Al-Azhar J. Agric. Res., Vol. 12, (June) 2012, pp. 1-8

NH3 LOSS UNDER AEROBIC AND UNAEROBIC CONDITION FROM THE SOILS PRACTICED WITH UREA N-FERTILIZER.

Ali Sayed Abdul Quader

Soil and water research Department, Nuclear Research Center, Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority, Egypt.

ABSTRACT: Retention of NH_4 -N by the soil and/or fertilizer is increasing the fertilizer-N use efficiency and decreasing that hazard effect of pollution. Therefore two types of soil (i.e Germain clay loam and Egyptian Calcareous) which practiced with urea had been incubated for several days under two water regimes (viz. a relatively aerobic and unaerobic condition).

Ammonia evolved had been retained by 0.01 N NaOH, and the mixture then titrated with 0.01N Sulphuric acid.

The data obtained indicated, that NH_3 Chemo loss was much more (i.e higher than 0.01 meq in the Germain soil) than that caused by the microorganism (Bio) (i.e 0.0025 meq in the Egyptian soil). And therefore, the oxygen (viz. O_2 (Aeration)) is obviously the responsible agent for loss of Amonia from the soil practiced with Urea. In other words the oxygen is that carrier with which the element is normally converting between two compounds. And the element with the oxygen is converting in taken up to more available phase.

INTRODUCTION

NH₃ Loss is a function to:

1- Atmosphere.

- 2- The urea fertilizer Management practices.
- 3- Temperature.
- 4- Moisture.

5- Texture, the granule size of the soil (i.e mineralitey or type of soil) in other words the aerobic and unaerobic conditions.

6- Granule size of the fertilizer.

7- Biochemical and microbiological (Flora) properties effect.

However, much NH_3 loss or little soil retention for quantities of NH_4 -N is indeed decreasing the fertilizer-N use efficiency (Ali, S. 1987) and consequently causing increase of the hazard effect of the fertilizer (Ali, S. 1994).

Garcia, A.L.A.; et al.; (2011) decleared that the urea – based fertilizers may suffer significant losses of nitrogen to the atmosphere. And they due the transformation of the urea to the presence of urease produced by soil microorganisms.

Palma, R.M.; et al.; (1998) determined the amount of N loss by volatilization from urea fertilized soils under two different fertilizer application methods (Surface and Incorporated application); and also in other aime they related volatilization losses with environmental factors and bio chemical and microbiological properties, on a Vertic Argiudoll with a silty clay loarn texture. The site has been in natural grass land for 8 years prior to planting with maize. Following the fertilizer application for conventional tillage and no tillage systems, the daily volatilization loss on the fertilized plots was highest during the first three days (Khalil, M.I.; et al.; 2006). Remarkedley higher losses occurred in the [no-tillage] treatments. And when the fertilizer was (Surface and incorporated) respectively the N-urea lost was [11.5% and 6.2%]. They due that to surface application of the urea stimulated urease enzyme activity, an opposites effect was observed when the urea was [incorporated]. However, multiple regression equations showed differences between the [the Surface and Incorporated applied urea] that because of the latter has no that direct exposure to the atmospheric condition.

Wargo J.; and Cothran, A.; (2006) concluded that the N release profile is dependent on soil temperature, moisture; and texture.

Khalil, M.I.; et al.; (2006) noticed that [the clay loam soil which is in the least granule size (viz. highest conditions of the aerobic, in other words the

2

least mineralitey) showed the greatest NH_3 loss (2.61%)] followed by the sandy loam soil (0.59%) then the silt loam (0.53%).

They added that with increasing the granule size of the urea (i.e from 0.17- 0.50%), during 45- day incubation period, they found that N_2O emission was enhanced; and nitrification and N_2O emissions observedley delayed several days. They due that to soil mineral and water.

And added that $[NH_3 \text{ volatilization was decreased with (increasing the granule size of the urea) where (the NH₃ loss was the highest in the treat of the prilled urea (PU)) but in the case of larger granule treat the volatilization was the lower over 22-days].$

Thind, H.S.; and Rowell, D.L.; (2000) indicated that hydro lysis was observedley most rapid in the presence of the living algae with green manure followed by the dead algae, and was the slowest in the control. And the concentration of the NH_4 -N in the flood water was, however, reduced comparatively to that of presence of the living algae.

