

## ***Interactive comment on “Biochar’s effect on soil nitrous oxide emissions from a maize field with lime-adjusted pH treatment” by R. Hüppi et al.***

**K. Kalbitz (Editor)**

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Dear authors,

As indicated by all of the reviewers / posted comments your paper is a very timely and important piece of work. However, the paper needs a thorough revision before it can be accepted for publication in SOIL. I particularly agree with R. Fuß that the paper needs more than major revisions but I also agree with the anonymous reviewer that some statistically non-significant results are worth to mention as well.

As R. Fuß I do not understand the motivation for selecting a Eutric Mollic Gleysol for this field experiment. In the introduction you mentioned the positive effects of biochar application for soils with “a small cation exchange capacity and low organic carbon

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content”.

You have to explain what kind of pH effect you expected at such a soil with a pH of 6.3. I would expect that effects might be different comparing an increase in pH from 5 to 6 with 6 to 7. I would suggest to discuss differences in potential mechanisms as well.

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Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., 2, 793, 2015.