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1 **Comparative effects of prolonged freshwater and saline flooding on nitrogen cycling in**
2 **an agricultural soil**

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9 **Abstract**

10 Due to climate change, the frequency and duration of flood events are predicted to
11 increase in many regions of the world. This is expected to cause large changes in soil
12 functioning and to a progressive decline in soil quality such as reduced rates of nutrient cycling,
13 enhanced greenhouse gas emissions and loss of soil biodiversity. There is a knowledge gap,
14 however, on how temperate agricultural soils under different management practices (e.g.
15 manure application) respond to prolonged river or coastal flooding. The main objective of this
16 work was to determine the effects of a simulated prolonged flooding with saline and freshwater
17 on soil N cycling, following application of a low C:N organic amendment (broiler litter) at two
18 temperatures, representative of a winter and a spring flood event. Using laboratory mesocosms
19 we simulated prolonged winter (6 °C) and spring (14 °C) flooding of soil amended with broiler
20 litter. We also compared the effects of inundation with either river (freshwater) or coastal
21 (saline) water. An agricultural grassland soil (Eutric Cambisol) was subjected to different
22 combinations of treatments (flood with fresh or saline water, winter vs spring temperatures,
23 with/without poultry manure). The impact of these treatments on soil solution N dynamics,
24 greenhouse gas emissions (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O) and microbial community structure (by PLFA
25 analysis) were evaluated over an 11 week simulated flood event followed by an 8 week soil
26 recovery period (without flood). Overall, potential losses of NH₄⁺ and cumulative GHG
27 emissions were increased by flooding and the presence of manure. CH₄ emissions were found
28 to dominate under freshwater flooding conditions and N₂O under saline flooding. Significant
29 releases of GHG occurred during both flooding and after floodwater removal. Temperature was
30 less influential on regulating GHG under the different treatments. These releases in GHG were
31 associated with disruption in N cycling and changes in soil microbial composition and these
32 changes persisted after floodwater removal. Extreme flooding negatively impacts soil
33 functioning, however, the magnitude of any changes remain critically dependent on flood

34 duration and source of flood water, and management conditions. Further work is required at
35 the field scale to understand the molecular basis of the responses observed in this study.

36 ***Highlights***

- 37 • NH_4^+ losses and GHG emissions were increased by flooding in the presence of manure.
- 38 • CH_4 is mostly emitted in freshwater flooding and N_2O in saline flooding.
- 39 • Temperature was less important in regulating GHG emissions but did affect N cycling
40 under flooding.
- 41 • Flooding induces prolonged shifts in the composition of the soil microbial community.
- 42 • Extreme flooding events negatively impact soil functioning.

43

44 ***Keywords:*** Soil quality, Phospholipid fatty acid analysis, Soil microbial biomass, Extreme
45 weather event; Waterlogging

46

47 ***Abbreviations:*** GHG, greenhouse gas; PLFA, phospholipid fatty acid.

48

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56

57 **1. Introduction**

58 Changes in global weather patterns and the increased incidence of extreme events in
59 recent years are starting to negatively impact on the sustainability of agricultural ecosystems
60 (IPCC, 2013). Although storms and extreme flood events are not rare, evidence suggests that
61 their frequency and magnitude is increasing in many regions of the world (Pohl et al., 2017;
62 WMO, 2013). These are exemplified by recent extreme flood events in many parts of Europe
63 (Met Office, 2014; Romanescu and Stoleriu, 2017). Typically, these are triggered by prolonged
64 heavy rainfall, however, they are being further compounded in coastal regions by global sea
65 level rise and tidal surges (Haigh et al., 2016; Nicholls et al., 1999). In some cases, flooding
66 affects soils with a known history of waterlogging (e.g. Fluvisols, Gleysols) and the
67 consequences may not be too severe, however, areas with no previous history of flooding are
68 also becoming affected. For example, in the extreme winter storms of 2014, floodwater covered
69 large areas of agricultural land in the UK for up to 3 months with floodwater depths exceeding
70 2 m, ultimately leading to the loss of crops and excessive soil erosion (Defra, 2014; Sibley et
71 al., 2015; Smith et al., 2017). These extreme events have the potential to cause irreversible
72 damage to plant growth, agricultural productivity and ecosystem functioning (Niu et al., 2014),
73 as a result of disruptions in soil physical structure, nutrient cycling (Baldwin and Mitchell,
74 2000; Scalenghe et al., 2012) and soil microbial function (Bossio and Scow, 1998).

75 The nitrogen (N) cycle may be particularly affected by extreme flooding due to its
76 capacity to reduce soil O₂ concentrations and the subsequent effects this has on key soil
77 processes such as N mineralisation, immobilisation, nitrification and denitrification as well as
78 plant N uptake (Herzog et al., 2016). Typically, prolonged waterlogging can cause the
79 accumulation of NH₄⁺ in soil (White and Reddy, 2009), stimulate NH₃ volatilization (Zhong-
80 Cheng et al., 2012), whilst any NO₃⁻ present in the soil at the time of flooding may be
81 denitrified and represent a source of N₂O emissions (Granli and Bøckman, 1994). Prolonged

82 flooding also has the potential to increase leaching of residual soil nitrate depending on the
83 nature of the flood event (i.e. surface- versus ground-water driven floods; Huber et al., 2012).

84 The relative contribution of different anthropogenic activities to the increased incidence
85 of flooding remains uncertain, however, it has been directly linked to shifts in land use,
86 increased urban run-off, river network engineering and indirectly to increased greenhouse gas
87 (GHG) emissions (i.e., methane-CH₄, carbon dioxide-CO₂ and nitrous oxide-N₂O) (Pall et al.,
88 2011). As the agricultural release of CH₄ and N₂O are frequently stimulated under waterlogging
89 conditions, there is potential for a positive feedback on climate change and flood risk. In
90 addition, N₂O may be released following floodwater removal as the block in nitrification is
91 removed or during partial denitrification (Norton, 2008; Robertson and Groffman, 2007).

92 There are numerous studies on the effects of flooding on N and carbon (C) cycling in
93 rice paddy fields (Nguyen et al., 2015; Peng et al., 2011; Pereida et al., 2013; Zhang et al.,
94 2012; Zhang et al., 2015), riparian zones (Baldwin and Mitchell, 2000) and wetlands (Unger et
95 al., 2009; Wang et al., 2013). In contrast, however, there are fewer published studies on the
96 impacts of extreme flooding for temperate agricultural soils, particularly those with no previous
97 history of flooding and under contrasting management regimes (Hansen et al., 2014).

98 We hypothesize that one of the agricultural practices that is most likely to influence
99 how soil quality responds to flooding is the presence of nutrient-rich organic material with
100 different N mineralization rates (e.g. animal manures or green cover crops; Masunga et al.,
101 2016). Our rationale is that these fertilisers are typically applied to soil before crop
102 establishment when winter/spring flooding occurs and they are well known to promote shifts
103 in microbial community functioning and greatly influence net GHG emissions (Snyder et al.,
104 2009). Further, we hypothesized that the outcome will be greatly influenced by floodwater
105 type. We predict that saline coastal flooding will emit less GHG due to the high concentration
106 of alternative electron acceptors in seawater (28 mM SO₄²⁻) relative to freshwater (ca. <0.1

107 mM SO₄²⁻), and also to the negative impact of excess NaCl on microbial activity. Our aim was
108 therefore to determine the effects of simulated prolonged flooding with saline or freshwater on
109 soil N cycling, following the application of a low C:N organic amendment (broiler litter), which
110 could accelerate or slow the decomposition of soil organic matter (Liu et al., 2017) at two
111 temperatures, representative of a winter and a spring flood. Our main objectives were to
112 investigate alterations in (1) N cycling, including changes in soil water chemistry and GHG
113 emissions (CH₄, CO₂ and N₂O), and (2) soil microbial structure at the end of flooding (11
114 weeks), and after the soil recovery period (8 weeks).

115

116 **2. Materials and methods**

117 *2.1. Soil, water and manure properties*

118 Replicate soil samples (5-20 cm depth; Ah horizon, Eutric Cambisol) were collected
119 from a low intensity sheep (*Ovis aries* L.) grazed grassland dominated by *Lolium perenne* L.
120 located at the Henfaes Experimental Station, Abergwyngregyn, UK (53°14'19"N, 4°00'55"W;
121 altitude 18 m a.s.l.). The mean annual temperature at the site is 10°C and the mean annual
122 rainfall is 960 mm. Within living memory, the sampling site has not previously been flooded,
123 however, the surrounding region has recently been subjected to both unprecedented river and
124 coastal flooding (Sibley et al., 2015; see Supplementary Information, Fig. A.1 and Fig. A.2).
125 Prior to use, the soil was coarse-sieved (1 cm mesh) to remove any discernible roots and stones,
126 maintain the soil's crumb structure and minimize changes in microbial activity and N cycling
127 (Jones and Willett, 2006). Particle size was analyzed according to Gee and Bauder (1986) while
128 total C and N was determined using a Truspec[®] CN Elemental Analyser (Leco Corp, St Joseph,
129 MI). Plant-available P and K were determined by extracting the soil with 0.5 M acetic acid (1:5
130 w/v; 1 h, 200 rev min⁻¹), centrifuging the extracts (10,000 g, 10 min) and analyzing P by the
131 molybdate blue method of Murphy and Riley (1962) and K by flame photometry using a

132 Sherwood Scientific Flame Photometer (Fisher Scientific, Loughborough, UK). Soil pH and
133 electrical conductivity (EC) were determined in (1:2.5 v/v) soil:distilled water extracts using
134 standard electrodes.

135 Two different sources of floodwater were used in the experiment: (1) freshwater from
136 the nearest large watercourse (Rhaeadr-fawr river, 53°14'8"N, 4°0'59"W; located ca. 350 m
137 away from the soil sampling site), and (2) seawater, from the adjacent Menai Strait (53°14'
138 20"N, 4°1'54"W; located ca. 700 m away from the soil sampling site). Floodwater pH and EC
139 were measured directly using standard electrodes, while NH_4^+ was determined colorimetrically
140 using the salicylate method of Mulvaney (1996) and NO_3^- using the vanadate method of
141 Miranda et al. (2001) using an Epoch[®] microplate spectrophotometer (BioTek Instruments Inc.,
142 Winooski, VT).

143 Broiler litter was collected from a commercial poultry farm on Anglesey, North Wales
144 (53°15'N, 4°18'W). Its dry matter content was determined by oven drying (105 °C, 48 h). Its
145 total C and N content, NH_4^+ and NO_3^- were determined on fresh material as detailed above.
146 Total P and total K were analysed in dry manure (105 °C, 24 h) after sieving to pass a 1 mm
147 screen and digesting with aqua-regia (EPA, 2016). Manure pH was determined in a 1:6 (w/v)
148 manure:distilled water extract using standard electrodes while uric acid was determined
149 according to Cox et al. (1996). After collection, all soil, floodwater and manure were kept
150 refrigerated at 4 °C until required.

151

152 *2.2. Experimental treatments and stages of the experiment*

153 Transparent polypropylene containers (11 × 8 cm base, 27 cm high; $n = 48$) were filled
154 with 850 g of sieved field-moist soil to achieve a bulk density of 1 g cm^{-3} based on field
155 measurements of the soil in situ. Broiler litter (8 g mesocosm⁻¹, equivalent to 9.1 t ha^{-1} on a
156 surface area basis) was then mixed by hand with the soil in half of the mesocosms. The rate

157 was chosen to reflect those typically used on UK grasslands (Defra, 2010). Broiler litter was
158 chosen based on its widespread use for improving soil quality and its presence in fields
159 impacted by the UK's 2014 extreme floods. Overall, the experiment had 4 main treatments:

- 160 1. Soil only (Control)
- 161 2. Soil + flooding
- 162 3. Soil + manure
- 163 4. Soil + manure + flooding

164 The secondary factors in the experiment were floodwater type (freshwater vs. saline) and
165 temperature regime (6 °C vs. 14 °C) giving 48 mesocosms in total. A Rhizon[®] soil water
166 sampler (Rhizosphere Research Products, Wageningen, The Netherlands) was placed in the
167 centre of the soil at an angle of 45° in each mesocosm prior to the addition of floodwater. Two
168 hundred and fifty ml of fresh or saline floodwater was carefully added to the soil surface in all
169 mesocosms to achieve field capacity – these were defined as the non-flooded treatments. For
170 the 'flooded' treatments, additional floodwater (ca. 1 l) was added to half the mesocosms to
171 achieve a flood depth 9 cm above the soil surface. This reflected field observations of typical
172 flood depths within the region. Finally, the boxes were randomized and placed in climate-
173 control rooms in the dark at either 6 °C (simulated winter) or 14 °C (simulated spring) and
174 loosely covered with polythene to minimize evaporative losses. In total, there were 16
175 combinations of factors, with each treatment performed in triplicate.

176 The experiment had two different stages: (1) the flood stage (0-11 weeks) in which half
177 the mesocosms were kept flooded; and (2) the recovery stage (12-20 weeks), in which the
178 standing water was removed from the flooded treatments. The unflooded mesocosms were
179 maintained at field capacity for the first 14 weeks by adding distilled water weekly (based on
180 their weight loss). Similarly, the flood depth was maintained at a constant height during the
181 flood phase by weekly additions of floodwater. No water was added to the mesocosms in weeks

182 15 to 20 to allow the soil to dry (reflecting typical field conditions in late spring). During this
183 latter period soil solutions were not collected as the soil was too dry.

184

185 2.3. Flood and soil water chemistry

186 Weekly sampling of floodwater and soil solution were made for the first 14 weeks using
187 a pipette and the Rhizon[®] samplers, respectively, and analysed for NH₄⁺ and NO₃⁻ as described
188 above. pH and EC in the floodwater were measured on the first and last day of the flood stage.

