

# Sustainability of boreal, mixed crop and livestock farming under changing climatic conditions

Narasinha Shurpali and Several Luke  
Colleagues



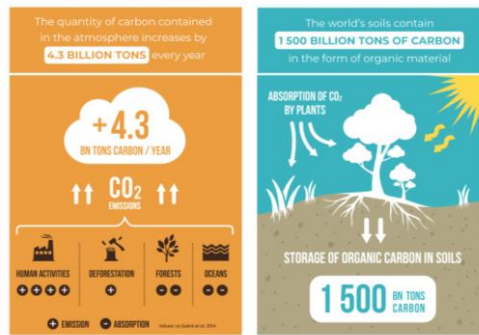
# Luke in brief



**22**  
locations

**1337**  
employees

**133 M€**  
turnover



While pursuing the indispensable effort to decrease drastically the green house gases (GHG) emissions due to human activities, increasing soil organic carbon sequestration could make a substantial contribution to GHG mitigation efforts. A theoretical annual increase of the world

soil organic carbon stock by 0.4% of its value would be larger than the 2015 annual increase in CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, which is a major contributor to the greenhouse effect and climate change: **this is the origin of the "4 per 1000" title of this initiative.**

### INCREASED ABSORPTION OF CO<sub>2</sub> BY PLANTS (FARMLANDS, MEADOWS, FORESTS...)

**+4‰**

### CARBON STORAGE IN THE WORLD'S SOILS

**soils better able to cope with the effects of climate change  
= less CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere**

## HOW CAN SOILS STORE MORE CARBON?

**The more soil is covered, the richer it will be in organic material and therefore in carbon. Until now, the combat against global warming has largely focused on the protection and restoration of forests. In addition to forests, we must encourage more plant cover in all its forms.**



