

Supplemental Information

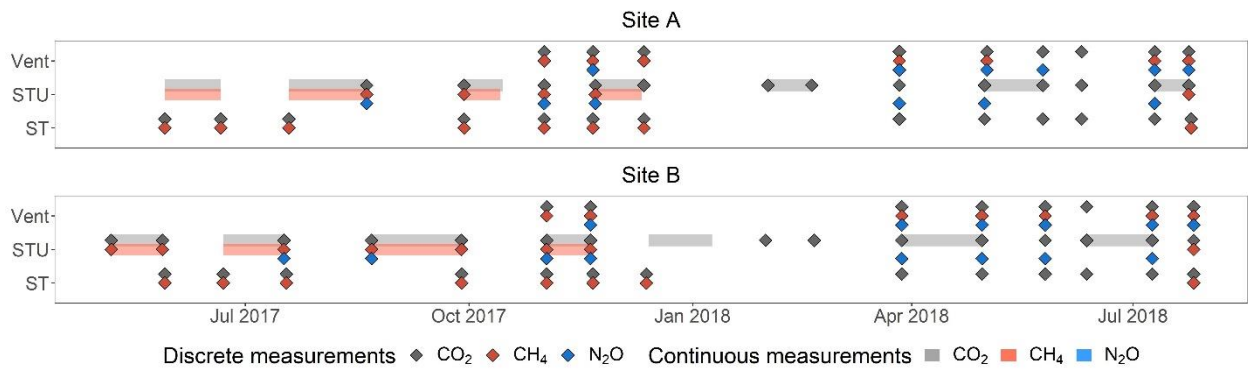


Figure S1. Overview of sampling strategy used in this study. Diamonds mark days where discrete spot measurements were performed and lines mark periods of time where continuous measuring setups were deployed for CO₂ (grey), CH₄ (red) and N₂O (blue).

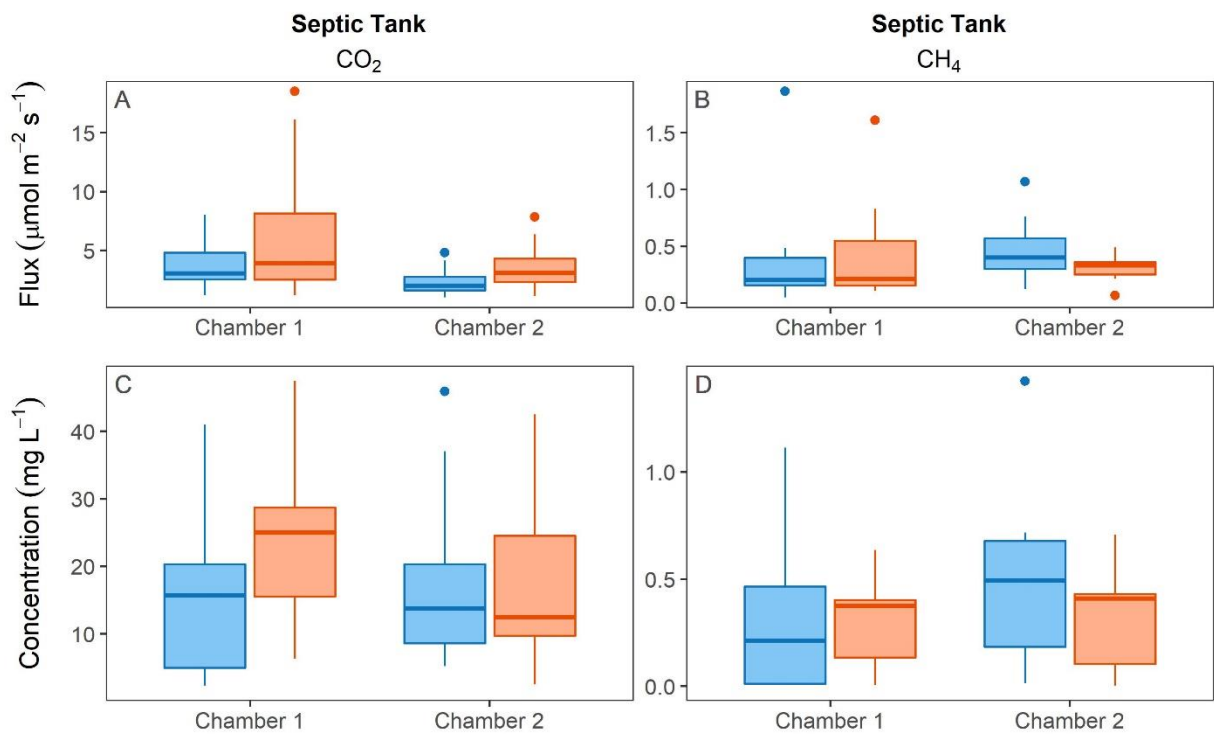


Figure S2. Boxplot of the distribution of observed CO₂ and CH₄ fluxes (panel A and B) and dissolved CO₂ and CH₄ concentrations (panel C and D) from the septic tank for both sites.