189 During the flood stage, the potential losses of nutrients or the total amount of nutrient
190 released into the soil solution and overlying floodwater (C_{release}) was calculated as follows:

$$191 \quad C_{\text{release}} \text{ (g container}^{-1}\text{)} = [C_{\text{soil}} \times V_{\text{soil}} \times \Theta] + [C_{\text{flood}} \times V_{\text{flood}}] \quad \text{(Eqn. 1)}$$

192 where C_{soil} is the concentration of nutrient in the soil solution, C_{flood} is the concentration in the
193 floodwater (the maximum concentrations obtained in the flood phase), V_{soil} and V_{flood} are the
194 volume of soil and floodwater respectively and Θ is the volumetric water content (0.5 cm cm^{-3}).

195

196 2.4. Greenhouse gas measurements

197 For the GHG measurements, the containers were hermetically sealed and two 20 ml gas
198 samples taken from the container headspace through a rubber septum, the first one at time 0
199 (T_0) and the second one after 60 min (T_{60}). GHG sampling occurred 3-4 times per week at the
200 beginning and at the end of the flood stage, and at the beginning of soil recovery stage, but was
201 reduced to once per week for the other periods of the experiment. Pre-evacuated glass vials
202 were used to store headspace samples prior to analysis. Methane, CO₂ and N₂O concentrations
203 in the headspace of the mesocosms were analysed using a Clarus 500 gas chromatograph
204 equipped with a capillary column and Turbomatrix HS-40 headspace autoanalyzer (carrier gas
205 pressure 138 kPa, injection pressure 160 kPa; Perkin Elmer Inc., Waltham, CT). A ⁶³Ni
206 electron-capture detector was used to determine N₂O concentrations and a flame ionization

207 detector (FID) connected to a methanizer used to measure CH₄ and CO₂. The temperatures of
208 the injector, oven and detector were 40 °C, 40 °C and 375 °C, respectively. Fluxes were
209 estimated as the slope of the linear regression between concentrations and time (1 h) after
210 corrections for temperature, and from the ratio between chamber volume and soil surface area
211 (MacKenzie et al., 1998). Cumulative fluxes were estimated using the trapezoidal rule (Sanz-
212 Cobena et al., 2014), multiplying the mean of two successive daily fluxes by the number of
213 hours between the two measurements and adding that amount to the previous cumulative total.
214 The global warming potential (GWP) of CH₄, CO₂ and N₂O were estimated in CO₂ equivalents
215 by multiplying the cumulative fluxes at the end of the experiment by 34 for CH₄, 1 for CO₂ and
216 by 298 for N₂O (IPCC, 2013).

217

218 *2.5. Soil microbial community analysis*

219 Phospholipid fatty acid (PLFA) analyses were carried out after collecting 25 g of soil
220 from each container at the end of the flood stage, and at the end of the soil recovery stage. After
221 collection, the samples were frozen at -80°C until analysis. PLFA analysis was undertaken as
222 detailed in Bartelt-Ryser et al. (2005). Although a total of 107 fatty acids were identified in the
223 soil samples, Table A.1 shows the 35 that were subsequently used in the analysis because they
224 had a concentration higher than 0.5% of the total PLFAs. These included biomarkers for Gram
225 + and Gram - bacteria, actinomycetes, anaerobic bacteria (anaerobe), putative arbuscular
226 mycorrhizal fungi (AM fungi), protozoa and fungi. Total PLFAs was used as a proxy of soil
227 microbial biomass (SMB). Standard nomenclature followed that of Frostegård et al. (1993).
228 From the individual PLFAs, different microbial abundance ratios were calculated including:
229 Fungi-to-bacteria; predator-to-prey (protozoa/bacteria) to estimate the availability of nutrients;
230 Gram +/Gram - as an indicator of soil aeration state (Bossio and Scow, 1998);
231 saturated/unsaturated fatty acids (sat/unsat) to assess the stability of the microbial community.

232 Ratios of mono/polyunsaturated fatty acids (mono/poly); precursor/cyclopropane fatty acids
233 (precursor/cyclopropane fatty acids; and 16 ω /17 cyclo and 18 ω /19 cyclo) were used to identify
234 possible stress (Knivett and Cullen, 1965).

235

236 *2.6. Statistical analysis*

237 Repeated measures analysis of variance (ANOVA) based on a completely randomized
238 design for the 4 treatments (combination of two factors, flooding and manure application:
239 control and manure with and without flooding), and 3 replicates per treatment were applied to
240 soil solution NH_4^+ and NO_3^- and daily fluxes of GHG for each combination of floodwater type
241 \times temperature. The same statistical analysis was applied to NH_4^+ and NO_3^- in floodwater with
242 only two treatments (control and manure with flooding). When the differences were significant,
243 a Bonferroni multiple comparison test at a probability level of 0.05 was used to identify
244 differences between treatments with time.

245 Factorial ANOVA based on a completely randomized design with two factors (manure
246 and temperature) was carried out for pH and EC in floodwater, potential loss of nutrients, and
247 with three factors (flooding, manure and temperature) for cumulative GHG fluxes and total
248 GWP at the end of the experiment, and PLFAs (total PLFAs, taxonomic groups and PLFA
249 ratios), independently, for freshwater and saline water containers. In these cases, Tukey's HSD
250 *post hoc* was used to identify treatment differences.

251 Principal component analysis (PCA) was used to explore relationships between fatty
252 acid profiles (PLFAs), GHG daily fluxes, NH_4^+ and NO_3^- in soil solution, based on a data
253 correlation matrix. Finally, Pearson correlations were carried out between these factors. All
254 statistical analyses were performed using SPSS v22.0 (IBM Corp., Armonk, NY).

255

256 **3. Results**

257 *3.1. Initial soil, water and manure properties*

258 Soil and water properties are summarized in Table A.2. The soil was a sandy clay loam
259 soil, with neutral pH, a high organic matter content ($78 \pm 5 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$) and available P content (38
260 $\pm 4 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$), and a medium available K content ($122 \pm 11 \text{ mg kg}^{-1}$, Defra, 2010). The pH of
261 the freshwater floodwater was lower than that of the saline floodwater, but the electrical
262 conductivity of the saline floodwater was significantly greater, as expected. Although similar
263 NO_3^- concentrations were found in both water types, NH_4^+ and P were considerably higher in
264 the saline water (Table A.2). Manure properties are shown in Table A.3, where typical values
265 for broiler litter can be seen (e.g. low C:N ratio; Edwards and Daniel, 1992).

266

267 *3.2. Floodwater pH and electrical conductivity*

268 Throughout the 11 week flood period the pH of the floodwaters remained relatively
269 constant with few treatment effects apparent (Table 1). Interactions between temperature and
270 manure factors were found at the beginning and at the end of the flooding period for the fresh
271 floodwater. The only major effect was the presence of manure which tended to increase
272 floodwater pH relative to the control at both temperatures for saline water (no significant
273 differences were found for freshwater). However, there was an interaction on day 77 due to the
274 different effect that the temperature caused in the pH in presence and lack of manure ($p =$
275 0.032).

276 The EC of the floodwater in the freshwater treatments increased over time, particularly
277 in the manure treatments (Table 1). The interaction observed at the end of the flood phase for
278 the fresh floodwater ($p < 0.001$) was due to the different effect that the temperature caused in
279 the EC in the mesocosms with and without manure. As expected, the EC of the saline
280 floodwater was greater than that of the freshwater treatments (two orders of magnitude higher),
281 and whilst significant differences were not seen at the beginning of the flood phase, an

282 interaction occurred at the end of that phase ($p < 0.001$) when the control at 6 °C had the highest
283 EC values).

284

285 *3.3. Dynamics of NH_4^+ and NO_3^- during simulated river flooding*

286 The temporal dynamics of NH_4^+ and NO_3^- in soil solution as a function of temperature,
287 flooding and manure application are shown in Fig. 1. The NH_4^+ concentration was initially
288 higher for treatments including broiler litter and remained so throughout the experiment. In
289 comparison, temperature had relatively little effect on soil NH_4^+ levels. NH_4^+ concentrations in
290 the overlying floodwater in the non-amended treatments remained $< 0.1 \text{ mg N l}^{-1}$ for the entire
291 flood period, but increased from 10 to 40 mg N l^{-1} in the broiler litter treatments (data not
292 shown). After floodwater removal, soil solution NH_4^+ concentrations remained high, declining
293 very slightly over time in the manure treatments.

294 Soil solution NO_3^- concentrations were greater in the control treatments than the
295 manure treatments at both temperatures at the start of the experiment. Nitrate concentrations
296 then progressively declined in all treatments over the first 3 weeks. In the 6 °C treatments, soil
297 solution NO_3^- concentrations remained low, even after the floodwater had been removed. At
298 14 °C, soil solution NO_3^- concentration in the non-flooded manure treatment increased,
299 particularly towards the end of the flooding period, at which point concentrations increased
300 markedly, and continued to do so during the recovery period. Soil solution NO_3^- concentrations
301 in the control non-flooded treatment also increased in the later stages of the flooding period. It
302 was only on the last two measurement occasions (in the recovery phase), when the soil solution
303 NO_3^- concentration in the flooded treatments started to increase (Figs. 1c, d).

304 Floodwater NO_3^- concentrations were initially greater in the control treatment
305 compared to the manure treatment (negligible concentrations) at both temperatures (data not

306 shown). Subsequently, NO_3^- concentrations in all floodwaters decreased to very low levels
307 during the flooding period, with the rate of decrease being quicker at the higher temperature.

308 Overall, temperature did not have a significant effect on the potential for nutrient loss
309 for the flooded treatments (Table 2). However, the addition of manure significantly increased
310 the potential for NH_4^+ losses but decreased it for NO_3^- in comparison with treatments without
311 manure (Table 2).

312

313 *3.4. Dynamics of NH_4^+ and NO_3^- during simulated coastal flooding*

314 The impact of simulated coastal flooding on soil solution NH_4^+ and NO_3^-
315 concentrations is shown in Fig 2. In general, soil solution NH_4^+ concentrations increased during
316 the experiment, although there was a marked decrease for manure treatments at 14 °C around
317 day 50 (Fig. 2b). Control and control + flood treatments also experienced a general increase in
318 NH_4^+ in soil solution towards the end of the flood period (Figs. 2a and b). The NH_4^+
319 concentrations in the overlying floodwater in the non-amended treatments remained negligible
320 for the entire flood period but increased from 40 to 65 mg l^{-1} in the manure treatments (data
321 not shown).

322 An initial decrease in soil solution NO_3^- was observed for all treatments, and was more
323 rapid at 14 °C than at 6 °C. The flooded manure treatment at 14 °C had the lowest soil NO_3^-
324 concentration throughout the experiment (Figs. 2c and d). Some peaks were observed in soil
325 solution NO_3^- for the control treatment at 6 °C, and there was a gradual increase in soil solution
326 NO_3^- concentrations in the non-flooded control and manure treatments at 14°C towards the end
327 of the flooding period, that continued into the recovery period. Similar to the freshwater flood
328 treatments, NO_3^- concentrations in the overlying floodwater decreased during the flooding
329 period (from 20 to $\approx 5 \text{ mg l}^{-1}$ at 6 °C, and from 24 to 18 mg l^{-1} at 14 °C) but were higher than
330 those of the control treatment at both temperatures (almost negligible, data not shown).

331 The addition of manure increased the NH_4^+ loss potential, meanwhile the highest
332 temperature (14 °C) and the application of manure reduced the values for potential losses of
333 NO_3^- (Table 2).

334

335 *3.4. Greenhouse gas emissions during simulated river flooding*

336 Daily fluxes of CH_4 , CO_2 and N_2O are shown in Fig. 3 No CH_4 emissions were
337 detectable from any treatment at 6 °C. However, there were clear peaks in CH_4 emissions
338 towards the end of the flooding period and into the recovery phase (days 65-90) in the manure
339 amended treatments, especially the flooded manure treatment. Subsequently, these fluxes
340 decreased rapidly after floodwater removal (Fig. 3b). Peaks of daily CO_2 fluxes were detected
341 in the flooded manure treatment as the CH_4 emissions declined during the recovery period at
342 14 °C (Fig. 3d). Finally, there were peaks in daily N_2O fluxes on the first (at 6 °C and 14 °C)
343 and last days (at 6 °C) of the experiment for the non-flooded manure treatment (Figs. 3e and
344 f). At 14 °C, additional N_2O fluxes were measured from the non-flooded manure treatment,
345 especially after the soil was allowed to dry out in the recovery phase, when emissions were
346 also seen for the flooded manure and flooded control treatments (Fig. 3f).

347 Cumulative CH_4 emissions (through the flooding and extended recovery phases) were
348 increased by flooding, although cumulative CO_2 and N_2O emissions were lower (Table 3), such
349 that the net cumulative GHG emission, expressed as CO_2 equivalent, was increased.
350 Cumulative emissions of all GHGs (and therefore GWP) were increased at 14 °C compared to
351 6 °C, and GHG emissions were greater from manure-amended treatments. The multiple
352 interactions were due to the different effects that flooding had on control and manure
353 treatments: increased cumulative CH_4 fluxes when manure was applied but only at 14 °C; and
354 reduced cumulative N_2O fluxes also when manure was applied at both temperatures (details in
355 Fig. 3).