Never leave soil bare and work it less, for example by using no-till methods



Introduce more intermediate crops, more row intercropping and more grass strips



Add to the hedges at field boundaries and develop agroforestry



Optimize pasture management with adapted grazing periods and rotations



Restore land in poor condition e.g. the world's arid and semi-arid regions



Improve water and fertilizers management and use organic fertilizers and compost



# Green Deal Going Local

Achieving climate  
neutrality

Sustainable transport

Preserving Europe's  
natural capital

Transition to a  
circular economy

A zero-pollution  
Europe

From farm to fork

The transformation  
of agriculture  
and rural areas

Towards a modernised  
and simplified CAP

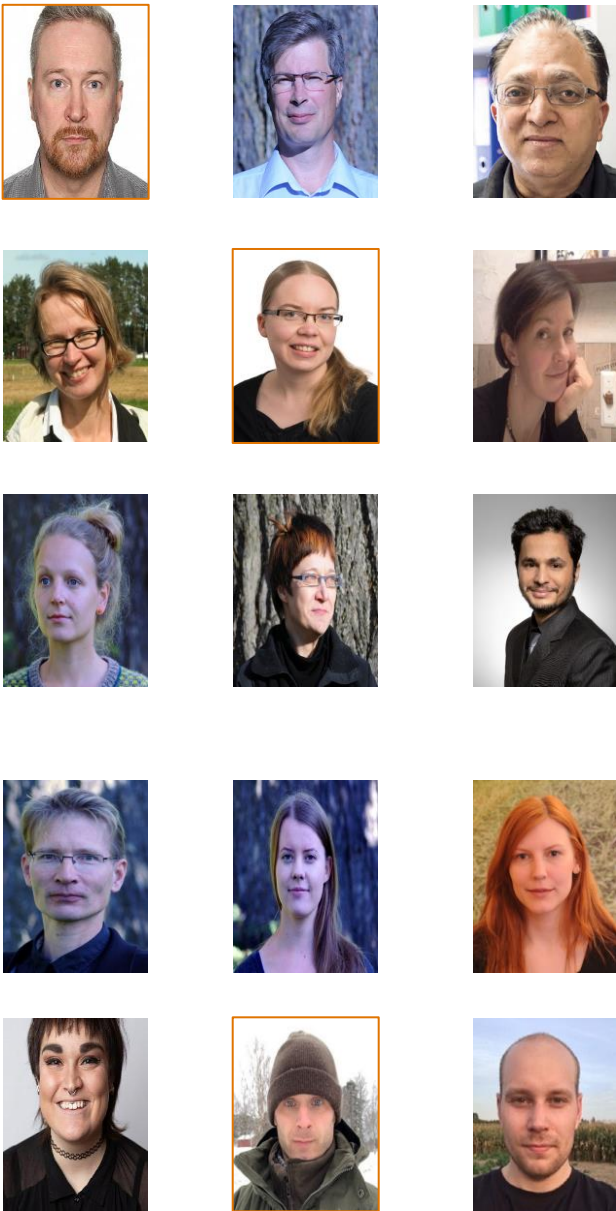
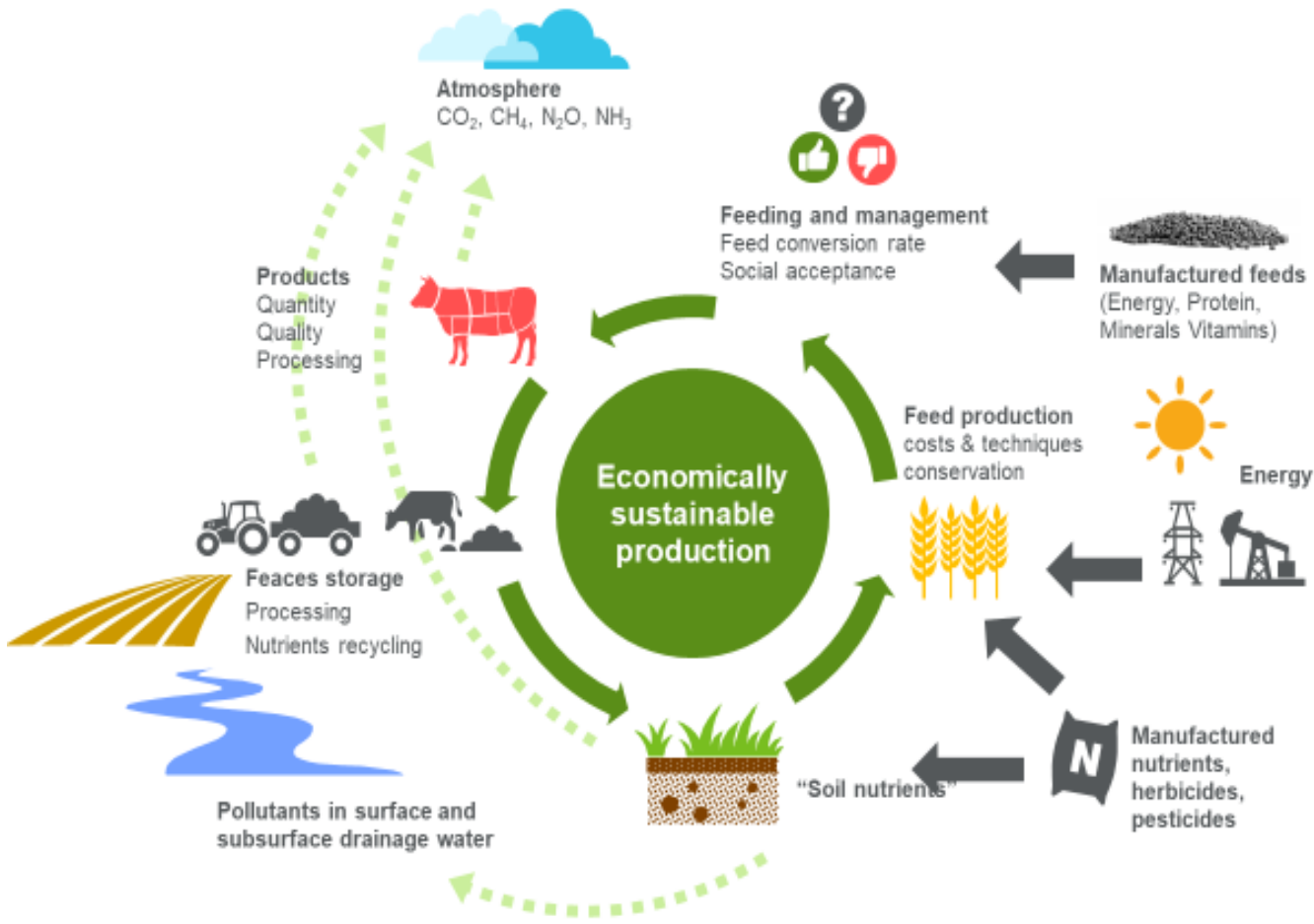
Leave no one behind  
(Just Transition)

