Fertilizer application timing influences greenhouse gas fluxes over a growing season

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<u>Focus</u>: Test the effect of timing of fertilization application on fluxes of methane (CH_4), carbon dioxide (CO_2), and nitrous oxide (N_2O).

<u>Results</u>: Fertilization in late-spring resulted in greater carbon dioxide fluxes, compared to early-spring, with no difference in yield. Overall, greenhouse gases were affected by the timing of fertilization in dryland crop fields.

> Cumulative Net Greenhouse Gas Fluxes for Field Plots Fertilized Early vs. Late Spring

500



Experimental Field Site Planted to Maize in 2008- 5 plots fertilized in early spring and 5 plots fertilized in late spring. Location: Mandan, North Dakota



Cumulative fluxes by treatment between 4 April and 26 August 2008 for net greenhouse gas (above), methane, carbon dioxide, and nitrous oxide (shown at right). See JEQ 38: 1569-1579.



