Table of contents

1 General introduction	1
1.1 Climate relevant aspects of greenhouse gases	1
1.1.1 N ₂ O emission	1
$1.1.2 \text{ CO}_2 \text{ emission}$	2
1.2 Agriculture-induced GHG emission	4
1.2.1 Agriculture-induced N ₂ O emission	4
1.3 Agriculture-induced CO ₂ emission	5
1.4 A short biochemistry of N	6
1.4.1 Mineralization	6
1.4.2 Nitrification	6
1.4.3 Immobilization	6
1.4.4 Denitrification	7
1.4.5 Ammonia (NH ₃) volatilization	7
1.4.6 Biological N ₂ fixation	8
1.4.7 Non-symbiotic N ₂ fixation	8
1.5 The contribution of soil to C cycle	8
1.5.1 Carbon sequestration through agriculture	8
1.6 Application of manure to soil	9
1.6.1 Application of manures and N ₂ O and CO ₂ emissions from soil	10
1.6.2 Application techniques of manure to the soil and CO ₂ and N ₂ O emissions	10
1.7 Compost	11
1.7.1 Methods of composting	11
1.7.2 Bio-waste compost	13
1.7.3 Animal manure compost	13
1.7.4 N ₂ O and CO ₂ emissions during composting and after application to the	
soil	14
1.8 Soil drying-rewetting cycles	14
1.9 Soybean and BNF	16
1.9.1 N ₂ O emission during biological nitrogen fixation	18
2 Justification and research problem	20
2.1 Animal manure and compost application	20
2.2 Drying-rewetting events	20
2.3 Contribution of legumes to mitigate N ₂ O	21
2.4 Method limitations	21
2.4.1 Gas sampling technique	21
2.4.2 Soil texture determination method	22
2.4.3 Plant sample analysis	23
2.4.4 Dissolved organic carbon (DOC) analysis	23
2.4.5 Soil NH4 ⁺ and NO3	23
2.4.6 Organic residue analysis	24
2.4.7 Soil pH	24
2.4.8 Methods of composting	24
2.5 Aims and objectives	25

i

2.6 Hypothesis	25
2.7 Outline of the thesis	26
3 N ₂ O and CO ₂ emissions from arable soil after amendment of manures	
and composts	42
3.1 Introduction	44
3.2 Materials and Methods	45
3.2.1 Soil sampling and manure collection	45
3.2.2 Experimental setup	46
3.2.3 N ₂ O and CO ₂ flows measurement	47
3.2.4 Analytical methods used for organic fertilizers	47
3.2.5 Soil analysis	48
3.2.6 Physico-chemical properties of soil	48
3.2.7 Statistical analysis	49
3.3 Results	49
3.3.1 Chemical and biochemical properties of organic fertilizer added	49
3.3.2 Cumulative N ₂ O flow	50
3.3.3 Cumulative CO ₂ flow	51
3.3.4 Course of N ₂ O flow from soil	52
3.3.5 Dynamics of CO ₂ evolution from soil	53
3.3.6 Total organic carbon	53
3.3.7 Nitrogen concentration	58
3.3.8 Soil pH	58
3.4 Discussion	60
3.4.1 CO_2 flows and C sequestration	60
3.4.2 N ₂ O flow and N concentration	61
3.4.3 Soil pH as an influencing factor of denitrification 3.5 Conclusion	63
3.5 Conclusion	63
4 N ₂ O and CO ₂ emissions from arable and grassland soils under various	
moisture regimes: a microcosom study	70
4.1 Introduction	72
4.2 Materials and Methods	74
4.2.1 Soil sampling	74
4.2.2 Experimental setup	74
4.2.3 N ₂ O and CO ₂ flows measurements	75
4.2.4 Soil analysis	76
4.2.5 Physico-chemical properties of soil	76
4.2.6 Statistical analysis	77
4.3 Results	77
4.3.1 N ₂ O cumulative flow	77
4.3.2 Temporal dynamics of N_2O over the two months incubation	77
4.3.3 CO₂ cumulative flow4.3.4 CO₂ temporal dynamics over the two months incubation	79 79
4.3.5 N concentration	83
	03

4.4 Discussion 4.4.1 N_2O flows during a two month incubation and N concentration	86 86
4.4.2 Mineral nitrogen concentration affected by soil moisture and	
temperature	87
4.4.3 Temporal dynamics of CO ₂	88
4.5 Conclusion	89
5 Determination of BNF (biological nitrogen fixation) induced N ₂ O emission	
from arable soil by using a "closed chamber technique"	95
5.1 Introduction	97
5.2 Materials and Methods	99
5.2.1 Soil sampling	99
5.2.2 Experimental setup	100
5.2.3 N ₂ O measurement	101
5.2.4 Soil and plant sampling	102
5.2.5 Soil analysis	102
5.2.6 Statistical analysis	103
5.3 Results	103
5.3.1 Temporal flow of N ₂ O	103
5.3.2 Effect of soil pH, NO ₃ and DOC on N ₂ O emission	104
5.3.3 Total N, C and CP % contents of plant biomass after harvest	104
5.3.4 Number of nodules and weight of root	105
5.4 Discussion	111
5.4.1 N ₂ O emission from nodulated treatments	111
5.4.2 Total N, C and CP % contents of plant biomass after harvest	115
5.4.3 BNF and C sequestration	116
5.5 Conclusion	117
6 General discussion	127
6.1 N ₂ O and CO ₂ emissions from arable soil after amendment of manures	
and composts (Chapter 3)	127
6.1.1 Key results	127
6.1.2 Effect of poultry manure-amended soils on N2O emission	127
6.1.3 Cow manure and bio-waste compost-induced N2O emissions	128
6.1.4 Efficiency of manures and composts in order to sequester C	128
6.1.5 Compost and manure as an amendment to maintain soil pH	129
6.1.6 Nitrogen content of manures	130
6.1.7 Conclusion	130
6.1.8 Recommendations	131
6.2 N ₂ O and CO ₂ emissions from arable and grassland soils under various	
moisture regimes: a microcosom study (Chapter 4)	132
6.2.1 Key results	132
6.2.2 Recommendations	133
6.2.3 Carbon sequestration by grassland and arable soils under field conditions	134
6.3 Determination of BNF (biological nitrogen fixation) induced N ₂ O emission from arable soil by using a "closed chamber technique" (Chapter 5)	134
nom arable son by using a crosed chamber rechnique (Chapter 5)	1.54

6.3.1 Recommendations	135
6.4 Results in relation to hypothesis	136
7 Summary	142
7 Zusammenfassung	144
Acknowledgements	146
Curriculum Vitae	147
Publications and Presentations	148