

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOIL CO₂ EMISSIONS AND DAILY EVAPORATION UNDER DIFFERENT WEATHER SEASONS

Erastus Wasikoyo^{1*}, József Zsembeli², Seren Zedan², Géza Tuba², and Csaba Juhász¹

¹University of Debrecen, Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences and Environmental Management Institute of Land Use, Engineering and Precision Farming Technology, Debrecen, HUNGARY

²Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Karcag Research Institute, Karcag, HUNGARY

*corresponding author: ewasikoyo@mailbox.unideb.hu

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is one of the potent greenhouse gases found in agricultural soils and is one of the major contributors to the global greenhouse gas effects. The relationship between soil CO₂ emissions and daily evaporation is extremely complex, and its net efflux is inseparably linked to the agro-climatic factors, especially soil moisture and temperature. In this study, we aim to examine the relationship between CO₂ emissions and evaporation and their seasonal variations determined in a lysimeter experiment. Sorghum and grapes were grown in precision weighing lysimeters in 3 replications. Results indicate that soil CO₂ fluxes showed evident seasonal variations across the year and seasons. The CO₂ efflux was highest at 0.3 g⁻¹m²-1h⁻¹ with sorghum and 0.27 g⁻¹m²-1h⁻¹ with grapes during the summer of 2023, while the lowest CO₂ effluxes were 0.03 g⁻¹m²-1h⁻¹ and 0.02 g⁻¹m²-1h⁻¹ during the winter of 2023. The trend is similar to evaporation as high peaks were 4.22 mm day⁻¹ with sorghum and 3.62 mm day⁻¹ with grapes in summer, while lower peaks were 0.4 mm day⁻¹ and 0.401 mm day⁻¹, respectively, in winter. There was a significant, strong positive correlation of soil CO₂ emission with evaporation at (r=0.87) under grapes, and a moderate positive correlation (r=0.46) under sorghum. Our study suggests that there is a significant relationship between soil CO₂ emissions and daily evaporation. Therefore, reducing evaporation through apt management techniques may stabilize CO₂ and reduce emissions. Furthermore, measuring one of these two parameters may be the basis of the estimation of the other one.