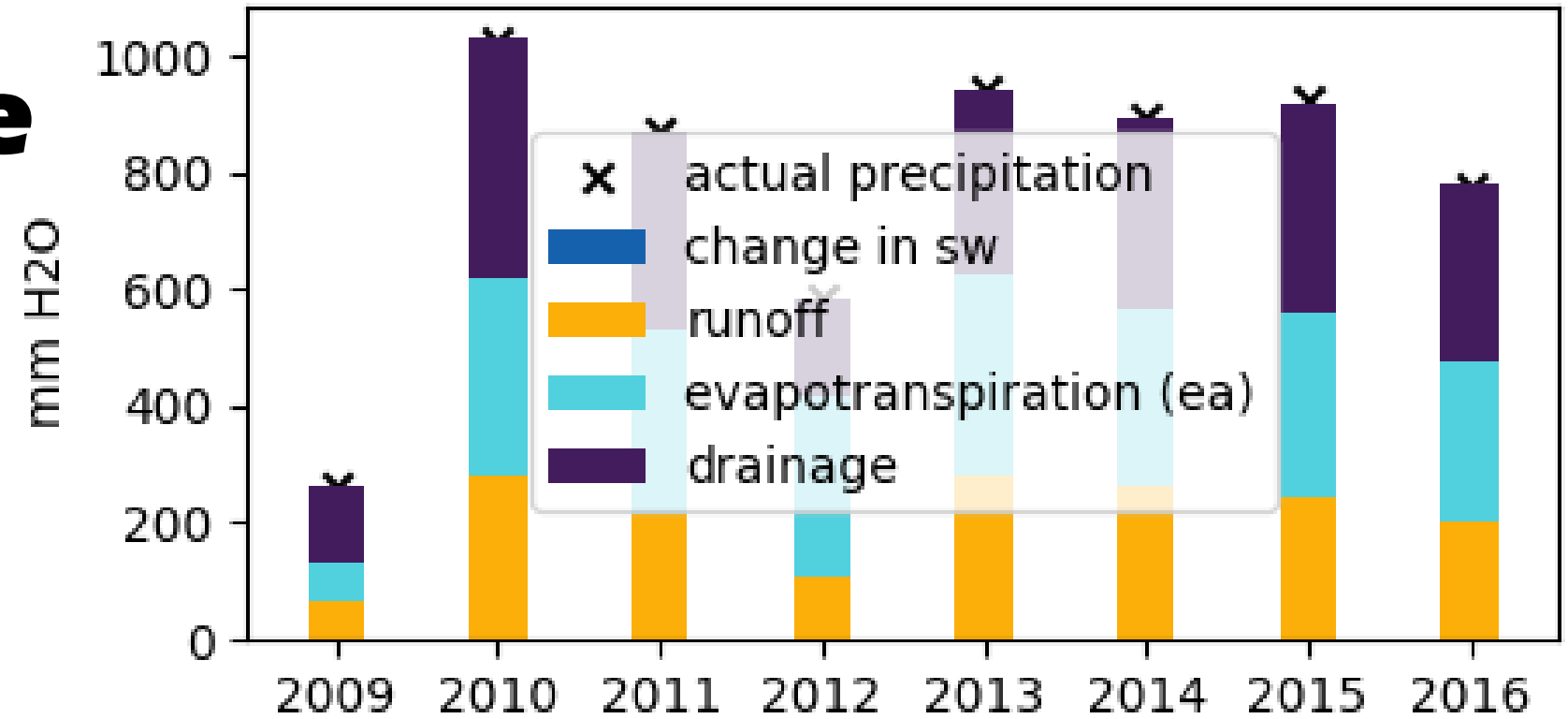
### System C



# Mass Balance

- Proof of concept

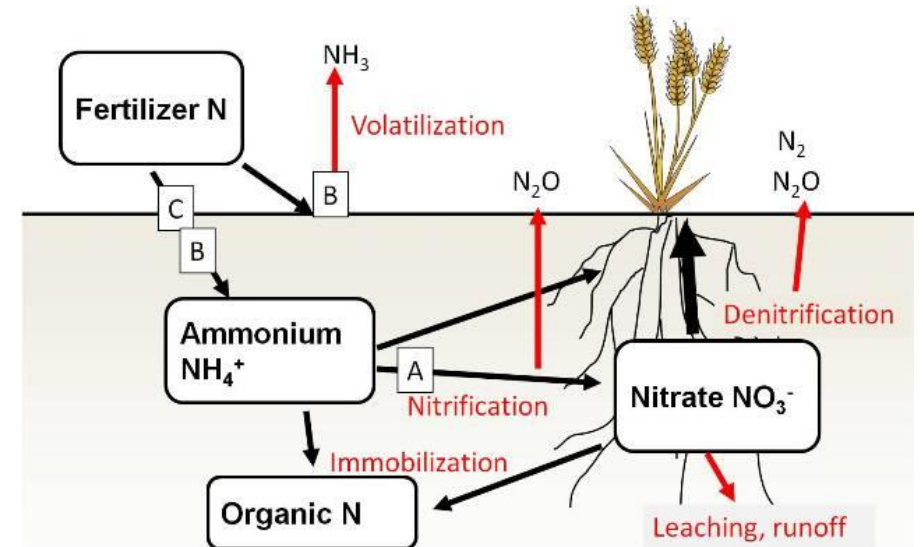
## Annual Water Balance



change in sw	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
runoff	66.818	278.896	212.814	107.757	278.567	260.217	242.497	201.575
evapotranspiration (ea)	63.775	341.663	320.428	306.986	349.254	306.022	321.112	276.39
drainage	131.368	408.787	336.087	167.887	315.168	326.134	355.133	300.499
actual precipitation	262.89	1027.43	872.49	582.168	941.07	892.048	922.528	774.192
calculated water	262.89	1027.43	872.49	582.168	941.07	892.048	922.528	774.192