356

357 3.5. Greenhouse gas emissions during simulated coastal flooding

358 The daily fluxes of CH₄, CO₂ and N₂O are shown in Fig. 4 The pattern of daily CH₄
359 fluxes was similar to those observed for the freshwater, with peaks in emissions towards the
360 end of the flooding period from the manure treatments at the higher temperature (14 °C).
361 However, these fluxes were much smaller than measured from the freshwater flooding. CH₄
362 emissions decreased rapidly from the flooded manure treatment, once the floodwater was
363 removed but the highest peak was reached immediately after water removal. Daily CO₂ fluxes
364 remained low at 6 °C from all treatments throughout the flooding phase (Fig. 4c), with some
365 evidence of greater fluxes from the non-flooded manure treatment, especially after the soils
366 were allowed to dry out in the extended recovery phase at both temperatures (Figs. 4c and d).
367 Daily N₂O fluxes were also similar to those measured from the freshwater treatments, with
368 fluxes immediately after establishment of treatments at both temperatures. At 14 °C there was
369 a small peak in N₂O emission after the soil in the non-flooded manure treatment had been
370 allowed to dry out in the recovery phase (Figs. 4e and f).

371 Flooding with saline water significantly reduced the cumulative CO₂ and N₂O fluxes
372 (through the flooding and extended recovery phases), as well as total GHG emissions,
373 expressed as CO₂ equivalents (Table 3). Temperature increased the three GHG cumulative
374 fluxes and, consequently the GWP. Manure application also increased cumulative emissions
375 of CH₄ and CO₂ emissions, but decreased the N₂O cumulative fluxes resulting in a non-
376 significant effect on total GHG emissions, expressed as CO₂ equivalents (Table 3). There were
377 some interactions between temperature and manure for cumulative CH₄ fluxes (manure
378 increased this emissions only at 14 °C, $p = 0.021$) and GWP ($p = 0.017$), and between flood
379 and manure for cumulative CO₂ ($p = 0.008$) and N₂O ($p < 0.001$) fluxes (details in Fig. 4).

380

381 3.6. *Soil microbial community changes during simulated river flooding*

382 Table 4 shows the SMB and the percentage of each taxonomic group estimated by the
383 PLFAs after the flooding and recovery stages. In general, a lower SMB was observed after the
384 soil recovery stage. Flood and temperature had a negative effect on SMB but there was a
385 positive effect of manure application, probably due to the microbial population in the manure.
386 Flooding facilitated the proliferation of Gram + bacteria (after soil recovery), including
387 actinomycetes (after flood stage), but reduced the presence of Gram – bacteria and putative
388 AM fungi (after soil recovery). The highest temperature resulted in a decrease in the percentage
389 of fungi after the flooding stage, and Gram + bacteria and anaerobes after soil recovery stage,
390 but increased the proportion of actinomycetes. Gram – bacteria were altered by temperature in
391 the opposite sense in each analysis. Finally, the broiler litter treatment resulted in reduced Gram
392 + bacteria after both stages and actinomycetes after both stages, anaerobes and putative AM
393 fungi after soil recovery, but increased Gram – bacteria and fungi after both stages (Table 4).
394 These alterations in microbial structure were also reflected in some PLFA ratios (Table A.4).

395 Fig. 5 shows the PCA for the different taxonomic groups (based on PLFAs), daily GHG
396 fluxes and nutrients in soil solution for the different combinations of flood × manure, the two
397 temperatures (6 and 14 °C), and after the flood stage and the soil recovery stage. For 6 °C after
398 the flooding stage (Fig. 5a), the differences between flooded and non-flooded (in this order)
399 control treatments depended basically on putative AM fungi and actinomycetes, while flooded
400 and non-flooded (in this order) manure treatments were more related to NH_4^+ , NO_3^- contents
401 in soil solution and fungi. After the soil recovery phase (Fig. 5b), the differences between
402 treatments were less evident but changes in the same taxonomic groups were observed and
403 daily N_2O fluxes appeared to be more related to this in the non-flooded manure treatment. After
404 the flood stage at 14 °C (Fig. 5c), changes in non-flooded control and flooded control
405 treatments were more related to AM fungi, actinomycetes, Gram + bacteria and NO_3^- in soil

406 solution. The non-flooded manure treatment depended on shifts in protozoa, fungi, Gram –
407 bacteria and high concentrations in NH_4^+ in soil solution and the flooded manure with daily
408 CH_4 fluxes. Daily N_2O and CO_2 fluxes were important for one of the non-flooded manure
409 samples. As occurred at 6 °C, the differences due to the effect of the flooding were less clear
410 after the soil recovery (Fig. 5d).

411 NH_4^+ in soil solution was positively correlated with 16:1w7c ($r = 0.43$, $P = 0.035$) and
412 negatively with 16:0 10 methyl ($r = -0.49$, $P = 0.014$) after the flood stage. Positive correlations
413 between daily CO_2 / N_2O fluxes and several fatty acids were found after soil recovery stage
414 (total PLFAs, 15:0 anteiso, 16:1 w7c, 16:0, 17:0 cyclo w7c, 18:1 w9c, 18:1 w7c and 18:0 10
415 methyl). Additional correlations between daily GHG emissions and soil nutrients were also
416 observed: NH_4^+ was negatively correlated with NO_3^- ($r = -0.47$, $P = 0.022$, after the flood
417 stage, and $r = -0.40$, $P = 0.052$, after the soil recovery) in soil solution, and positively with
418 CO_2 ($r = 0.61$, $P = 0.002$) and N_2O ($r = 0.50$, $P = 0.014$) fluxes, after the flooding stage. Daily
419 CO_2 and N_2O fluxes were highly positively correlated ($r = 0.87$, $P < 0.001$) after the flood
420 stage. After the soil recovery stage, CH_4 - CO_2 ($r = 0.50$, $P = 0.005$) and N_2O - CO_2 ($r = 0.64$, P
421 < 0.001) were also positively correlated.

422

423 *3.7. Soil microbial community changes during simulated coastal flooding*

424 The SMB was higher after the flooding stage than after the soil recovery stage (Table
425 5). In addition, the SMB was reduced by saline water flooding and at the highest temperature
426 (14 °C). Flooding increased the content of putative AM fungi (after both stages) but reduced
427 protozoa after soil recovery. The highest temperature decreased the percentage of anaerobes
428 (after soil recovery), putative AM fungi (after both stages) and protozoa (after soil recovery)
429 and increased the content of Gram – bacteria (after soil recovery stage); Gram + bacteria were
430 altered in the opposite sense in each case. Lastly, broiler litter addition reduced Gram +

431 bacteria, actinomycetes, anaerobes and AM fungi after both stages, and protozoa after flooding
432 stage, but increased the proportion of Gram – bacteria and fungi after both stages (Table 5).
433 Changes in some PLFAs ratios are shown in Table A.4.

434 The PCA for the saline water mesocosms is shown in Fig. 6 After the flood stage at 6
435 °C (Fig. 6a), non-flooded control and flooded controls treatments (no clear differences between
436 them) were related with NO_3^- in soil solution, putative AM fungi, protozoa and fungi . On the
437 other hand, NH_4^+ in soil solution, actinomycetes, daily CO_2 flux and anaerobes were more
438 related to both the flooded manure and the non-flooded manure treatments (in this order). After
439 the soil recovery stage at 6 °C (Fig. 6b), non-flooded manure treatment and flooded manure
440 treatments (in this order) were related to putative AM fungi, actinomycetes, anaerobes and
441 Gram + bacteria, and non-flooded control and flooded control treatments (no differences
442 between them) to CO_2 and Gram – bacteria. Fungi and daily CH_4 fluxes were important to
443 differentiate between flooded and non-flooded manure treatments. Daily N_2O fluxes were
444 related with the flooded and non-flooded control treatments.

445 In the case of 14 °C after the flood stage (Fig. 6c), non-flooded control and flooded
446 control treatments (no differences between them) were more related with Gram + bacteria,
447 anaerobes, actinomycetes, daily N_2O fluxes and NO_3^- in soil solution. The non-flooded manure
448 treatment was best explained by changes in fungi, protozoa, daily CO_2 fluxes and NH_4^+ in soil
449 solution and in the flooded manure treatment by Gram – bacteria, NH_4^+ in soil solution and to
450 a lesser extent with daily CH_4 fluxes. After soil recovery (Fig. 6d) the results were quite similar
451 to those obtained after the soil flood stage but the differences between non-flooded manure and
452 flooded manure were less evident. Note the lack of effect of CH_4 fluxes.

453 Besides a negative correlation between NH_4^+ in soil solution and 16:0 10 methyl fatty
454 acid ($r = -0.44$, $P = 0.033$) and a positive one between NO_3^- and 16:0 iso ($r = 0.41$, $P = 0.045$)
455 found after flood stage, positive correlations between CO_2 fluxes and two fatty acids, 16:1w7c

456 ($r = 0.41$, $P = 0.045$) and 18:1w7c ($r = 0.43$, $P = 0.037$), and N₂O and 16:0 fatty acid ($r = 0.47$,
457 $P = 0.021$) after soil recovery stage, were found. Furthermore, NH₄⁺-NO₃⁻ were negatively
458 correlated after the flood stage ($r = -0.40$, $P = 0.052$), and CH₄-CO₂ ($r = 0.52$, $P = 0.010$) and
459 CO₂-N₂O ($r = 0.83$, $P < 0.001$) positively correlated after the soil recovery stage.

460

461 **4. Discussion**

462 *4.1. Impact of flood type on soil and water chemistry*

463 In most cases, the pH and EC of the floodwater and soil increased with time, although
464 these effects were relatively small. As pH affects many soil processes and represents a major
465 soil quality indicator, it suggests that pH may be an insensitive indicator of the damage caused
466 by flooding. Our results, using a close-to-neutral soil (pH 6.92, Table A.2), agree with
467 Ponnamperna (1972) who also showed that the pH of acidic soils increases under flooding
468 due to the consumption of protons in reduction processes (i.e. Fe(OH)₃→Fe²⁺, MnO₂→Mn²⁺).
469 This effect was more apparent in the manure treatments, presumably as its addition stimulated
470 microbial activity, enhanced O₂ depletion and induced greater reduction of metal
471 oxyhydroxides.

472 Elevated soil solution NH₄⁺ concentrations in the manure-amended soils were
473 attributable to the high uric acid and NH₄⁺ content in the broiler litter (Table A.3). This was
474 more obvious when saline water was applied to the soil, possibly due to competition from high
475 levels of added Na⁺ (459 mM), preventing NH₄⁺ sorption to soil cation exchange sites.
476 Although not shown by our data, the high soil salinity may have been cytotoxic, reducing the
477 rate of microbial N immobilization (Azam and Ifzal, 2006). It is also well established that
478 nitrification can be interrupted under anaerobic conditions (Nielsen et al., 1996), facilitating
479 the accumulation of NH₄⁺ in soil and its diffusion into the overlying floodwater. It is notable
480 that the concentrations of NH₄⁺ accumulated in our manure amended soils (ca. 3 mM) was

481 within the range known to repress root growth in crops such as *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Liu et
482 al., 2013), particularly when NO_3^- concentrations are very low (Zheng et al., 2015). This
483 suggests that the flooded fields should be left for a few weeks before attempting crop
484 establishment to allow any excess NH_4^+ to be nitrified. After floodwater removal and soil
485 drying, the accumulated NH_4^+ may also result in excessive discharge of NH_3 in high pH soils
486 and this warrants further investigation. Further, after O_2 is reintroduced into the soil a
487 significant release of N_2O may occur as a result of nitrification and denitrification processes,
488 particularly in soils close to field capacity (Nielsen et al., 1996). Despite these potential
489 negative effects, any N accumulated during an extreme flood event could be useful for plant
490 growth and should be accounted for prior to applying fertilizers.

491 Evidence of nitrification (increases in NO_3^- and associated N_2O emissions) was
492 observed for the unflooded treatments (control and/or manure) at both temperatures and for
493 both types of floodwater during the experiment. For the flooded treatments, nitrification was
494 only detected at the end of the soil recovery stage in the case of freshwater, because this process
495 is typically inhibited by the high water content (low oxygen status) of the soil. The absence of
496 nitrification in saline flooded soils after water removal could be due to the negative effect of
497 salts on the microbial community that facilitates the accumulation of NH_4^+ in the soil solution
498 in all cases (Blood et al., 1991). Nitrification is favoured at higher temperatures (with an
499 optimum at 25-35 °C; Focht and Verstraete, 1977); thereby, explaining the greater NO_3^-
500 concentrations observed at 14 °C during the 30-100 day period for unflooded treatments.
501 Denitrification usually occurs in anoxic conditions and could explain the decrease in NO_3^-
502 concentrations in the floodwater of flooded control treatments during the flood stage.

503

504 *4.2. Greenhouse gas emissions during simulated coastal flooding*

505 Broiler litter represents a labile source of C and N for the microbial community and,
506 therefore, a potential source of GHG emissions (Chadwick et al., 2011). The fluxes of CH₄
507 were only of significance for the non-flooded and flooded treatments at 14 °C in which broiler
508 litter was applied, being higher for soils flooded with freshwater than those inundated with
509 saline water (different orders of magnitude although no statistical analysis was done to compare
510 them). These emissions are directly related to the decomposition of organic matter under
511 anaerobic, highly reducing conditions (Bastone and Keller, 2003). The lack of CH₄ emissions
512 under the lower temperature regime probably reflects the reduced rates of microbial activity
513 and the presence of other more microbially-favourable terminal electron acceptors remaining
514 in the soil (NO₃⁻, Fe³⁺; Le Mer and Roger, 2007). The occurrence of CH₄ emissions in the
515 unflooded soils amended with manure indicated the presence of anaerobic zones, despite these
516 treatments being maintained at field capacity. A similar effect was also observed when
517 livestock slurry was injected into an aerated soil (Flessa and Beese, 2000). Alternatively, the
518 CH₄ release from soil after flood removal could be due to the slow release of CH₄ previously
519 trapped within the soil pore network as drying progresses (van der Gon et al., 1996).