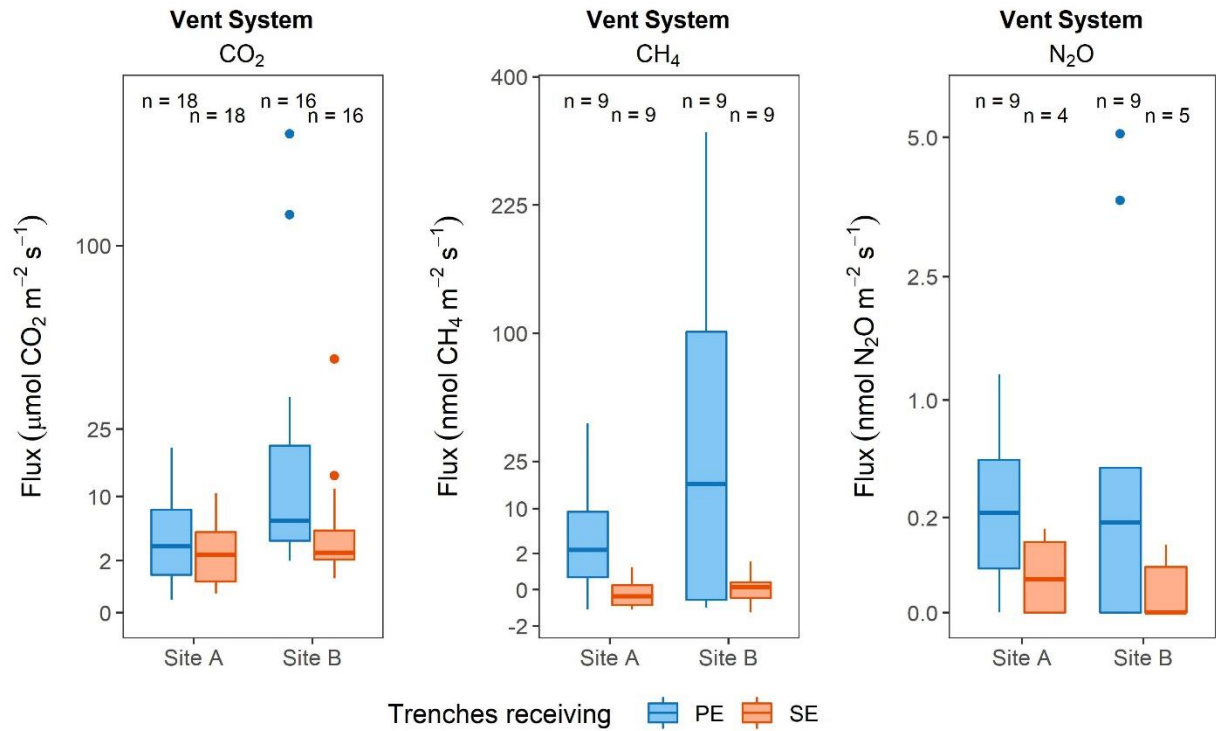


Figure S3. Boxplots of observed gas fluxes from the STU vent system for CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O over trenches receiving primary (PE) and secondary (SE) effluent for both sites. Statistical results are presented as p-value of Wilcoxon signed rank tests with estimated effect size *r* and corresponding bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals; *n* denotes the number of observations per group. Note that the y-scale for CO₂ is given in units different from units used for CH₄ and N₂O and that the y-axis has been square-root transformed to improve data visualisation.

Table S1. Summary statistics for observed GHG fluxes from discrete measurements (n, number of observations; CI, bootstrapped 95% confidence interval around the median).

Module	Gas	Location	n	Min	Max	Median	CI	Unit
ST	CO ₂	Ch 1	25	1.18	18.52	3.50	[2.55; 5.38]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		Ch 2	26	1.02	7.85	2.63	[1.98; 3.29]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	CH ₄	Ch 1	15	0.05	1.86	0.21	[0.16; 0.48]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		Ch 2	16	0.06	1.07	0.34	[0.29; 0.42]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
STU	CO ₂	Control	109	0.35	15.56	3.06	[2.51; 3.62]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		PE	276	0.13	18.36	3.00	[2.70; 3.38]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		SE	277	0.12	18.15	2.73	[2.40; 3.04]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	CH ₄	Control	52	-3.36	0.01	0.00	[-0.01; 0.00]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		PE	128	-8.01	852.9	0.00	[0.00; 0.00]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		SE	130	-3.31	437.4	0.00	[0.00; 0.00]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	N ₂ O	Control	11	-0.38	0.27	-0.02	[-0.06; 0.03]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		PE	15	-0.38	0.29	0.05	[0.01; 0.09]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
		SE	19	-0.63	0.35	0.06	[-0.02; 0.08]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
Vent	CO ₂	PE	34	0.12	170.15	4.91	[2.69; 7.61]	μmol s ⁻¹
		SE	34	0.27	47.75	2.58	[2.07; 3.88]	μmol s ⁻¹
	CH ₄	PE	23	-0.60	318.0	2.59	[0.23; 11.0]	nmol s ⁻¹
		SE	18	-0.80	1.2	-0.06	[-0.23; 0.05]	nmol s ⁻¹
	N ₂ O	PE	13	0.04	5.07	0.41	[-0.02; 0.49]	nmol s ⁻¹
		SE	4	0.05	0.16	0.10	[0.00; 0.10]	nmol s ⁻¹

