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## Analyse de cycle de vie de systèmes de cultures visant à réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre [ Thèse de Pietro Goglio, 2013 ]

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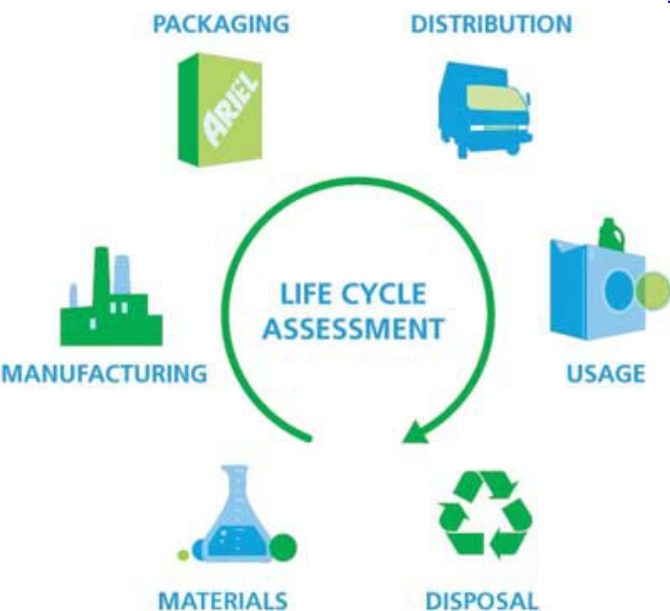
*3: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada*

*Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre (ECORC) Ontario, Canada*

## Outline of talk

- **Introduction:**
- **Methodology:**  
LCA, Modelling set-up, field trials
- **Results & Discussion:**
  - Fields emissions in relation to climate variability
  - LCA of a long term crop management conceived to reduce GHG emissions (ICC trial crop management)
  - LCA of a real long term trial with two cropping systems established in the Mediterranean (Pisa; CIMAS trial)
- **Conclusion and perspectives**

