

## Supplementary Materials

**Table S1** Maize fertilizer application at E1 (Vredepeel, the Netherlands) during the analysed period (2013 -2019)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Organic fertilizer (kg N ha<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	202	164	161	161	96	125	146
<b>Mineral fertilizer (kg N ha<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	55	27	27	27	27	21	27

**Table S2** Crops and fertilizer application rates at E3 ‘Schuby, Denmark’ analysed period (2012 -2020), SM =forage maize, WR = winter rye and RG = ryegrass

Crop type	2012	2013	2013	2014	2015 <sup>2</sup>	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>Crop type</b>	SM	WR	RG	SM	SM	WR	SM	SM	SM
<b>Cultivar and maturity class<sup>1</sup></b>	Fernandez S250			P7524 S200			Kartagas S230	Kartags S230	Amaveritas S240
<b>Organic fertilizer (kg N ha<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	117	82	47	82	77	79	137	88	182
				47					
				53					
<b>Mineral fertilizer (kg N ha<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	27	32	81	27	29	69	21	18	14
	46	46		38	54	27	35	28	32
						34			

<sup>1</sup> Early maturity cultivar (S170-220), mid-early cultivar (S230-250), mid-late cultivar (S60-290), late cultivar (300-350)

<sup>2</sup> Cultivar sown was not available

**Table S3.** Soil physical characteristics used for E1 (Vredepeel, the Netherlands). BD = bulk density, AirDry = water content of air dry soil, LL15 = lower limit or permanent wilting point at -15 bar, DUL = drained upper limit or field capacity, SAT = saturated limit. The soil C:N ratio was set to 15

Depth Cm	BD (g/cc)	AirDry (mm/mm)	LL15 (mm/mm)	DUL (mm/mm)	SAT (mm/mm)
0-10	1.44	0.024	0.047	0.251	0.401
10-25	1.50	0.038	0.047	0.251	0.384
25-50	1.50	0.047	0.047	0.251	0.384
50-100	1.50	0.047	0.047	0.251	0.384
100-150	1.50	0.047	0.047	0.251	0.384

**Table S4.** Soil physical characteristics used for modelling E2 (Jyndevad, Denmark) and E3 (Schuby, Germany). BD = bulk density, AirDry = water content of air dry soil, LL15 = lower limit or permanent wilting point at -15 bar, DUL = drained upper limit or field capacity, SAT = saturated limit. The soil C:N ratio was set to 11 for E2 and to 15 for E3

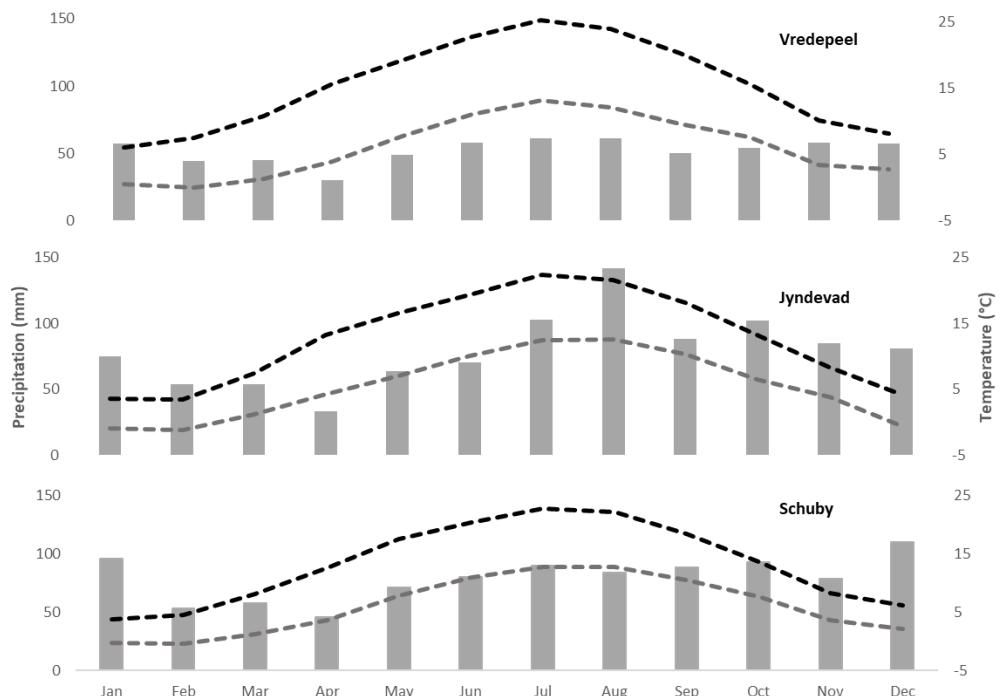
Depth (cm)	BD (g/cc)	AirDry		LL15 (mm/mm)	DUL (mm/mm)	SAT (mm/mm)
		(mm/mm)	(mm/mm)			
0-28	1.35	0.023		0.046	0.149	0.429
28-35	1.41	0.037		0.046	0.149	0.429
35-43	1.41	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429
43-52	1.55	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429
52-68	1.76	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429
68-75	1.80	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429
75-80	1.80	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429
80-100	1.79	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429
100-150	1.79	0.046		0.046	0.149	0.429

**Table S5.** Soil NH<sub>4</sub> and NO<sub>3</sub> values used to initialize APSIM for E1 (Vredepeel, the Netherlands)

Depth (cm)	2013		2014		2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	NO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	NH <sub>4</sub> (ppm)												
0-10	3.188	0.354	7.500	0.883	3.438	0.382	2.500	0.278	3.938	0.438	0.531	0.059	1.875	0.208
10-25	2.040	0.227	4.800	0.533	2.200	0.244	1.600	0.178	2.520	0.280	0.340	0.038	1.200	0.133
25-50	1.224	0.136	2.880	0.320	1.320	0.147	0.960	0.107	1.512	0.168	0.204	0.023	0.720	0.080
50-100	0.061	0.007	0.144	0.016	0.066	0.007	0.048	0.005	0.076	0.008	0.010	0.001	0.036	0.004
100-150	0.061	0.007	0.144	0.016	0.066	0.007	0.048	0.005	0.076	0.008	0.010	0.001	0.036	0.004

**Table S6** Observed and estimated emergence and flowering dates (n<sup>th</sup> day of the year) in E1 (Vredepeel, the Netherlands).

Year	Emergence	Emergence APSIM	Flowering	Flowering date APSIM
2013	147	143	219	223
2014	119	120	212	209
2015	128	128	196	216
2016	132	132	217	214
2017	138	137		
2018	131	133	201	206
2019	136	134		



**Figure S1.** Average climate conditions of E1 (Vredepeel, the Netherlands) for the period 2013-2019, E2 (Jyndevad, Denmark) for the period 2006 -2012 and E3 (Schuby, Germany) for the period 2012 -2019 used for modelling in APSIM. Precipitation is average monthly sum (bars), maximum (dashed black line) and minimum (dashed grey line) temperature is monthly average of the daily value.