Financing  
the transition

Clean, reliable and  
affordable energy



A multidisciplinary team of scientists – agronomy, crop physiology, biogeochemistry, soil science and microbiology, animal sciences, statistics, modelling, digital technologies, socio-economy







Maaninka  
North Savo region  
Milk and Beef  
Production – Second  
largest producer in  
Finland

866 dairy farms in the  
region

324.3 million L of milk  
in 2020

# The research projects carried out at Luke Maaninka aim at

- Promoting sustainable and resource efficient grass production
- Strengthening GHG,C sequestration and nutrient cycling research and providing excellent data for modelling
- Undertaking major Luke Agrifood (including Infratstructure) development projects in collaboration with industrial partners and farmer organizations



# Understanding the mechanisms behind the ecosystem sink for nitrous oxide (ENSINK)

Narasinha Shurpali, Hem Raj Bhattarai, Petra Manninen and Ville Nieminen

**NUMA Luke Maaninka**







# Dairy and beef industries in Finland: Progressing pathways to carbon-neutrality by 2035 (NC-GRASS)



## Nappaa Hiilestä Kiinni Program

Presented by Narasinha Shurpali  
Luke Maaninka



Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Finland



## Current challenges

Unsustainable Milk & Beef farms

## NC-GRASS Outputs

## NC-GRASS long term impacts:

Sustainable dairy and beef farms

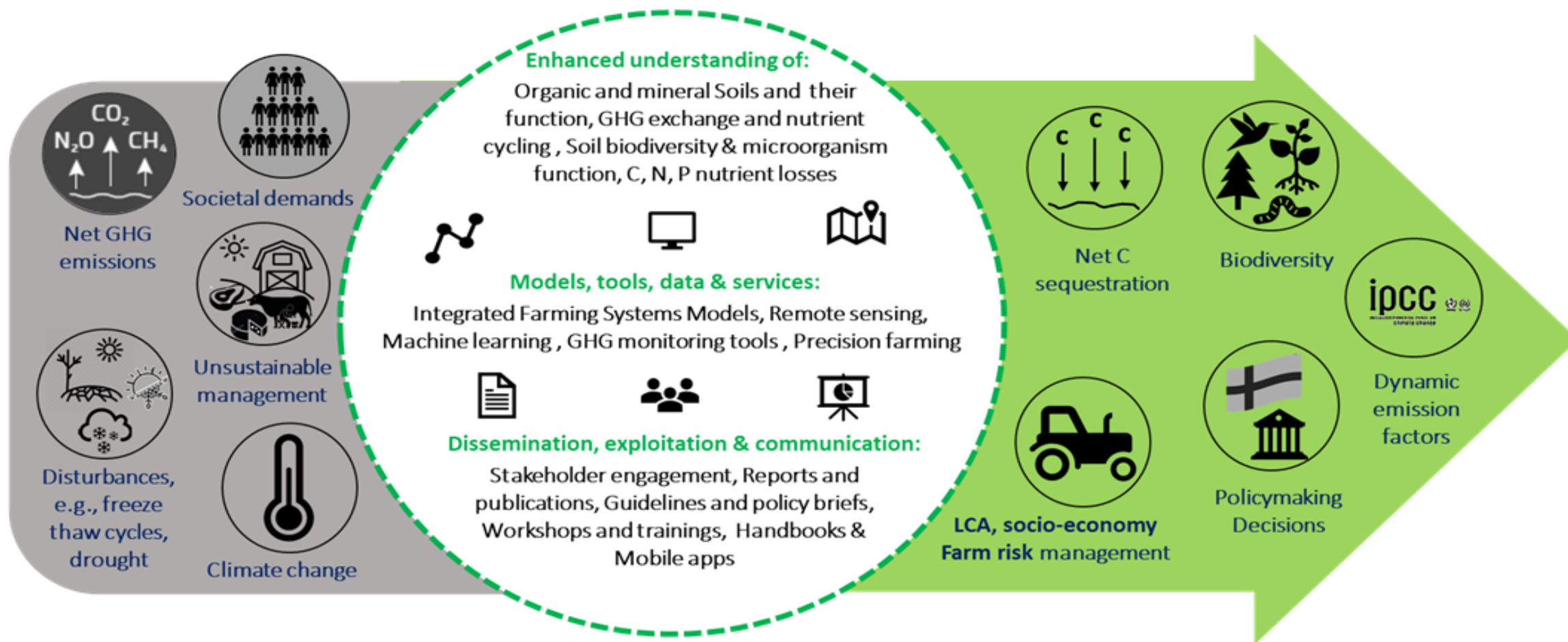


Figure 1: Concepts of NC-GRASS as a living lab showing the current challenges, project outputs and its long-term impacts

# RICH DATA SITES



RUUKKI - 2  
MAANINKA - 3

Qvidja

Viikki

Jokioinen

Another mineral soil  
site (recent – FMI)



# Anttila – Collaborative Projects

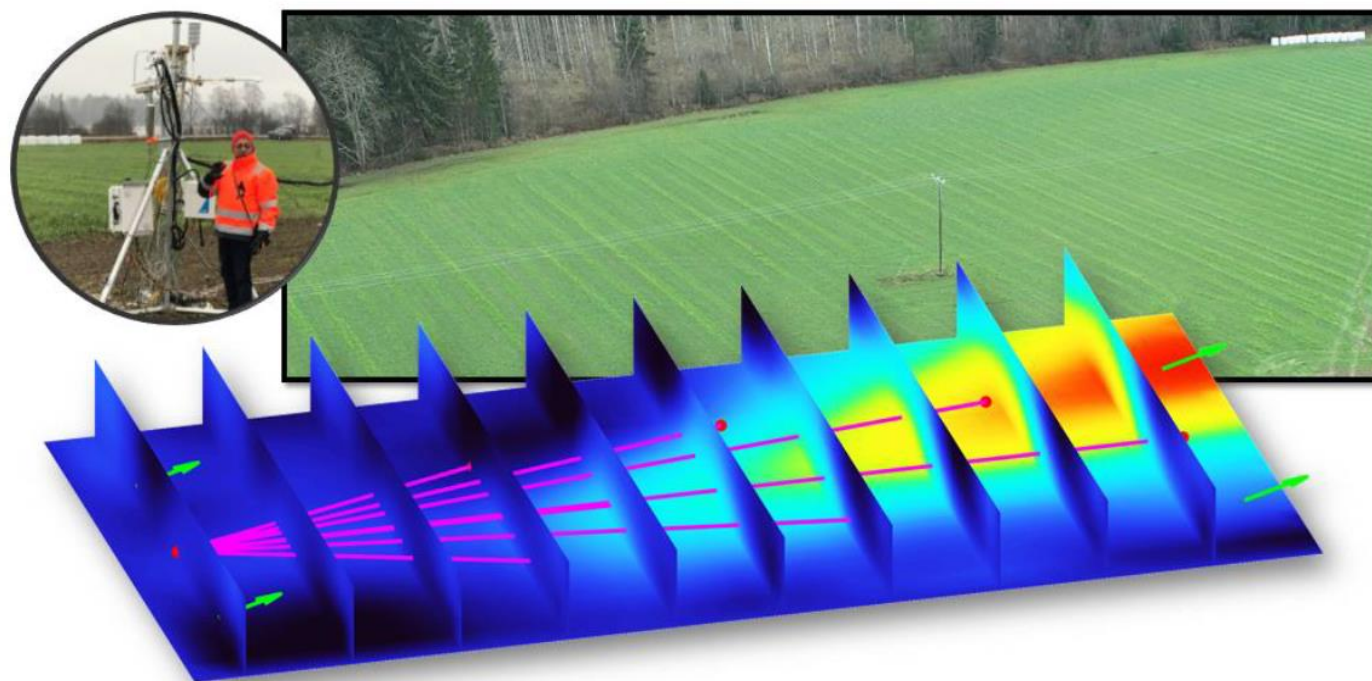
ENSINK (Academy of Finland)