520 The production of CH₄ requires a strong negative redox potential in soil (lower than
521 -100 mV), which is expected after several weeks of flooding, and in the presence of labile C
522 (Hou et al., 2000). This is consistent with the highest CH₄ daily fluxes being detected at the
523 end of the flood phase when alternative electronic acceptors have probably been exhausted
524 (e.g. NO₃⁻, Fe³⁺, SO₄²⁻). The different order of magnitude in CH₄ release observed for the two
525 types of flooding could be explained by the negative effect of the salinity on the functioning of
526 the microbial community (Blood et al., 1991), however, it is more likely that it is due to the
527 high concentration of SO₄²⁻ in seawater (28 mM) favouring sulphate reduction (SO₄²⁻ → H₂S)
528 over methanogenesis (CO₂ → CH₄). CH₄ emissions were not detected when the soil moisture

529 became drier (near 100 days of the experiment), indicating than aerobic conditions prevailed
530 in those soils.

531 Total CO₂ emissions were negatively affected by flooding and responded positively to
532 temperature and manure application, factors that are known to directly influence the microbial
533 turnover of soil organic matter. Indeed there was a clear increase in daily CO₂ fluxes after the
534 flooding stage at 14 °C (quicker in freshwater than saline water), as CH₄ fluxes decreased,
535 indicating the recovery of aerobic microbial activity as the soil oxygen status increased again.
536 In addition, methanotrophy may have marginally contributed to the increased release of CO₂
537 after water removal (Zhang et al., 2012).

538 In our experiment, denitrification processes were most likely responsible for the very
539 low NO₃⁻ concentrations in solution and the increased N₂O emissions at the beginning of the
540 experiment (lower NO₃⁻ concentrations than the respective non-flooded treatments; Hou et al.,
541 2000). The existence of peaks of N₂O emissions observed at the beginning of the flood phase
542 are in line with Hansen et al. (2014), who stated that these emissions are underestimated in
543 agricultural soils under anaerobic conditions. Once oxygen was reintroduced to the soil,
544 nitrification recommenced, promoting NO₃⁻ accumulation and N₂O emissions in previously
545 flooded treatments.

546

547 *4.3. Soil microbial community changes during simulated coastal flooding*

548 In line with previous studies, the PLFA biomarker approach proved useful to indicate
549 the effects of prolonged flooding on soil microbial community structure (Bossio and Scow,
550 1998; Ferré et al., 2012). The quantity of soil microorganisms and the structure (also ratios) of
551 the microbial community (PLFAs) varied as a function of fresh or saline water application.
552 Fierer et al. (2003) stated that microorganisms are strongly affected by soil water content,
553 temperature and organic matter among other parameters. Our results suggest that important

554 changes in soil microbial community occurred due to extreme flooding (80 d of inundation)
555 and that these changes persisted after flooding (observed more than 60 d of soil recovery).
556 Unger et al. (2009) suggested that these changes are proportional to the time that floodwater
557 remains on the soil. The decrease in microbial biomass at the end of the experiment could be
558 explained according to de Groot and Van Wijck (1993) because the soil became drier. In
559 addition, and as expected, flooding had negative consequences for PLFAs in both cases (after
560 flood and recovery phases) (Unger et al., 2009).

561 The increase in PLFA markers for Gram + bacteria (Zelles, 1999), including
562 actinomycetes (branched fatty acids), and the decrease in Gram – bacteria (monounsaturated
563 fatty acids) under flooding with freshwater agree with Bossio and Scow (1998) and Bai et al.
564 (2000), respectively. This also affected the ratio of Gram +/Gram – (Table A.4). Gram +
565 bacteria are assumed to be more resistant to stress (Guckert et al., 1985), but in our experiment
566 their concentration was not altered by flood in the saline water treatments. Flooding increased
567 the amount of putative AM fungi in the case of saline water. This was surprising, given the fact
568 that no plants were growing in the soil and lends further credibility to the assumption that the
569 PLFA markers for putative AM fungi (albeit very widely used) are not very specific (Sharma
570 and Buyer, 2015). Further, work is clearly required to critically test these PLFA markers against
571 specific molecular markers for AM fungi. Our results also indicated that soil fungal biomass
572 was not significantly reduced in spite of previous studies showing them to be negatively
573 affected by flooding (Bossio and Scow, 1995).

574 The variable effect that the temperature had on the percentage of the different
575 taxonomic groups after the flood stage contrasts with the general decrease observed in the
576 majority of groups associated with the dry soil at 14 °C at the end of the soil recovery stage.
577 These decreases were compensated by an increase in the percentages of Gram – bacteria, which
578 were more abundant in aerobic conditions for freshwater treatments (Guckert et al., 1985), and

579 in actinomycetes for saline water treatments. The percentages of Gram – bacteria and fungi
580 were increased by poultry manure addition, in contrast with the decrease observed in the
581 majority of the taxonomic groups for the two kind of flooding. This is because aerobic
582 heterotrophs are known to use organic substrates more efficiently than anaerobic
583 microorganisms (Baldwin and Mitchell, 2000). The percentages of anaerobic bacteria
584 (anaerobes) were reduced when the oxic conditions replaced anoxic ones, as previously
585 reported by Lynch and Hobbie (1988). The high manure nutrient content and its own intrinsic
586 microbial community are plausible reasons of the increase in total microbial biomass after its
587 application in freshwater treatments. Toyota and Kuninaga (2006) found that repeated
588 applications of manure generated a new soil microbial community, however, in this experiment
589 the microbial community significantly changed after only one application of broiler litter.

590 The precursor/cyclopropane fatty acids ratios as indicators of stress are described to
591 decrease at low O₂ availability and higher temperature (Knivett and Cullen, 1965). In our
592 results, it was observed only for temperature, especially after the soil recovery stage (Table
593 A.4). Our results, in which the precursor/cyclopropane ratios were higher after flood stage for
594 flooded soils treated with saline water, are different to those detailed in Knivett and Cullen
595 (1965).

596 The soils treated with manure were more associated with lower PLFA concentrations,
597 Gram – bacteria (especially in freshwater), higher GHG emissions, higher NH₄⁺ and lower
598 NO₃⁻ concentrations after flooding than their non-flooded counterparts. The positive
599 correlations between total PLFAs and some fatty acids, and daily CO₂/N₂O emissions after the
600 soil recovery phase in freshwater treatments are evidence of microbial processes, such as
601 nitrification. The differences between treatments were less evident after the soil recovery
602 phase, indicating that the soil microbial community may have recovered to some extent.

603 Between the fatty acids that were detected in our soil samples, we found biomarkers of
604 methanotrophs: type I (16:1 w7c). These are also found in ammonia-oxidizing bacteria (Bedard
605 and Knowles, 1989) that participate in the nitrification process (Kowalchuk and Stephen,
606 2001). In our experiment they were positively correlated with the soil solution NH_4^+ (high in
607 soil solution of flooded and non-flooded manure treatments) under freshwater but not under
608 saline water after the flood stage; and type II, 18:1 w9c (Bowman et al., 1991, 1993). These
609 two fatty acids are precursors of cyclopropane fatty acids under stress conditions. The lack of
610 a positive correlation between 16:1 w7c fatty acid and soil solution NH_4^+ concentration, besides
611 the lack of N_2O emissions of the flooded manure treatment under saline water during the soil
612 recovery, could be an indication of the negative effect of this kind of flooding on nitrification
613 after the water recedes although further work is needed to confirm this.

614

615 **5. Conclusions**

616 This study enhances our understanding of how extreme flood events alter soil
617 functioning and consequently the delivery of ecosystem services within agroecosystems. We
618 clearly show that different temperatures (winter/spring inundations), agricultural practices
619 (manure application) and sources of floodwater alter C and N cycling, GHG emissions and
620 microbial communities in different ways. This indicates that the precise response of soils to
621 flooding is likely to be highly dependent on the local edaphic and management conditions as
622 well as the typology of the flood event itself. It also suggests that the development of universal
623 strategies to minimize and alleviate the negative impact of flooding may prove difficult. On
624 balance, our results suggest that warmer flooding conditions result in greater negative impacts
625 on soil and water quality. Although simulated coastal flooding resulted in lower GHG
626 emissions than riverine flooding, the high salinity of marine waters may severely impact on
627 other key aspects of soil functioning, such as soil structural stability, mesofaunal activity and

628 plant growth. Further work is therefore needed to explore the longer-term effects of the
629 different flood typologies, particularly at the field scale, where their impact on a wider range
630 of soil properties and ecosystem services can be investigated.

631

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849

850 **Figure captions**

851 **Fig. 1.** Temporal dynamics (mean of three replicates per combination of factors) of NH_4^+ and
852 NO_3^- in soil solution as a function of treatments and temperature under freshwater application.
853 Vertical bars in the upper part of the figure represent Bonferroni values at $\alpha = 0.05$. The dashed
854 vertical line before 80 days indicates the separation between flood stage (left) and soil recovery
855 stage (right). The second dashed vertical line indicates the end of the soil recovery keeping soil
856 moisture at field capacity. C: control (without manure); C+F: control + flood (without manure);
857 M: manure application; M+F: manure application + flood.

858

859 **Fig. 2.** Temporal dynamics (mean of three replicates per combination of factors) of NH_4^+ and
860 NO_3^- in soil solution as a function of treatments and temperature under saline water application.
861 Vertical bars in the upper part of the figure represent Bonferroni values at $\alpha = 0.05$. The dashed
862 vertical line before 80 days indicates the separation between flood stage (left) and soil recovery
863 stage (right). The second dashed vertical line indicates the end of the soil recovery keeping soil
864 moisture at field capacity. C: control (without manure); C+F: control + flood (without manure);
865 M: manure application; M+F: manure application + flood.

866

867 **Fig. 3.** Daily greenhouse gas fluxes (mean of three replicates per combination of factors) as a
868 function of combination of factors for freshwater treatments. Vertical bars in the upper part of
869 the figure represent Bonferroni values at $\alpha = 0.05$. The dashed vertical line before 80 days
870 indicates the separation between flood stage (left) and soil recovery stage (right) and the dashed
871 vertical line before 100 days, between soil recovery stage in which soil samples were kept at

872 field capacity (left) and the last stage in which no water was added. C: control (without
873 manure); C+F: control + flood (without manure); M: manure application; M+F: manure
874 application + flood.

875

876 **Fig. 4.** Daily greenhouse gas fluxes (mean of three replicates per combination of factors) as a
877 function of combination of factors for saline water treatments. Vertical bars in the upper part
878 of the figure represent Bonferroni values at $\alpha = 0.05$. The dashed vertical line before 80 days
879 indicates the separation between flood stage (left) and soil recovery stage (right) and the dashed
880 vertical line before 100 days, between soil recovery stage in which soil samples were kept at
881 field capacity (left) and the last stage in which no water was added. C: control (without
882 manure); C+F: control + flood (without manure); M: manure application; M+F: manure
883 application + flood.

884

885 **Fig. 5.** Principal component analysis for PLFAs (taxonomic groups), daily GHG emissions,
886 and nutrients in soil solution (NH_4^+ , NO_3^-) after flood stage and after soil recovery stage as a
887 function of the combinations of factors for freshwater treatments after the flood stage and after
888 the soil recovery stage. The separation between treatments is shown at the left and the
889 corresponding loading of each variable included in the PCA at the right. C: control (without
890 manure); C+F: control + flood (without manure); M: manure application; M+F: manure
891 application + flood; circles and triangles are used for 6 °C, and squares and inverted triangles
892 for 14 °C; empty symbols for unflooded soils and full symbols for flooded soils. The percentage
893 of total variance explained by each principal component (PC) is shown in brackets.

894

895 **Fig. 6.** Principal component analysis for PLFAs (taxonomic groups), daily GHG emissions,
896 and nutrients in soil solution (NH_4^+ , NO_3^-) after flood stage and after soil recovery stage as a

897 function of the combinations of factors for saline water treatments after the flood stage and
898 after the soil recovery stage. The separation between treatments is shown at the left and the
899 corresponding loading of each variable included in the PCA at the right. C: control (without
900 manure); C+F: control + flood (without manure); M: manure application; M+F: manure
901 application + flood; circles and triangles are used for 6 °C, and squares and inverted triangles
902 for 14 °C; empty symbols for unflooded soils and full symbols for flooded soils. The percentage
903 of total variance explained by each principal component (PC) is shown in brackets.