difference	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.0

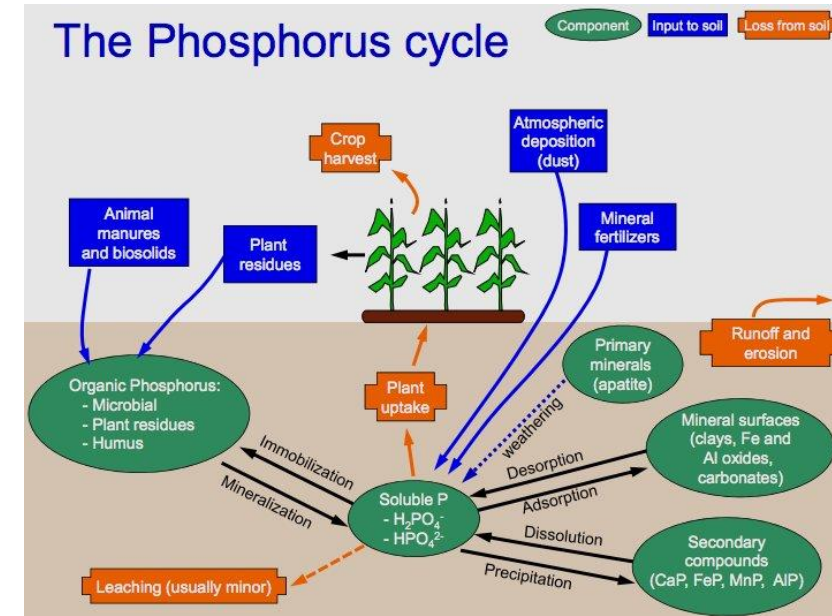
# Mass Balance: Nitrogen

Inflow	Stock or Pool	Outflow
Manure	$\text{NH}_4^+$	Leaching
Fertilizer	$\text{NO}_3^-$	Runoff
Residue	Organic Nitrogen	Erosion
Roots	Active Nitrogen	Nitrification
	Stable Nitrogen	Volatilization
	Fresh Nitrogen	Denitrification
		Plant Uptake



# Mass Balance: Phosphorus

Inflow	Stock or Pool	Outflow
Manure Fertilizer Residue Roots	Labile Inorganic P Active Inorganic P Stable Inorganic P	Runoff Erosion Leaching Plant Uptake