NC-Grass (MMM - Luke, UEF, UH, FMI, MML)

ORMINURMI (MMM – Luke UEF)

Peltotomo (Pohjois-Savon liitto – UEF, Luke)

RehuDrooni (EAKR)



# Pappilansuo

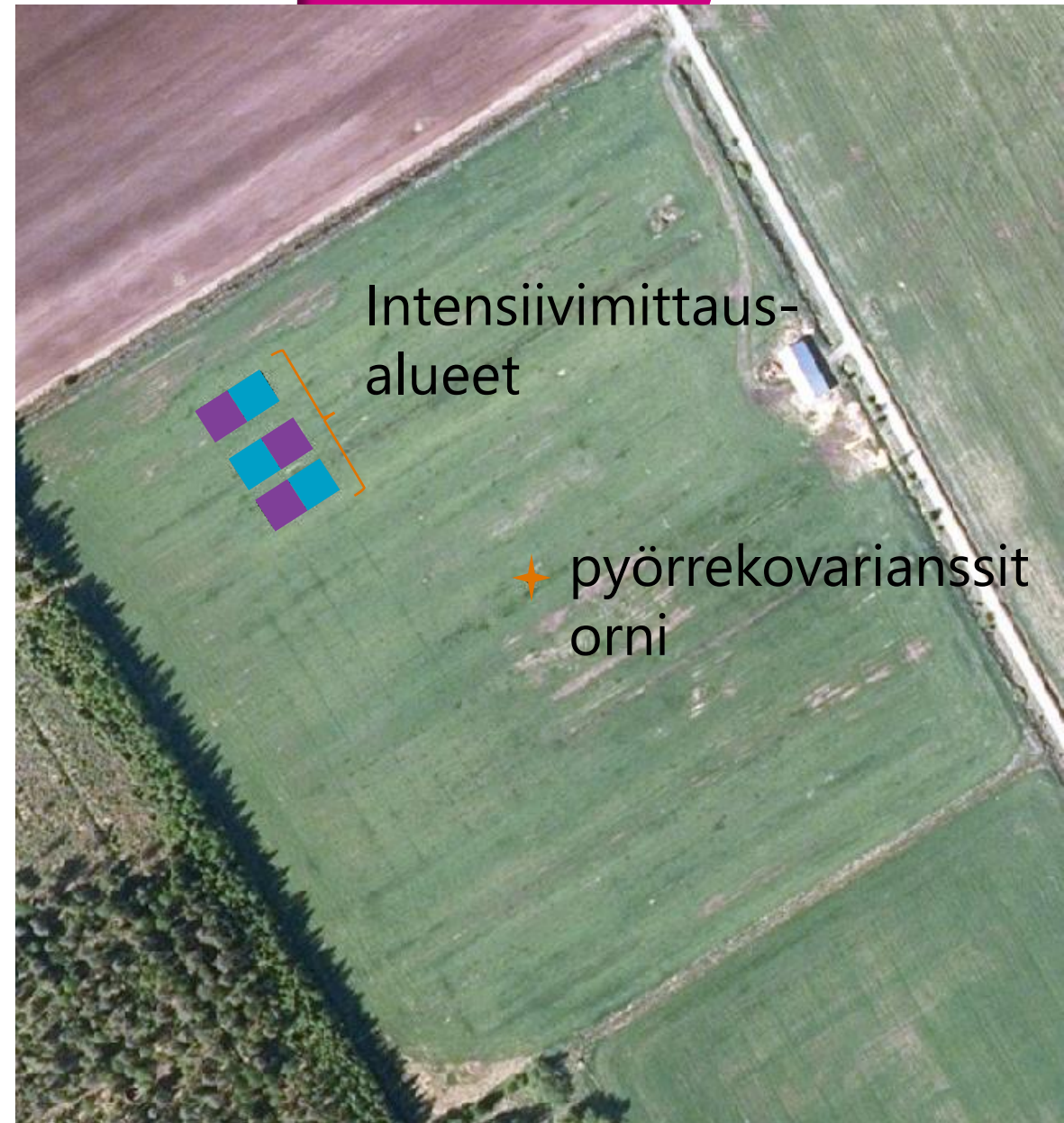
Organic soil

