

**SNAP CODE:** 100301  
100302  
100303  
100304  
100305

**SOURCE SUB-SECTOR TITLE:** STUBBLE BURNING  
*Cereals*  
*Pulses*  
*Tuber & Root*  
*Sugar cane*  
*Other*

**NOSE CODE:** 110.03.01  
110.03.02  
110.03.03  
110.03.04  
110.03.05

**NFR CODE:** 4 F 1  
4 F 2  
4 F 3  
4 F 4  
4 F 5

## 1 ACTIVITIES INCLUDED

This chapter relates to the emissions of ammonia from stubble burning. This activity is understood to include the burning of crop residues and wastes from crops in situ. Emissions of other pollutants will be provided in subsequent edition of the Guidebook

## 2 CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL EMISSIONS

The contribution of agricultural crop waste burning to ammonia emissions on a European scale is currently unknown, but is probably a relatively minor source in comparison to animal wastes. Lee and Atkins (1994) have estimated a contribution of 135 ktonnes NH<sub>3</sub> per year from Western Europe.

This sub-sector is minor source of several pollutants.

**Table 1: Contribution to total emissions of the CORINAIR90 inventory (28 countries)**

Source-activity	SNAP-code	Contribution to total emission [1%]							
		SO <sub>2</sub>	NO <sub>x</sub>	NMVOC	CH <sub>4</sub>	CO	CO <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>2</sub> O	NH <sub>3</sub>
Stubble Burning	100300	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.1	-	-

0 = emissions are reported, but the exact value is below the rounding limit (0.1 per cent)

- = no emissions are reported

### **3 GENERAL**

Very little information exists on the nature and strength of this source of ammonia emissions. The principal source of the ammonia is from plant nitrogen although some ammonia is likely to originate from the soil underlying the crop wastes combusted. Most of the N from  $\text{NH}_x$  is released as  $\text{NH}_3$  although some is also directly released as  $\text{NH}_4$  particulate. Control of this source is effectively by cessation of the activity, the alternative adopted in many countries being that crop wastes and residues are ploughed in.

### **4 SIMPLER METHODOLOGY**

The simple methodology for calculation emission is that outlined by Lee and Atkins (1994), where an emission factor is combined with an activity statistic, i.e. the amount of residue burnt. It is assumed in this methodology that a dry weight of straw from cereal crops is 5 tonnes per ha.

### **5 DETAILED METHODOLOGY**

An improvement on the above can only be achieved by a prior knowledge of the dry weight per ha yielded from a specific crop. Some crop residue statistics are provided by the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Reference Manual, pages 4.69 - 4.73 (IPCC, 1995). The following ratios for residue/crop product are given: wheat 1.3, barley 1.2, maize 1, oats 1.3 and rye 1.6.

### **6 RELEVANT ACTIVITY STATISTICS**

The activity statistics is the amount (dry weight) of waste/residue combusted.

### **7 POINT SOURCE CRITERIA**

### **8 EMISSION FACTORS, QUALITY AND REFERENCES**

The emission factor given by Lee and Atkins (1994) is 2.4 mg  $\text{NH}_3$  per gram straw (consisting of 80%  $\text{NH}_3$  and 20%  $\text{NH}_4$ ).

### **9 SPECIES PROFILES**

This chapter covers emissions of  $\text{NH}_3$  and particulate  $\text{NH}_4$  only from this source.

### **10 CURRENT UNCERTAINTY ESTIMATES**

## **11 WEAKEST ASPECT/PRIORITY AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN CURRENT METHODOLOGY**

The weakest area in this source is the lack of data on emission factors.

## **12 SPATIAL DISAGGREGATION CRITERIA FOR AREA SOURCES**

Spatial disaggregation relies upon a knowledge of the location of crop waste/residue burning. This may be crudely estimated from local country statistics on land-use.

## **13 TEMPORAL DISAGGREGATION CRITERIA**

This relies upon prior knowledge of current agricultural practices, although it is likely that the activity will take place shortly after crop harvesting.

## **14 ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Stubble burning of crop residues will also release other gases like NH<sub>4</sub>, CO, N<sub>2</sub>O and NO<sub>x</sub>. IPCC recommends the following procedure. Starting with an estimation of the total amount of biomass burned, total amounts of released carbon and nitrogen are calculated. The emissions of CH<sub>4</sub> and CO are related to the total mass of carbon released and the emissions of N<sub>2</sub>O and NO<sub>x</sub> to the total mass of nitrogen released. Details and default values are given in the Greenhouse Gas Inventory Workbook, pages 4.22 - 4.26 (IPCC, 1995).

## **15 SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS**

## **16 VERIFICATION PROCEDURES**

## **17 REFERENCES**

IPCC, 1995. Guidelines for national greenhouse gas inventories. Volume 1 (Reporting Instructions), Volume 2 (Workbook) and Volume 3 (Reference Manual). OECD, Paris.

Lee, D.S. and Atkins, D.H.F., 1994. Atmospheric ammonia emission from agricultural waste combustion. Geophysical Research Letters 21, 281-284.

## **18 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

## **19 RELEASE VERSION, DATE AND SOURCE**

Version: 2.1  
Date: November 1995  
Source: Dr David S Lee  
AEA Technology  
UK

## **20 POINT OF ENQUIRY**

Any comments on this chapter or enquiries should be directed to:

### **Roger Phillips**

Silsoe Research Institute  
Animal Science and Engineering Division  
Wrest Park  
Silsoe  
Bedford, MK45 4HS  
UK

Tel: +44 1525 860000  
Fax: +44 1525 861735  
Email: [roger.phillips@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:roger.phillips@bbsrc.ac.uk)