Table S2. Summary statistics for observed discrete GHG fluxes from the ST surface, split by site (n, number of observations; CV, coefficient of variation).

Site	Gas	Chamber	n	Min	Max	Median	Unit	CV
Site A	CO ₂	1	13	1.22	8.05	3.06	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.55
		2	13	1.02	4.81	2.02	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.47
	CH ₄	1	8	0.05	1.86	0.20	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	1.38
		2	8	0.12	1.07	0.40	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.63
Site B	CO ₂	1	12	1.18	18.52	3.93	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.95
		2	13	1.15	7.85	3.27	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.55
	CH ₄	1	7	0.11	1.61	0.21	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	1.17
		2	8	0.06	0.49	0.33	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.41

Table S3. Summary statistics for observed GHG fluxes from the ST during continuous diurnal measurements, split by site (n, number of observations; CV, coefficient of variation).

Site	Gas	Chamber	n	Min	Max	Median	Unit	CV
Site A	CO ₂	2	284	1.99	14.14	3.81	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.49
	CH ₄	2	280	0.12	7.51	1.17	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.68
Site B	CO ₂	2	220	3.79	7.08	5.83	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.13
	CH ₄	2	220	0.22	0.78	0.28	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹	0.19

Table S4. Summary statistics for observed dissolved GHG concentrations in the ST (n, number of observations; CV, coefficient of variation).

Site	Gas	Chamber	n	Min	Max	Median	Unit	CV
Site A	CO ₂	1	9	2.33	40.99	15.70	mg L ⁻¹	0.77
		2	9	5.22	45.87	13.76	mg L ⁻¹	0.76
	CH ₄	1	8	0.00	1.11	0.21	mg L ⁻¹	1.28
		2	8	0.01	1.42	0.49	mg L ⁻¹	0.87
Site B	CO ₂	1	6	6.32	47.45	25.00	mg L ⁻¹	0.59
		2	6	2.49	42.48	12.50	mg L ⁻¹	0.83
	CH ₄	1	6	0.00	0.64	0.37	mg L ⁻¹	0.77
		2	6	0.00	0.70	0.41	mg L ⁻¹	0.83

Table S5 Summary statistics for observed GHG fluxes from continuous measurements on the STU (n, number of observations; CI, bootstrapped 95% confidence interval around the median).

Gas	Location	n	Min	Max	Median	CI	Unit
CO ₂	Control	5452	0.14	22.20	5.10	[5.03; 5.19]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	PE	14311	0.01	26.73	2.17	[2.13; 2.22]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	SE	14393	0.08	34.03	2.10	[2.05; 2.16]	μmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
CH ₄	Control	1478	-5.12	90.12	-0.42	[-0.43; -0.41]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	PE	2534	-5.15	91.50	-0.30	[-0.32; -0.27]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹
	SE	1801	-3.75	35.27	-0.37	[-0.39; -0.36]	nmol m ⁻² s ⁻¹

GHG measurements from ST

Two different methods were used to measure CO₂ and CH₄ gas fluxes; (i) discrete survey measurements carried out manually whilst on site and (ii) diurnal measurements carried out by automated long-term flux chambers. Additional to the flux measurements, water samples were collected to estimate the dissolved CO₂ and CH₄ concentrations.

GHG flux measurements

In order to measure GHG fluxes from the water surface of ST, a sampling setup was adopted from (Leverenz et al., 2010), where a collar was placed in to the septic tank to hold the chamber and create a gas loop between the water surface and gas analyser during measurements. This collar was composed of a rigid PVC pipe (inner diameter 20.3 cm, outer diameter 21.3 cm O.D. and length 19 cm) and supported by three legs (length 210 cm) going to the bottom of the tank, see Figure 1. The collars were placed such that they extended from beneath to above the water level of the ST, see Figure 1b. These inserts were left in place for the duration of the experiment to prevent disturbance in the septic tank.