Eddy covariance and Chambers

To understand the impact of spring

Vs Autumn grass harvesting

**Current status**





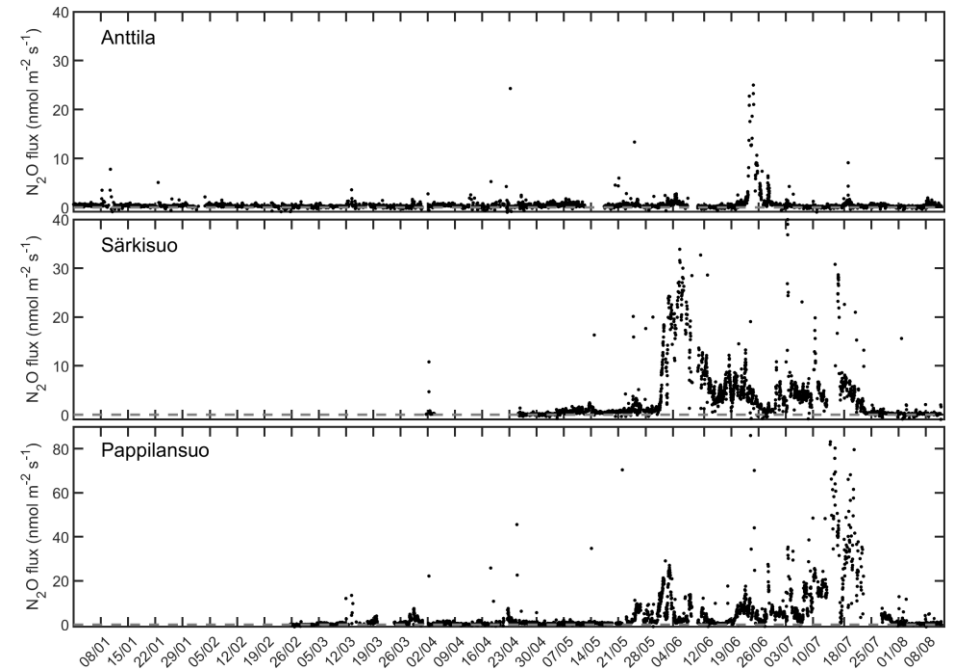
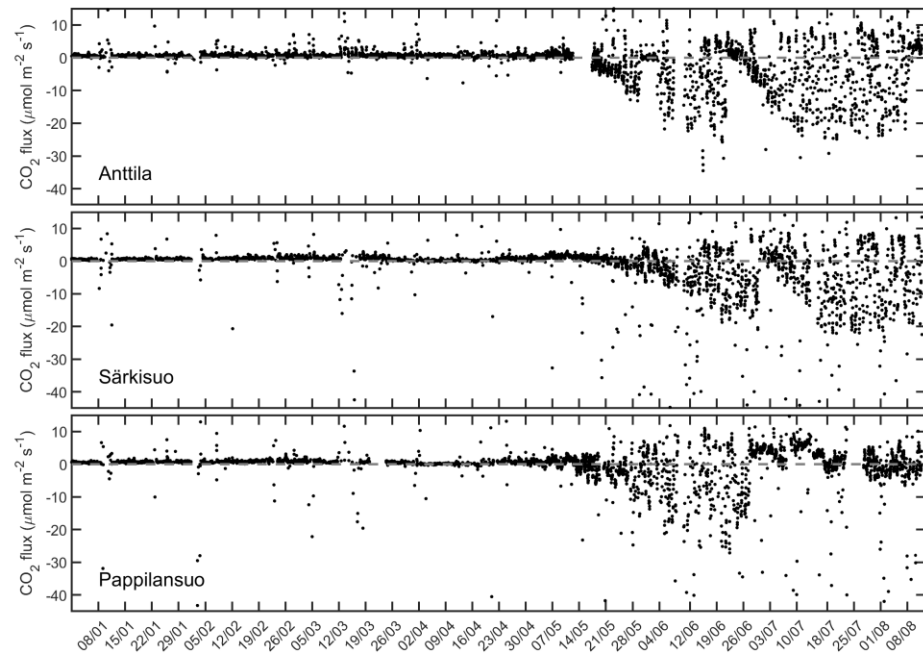
# Särkisuo – Experiment