Freshwater – Soil solution

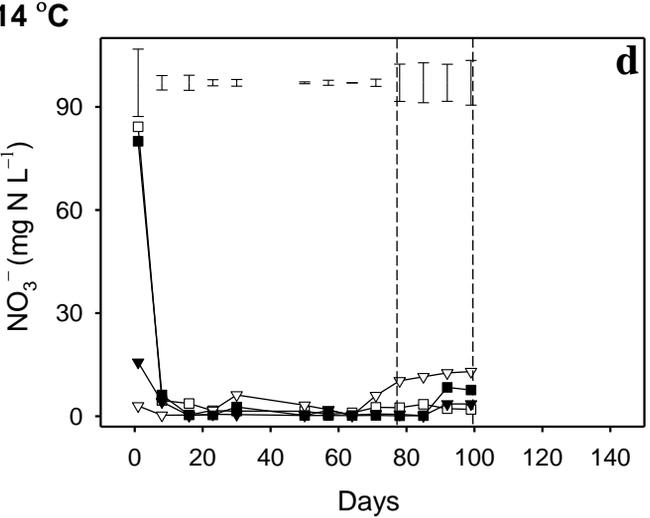
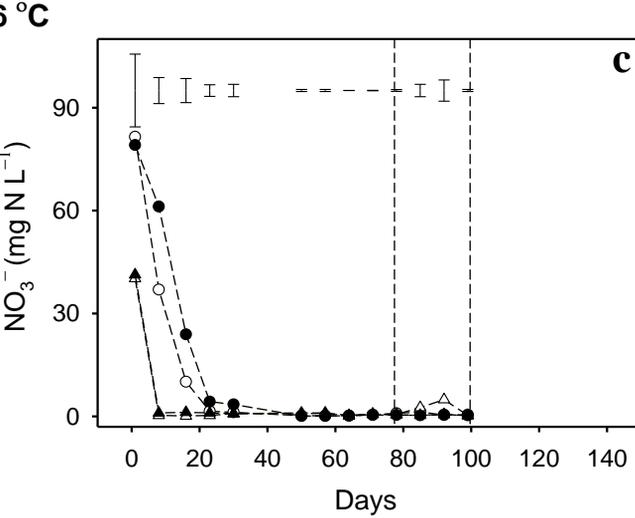
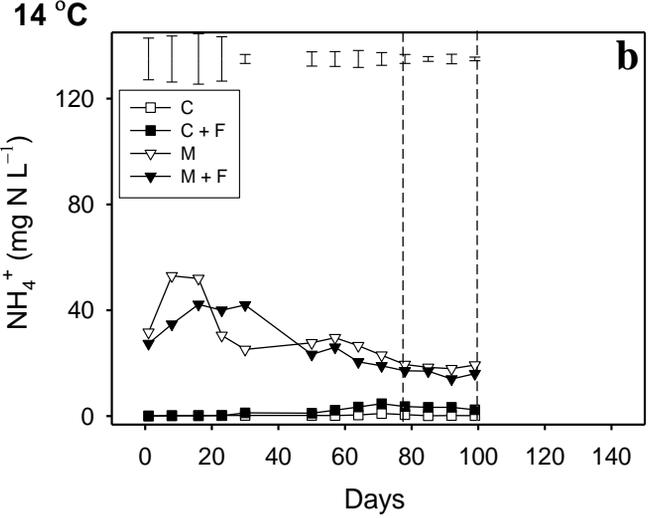
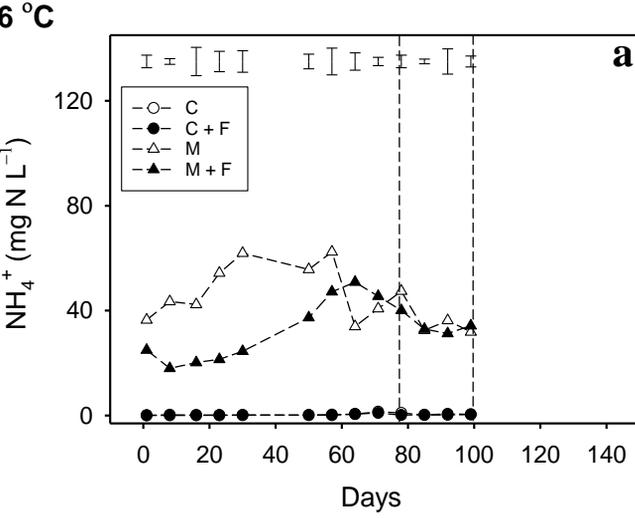