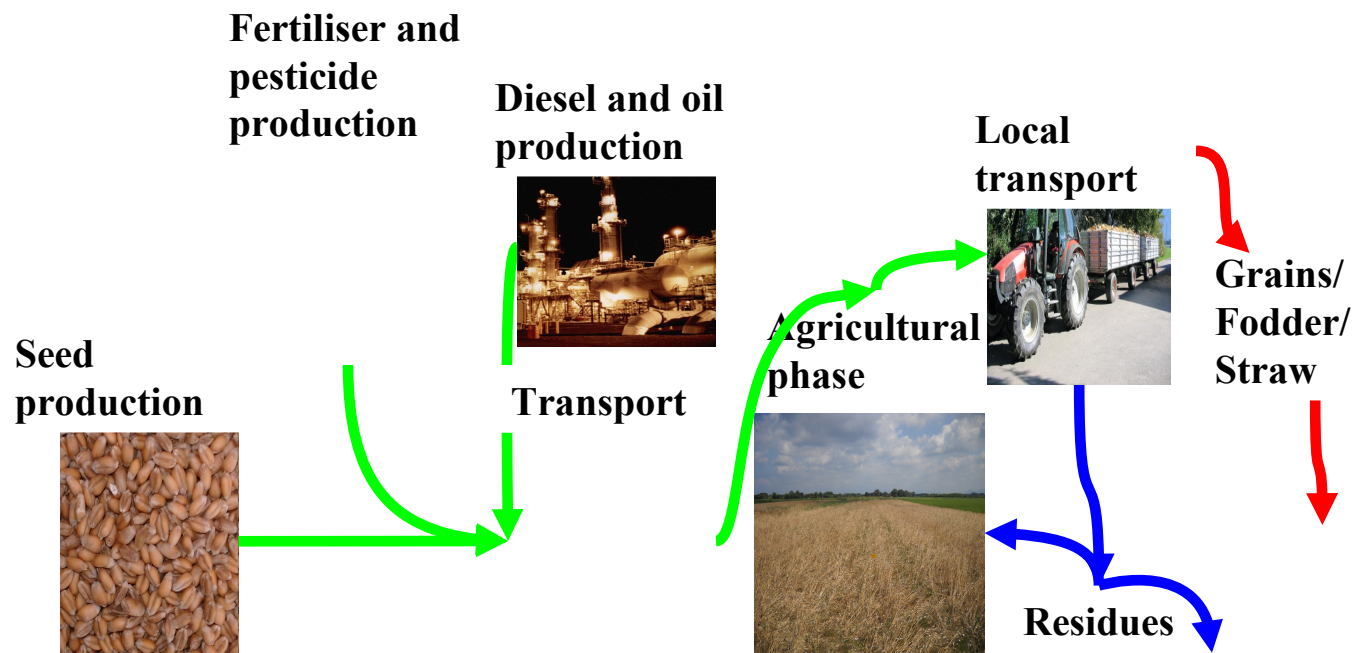
# LCA approach in agriculture



**LCA**


**Main impact categories:** Energy Demand, Global warming potential, Eutrophication potential, Resource Depletion, Toxicity potentials, Ecotoxicity potentials

## Agricultural LCA



## Scientific issues

Reactive N species and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:

- measured [1-3]  costly and time consuming
- estimated: emission factors [4], agroecosystems models [5,6]



Ignores local factors




Require large input datasets



## Scientific issues (final):

Reactive N species and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions:

