Morihiro Maeda

Principal Investigator of Soil Management Laboratory

Professor

Graduate School of Environmental and Life Science, Okayama University, Japan

Doctor of Engineering from Kyoto University

MAJORS

Soil Science, Environmental Engineering

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Organic waste management in soil
Greenhouse gases emissions from agricultural soil
Nitrogen leaching in upland fields
Renewable materials (Biochar, manure ash, etc.)
Sediment microbial fuel cells

TEACHING COURSES

Undergraduate level:	Soil Science/ Soil Quality and Management
Master level:	Soil Use and Management/Advanced Soil and Biogeochemistry for SDGs
Doctor level:	Soil Functions/ Water and Nutrient Cycling/ Chemistry for Environmental Sustainability

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Chair (Div. Soil and the Environment), International Union of Soil Science; Journal Editors: Soil Science and Plant Nutrition, Hydrological Research Letters, etc.

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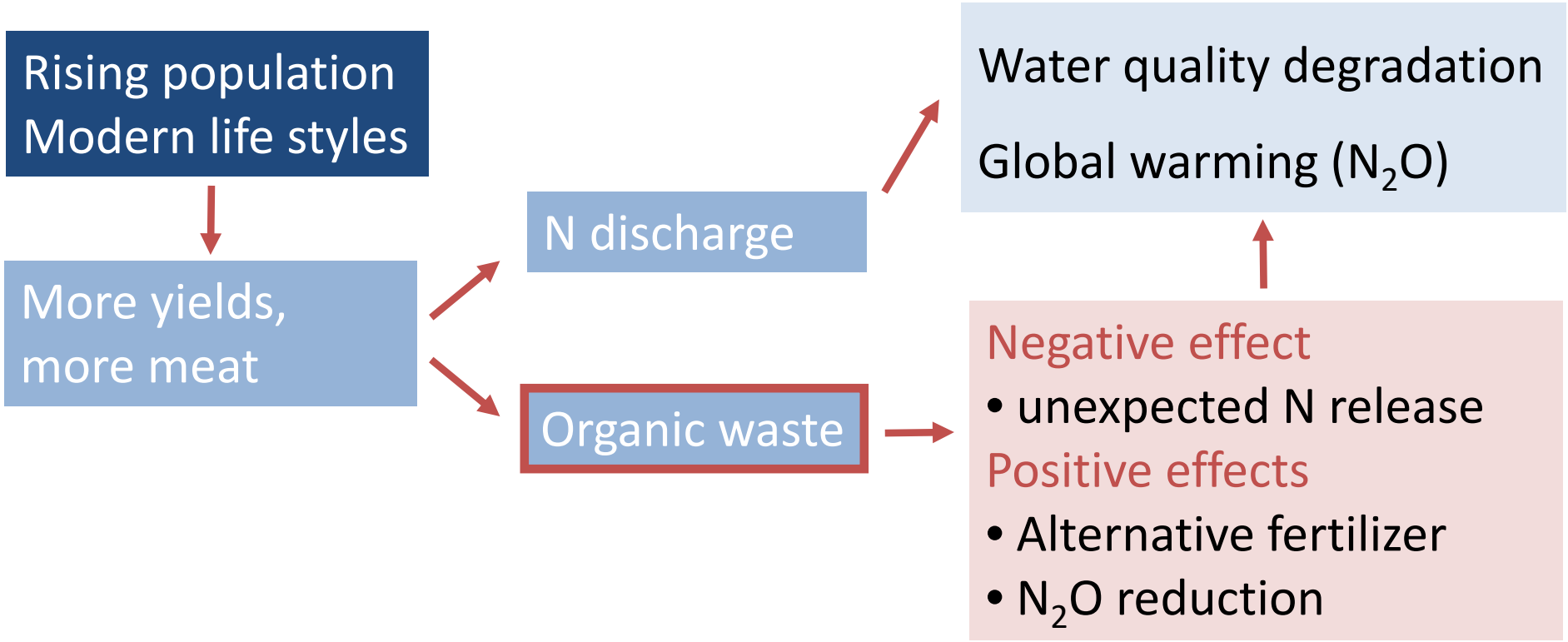
Background of the studies

Wise use of organic waste is a key to conservation of our future earth.