VADAS ET AL.: A MODEL FOR MANURE PHOSPHORUS RUNOFF LOSS

Manure P and Runoff Model – Initial Pools and Interactions

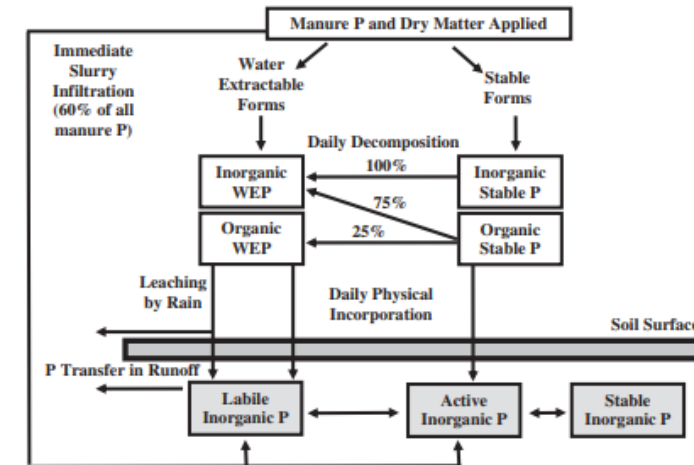
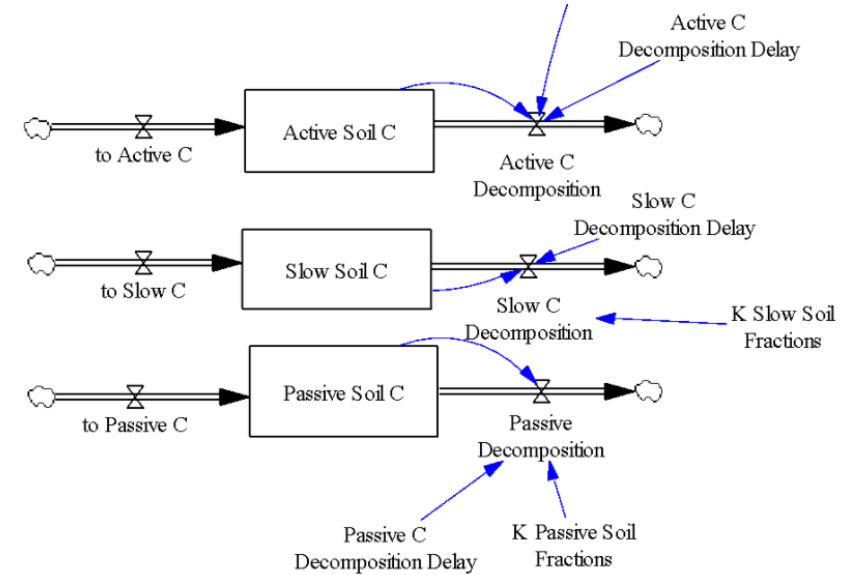


Fig. 1. Schematic depiction of manure and soil P pools, and pathways of P transformation between the pools.



# Mass Balance: Carbon

Inflow	Stock or Pool	Outflow
Residue Roots Manure	Structural Metabolic Active Passive Slow	CO <sub>2</sub>



# Next Step: Add Complexity

Functionality

Continuous Cover

- Corn, Winter Wheat, Corn



# Next Steps



- **Integrate** Carbon and Manure “branches” to RuFaS Master
  - **Complete Calibrations**
    - Idaho
    - Wisconsin
  - **Functionality:** Develop Continuous Cropping
  - **Write** Publication (s)
- **Mass Balances** (P, N, C, H<sub>2</sub>O)
    - Idaho (Leytem)
    - Wisconsin (Sandford)
    - Prairie du Sac (Vadas)
  - **Functionality:** Grazing
  - **Develop** multispecies cropping in the same field
- Integration** of initial grazing into crop and soil.  
**Functionality:** AMP grazing
- Model Evaluation**  
**Policy Design and Analysis**
- Document, document, document...*