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




ignores local factors

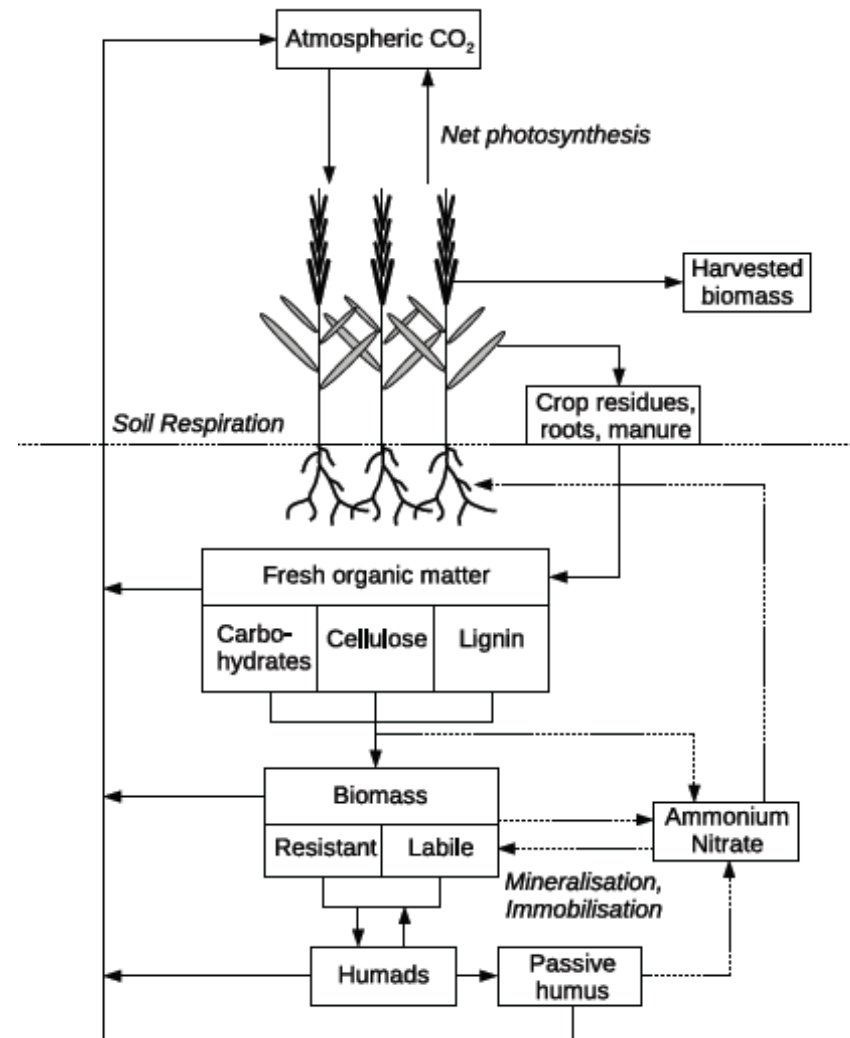


**potentially more accurate**

Several approaches were integrating agroecosystem models within the LCA [5,7,8]. However, all these studies involved:

- a limited set of crops  **no carry over effect accounted**  
 **no cropping system approach**
- while JRC et al., (2007) evaluated only biofuel crops with one year time frame  **dependent on seasonal variability**

# Schematic of an Agroecosystem model



(Lehuger et al., 2009)

# Goals, scope and methodology

- **Developing a LCA approach for cropping systems**
- **Testing the approach with data coming from the field**
- **Identifying possible improvements and evaluating agricultural systems and techniques mitigating their environmental impacts**

# LCA strategy:

<b>Trial</b>	<b>Upstream processes for agriculture</b>	<b>Technical operations, fuel and material consumption during cultivation</b>	<b>Pesticide fate</b>	<b>Soil GHG emissions and other reactive N species</b>
<b>ICC (France)</b>	Ecoinvent Database	Measured data	Assessed following Audsley et al., 1997	CERES based model
<b>CIMAS (Italy)</b>	Ecoinvent Database	Measured data	Assessed following Audsley et al., 1997	CERES based model, CO <sub>2</sub> with direct measurements

## ICC Trial background

### Objectives:

To develop, evaluate *ex ante* and *a posteriori* cropping systems with the following aims:

- respecting **specific targets** (PHEP, Productivity and high environmental performance and **50%GHG** cropping systems):
  - Achieve a satisfactory yield
  - Diversify crops
  - Enhance biodiversity
  - Reduce soil erosion
  - Decrease energy consumption
  - Decrease depth in tillage operations
  - Reduce nitrate leaching
  - Reduce N inputs
- reaching the main **constraint** with the maximum extent (**50%GHG** cropping system)

## ICC trial: Agronomical principles and technical aspects

### PHEP

- **N fertilizer application reduction: legumes**
- **Nitrate leaching reduction: cover crop** before spring crops
- **Cover crop diversification: more spring crops**
- **1 deep tillage** operation every 5 years
- **No organic matter and compost** applied
- **Rotation (5 years):** FB-WW-Rs-WW (M)-Ba

### 50%GHG

- **Increasing soil C stock: cereals, crop residues left in the field (+Continuous crop cover)**
- **N<sub>2</sub>O emission reduction:**
  - Leguminous crops**
  - Cover crop**
- **Minimum tillage** (spring crops) or **no tillage** (winter crops)
- **Fertiliser application on climate basis**
- Rotation (6 years):** FB-Rs-(CC+LCC) WW-(CC+LCC) Ba-(CC+LCC)-Ma-XT (CC)