Peat soil site  
manipulating water  
table level, impact  
on GHG  
emissions, fodder  
quality and  
quantity for  
animals

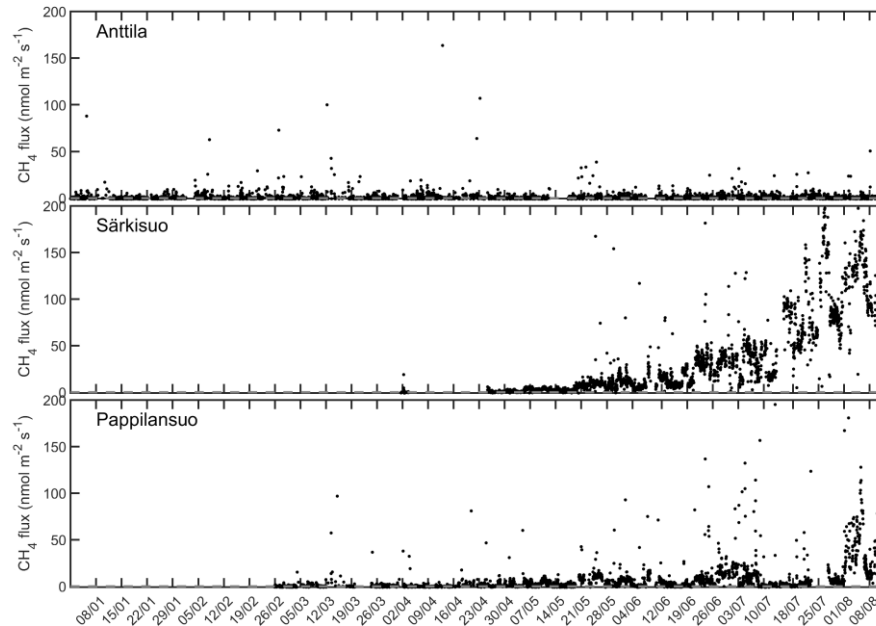
**Current status**







GHG measurements using eddy covariance technique from grasslands on mineral and organic soils in the Maaninka region



**Measurements help us in understanding the atmosphere – biosphere interactions and assist farmers with adopting best agricultural management practices under changing climatic conditions.**

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