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Comment

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.

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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

C471

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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.

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

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2, C471–C472, 2015

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