# CIMAS trial background

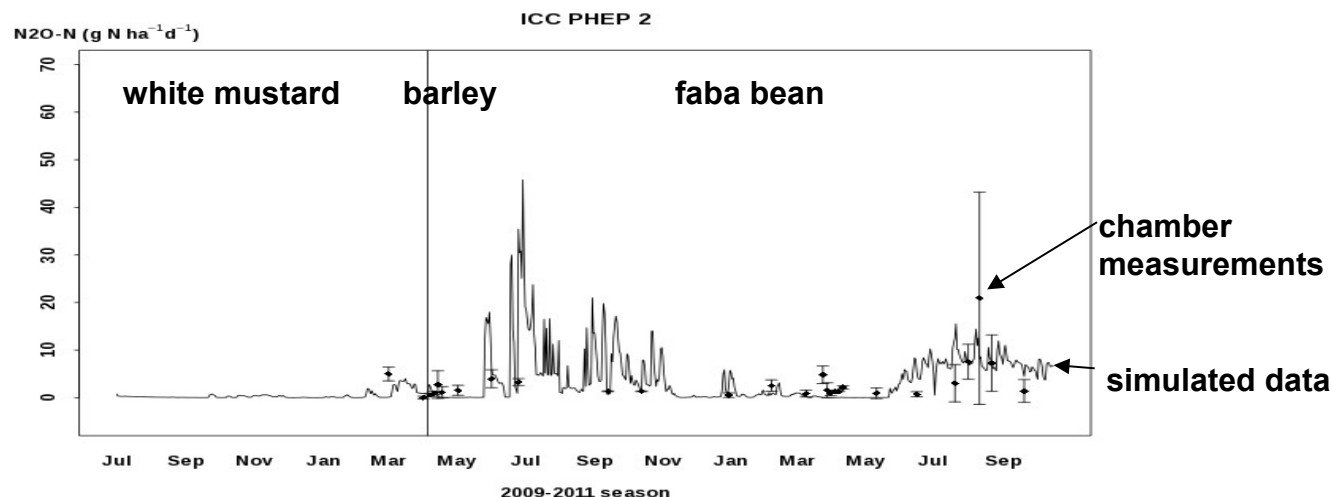
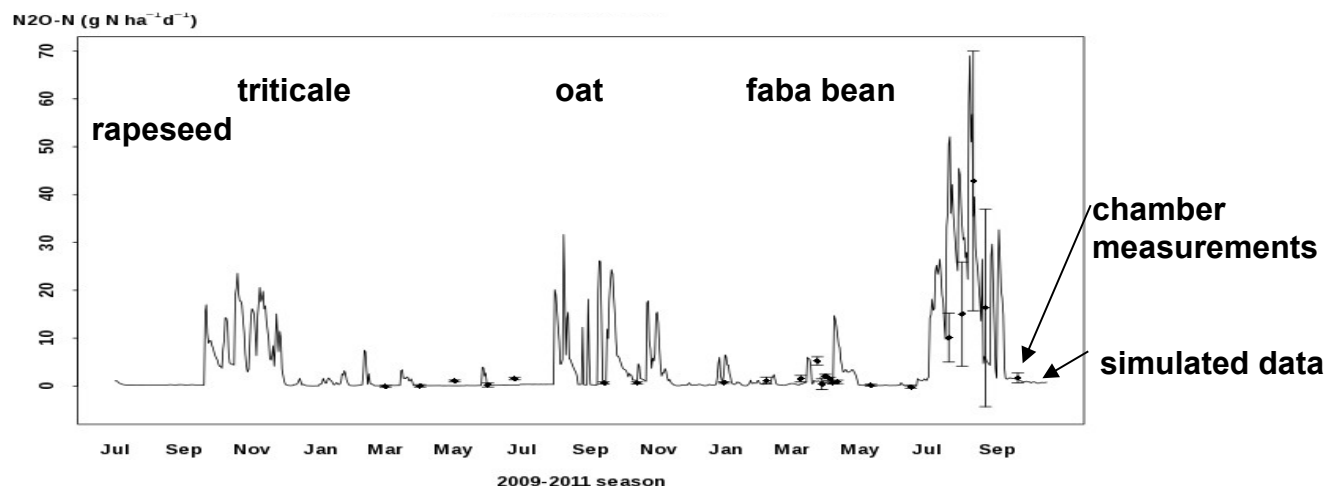
**Objective:** Evaluation of two cropping systems not irrigated characterized by two different levels of external inputs