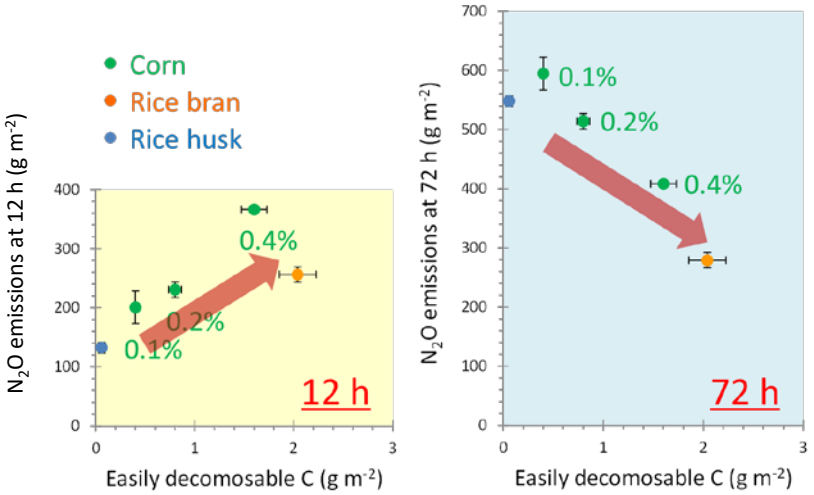
How to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from organic matter amended soil ?

Intensive Agriculture is responsible for emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO_2) and nitrous oxide (N_2O). Production of these gases in farmland soil results from biological processes like organic matter decomposition, nitrification and denitrification, and highly depends on organic matter inputs.

We determined the effects of **organic matter amendment** on CO_2 and N_2O emissions. In particular, in agricultural soil amended with livestock compost.

We are proposing improved **organic matter management** practices in rural areas according to scientific data analysis.

Inputs of organic matter are essential to maintain soil quality. In the greenhouse, rice husk was incorporated into the soil for soil fertility maintenance.



Rice bran and corn with more easily decomposable C enhanced N_2O emissions for the first 12 h, whereas N_2O emission rates reduced towards 72 h

Groundwater contamination with nitrogen in Central Vietnam

Nitrogen (N), an essential element for plants, is one of the main contributor to groundwater contamination in rural areas. Nitrate (NO_3^-) often contaminates groundwater when excess N was applied to farmland. In contrast, high concentrations of ammonium (NH_4^+) was detected in groundwater below vegetable fields in the downstream areas of the Huong River, Central **Vietnam**.

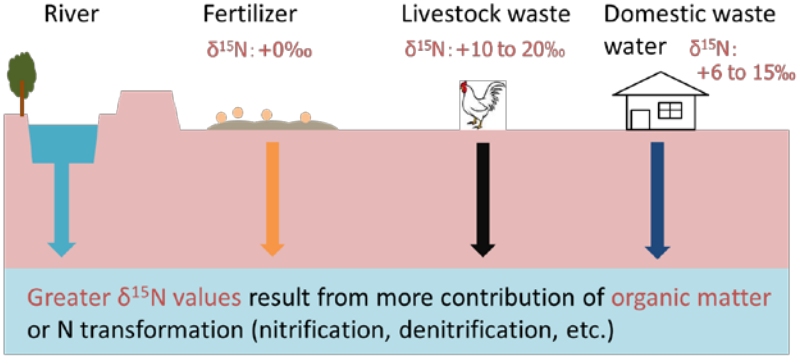
We investigated the **contamination sources** and **mechanisms** of N contamination in groundwater by using ^{15}N natural abundance and functional genes of microorganisms. We are developing a new method to collect NH_4-N, NO_3-N, and organic N in water and soil samples for $\delta^{15}N$ analysis. Functional genes like *narG*, *napA*, and *nosZ* are quantified to obtain the information on nitrogen dynamics in **deep soil**.

We are proposing improved fertilizer and **manure** managements in rural areas of Central Vietnam according to **scientific evidences**.

Vegetable fields are very close to the residential area. Organic waste management is a key for sustainable agriculture in Central Vietnam

Indication from $\delta^{15}N$ values

$$\delta^{15}\mathrm{N}\ (‰) = \frac{\left(\frac{^{15}\mathrm{N}}{^{14}\mathrm{N}}\right)_{\mathrm{sample}} - \left(\frac{^{15}\mathrm{N}}{^{14}\mathrm{N}}\right)_{\mathrm{air}}}{\left(\frac{^{15}\mathrm{N}}{^{14}\mathrm{N}}\right)_{\mathrm{air}}} \times 1000$$



International collaboration projects

- ✓ Identification of nitrogen contamination mechanisms of groundwater in coastal areas of Central Vietnam by using microbial technologies and stable isotope analyses (JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research, 2015-2017)
- ✓ Proposal of sustainable composting methods based on the reevaluation of Vietnamese indigenous compost from viewpoints of its functions and environmental loadings (JSPS Fostering Joint International Research, 2020-2023)
- ✓ Development of sediment microbial fuel cells for water quality improvement in shrimp ponds and small-scale energy power generation in Central Vietnam (JSPS Bilateral Joint Research Projects, 2021-2022)

Welcome !!

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Combining environmental science and engineering for a **green future**.

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