

Supplementary Materials:

Supplementary Table S1: Number of days after sowing for each N fertilization supply until harvest.

	Sowing	1 st Supply	2 nd Supply	3 rd Supply	Harvest
Year	Dry seed (Zadok 00)	Full tillering (Zadok 29)	First node (Zadok 31)	Booting (Zadok 41)	Maturity (Zadoks 99)
2019	0	149 days	199 (+50) days	217 (+18) days	275 (+58) days
2020	0	149 days	166 (+17) days	194 (+28) days	269 (+75) days
2021	0	144 days	158 (+14) days	179 (+21) days	264 (+85) days

Supplementary Table S2: Vegetative and total plant biomass and their N contents in the different modes of N fertilization in the three successive years of the experiment. Different letters correspond to significant differences at $p < 0.05$. See Materials and Methods and Figure 2 for the meaning of the abbreviations.

Year	N-Dose	Splitting	Vegetative Biomass (kg·ha ⁻¹)	Total Biomass (kg·ha ⁻¹)	Vegetative N (kgN·ha ⁻¹)	Total Plant N (kgN·ha ⁻¹)
2019	N0	-	11008 ^c	18164 ^c	34.85 ^d	136.82 ^e
	N50	S1	12812 ^b	21092 ^b	43.39 ^c	181.79 ^d
	N100	S1	13112 ^b	21820 ^b	48.75 ^c	197.85 ^{cd}
	N150	S1	13125 ^b	21935 ^b	53.90 ^{bc}	214.16 ^c
	N200	S1	15103 ^a	25795 ^a	78.72 ^a	279.82 ^a
	N250	S1	12600 ^b	21622 ^b	57.24 ^b	248.89 ^b
2020	N0	-	9867 ^c	16171 ^e	33.26 ^b	111.94 ^f
	N50	S1	10677 ^{bc}	17383 ^d	36.57 ^b	118.31 ^f
	N100	S1	11334 ^b	19000 ^c	37.13 ^b	137.82 ^e
	N150	S1	11237 ^b	19523 ^c	39.79 ^b	164.15 ^d
	N200	S1	13081 ^a	24851 ^a	62.25 ^{ab}	280.70 ^a
	N200	S2	12928 ^a	23477 ^b	60.83 ^a	242.79 ^b
	N200	S3	12988 ^a	23039 ^b	59.16 ^a	207.97 ^c
	N250	S1	13050 ^a	24030 ^{ab}	58.57 ^a	237.42 ^b
2021	N0	-	8050 ^c	17164 ^c	44.88 ^c	184.62 ^c
	N50	S1	9121 ^c	18756 ^c	46.38 ^c	195.11 ^c
	N100	S1	10409 ^b	21261 ^b	68.03 ^b	253.00 ^b
	N150	S1	10681 ^{ab}	21939 ^b	67.85 ^b	258.89 ^b
	N200	S1	10937 ^{ab}	22902 ^{ab}	90.38 ^a	300.51 ^a
	N200	S2	11303 ^{ab}	22492 ^b	74.65 ^{ab}	266.11 ^b
	N200	S3	11091 ^{ab}	21080 ^b	78.33 ^{ab}	259.95 ^b
	N250	S1	11838 ^a	24026 ^a	95.15 ^a	319.08 ^a