Rotation: So- Fb- Rs-Cl-WW+Cw- Sf

	Low input	High input
Tillage	Sunflower: Minimum tillage/ <b>25 cm ploughing</b> Clover: Minimum tillage Durum wheat: No tillage/ <b>Minimum tillage</b> Faba beans: Minimum tillage	Sunflower: subsoiling/ <b>50 cm ploughing</b> Clover: Minimum tillage Durum Wheat: Minimum tillage/ <b>subsoiling</b> Faba beans: Minimum tillage
Fertilisers application	Different	Different
Herbicide use	Only preemergence treatment	Preemergence and postemergence
Fungicide and insecticide use	No difference	No difference

# Crop management and model simulation

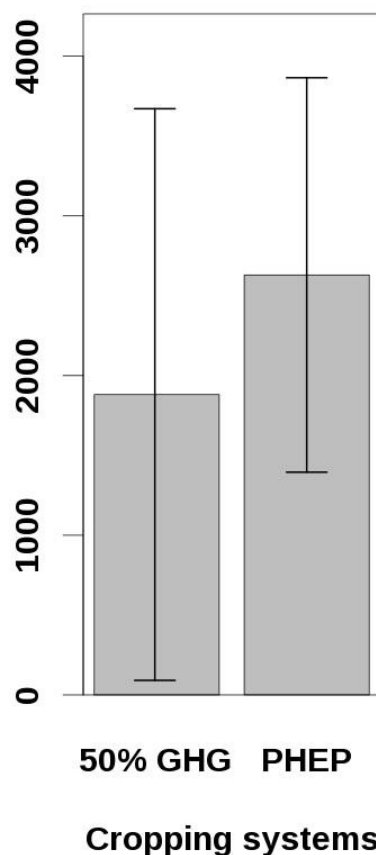
◆ N<sub>2</sub>O emissions chamber measurements; Error bars: 95% confidence intervals for the observations; — Simulated N<sub>2</sub>O emissions; | Date of N fertiliser application





# Crop management simulation

$\text{N}_2\text{O}$  emissions ( $\text{g N ha}^{-1} \text{y}^{-1}$ )



Plot number	PHEP	50% GHG
1 ( $\text{g N}_2\text{O-N ha}^{-1}$ )	3766	1356
2 ( $\text{g N}_2\text{O-N ha}^{-1}$ )	2533	629
3 ( $\text{g N}_2\text{O-N ha}^{-1}$ )	1590	3658
Mean ( $\text{g N}_2\text{O-N ha}^{-1}$ )	2630	1881
Median ( $\text{g N}_2\text{O-N ha}^{-1}$ )	2533	1356
CI ( $\text{g N}_2\text{O-N ha}^{-1}$ )	1235	1790

## Discussion

- **CERES-EGC** was successfully **adapted to predict yield and biomass** of crops (including N fixing crops) with a **cropping system approach** contrastingly to previous studies [1]
- **CERES satisfactory predicted N<sub>2</sub>O emissions from cereals**, especially in temperate conditions [1], considering their **high variability** [2]
- **Less good prediction** was obtained **with leguminous** crop for the following reasons:
  - **Large emission variability** [2]
  - **Less good estimation of residues decomposition** [3-5]
- The model **successfully evaluated the interactions between crop management, climate and soil conditions affecting reactive N species** as suggested by previous studies [3, 6]

I.Introduction		II. Methodology		III. Results & Discussion		VI. Conclusion and Perspectives	
LCA impacts on ha basis (ICC) (1)							
Impact category	Functional unit (ha <sup>-1</sup> y <sup>-1</sup> )	50%GHG		PHEP			
		Values	CI	Values	CI		
Cumulative energy demand	GJ eq	28.1	0.00	28.5	0.00		
Global warming (100 year horizon)	Mg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1.79	1.03	2.35	1.11		
Acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	16.37	0.03	16.14	0.03		
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	70.5	1.4	507.2	2.2		
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	2.43E+07	1.02E+04	2.48E+07	7.24E+03		
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	1.21E+05	0	1.12E+05	0		
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	2.58E+02	0	2.51E+02	0		
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	5.27E+06	0	4.42E+06	0		
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	2.03E+05	0	1.89E+05	0		
Ecotoxicity soil							