Figure 1

Saline water – Soil solution

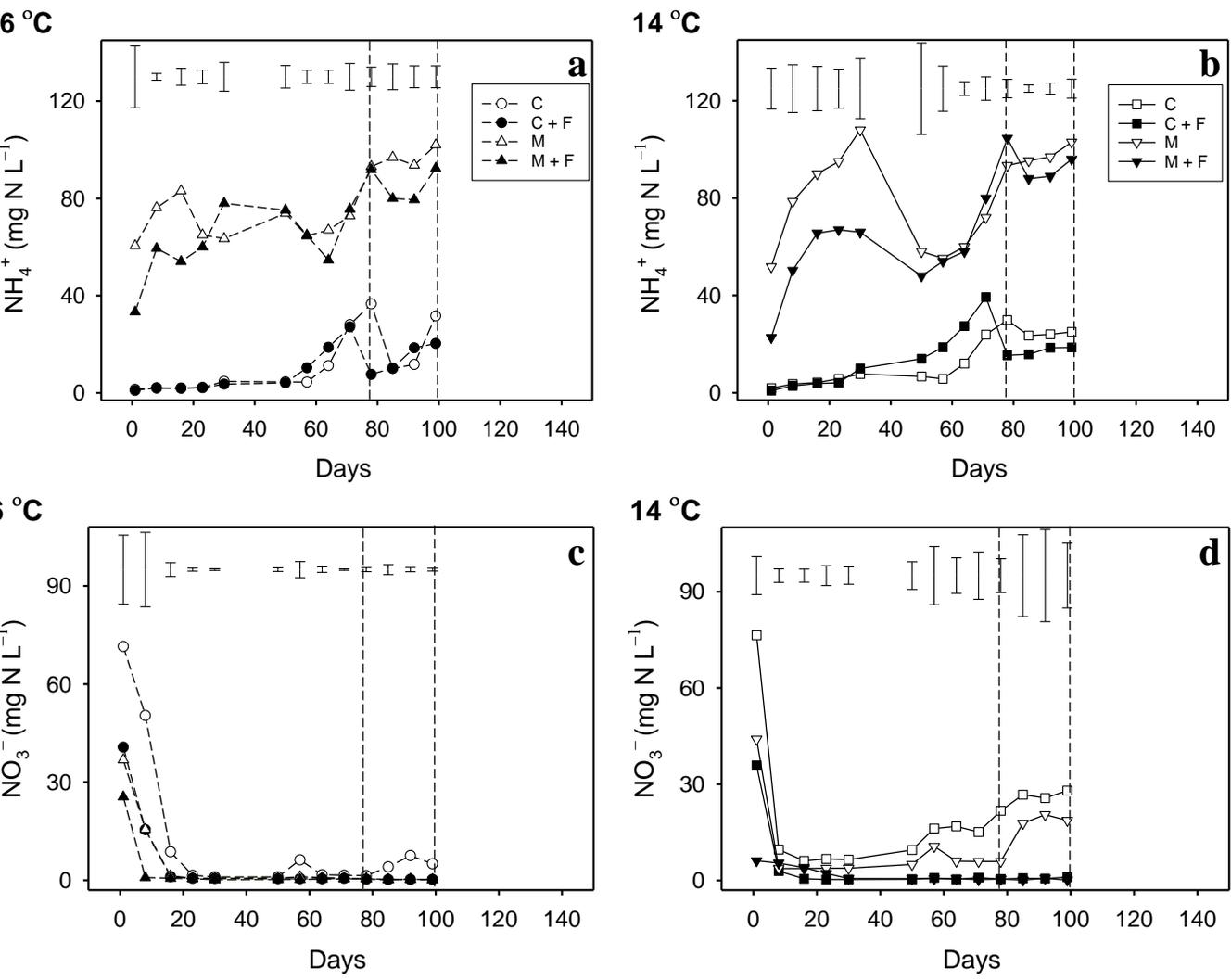


Figure 2

Freshwater – GHG daily fluxes

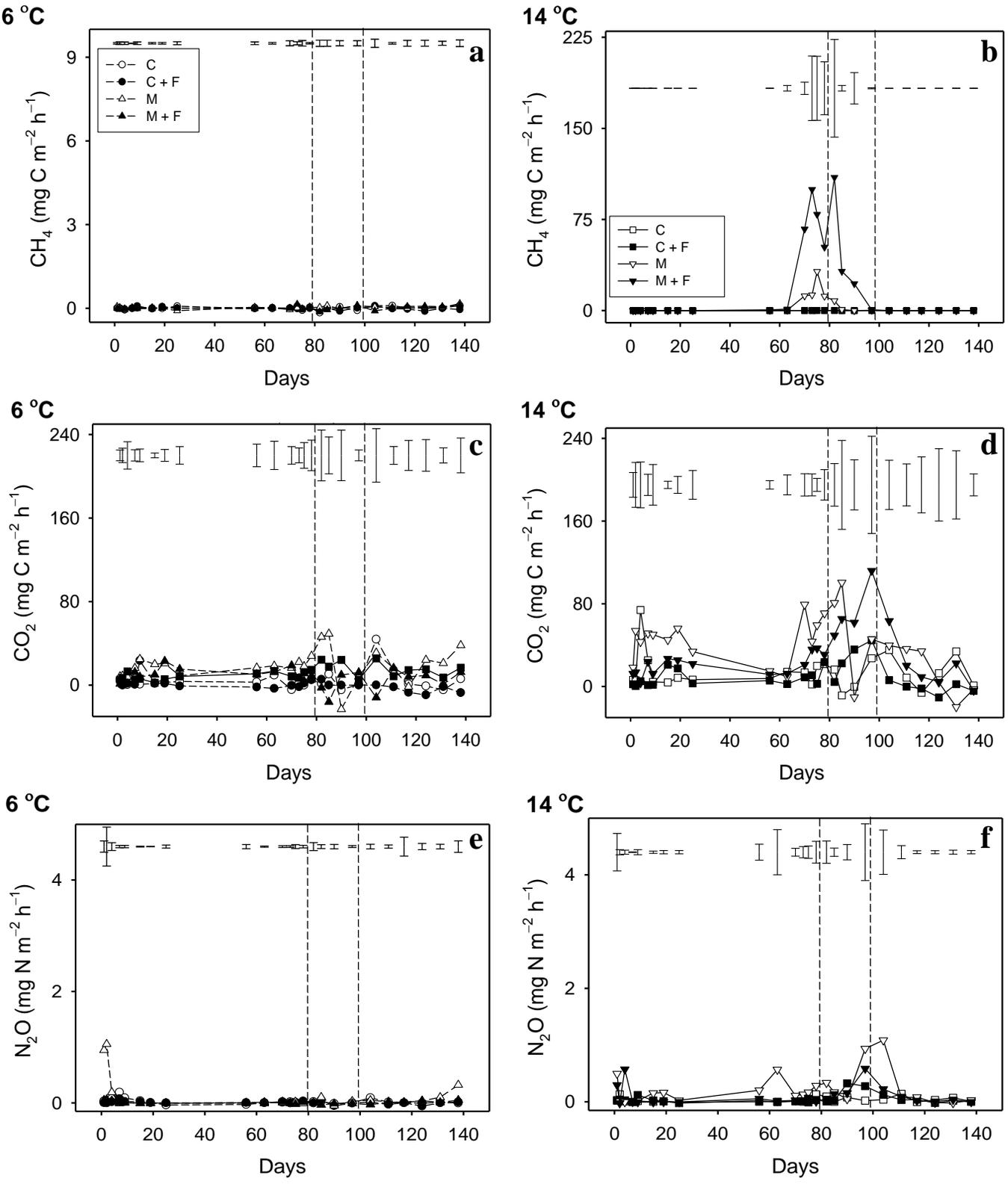


Figure 3

Saline water – GHG daily fluxes

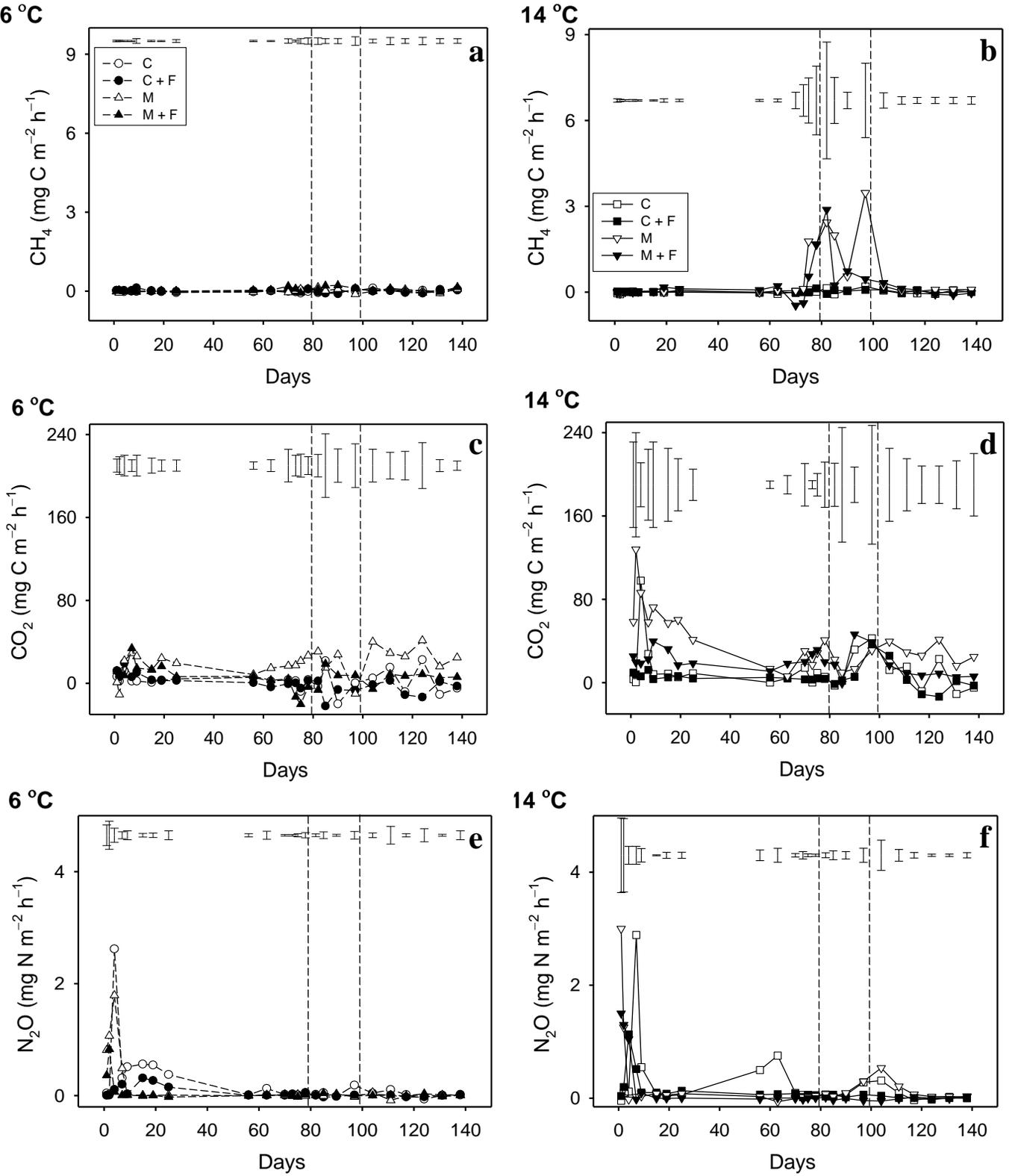


Figure 4

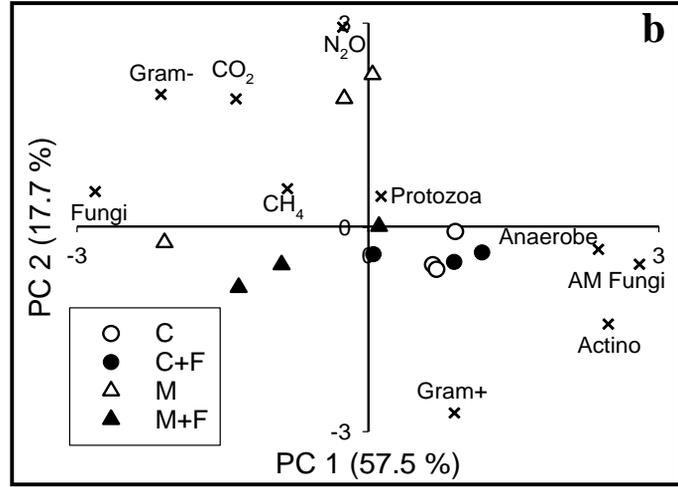
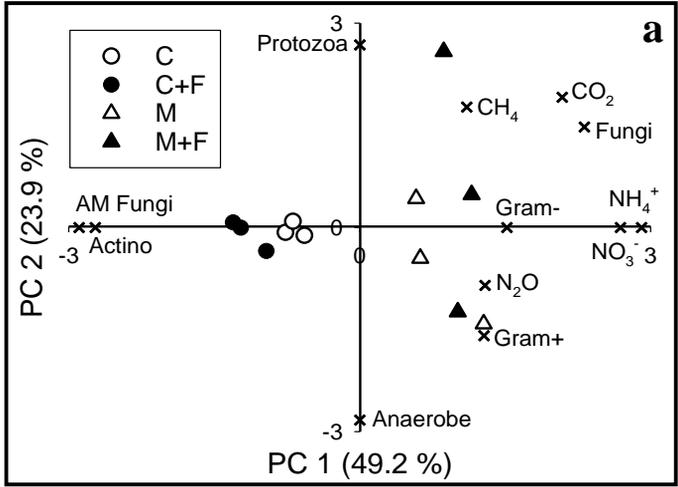
Freshwater

After flood stage

After soil recovery

6 °C

6 °C



14 °C

14 °C

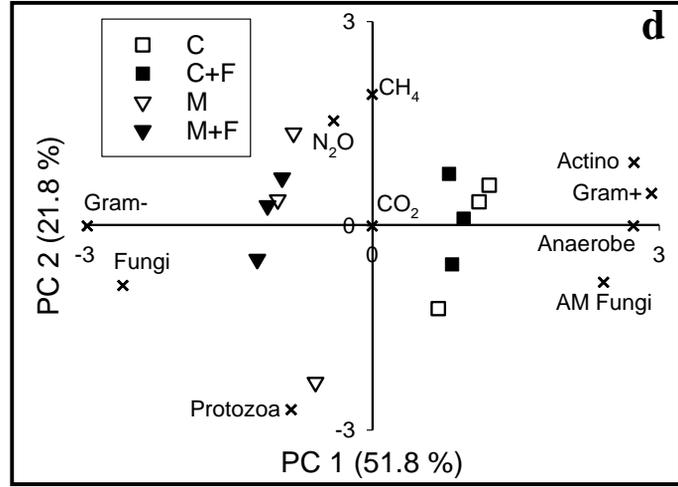
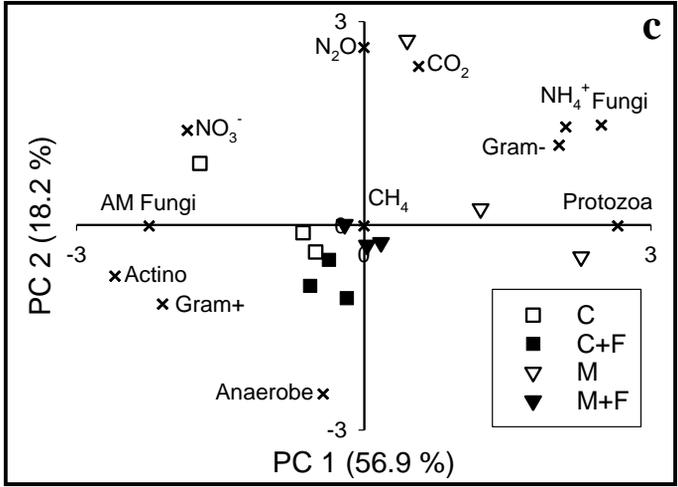


Figure 5

Saline water
After flood stage

After soil recovery

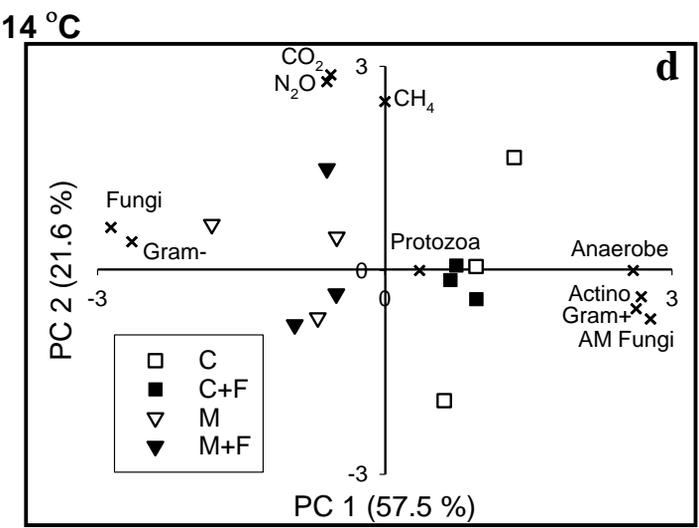
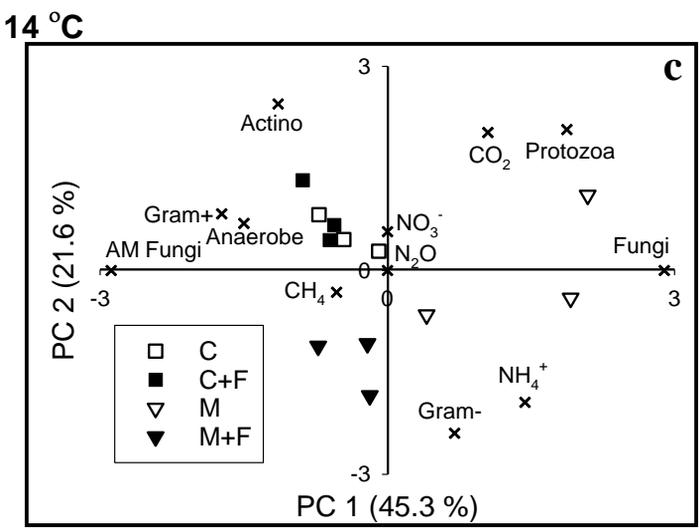
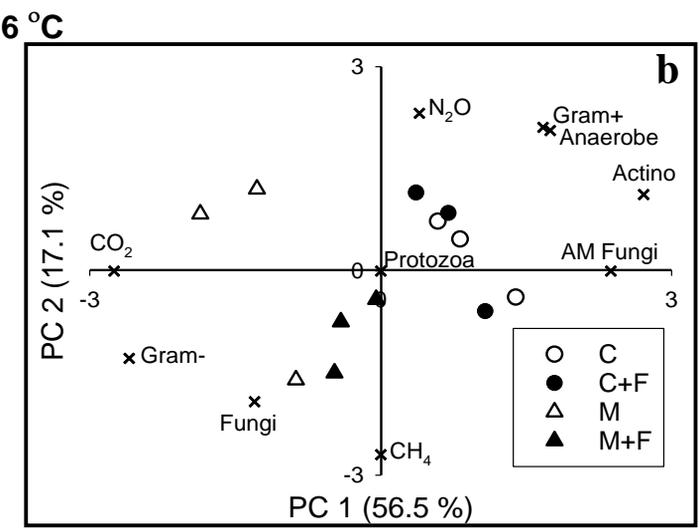
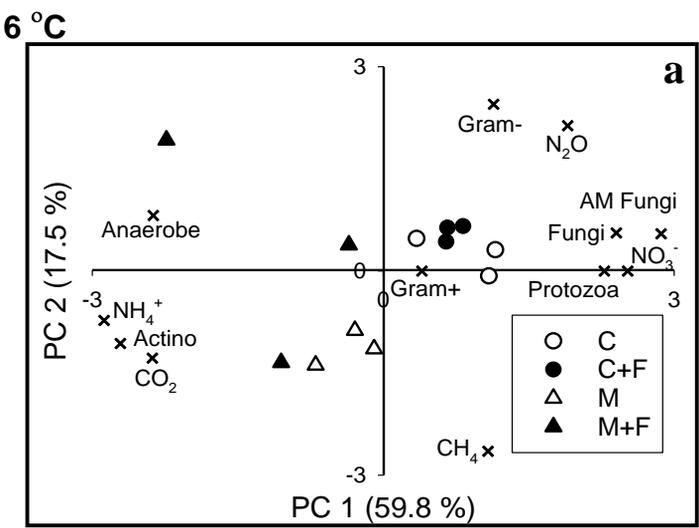


Figure 6

Table 1

Factorial analysis for flood water pH and EC (mean \pm standard error, n = 6, 12 flooded recipients per type of flood water) as a function of the temperature and manure addition at day 1 and at the end of the flood stage (day 77) under the two different simulated conditions, freshwater and saline water. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and Treatment x Manure is the *P* value of the interaction.

| Factor | pH | | EC (mS cm ⁻¹) | | |
|----------------------|----------|-----------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Day 1 | Day 77 | Day 1 | Day 77 | |
| Freshwater | | | | | |
| Temperature | 6 ° | 7.30 \pm 0.20 | 7.70 \pm 0.09 | 0.18 \pm 0.06 | 0.47 \pm 0.17 |
| | 14 ° | 7.11 \pm 0.16 | 7.85 \pm 0.09 | 0.13 \pm 0.03 | 0.39 \pm 0.12 |
| Manure | <i>P</i> | 0.359 | 0.146 | 0.060 | <0.001 |
| | C | 7.08 \pm 0.19 | 7.72 \pm 0.11 | 0.05 \pm 0.01 | 0.10 \pm 0.01 |
| Manure | <i>P</i> | 0.245 | 0.316 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| | M | 7.33 \pm 0.16 | 7.82 \pm 0.07 | 0.25 \pm 0.03 | 0.76 \pm 0.05 |
| Temperature x Manure | C x 6 ° | 6.92 \pm 0.22 | 7.51 \pm 0.05 | | 0.08 \pm 0.01 |
| | C x 14 ° | 7.24 \pm 0.32 | 7.94 \pm 0.11 | | 0.12 \pm 0.01 |
| | M x 6 ° | 7.68 \pm 0.04 | 7.89 \pm 0.04 | | 0.86 \pm 0.03 |
| | M x 14 ° | 6.98 \pm 0.09 | 7.76 \pm 0.14 | | 0.66 \pm 0.01 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.035 | 0.016 | 0.090 | <0.001 |
| Saline water | | | | | |
| Temperature | 6 ° | 7.42 \pm 0.04 | 7.43 \pm 0.18 | 25.80 \pm 1.50 | 30.78 \pm 1.10 |
| | 14 ° | 7.41 \pm 0.02 | 7.54 \pm 0.26 | 27.52 \pm 0.40 | 28.80 \pm 0.35 |
| Manure | <i>P</i> | 0.669 | 0.148 | 0.226 | 0.002 |
| | C | 7.36 \pm 0.03 | 7.00 \pm 0.06 | 28.00 \pm 0.13 | 30.78 \pm 1.10 |
| Manure | <i>P</i> | 0.009 | <0.001 | 0.074 | 0.002 |
| | M | 7.47 \pm 0.02 | 7.97 \pm 0.07 | 25.32 \pm 1.40 | 28.80 \pm 0.34 |
| Temperature x Manure | C x 6 ° | | 7.04 \pm 0.12 | | 33.17 \pm 0.52 |
| | C x 14 ° | | 6.97 \pm 0.05 | | 28.40 \pm 0.32 |
| | M x 6 ° | | 7.82 \pm 0.03 | | 28.40 \pm 0.23 |
| | M x 14 ° | | 8.12 \pm 0.06 | | 29.20 \pm 0.60 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.187 | 0.032 | 0.210 | <0.001 |

C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha⁻¹).