Where they due that to the algae assimilation (Im mobilization) and subsequentley to the mobilization (NH₃ Release or loss) to the dead algae.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Deutsch clay loam^{*} and Egyptian Calcareous^{*} soils had been used for conduct the expirement where each practiced with 100meg N urea under an aerobic and unaerobic condition. Where two water regimes had been applied for each. However, in the aerobic 25 ml bidestilled water had been added to 150g soil (viz. to attaining 75% of available water), and 60ml (as unaerobic) to 110g soil. Namely the NH₃ lost had been assessed in that called the closed system (i.e the Model Vessel) where 20% O₂ and 80% Argon or 100% O₂ had been in it in each of the aerobic and unaerobic.

The vessel had contained a bettrrey dish involved the soil practiced with the urea and another involved Sodium hydroxide 0.01 N. then the Vessel had been incubated over neight under a regulated temperature 27-30 C°. It however had been incubated for different times 1-8 days. Ammonia volatilize (loss) had been retained by the sodium hydroxide 0.01 N. Then the amount of loss of Amonia had been assessed by titrate the mixture (sodium hydroxide and Amonia) with 0.01 sulphuric acid.

* Where the calcareous and clay loam soil properties; the first is remarkedley rich in carbonate while loamy is more acidified sites (Ewald, J., 2000).

Noticeably, the calcareous Egyptian was brought from Borg Al Arab of the North Coast which containes more than 80% calcium carbonate.

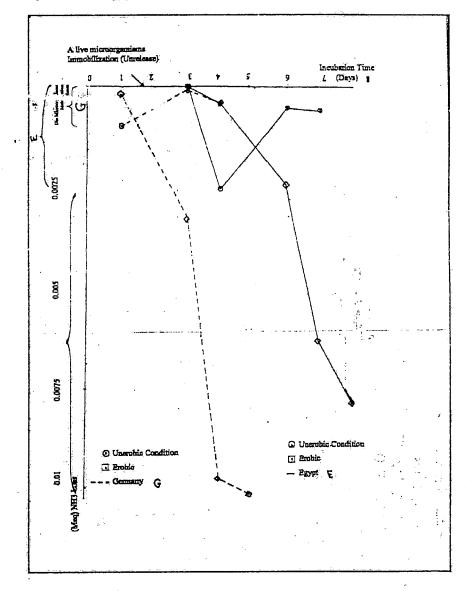
	8 E G			7				6			5				. 4				3				2				1				ncubation time (day	
	_	G		+	E		Ģ		E		G		E		G		E		G		E		G		Ε.		5			(G	
C	Ь	c	b	c	b	c	Ь	c	Ь	c	Ъ	C	Ь	c	Ь	C	Ь	c	b	с	b	c	b	с	b	c	Ь	i c	ь	c	Ь	1
0.0078735	lean			0.0063259	0.0005973			0.0024435	0.000543					0.0101269		0.0004072	0.0025249	0.009774	0.0003801	0.0000000	0.000000	0.032851	0.0001086					0,000000	0.0000000	0.0002172	0.0009774	NU loss (more)

RESULT

G Germany E Egypt

c (chemo) chemical

Figure (NH₃ loss under aerobic and unaerobic condition from Germain clay loam and Egyptian calcareous soil practiced with urea N-freti lizer).



5

DISCUSSION

The figure and table show generally that NH_3 loss of the Chemo (c) is much more the Bio (b) (Microorganisms). However the highest value of the Chemo is (0.01 Meq.) (as recorded in the Germain clay loam in the fifth day) while the highest of the Bio is only (0.0025) (in the Egyptian calcareous in the fourth day).

In the same hand the highest chemo NH_3 loss of the clay loam Germain (0.01 Meq.) is more than the highest of the chemo of the calcareous Egyptian (0.00633 Meq.) which was in the seventh day (Khalil, M.I.; et al.; 2006).

While the data of the Bio of the both findely are in the opposite where the highest of the Bio of the calcareous (0.0025) is higher than that of the Bio of the clay loam (0.000977) which was in the first day.

Because of the higher value of Chemo NH_3 loss (viz. the Aerobic condition) than that of the Bio (i.e the unaerobic) therefore it can conclude that generally the oxygen is major agent to NH_3 loss (Garcia, A.L.A.; et al.; 2011, Palma, R.M.; et al., 1998). In other words the oxygen is that carrier with which the element is normally converting between two compounds. And the element with the oxygen is converting in taken up to more available phase.