Impacts on ha basis (ICC) (2)

		50%GHG		PHEP	
Impact category	Functional unit (ha <sup>-1</sup> y <sup>-1</sup> )	Values	CI	Values	CI
Cumulative energy demand	GJ eq	28.1		28.5	0.00
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Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	2.43E+07	1.02E+04	2.48E+07	7.24E+03
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	1.21E+05	0	1.12E+05	0
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	2.58E+02	0	2.51E+02	0
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	5.27E+05	0	4.42E+06	0
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	2.03E+05		1.89E+05	0
Ecotoxicity soil					

## Impacts with GJ (ICC) (1)

Impact category	Unit (GJ <sup>-1</sup> )	50%GHG		PHEP		
		Values	CI	Values	CI	
Cumulative energy demand	MJ eq	263		0	287	0
Global warming (100 year horizon)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	16.7		9.7	23.7	11.2
Acidification	g SO <sub>2</sub> eq	153.3		0.3	162.6	0.3
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	0.66		0.01	5.11	0.02
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	2.27E+05	9.59E+01	2.50E+05	7.29E+01	
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	1.13E+03		0	1.13E+03	0
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	2.42E+00		0	2.53E+00	0
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	4.93E+04		0	4.45E+04	0
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	1.90E+03		0	1.90E+03	0
Ecotoxicity soil chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	1.12E+04		0	1.24E+04	0



# Impacts with GJ (ICC) (2)

Impact category	Unit (GJ <sup>-1</sup> )	50%GHG		PHEP	
		Values	CI	Values	CI
Cumulative energy demand	MJ eq	263	← 0 →	287	0
Global warming (100 year horizon)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	16.7	← 9.7 →	23.7	11.2
Acidification	g SO <sub>2</sub> eq	153.3	← 0.3 →	162.6	0.3
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	0.66	← 0.01 →	5.11	0.02
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	2.27E+05	9.59E+01	2.50E+05	7.29E+01
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	1.13E+03	0	1.13E+03	0
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	2.42E+00	← 0 →	2.53E+00	0
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	4.93E+04	← 0 →	4.45E+04	0
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	1.90E+03	← 0 →	1.90E+03	0
Ecotoxicity soil chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	1.12E+04	← 0 →	1.24E+04	0

# Impacts on ha basis (CIMAS) (1)

Impact category	Functional unit (ha <sup>-1</sup> y <sup>-1</sup> )	LI		HI	
		Values	CI	Values	CI
Cumulative energy demand	GJ eq	26.9		2.3	33.1
Global warming (100 year horizon)	Mg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	2.04		0.88	4.08
Acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	7.70		0.79	11.02
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	30.1		17.0	49.3
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	1.83E+07	1.13E+06	2.43E+07	1.21E+06
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	1.55E+04	8.02E+03	3.70E+04	3.38E+03
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	115.7		6.9	175.4
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	4.56E+04	2.11E+03	7.73E+04	2.08E+04
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	1.08E+04	6.19E+02	2.08E+04	7.32E+03
Ecotoxicity soil chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	5.56E+04	2.03E+04	3.00E+04	1.96E+04

# Impacts on ha basis (CIMAS) (2)

Impact category	Functional unit (ha <sup>-1</sup> y <sup>-1</sup> )	LI		HI	
		Values	CI	Values	CI
Cumulative energy demand	GJ eq	26.9	2.3	33.1	3.1
Global warming (100 year horizon)	Mg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	2.04	0.88	4.08	0.37
Acidification	kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq	7.70	0.79	11.02	0.65
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	30.1	17.0	49.3	26.6
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	1.83E+07	1.13E+06	2.43E+07	1.21E+06
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Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	4.56E+04	2.11E+03	7.73E+04	2.08E+04
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	1.08E+04	6.19E+02	2.08E+04	7.32E+03
Ecotoxicity soil chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	5.56E+04	2.03E+04	3.00E+04	1.96E+04