A survey chamber (LI-8100-103 20 cm Survey Chamber, LI-COR Biosciences, Inc.), that was connected to an analyser control unit with two sets of Li-Cor extensions (length: 15 m), was lowered down to the collar in the ST. The lids of the ST was opened in each compartment. One set of the extensions connected the gas lines, the other set of extensions was controlling the survey chamber and providing the gas channel for lowering down and lifting up the survey chamber over the collar between measurements. A pressure/vacuum air flow system expands and contracts a bellows to raise and lower the chambers over a soil collar to make the flux measurement. CO₂ fluxes were measured by the non-dispersive infrared CO₂ gas analyser unit of an automated soil gas flux system (LI-8100 Automated Soil CO₂ Flux System, Li-Cor), see Appendix B. In order to measure CH₄ fluxes as well, this CO₂ flux system was extended with an additional gas analyser (UGGA Ultraportable Greenhouse Gas Analyser, model 915-0011, manufactured by Los Gatos Research). At the occasions when Los Gatos analyser was available, its gas inlet port was connected with the Li-Cor analyser unit outlet port and the gas outlet from the Los Gatos was connected to gas port of the extension going to the survey chamber. During these flux incubations, that were at least 3 minutes of duration, changes in CO₂ and CH₄ concentrations were observed - increase in concentrations indicating emission.

Dissolved GHG concentrations

Dissolved GHG concentrations were measured using the headspace method (Hope et al., 1995) and UGGA (Ultra-Portable GGA, model 915-0011, Los Gatos Research). 100 ml water samples were collected in a 250 ml glass bottle, the bottle was sealed with the cap and

attached and inlet and outlet pipe. The pipes were directly connected to the UGGA, the analyser bubbled out the dissolved gases to enable the equilibrium concentration of the gases in the bottle system to be measured, see Figure 2.



(a)



(b)

Figure 1. Left, stand with the collar that was inserted into the ST. Right, deployment of the survey chamber over the ST.



Figure 2. Bubbling water samples to measure dissolved gas concentration of CH_4 and CO_2 .

GHG from vent system

The GHG fluxes were measured from venting system outlets at KM and CC sites at end of each trench. The venting systems were sealed to ensure that the normal air flow was not disturbed. A sampling device (Vent Wizard 800) was constructed from a PVC slip cap and a threaded pipe adapted to fit the cleanout ports, see Figure 3. One port was placed in the slip cap to allow for gas sampling, this port was connected to the UGGA analyser. Air velocity and temperature were also measured in the venting system using a hotwire anemometer (LU8050, TQC Sheen, The Netherlands).

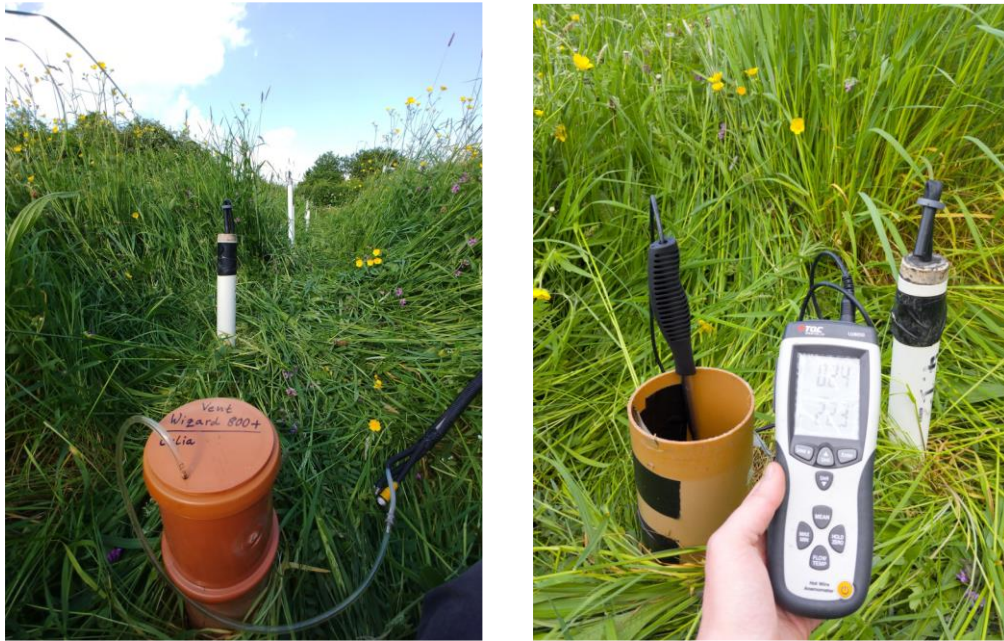


Figure 3. (a) sampling GHG fluxes from the vent system outlet with Vent Wizard 800 (b) deployment of anemometer.