Table 2

Factorial analysis of potential losses of nutrients (mean \pm standard error, n = 6, 12 flooded recipients per kind of water) as a function of the temperature and manure addition at the end of the experiment under the two different simulated conditions of flooding, freshwater and saline water. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and Treatment x Manure is the *P* value of the interaction.

| Factor | | NH ₄ ⁺ (g m ⁻²) | NO ₃ ⁻ (g m ⁻²) |
|----------------------|----------|---|---|
| Freshwater | | | |
| Temperature | 6 ° | 3.1 \pm 1.4 | 3.2 \pm 0.6 |
| | 14 ° | 3.3 \pm 1.3 | 2.7 \pm 0.7 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.621 | 0.149 |
| Manure | C | 0.2 \pm 0.1 | 4.3 \pm 0.3 |
| | M | 6.2 \pm 1.9 | 1.6 \pm 0.3 |
| | <i>P</i> | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.849 | 0.338 |
| Saline water | | | |
| Temperature | 6 ° | 6.2 \pm 2.1 | 3.2 \pm 0.6 |
| | 14 ° | 6.7 \pm 2.1 | 2.1 \pm 0.8 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.091 | 0.043 |
| Manure | C | 1.8 \pm 0.2 | 4.0 \pm 1.7 |
| | M | 11.0 \pm 0.2 | 1.4 \pm 0.5 |
| | <i>P</i> | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.780 | 0.181 |

C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha⁻¹).

Table 3

Factorial analysis for cumulative GHG fluxes and total global warming potential (GWP, expressed in g of CO₂ equivalents; mean ± standard error, n = 12, 24 recipients per type of flood water) at the end of the experiment as a function of flood, temperature and manure under the two different simulated conditions, freshwater and saline water. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and the *P* values for the combination of factors is shown after Interactions (*P*).

| Factor | | CH ₄ g C m ⁻² | CO ₂ g C m ⁻² | N ₂ O g N m ⁻² | GWP g C-CO ₂ m ⁻² |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Freshwater | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 1.2 ± 0.9 | 53.8 ± 10.5 | 0.25 ± 0.08 | 167.7 ± 53.0 |
| | Flood | 9.4 ± 5.4 | 35.5 ± 11.6 | 0.11 ± 0.04 | 367.2 ± 192.2 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.011 | 0.002 | 0.001 | 0.048 |
| Temperature | 6 ° | 0.02 ± 0.02 | 22.8 ± 7.4 | 0.06 ± 0.02 | 41.3 ± 13.2 |
| | 14 ° | 10.5 ± 4.7 | 66.5 ± 11.0 | 0.30 ± 0.07 | 493.6 ± 179.2 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.002 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Manure | C | 0.01 ± 0.02 | 18.4 ± 5.8 | 0.08 ± 0.02 | 42.3 ± 10.6 |
| | M | 10.6 ± 5.3 | 70.9 ± 10.1 | 0.28 ± 0.08 | 492.7 ± 179.6 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.002 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | |
| | Flood x Temperature | 0.011 | 0.211 | 0.488 | 0.013 |
| | Flood x Manure | 0.011 | 0.858 | 0.002 | 0.033 |
| | Temperature x Manure | 0.002 | 0.016 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| | 3 factors | 0.012 | 0.812 | 0.031 | 0.023 |
| Saline water | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 0.39 ± 0.30 | 50.0 ± 6.1 | 0.47 ± 0.06 | 201.6 ± 17.6 |
| | Flood | 0.26 ± 0.14 | 20.7 ± 7.1 | 0.15 ± 0.03 | 72.3 ± 10.6 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.542 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Temperature | 6 ° | 0.03 ± 0.02 | 22.6 ± 7.7 | 0.25 ± 0.06 | 97.8 ± 18.9 |
| | 14 ° | 0.62 ± 0.26 | 48.0 ± 10.3 | 0.36 ± 0.07 | 176.1 ± 23.4 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.012 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Manure | C | 0.02 ± 0.02 | 12.1 ± 4.1 | 0.43 ± 0.07 | 142.1 ± 23.9 |
| | M | 0.63 ± 0.26 | 58.5 ± 8.9 | 0.18 ± 0.04 | 131.8 ± 24.6 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.010 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.324 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | |
| | Flood x Temperature | 0.325 | 0.820 | 0.407 | 0.167 |
| | Flood x Manure | 0.484 | 0.008 | <0.001 | 0.187 |
| | Temperature x Manure | 0.021 | 0.160 | 0.723 | 0.017 |
| | 3 factors | 0.374 | 0.991 | 0.272 | 0.156 |

C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha⁻¹).

Table 4

Factorial analysis of the total amount of PLFAs and taxonomic groups (mean \pm standard error, n = 12, 24 recipients per type of flood water) after the flood and soil recovery stages for freshwater treatments. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and the *P* values for the combination of factors is shown after Interactions (*P*).

| Factor | | PLFA (nmol g ⁻¹) | Gram+ (%) | Gram- (%) | Actinomycetes (%) | Anaerobe (%) | AM Fungi (%) | Protozoa (%) | Fungi (%) |
|----------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| After flood stage | | | | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 224.5 \pm 8.2 | 26.5 \pm 0.3 | 48.1 \pm 0.7 | 16.3 \pm 0.50 | 1.45 \pm 0.08 | 4.44 \pm 0.12 | 2.27 \pm 0.17 | 1.00 \pm 0.13 |
| | Flood | 169.3 \pm 9.3 | 26.7 \pm 0.3 | 47.4 \pm 0.5 | 16.6 \pm 0.3 | 1.61 \pm 0.08 | 4.44 \pm 0.10 | 2.30 \pm 0.16 | 0.91 \pm 0.15 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.415 | 0.051 | 0.016 | 0.167 | 0.966 | 0.887 | 0.433 |
| Temperature | 6° | 214.0 \pm 12.9 | 26.8 \pm 0.3 | 47.2 \pm 0.5 | 16.6 \pm 0.4 | 1.53 \pm 0.08 | 4.49 \pm 0.13 | 2.28 \pm 0.17 | 1.14 \pm 0.17 |
| | 14° | 180.0 \pm 8.5 | 26.4 \pm 0.4 | 48.3 \pm 0.7 | 16.3 \pm 0.43 | 1.54 \pm 0.09 | 4.39 \pm 0.08 | 2.28 \pm 0.16 | 0.77 \pm 0.07 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.182 | 0.005 | 0.085 | 0.890 | 0.058 | 0.980 | 0.005 |
| Manure | C | 181.1 \pm 12.7 | 27.1 \pm 0.2 | 46.1 \pm 0.1 | 17.8 \pm 0.1 | 1.59 \pm 0.06 | 4.75 \pm 0.06 | 2.13 \pm 0.08 | 0.63 \pm 0.02 |
| | M | 212.7 \pm 9.3 | 26.1 \pm 0.4 | 49.4 \pm 0.5 | 15.1 \pm 0.2 | 1.47 \pm 0.10 | 4.13 \pm 0.04 | 2.43 \pm 0.21 | 1.28 \pm 0.14 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.005 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.299 | <0.001 | 0.169 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | | |
| Flood x Temperature | | 0.113 | 0.899 | 0.084 | 0.116 | 0.022 | 0.004 | 0.086 | 0.444 |
| Flood x Manure | | 0.003 | 0.249 | 0.013 | <0.001 | 0.434 | 0.032 | 0.768 | 0.329 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.409 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.815 | 0.334 | 0.002 | 0.278 | 0.017 |
| 3 factors | | 0.620 | 0.221 | 0.423 | 0.013 | 0.655 | 0.011 | 0.067 | 0.679 |
| After soil recovery | | | | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 139.6 \pm 3.9 | 25.4 \pm 0.4 | 48.4 \pm 0.8 | 16.8 \pm 0.4 | 1.41 \pm 0.07 | 4.62 \pm 0.09 | 2.26 \pm 0.13 | 1.04 \pm 0.08 |
| | Flood | 131.8 \pm 2.5 | 25.8 \pm 0.3 | 48.0 \pm 0.6 | 17.1 \pm 0.3 | 1.49 \pm 0.07 | 4.39 \pm 0.11 | 2.23 \pm 0.10 | 1.03 \pm 0.09 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.015 | 0.028 | <0.001 | 0.109 | 0.154 | 0.001 | 0.837 | 0.892 |
| Temperature | 6° | 143.3 \pm 3.3 | 25.9 \pm 0.3 | 48.3 \pm 0.7 | 16.6 \pm 0.4 | 1.56 \pm 0.04 | 4.51 \pm 0.10 | 2.12 \pm 0.09 | 0.99 \pm 0.10 |
| | 14° | 128.0 \pm 1.7 | 25.4 \pm 0.4 | 48.1 \pm 0.7 | 17.3 \pm 0.3 | 1.34 \pm 0.07 | 4.49 \pm 0.11 | 2.37 \pm 0.12 | 1.07 \pm 0.08 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.003 | 0.027 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.735 | 0.158 | 0.311 |
| Manure | C | 132.2 \pm 3.1 | 26.6 \pm 0.1 | 46.0 \pm 0.1 | 18.1 \pm 0.1 | 1.59 \pm 0.03 | 4.78 \pm 0.03 | 2.22 \pm 0.09 | 0.79 \pm 0.05 |
| | M | 139.1 \pm 3.6 | 24.7 \pm 0.3 | 50.4 \pm 0.3 | 15.8 \pm 0.2 | 1.31 \pm 0.07 | 4.22 \pm 0.08 | 2.27 \pm 0.13 | 1.27 \pm 0.05 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.027 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.734 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | | |
| Flood x Temperature | | 0.049 | 0.004 | <0.001 | 0.349 | 0.563 | 0.005 | 0.549 | 0.460 |
| Flood x Manure | | 0.384 | 0.009 | <0.001 | 0.100 | 0.692 | 0.356 | 0.486 | 0.541 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.439 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.002 | 0.007 | 0.869 | 0.232 | 0.335 |
| 3 factors | | 0.164 | 0.005 | <0.001 | 0.676 | 0.446 | 0.040 | 0.445 | 0.985 |

C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha⁻¹)

Table 5

Factorial analysis of the total amount of PLFAs and taxonomic groups (mean \pm standard error, n = 12, 24 recipients per type of flood water) after the flooding and recovery stages for saline water treatments. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and the *P* values for the combination of factors is shown after Interactions (*P*).

| Factor | | PLFA (nmol g ⁻¹) | Gram+ (%) | Gram- (%) | Actinomycetes (%) | Anaerobe (%) | AM Fungi (%) | Protozoa (%) | Fungi (%) |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| After flood stage | | | | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 178.2 \pm 8.3 | 28.5 \pm 0.3 | 45.5 \pm 0.7 | 17.1 \pm 0.4 | 1.74 \pm 0.08 | 3.97 \pm 0.09 | 2.03 \pm 0.15 | 1.26 \pm 0.17 |
| | Flood | 142.1 \pm 7.0 | 28.1 \pm 0.2 | 46.4 \pm 0.6 | 16.7 \pm 0.4 | 1.71 \pm 0.09 | 4.12 \pm 0.06 | 1.96 \pm 0.10 | 1.07 \pm 0.12 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.096 | 0.085 | 0.162 | 0.647 | 0.011 | 0.627 | 0.080 |
| Temperature | 6° | 177.7 \pm 8.3 | 28.1 \pm 0.2 | 45.8 \pm 0.6 | 17.1 \pm 0.3 | 1.66 \pm 0.09 | 4.25 \pm 0.04 | 1.93 \pm 0.11 | 1.22 \pm 0.12 |
| | 14° | 142.5 \pm 7.2 | 28.5 \pm 0.2 | 46.0 \pm 0.7 | 16.6 \pm 0.5 | 1.78 \pm 0.07 | 3.85 \pm 0.07 | 2.05 \pm 0.15 | 1.11 \pm 0.17 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.042 | 0.707 | 0.132 | 0.075 | <0.001 | 0.375 | 0.292 |
| Manure | C | 161.8 \pm 10.6 | 28.8 \pm 0.2 | 44.1 \pm 0.2 | 18.1 \pm 0.1 | 1.91 \pm 0.05 | 4.17 \pm 0.06 | 2.15 \pm 0.05 | 0.79 \pm 0.03 |
| | M | 158.4 \pm 7.9 | 27.8 \pm 0.2 | 47.8 \pm 0.4 | 15.6 \pm 0.3 | 1.53 \pm 0.07 | 3.93 \pm 0.09 | 1.83 \pm 0.16 | 1.55 \pm 0.14 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.609 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.030 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Flood x Temperature | 0.555 | 0.309 | 0.540 | 0.723 | 0.563 | 0.039 | 0.060 | 0.004 |
| | Flood x Manure | 0.002 | 0.100 | 0.923 | 0.983 | 0.874 | 0.163 | 0.100 | 0.086 |
| | Temperature x Manure | 0.832 | 0.346 | 0.633 | 0.159 | 0.180 | 0.447 | 0.065 | 0.662 |
| | 3 factors | 0.648 | 0.063 | 0.590 | 0.674 | 0.001 | 0.177 | 0.021 | 0.015 |
| After soil recovery | | | | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 126.2 \pm 4.2 | 27.5 \pm 0.5 | 47.3 \pm 1.1 | 16.7 \pm 0.6 | 1.54 \pm 0.11 | 3.59 \pm 0.12 | 2.19 \pm 0.10 | 1.30 \pm 0.19 |
| | Flood | 116.8 \pm 2.7 | 27.0 \pm 0.4 | 48.4 \pm 1.1 | 16.3 \pm 0.6 | 1.54 \pm 0.07 | 3.72 \pm 0.14 | 1.92 \pm 0.10 | 1.11 \pm 0.12 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.050 | 0.308 | 0.151 | 0.311 | 0.982 | 0.041 | 0.034 | 0.298 |
| Temperature | 6° | 127.9 \pm 2.7 | 27.8 \pm 0.2 | 46.3 \pm 0.7 | 16.7 \pm 0.5 | 1.62 \pm 0.09 | 3.98 \pm 0.09 | 2.28 \pm 0.08 | 1.36 \pm 0.17 |
| | 14° | 115.2 \pm 3.8 | 26.7 \pm 0.5 | 49.4 \pm 1.3 | 16.3 \pm 0.7 | 1.45 \pm 0.08 | 3.33 \pm 0.09 | 1.84 \pm 0.09 | 1.05 \pm 0.14 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.012 | 0.011 | <0.001 | 0.287 | 0.025 | <0.001 | 0.002 | 0.093 |
| Manure | C | 122.7 \pm 4.0 | 28.2 \pm 0.2 | 44.9 \pm 0.3 | 18.3 \pm 0.1 | 1.77 \pm 0.04 | 3.88 \pm 0.08 | 2.11 \pm 0.09 | 0.87 \pm 0.11 |
| | M | 120.4 \pm 3.6 | 26.3 \pm 0.4 | 50.8 \pm 0.9 | 14.7 \pm 0.4 | 1.30 \pm 0.07 | 3.43 \pm 0.14 | 2.01 \pm 0.13 | 1.53 \pm 0.15 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.615 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.419 | 0.002 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Flood x Temperature | 0.313 | 0.328 | 0.206 | 0.059 | 0.014 | 0.042 | 0.934 | 0.596 |
| | Flood x Manure | 0.225 | 0.608 | 0.959 | 0.870 | 0.429 | 0.085 | 0.088 | 0.161 |
| | Temperature x Manure | 0.465 | 0.046 | 0.100 | 0.212 | 0.780 | 0.054 | 0.939 | 0.466 |
| | 3 factors | 0.867 | 0.466 | 0.872 | 0.246 | 0.233 | 0.025 | 0.943 | 0.607 |