# Impacts with GJ (CIMAS)(1)

Impact category	Unit (GJ <sup>-1</sup> )	LI		HI		
		Values	CI	Values	CI	
Cumulative energy demand	MJ eq	264		23	251	24
Global warming (100 year horizon)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	20.0		8.7	31.0	2.8
Acidification	g SO <sub>2</sub> eq	75.6		7.7	83.7	4.9
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	0.296	0.167	0.375		0.202
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	1.79E+05	1.11E+04	1.85E+05		9.16E+03
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	153		79	281	26
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	1.14	0.07	1.33		0.15
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	448		21	587	158
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	106.1	6.1	158.0		55.6
Ecotoxicity soil chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	546	200	228		149


# Impacts with GJ (CIMAS)(2)

Impact category	Unit (GJ <sup>-1</sup> )	LI		HI	
		Values	CI	Values	CI
Cumulative energy demand	MJ eq	264	23	251	24
Global warming (100 year horizon)	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	20.0	8.7	31.0	2.8
Acidification	g SO <sub>2</sub> eq	75.6	7.7	83.7	4.9
Eutrophication	kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>-3</sup> eq	0.296	0.167	0.275	0.202
Human toxicity air	m <sup>3</sup>	1.79E+05	1.11E+04	1.85E+05	9.16E+03
Human toxicity water	m <sup>3</sup>	153	79	281	26
Human toxicity soil	m <sup>3</sup>	1.14	0.07	1.33	0.15
Ecotoxicity water chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	448	21	587	158
Ecotoxicity water acute	m <sup>3</sup>	106.1	6.1	158.0	55.6
Ecotoxicity soil chronic	m <sup>3</sup>	546	200	228	149

# Discussion

• **50%GHG** system resulted in **lower GWP** ( $>24\%$ ) than the PHEP system with both functional units, however **large confidence intervals**, as suggested by other research[1,2], mostly due to:

- **Climate** variability [3]

- **Soil C dynamics**  **long term effects**[4]

• **High contribution in the halving of GWP on ha basis of the LI system (CIMAS)**, as suggested by previous work [4,5]

