

Interactive comment on “Nitrous oxide emissions from maize-wheat field during four successive years in the North China Plain” by Y. Zhang et al.

Anonymous Referee #2

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This MS has a significant flaw in experimental design, which involved single plot for each treatment and used pseudo-replicates for comparison between the treatments and EF calculation.

Nevertheless, the data of four successive years in each plot are valuable in terms of showing the interannual variation of the seasonal and annual emissions. The authors may focus on the temporal variation of the fluxes, and causes of temporal variation for each fertilization practice, instead of comparing the emissions from the two plots with different fertilization treatments. EF should not be calculated in the MS, due to the pseudo-replication problem. The EF number presented in this paper are not reliable at all. Thus the authors should not present or discuss EF in the paper. I suggest the authors rewrite the MS for publication in any journal.

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my specific comments, suggestions and questions are marked in the MS (see the supplement), of which may authors ignore my remarks for any statement on "EF" as such statements will be deleted in rewriting.

Please also note the supplement to this comment:
<http://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/10/C8211/2014/bgd-10-C8211-2014-supplement.pdf>

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 10, 18337, 2013.

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