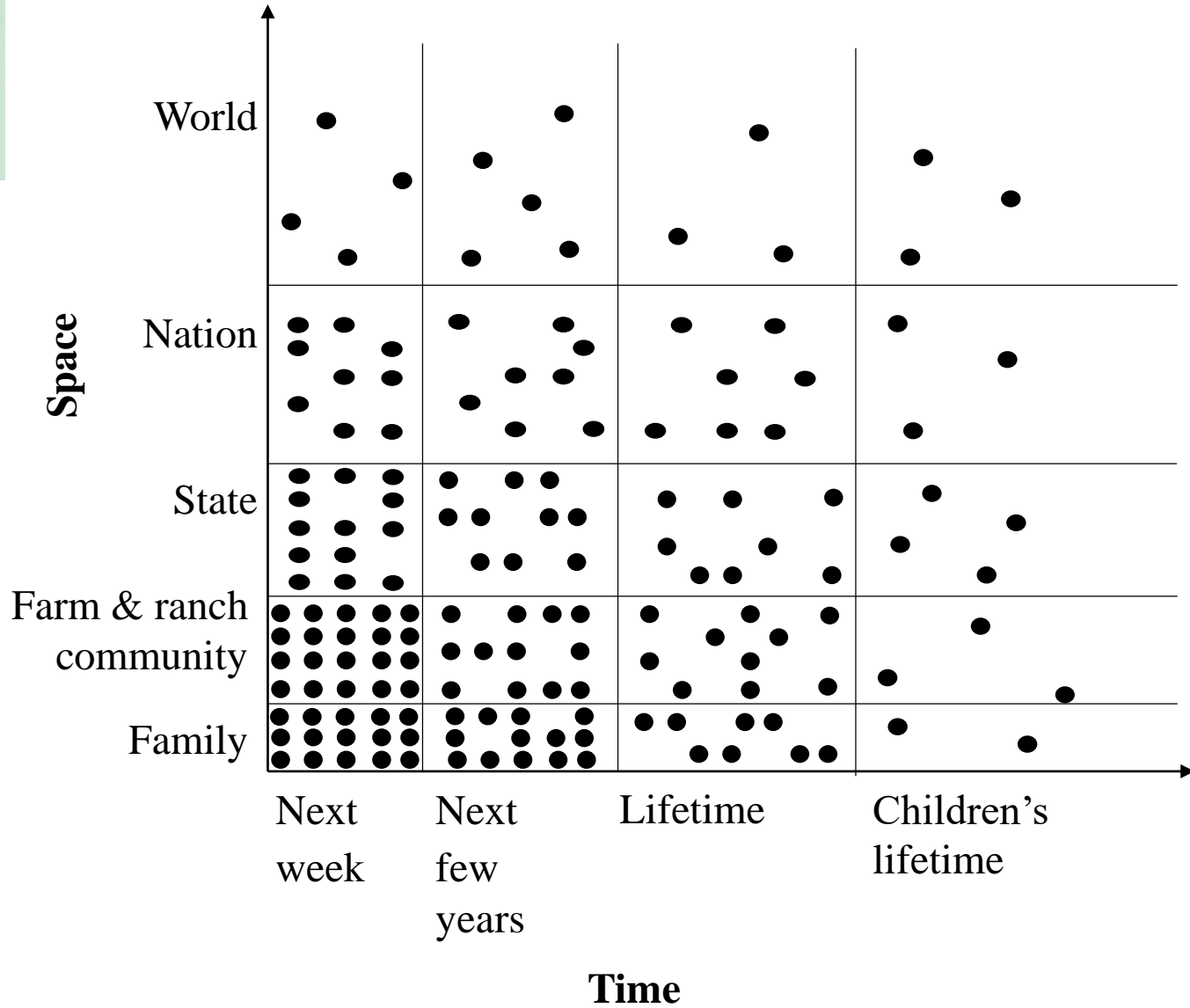


6 Core Principles of  
**REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE**



Cornell University

# Agriculture Decision Paradigm





# Next Steps: RuFaS and General Mills



1. Improve understanding and management of regenerative agriculture



4. Stakeholder Use



2. Cover crop, multi-species mixes, livestock integration data



3. Decision Support Tools





**Questions?**

**Manure Module**  
**Output: Manure**  
**(kg/ha)**



**Soil and Crop**  
**Module**



**Soil and Crop**  
**Output: Yield**



**Feed Storage**