• **Limited differences on GJ basis, due to variable and low yields**

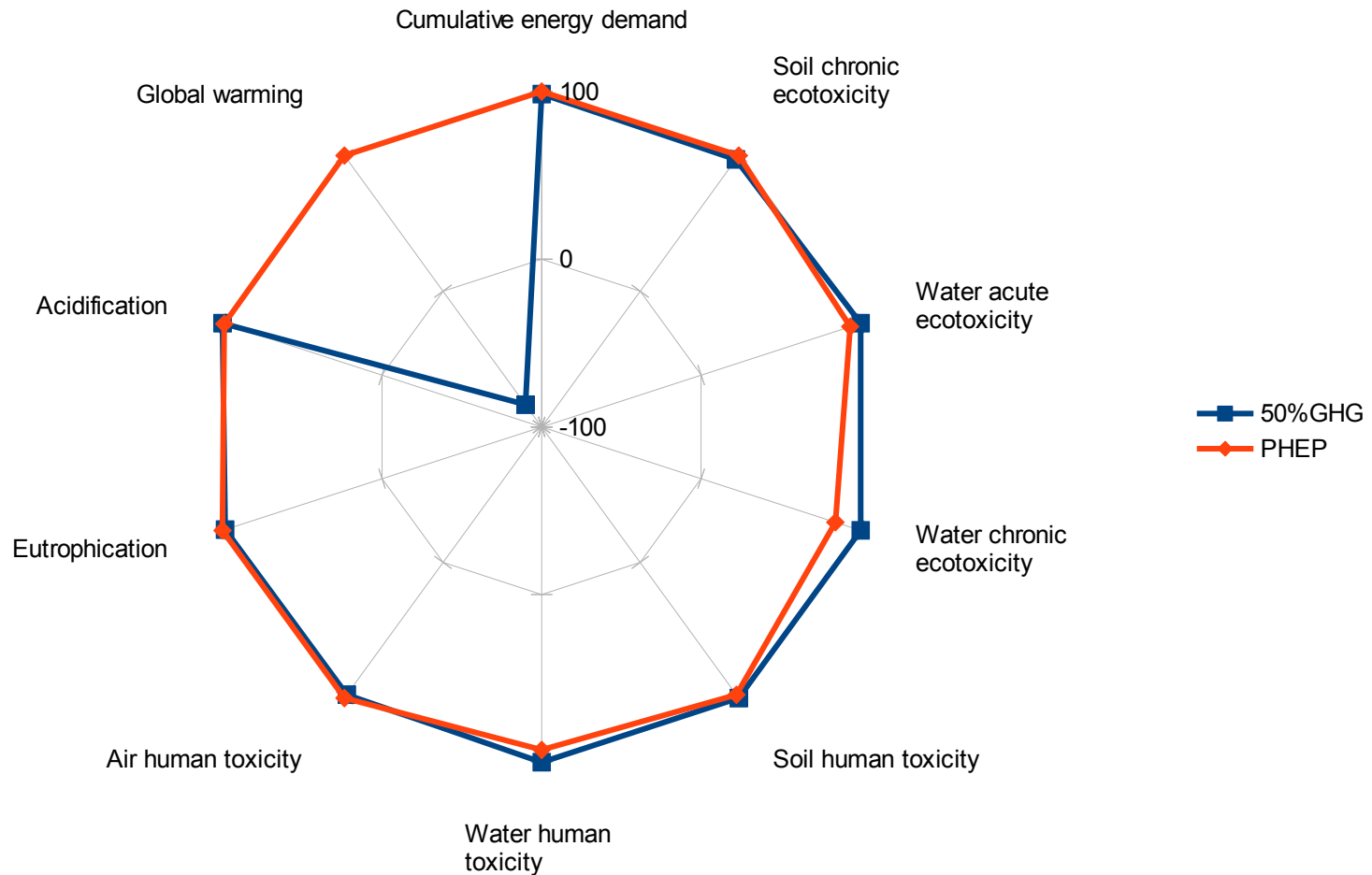
# Conclusions

- **Model was applied successfully to a wide range of crops** (N fixing and not N fixing) – but with clear shortcomings for legumes
- **This LCA approach for GHG emission estimation of cropping systems allowed to assess cropping systems with a focus on GHG considering interactions between crops**
- **Cropping systems resulted successful in reducing specific environmental impacts, however this involved environmental impact trade-offs and large variabilities**
- **Long term assessments should be favoured to evaluate possible GHG abatement strategies**

# Perspectives

- This combined **approach** can be **extended to other cropping systems** and involve other impacts
- Further **research is needed to evaluate** N<sub>2</sub>O emission dynamics **with leguminous crop** at field scale
- **Interactions between climate and crop management strategies to reduce GHG together with possible side effects of the latter on crop productivity** should be considered **in the design of cropping systems more sustainable and aimed to reduce global warming**
- **How to generalize these local results on a larger scale ?**

# LCA results based on regional modelling (Ile de France)





# Thanks for your attention

## Acknowledgements:

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# CERES accuracy



Automatic chambers (Courtesy of Dr Laville)

Manual chambers





## Discussion (4)

- **Interactions between climate and fertiliser application timing limited the possible effects in N fertiliser reduction due to soil dryness, confirming previous research [1,2]**

- **Reduction of energy consumption due to:**

- **Machinery**

- **Fertiliser use**

**Decreased GWP on ha basis but not on GJ basis in agreement with Tuomisto et al., 2012**

- **Substitution of mineral N sources with organic sources (legumes and crop residues) have the potential of reducing GWP (variability) [3]**

([1] Pappa et al., 2011; [2] Li et al., 2012; [3] Snyder)