C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha⁻¹).



Fig. A.1. Recent riverine flooding of agricultural fields within the local region of this study.



Fig. A.2. Recent coastal flooding of low lying agricultural fields within the local region of this study.

Table A.1

Fatty acids (>0.5 % of the total PLFAs) considered in the study as biomarkers for the different taxonomic groups.

| Biomarker | Taxonomic group | References |
|--|--|---|
| 14:0 ISO, 14:0 anteiso, 15:0 ISO, 15:0 anteiso, 15:1 iso w6c, 16:0 iso, 17:0 iso, 17:0 anteiso, 17:1 iso w9c, 18:0 iso | Prokaryotes: Gram+ bacteria | Ratledge and Wilkinson (1988), Kieft et al. (1994), Paul and Clark (1996), Zelles (1999), Olsson et al. (1999), Bartelt-Ryser et al. (2005) |
| 16:1w6c, 16:1w7c, 16:1w9c, 17:1w8c, 17:0 cyclo w7c, 18:1w5c, 18:1 w9c, 18:1w7c, 19:0 cyclo w7c | Prokaryotes: Gram- bacteria | Kieft et al. (1994), Paul and Clark (1996), Zelles (1999) |
| 16:0 10 methyl, 17:0 10 methyl, 17:1w7c 10 methyl, 18:0 10 methyl, 18:1w7c 10 methyl | Prokaryotes: actinomycetes, Gram+ bacteria | Zelles (1999) |
| 15:0 DMA | Prokaryotes: Anaerobic bacteria | |
| 20:4w6 | Eukaryotes: protozoa | Paul and Clark (1996) |
| 18:2w6c | Eukaryotes: fungi | Paul and Clark (1996) |
| 16:1w5c, 20:1w9c | Eukaryotes: arbuscular mycorrhiza, fungi | Olson et al. (1999), Madan et al. (2002) |
| 15:0, 16:0, 17:0, 18:0, 20:0, 22:0 | Not assigned to a taxonomic group | Ratledge and Wilkinson (1988), Niklaus et al. (2003) |

Table A.2Soil (0-15 cm) and floodwater properties (mean \pm standard error, n=4).

| Property | Soil | Freshwater | Saline water |
|---|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Particle size: sand/silt/clay (g kg ⁻¹) | 510/300/190 | | |
| Organic matter (g kg ⁻¹) | 78 \pm 5 | | |
| Total C (g kg ⁻¹) | 34 \pm 3 | | |
| Total N (g kg ⁻¹) | 3.4 \pm 0.3 | | |
| Extractable P (mg kg ⁻¹) | 38 \pm 4 | | |
| Extractable K (mg kg ⁻¹) | 122 \pm 11 | | |
| pH | 6.92 \pm 0.28 | 6.45 \pm 0.05 | 7.33 \pm 0.01 |
| EC (mS cm ⁻¹) | 0.10 \pm 0.03 | 0.03 \pm 0.00 | 29.33 \pm 0.03 |
| NH ₄ ⁺ (mg l ⁻¹) | | 0.27 \pm 0.02 | 3.42 \pm 0.18 |
| NO ₃ ⁻ (mg l ⁻¹) | | 1.09 \pm 0.01 | 1.06 \pm 0.02 |
| PO ₄ ⁻³ (mg l ⁻¹) | | 0.07 \pm 0.01 | 0.84 \pm 0.03 |

Table A.3

Manure properties (fresh weight basis, mean \pm standard error, n=3).

| Property | |
|---|-----------------|
| Dry matter (g kg ⁻¹) | 483.7 \pm 0.9 |
| Total N (g kg ⁻¹) | 27.6 \pm 0.00 |
| Total C (g kg ⁻¹) | 211.7 \pm 0.7 |
| C:N | 8:1 |
| NO ₃ ⁻ (mg N kg ⁻¹) | <10 |
| NH ₄ ⁺ (mg N kg ⁻¹) | 4105 \pm 63 |
| Uric acid-N (g kg ⁻¹) | 6.6 \pm 0.2 |
| Total P (g kg ⁻¹) | 8.2 \pm 0.1 |
| Total K (g kg ⁻¹) | 19.0 \pm 1.0 |
| pH (1:6) | 5.54 \pm 0.07 |

Table A.4.A

Factorial analysis of PLFAs ratios (mean, n = 12 recipients, 3 replications per combination of factors) after flood stage and after soil recovery stage for freshwater treatments. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and the *P* values for the combination of factors is shown after Interactions (*P*).

| Factor | | Fungi/Bacteria | Predator/Prey | Gram+/Gram- | Sat/Unsat | Mono/Poly | 16/17cyclo | 18/19cyclo |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Freshwater | | | | | | | | |
| After flood stage | | | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 0.075 | 0.031 | 0.888 | 0.846 | 16.26 | 3.17 | 2.08 |
| | Flood | 0.074 | 0.032 | 0.911 | 0.853 | 16.71 | 3.02 | 2.05 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.669 | 0.837 | 0.074 | 0.632 | 0.655 | 0.364 | 0.323 |
| Temperature | 6 °C | 0.078 | 0.032 | 0.915 | 0.848 | 15.66 | 3.34 | 2.02 |
| | 14 °C | 0.071 | 0.031 | 0.884 | 0.851 | 17.31 | 2.85 | 2.10 |
| <i>P</i> | | <0.001 | 0.867 | 0.002 | 0.777 | 0.117 | 0.008 | 0.037 |
| Manure | C | 0.075 | 0.030 | 0.968 | 0.862 | 17.88 | 2.67 | 1.89 |
| | M | 0.073 | 0.033 | 0.831 | 0.837 | 15.08 | 3.52 | 2.24 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.178 | 0.318 | <0.001 | 0.063 | 0.013 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | |
| Flood x Temperature | | 0.033 | 0.090 | 0.159 | 0.160 | 0.117 | 0.716 | 0.097 |
| Flood x Manure | | 0.703 | 0.698 | 0.008 | 0.018 | 0.645 | 0.013 | 0.008 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.324 | 0.313 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.919 | 0.149 | 0.001 |
| 3 factors | | 0.465 | 0.079 | 0.703 | 0.298 | 0.155 | 0.734 | 0.943 |
| After soil recovery | | | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 0.078 | 0.031 | 0.873 | 0.810 | 16.01 | 2.90 | 2.05 |
| | Flood | 0.075 | 0.031 | 0.891 | 0.826 | 15.97 | 2.96 | 1.99 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.007 | 0.832 | 0.008 | 0.165 | 0.958 | 0.533 | 0.114 |
| Temperature | 6 °C | 0.076 | 0.029 | 0.877 | 0.791 | 16.99 | 3.49 | 2.14 |
| | 14 °C | 0.077 | 0.033 | 0.888 | 0.844 | 14.98 | 2.36 | 1.90 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.216 | 0.145 | 0.081 | <0.001 | 0.033 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Manure | C | 0.079 | 0.031 | 0.970 | 0.849 | 16.58 | 2.69 | 1.89 |
| | M | 0.075 | 0.031 | 0.797 | 0.787 | 15.40 | 3.16 | 2.15 |
| <i>P</i> | | 0.002 | 0.864 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.190 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | |
| Flood x Temperature | | 0.064 | 0.506 | <0.001 | 0.119 | 0.904 | 0.060 | 0.108 |
| Flood x Manure | | 0.967 | 0.506 | <0.001 | 0.022 | 0.862 | 0.146 | 0.327 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.731 | 0.217 | 0.012 | 0.003 | 0.816 | <0.001 | 0.970 |
| 3 factors | | 0.119 | 0.451 | 0.024 | 0.165 | 0.471 | 0.782 | 0.304 |

C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha⁻¹).

Table A.4.B

Factorial analysis of PLFAs ratios (mean, n = 12 recipients, 3 replications per combination of factors) after flood stage and after soil recovery stage for saline water treatments. *P* is the *P* value for each factor and the *P* values for the combination of factors is shown after Interactions (*P*).

| Factor | | Fungi/Bacteria | Predator/Prey | Gram+/Gram- | Sat/Unsat | Mono/Poly | 16/17cyclo | 18/19cyclo |
|---|-----------|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | Saline water | | | | | | |
| | | After flood stage | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 0.072 | 0.028 | 0.999 | 0.933 | 15.62 | 2.61 | 1.92 |
| | Flood | 0.071 | 0.027 | 0.960 | 0.912 | 16.75 | 2.91 | 2.08 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.422 | 0.571 | 0.050 | 0.031 | 0.126 | 0.025 | 0.008 |
| Temperature | 6 °C | 0.076 | 0.027 | 0.980 | 0.899 | 15.94 | 2.77 | 2.03 |
| | 14 °C | 0.068 | 0.028 | 0.980 | 0.946 | 16.42 | 2.75 | 1.98 |
| | <i>P</i> | < 0.001 | 0.473 | 0.993 | < 0.001 | 0.501 | 0.845 | 0.411 |
| Manure | C | 0.070 | 0.030 | 1.058 | 0.949 | 16.23 | 2.42 | 1.87 |
| | M | 0.074 | 0.025 | 0.902 | 0.896 | 16.14 | 3.10 | 2.13 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.012 | 0.016 | < 0.001 | < 0.001 | 0.899 | < 0.001 | < 0.002 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | |
| Flood x Temperature | | 0.030 | 0.071 | 0.739 | 0.353 | 0.003 | 0.968 | 0.387 |
| Flood x Manure | | 0.221 | 0.116 | 0.505 | 0.032 | 0.017 | 0.740 | 0.125 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.855 | 0.083 | 0.347 | 0.181 | 0.352 | 0.009 | 0.086 |
| 3 factors | | 0.053 | 0.031 | 0.353 | 0.159 | 0.002 | 0.584 | 0.842 |
| | | After soil recovery | | | | | | |
| Flood | Non flood | 0.067 | 0.030 | 0.937 | 0.906 | 14.88 | 2.74 | 1.94 |
| | Flood | 0.066 | 0.026 | 0.899 | 0.891 | 17.02 | 2.98 | 2.07 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.553 | 0.033 | 0.158 | 0.255 | 0.043 | 0.176 | 0.140 |
| Temperature | 6 °C | 0.074 | 0.032 | 0.958 | 0.880 | 14.31 | 2.98 | 2.12 |
| | 14 °C | 0.059 | 0.025 | 0.878 | 0.917 | 17.59 | 2.74 | 1.89 |
| | <i>P</i> | < 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.006 | 0.012 | 0.004 | 0.197 | 0.014 |
| Manure | C | 0.067 | 0.030 | 1.030 | 0.943 | 16.43 | 2.28 | 1.77 |
| | M | 0.066 | 0.027 | 0.806 | 0.853 | 15.48 | 3.44 | 2.23 |
| | <i>P</i> | 0.706 | 0.108 | < 0.001 | < 0.001 | 0.343 | < 0.001 | <0.001 |
| Interactions (<i>P</i>) | | | | | | | | |
| Flood x Temperature | | 0.712 | 0.886 | 0.123 | 0.226 | 0.868 | 0.134 | 0.120 |
| Flood x Manure | | 0.377 | 0.111 | 0.715 | 0.559 | 0.096 | 0.843 | 0.583 |
| Temperature x Manure | | 0.948 | 0.884 | 0.161 | 0.082 | 0.561 | 0.102 | 0.147 |
| 3 factors | | 0.618 | 0.879 | 0.956 | 0.700 | 0.938 | 0.403 | 0.138 |
| C: control without manure; M: broiler litter application (9.1 ton ha ⁻¹). | | | | | | | | |