In the Bio (unaerobic) hand it can be found that the Die of the microorganisms is remarkabley the responsible reason to the NH_3 lost (Mobilization or the N-release); and immobilization (Assimilation or NH_3 unrelease) (with living microorganisms) there is no any lost of the NH_3-N about (Thind, H.J.; and Rowell, D.L.; 2000).

That higher Bio lost of Egypt comparatively to that Bio of Germaney may be due to lower content of the organic matter (substrate) which normalley is few in the calcareous Egyptian soil.

.∗6

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author is deeply gratefull to the ZFI (UFZ) of Leipzig of Deutsch land of the agreement helded between the Germain and Egyptian Akademies.

REFERENCES

- 1- Ali Sayed Abdulqauder (1987); Evaluation of some Nitrogenous fertilizer using the N-15 Stable Isotope. M. Sc. thesis, Moshtohour Fac. of Agric., Zaqaziq Univ.
- 2- Ali Sayed Abdulqauder (1994); Isotope aided studies on improving the efficiency of the Nitrogenous fertilizer use, Soil and Land Reclamation Dep., Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University.
- 3- Garcia, A. L. A.; Padilha, L.; Garcia, A. W. R.; Mendes, A.N.G.; Carvalho, C.H.S. (2011); Effect of urea with urease inhibitor on the growth of coffee seedlings, Coffee Science, 6:1, 1-7.15ref.
- 4- Ewald, J.(2000): is phosphorus deficiency responsible for the low vitality of European beech in the Bavarian alps? (Germany); forstwissenschaftliches central blatt, 119:5, 276-296. 37ref.
- 5- Khalil, M. I. Schmidhalter, U. Gutser, R (2006); N₂O, NH₃, and NO_x emissions as a function of urea granule size and soil type under aerobic conditions, water, Air and Soil Pollution, 175: 1/4, 127-148, 48 ref.
- 6- Palma, R. M.; Saubidet, M. I.; Rimola, M.; Utsumi, J.(1998); Nitrogen losses by volatilization in a corn crop with two tillage systems in the Argentine Pampa Source, Communications in Soil Science and plant Analysis, 29:19/20, 2865-2879, 19ref.
- 7- Thind, H. S., and Rowell, D. L.(2000); Transformation of Nitrogen 15 Labelled Urea In a flooded soil as effected by flood water algae and green manure in a growth champer, Biology and fertility of soils, 31:1, 53-59, 20ref.
- 8- Wargo, J. and; Cothran, A.(2006); Nitamin reg. Liquid: Background and use on cucurbitaceae family, cucurbitaceae, Asheville, North Carolina, U.S.A, 17-21, 286-295, 3ref.

Ali Sayed Abdul Quader, NH3 Loss Under Aerobic And Unaerobic

فقد الأمونيا تحت الظروف الهوائية واللاهوائية

من الأراضي المعاملة باليوريا

على سيد عبد القادر

الملخص بالعربية

تزداد كفاءة السماد النيتروجيني وينخفض مدي التلوث بازدياد قوة إمــساك التربـــة و/أو السماد لــــن يد، – ن.

. ووفقا لذلك فقد تم تنتضنين باستخدام مقننين مانيين (أو بصيغة أخرى ظروف نسبيا هوانية أو لا هوانية) لتربة ألمانية (طينية طميية) وأخرى مصرية (جبرية) أضيفت اليوريا لكل منهما.

تم إمساك الأمونيا الناتجة بمحلول صودا كاوية 0.91ع، ثم معايرة المخلوط نفسه بحمــض كبرتيك 0.01ع بعد ذلك.

وقد أظهرت النتائج أن فقد الأمونيا الكيماوي أكثر بكثير منه في حالة فقدها عـن طريـق الكائنات الحية الدقيقة، فقد بلغ في الكيماوي 0.01 مليمكافئ وهو ما نجده في التربـة الألمانيـة وكانت أعلى قيمة للفقد للكائنات الدقيقة في الأرضين 0.0025 فقط وهي التي كانت في التربـة المصرية.

لذلك انتهت النتائج إلى أن الأكسجين (O₂ تهوية) لهو العامل المسؤول أساسيا عــن فقــد الأمونيا من الأراضي و/ أو سماد اليوريا. أو بعبارة أخرى أنه يعمل كحامل للعنصر ينتقل بـــه العنصر من تركيب إلى آخر، فيكون العنصر بالأكسجين من بعد عدم تيسيره في امتصاصه إلى أكثر تيسيرا.

8