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# INFLUENCES OF NITROGEN SUPPLY AND ELEVATED CO<sub>2</sub> ON NITROGEN CONSUMPTION, NITROGEN LOSS, TISSUE NITROGEN CONCENTRATION, AND YIELD OF HYDROPONIC WHEAT

by

# Karl B. Ritchie

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree

of

### MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

Plant Science (Crop Physiology)

Approved:

# UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY Logan, Utah

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Karl B. Ritchie

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# ABSTRACT

Influences of Nitrogen Supply and Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on Nitrogen Consumption,

Nitrogen Loss, Tissue Nitrogen Concentration,

and Yield of Hydroponic Wheat

by

Karl B. Ritchie, Master of Science

Utah State University, 1994

Major Professor: Dr. Bruce Bugbee Department: Plants, Soils, and Biometeorology

Wheat was grown hydroponically for 23 days (early boot stage) in a controlled environment at NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M and CO<sub>2</sub> levels of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Nitrogen consumption and transpiration were measured daily. Tissue nitrogen concentration, total biomass, and percent root mass were measured at harvest. Nitrogen recovery and nitrogen use efficiency were calculated. Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> increased nitrogen consumption of the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment by 13.6% and the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment by 21.3%. These increases were particularly evident during tillering and early grain fill. Whole plant nitrogen, shoot NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, and root NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations were increased by elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. High CO<sub>2</sub> increased biomass by 15% and increased percent root mass by 11%. Nitrogen recovery and nitrogen use efficiency were similar at both  $CO_2$  concentrations. Transpiration (L m<sup>2</sup><sub>ground</sub> d<sup>-1</sup>) decreased by 40% in elevated  $CO_2$ . The 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment consumed more NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> than did the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment (8.1% in ambient CO<sub>2</sub>, 15.5% in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>); this effect was most pronounced during the last 5 days of the experiment (flag leaf emergence and early grain fill). Percent root mass increased as N concentration decreased from 1000 to 100  $\mu$ M. Nitrogen levels did not significantly affect tissue N concentration or biomass. Nitrogen losses increased as N supply increased; an average of 16% of the nitrogen added to the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment was lost, while the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment lost 21%. Nitrogen use efficiency and transpiration were similar in both nitrogen treatments.

(103 pages)

# INTRODUCTION

Growing plants at minimal levels of nitrogen is economically and environmentally necessary. Nitrogen management may need to be modified in the future because of rising atmospheric  $CO_2$  levels that are predicted to double from the current concentration of 360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> in the next century (Conroy et al., 1992; Conway et al., 1988). Elevated  $CO_2$  alters nitrogen uptake and tissue concentrations, but these effects are complex and variable among species (Garbutt et al., 1990; Sage et al., 1989). The purpose of this study was to determine effects of low nitrogen supply and elevated  $CO_2$  on nitrogen recovery, yield, daily nitrogen uptake, nitrogen use efficiency, and tissue nitrogen concentrations of wheat during rapid vegetative growth.

Wheat plants were grown hydroponically for 23 days (early boot stage) in a controlled environment at NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M and CO<sub>2</sub> levels of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Continuous monitoring with an ion selective electrode was used to maintain constant solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> levels and to determine daily nitrogen removal. Daily transpiration was also measured. Yield components and tissue nitrogen content were determined at harvest. The controlled environment provided conditions that favored rapid growth.

These experiments provide information that should assist in developing nitrogen management strategies as atmospheric  $CO_2$  continues to rise. This information may also be useful for NASA's research to grow wheat in controlled environments.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Minimal nitrogen levels

Nitrogen (N) is the mineral nutrient that most often limits crop production, and N fertilization is usually necessary to achieve maximum yields. Fertilizer N consumption is increasing by 1.3% yr<sup>-1</sup> in industrialized countries and 4.1% yr<sup>-1</sup> in developing countries (Burke and Lashof, 1990). While adequate N is essential for maximum yields, excessive N contributes to atmospheric and groundwater pollution. Gaseous nitrous and nitric oxide emissions produced by microbial denitrification and nitrification contribute to global warming processes (Rodhe, 1990). Because fertilizer use is increasing yearly, fertilizer N is predicted to become an increasingly significant source of nitrous oxide emissions (Burke and Lashof, 1990). Additionally, excess nitrate (NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>) in the soil can leach into groundwater and pose health hazards.

Available N levels in soils are difficult to assess because N can undergo many transformations, so fertilizer recommendations often overestimate the amount of N required. Farmers might be able to reduce N applications below soil test recommendations without reducing profits or yields (Hibbard et al., 1992). Finding a minimum N level at which plants can sustain yields without reducing growth may help farmers cut fertilizer costs and reduce the risk of pollution caused by N fertilizers.

Because soils are complex and variable, hydroponic studies are used to study fundamental relationships involving nutrient concentrations, uptake, and plant growth (Edwards and Asher, 1974). Many hydroponic studies have used N levels greater than 1 mM. However, several different plants can be successfully grown at N levels  $\leq 100 \,\mu$ M in hydroponic solutions (Smart and Bloom, 1993). Cox and Reisenauer (1973), for example, achieved maximal yields of wheat seedlings with 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> supplied in the bulk hydroponic solution (89  $\mu$ M in the root zone). These plants were grown for 14 days after emergence with two plants per flow vessel. Nutrient solution flow rates were increased exponentially to minimize N depletion from the root zone with increasing growth rate, as estimated by leaf length measurements.

Flow rates are a critical factor in sustaining minimal N levels. Using published nitrogen uptake data from Cox and Reisenauer (1973), Edwards and Asher (1974) calculated flow rates needed to limit N depletion (the difference between N concentration entering and leaving the root zone) to 5% in wheat root zones with N levels ranging from 5 to 250  $\mu$ M. Flow rates of 0.40 L min<sup>-1</sup> pot<sup>-1</sup> were required to minimize N depletion and keep N solution concentrations at 45  $\mu$ M when the root dry mass was about 0.65 g. Required flow rates increased proportionately with root mass, so that roots with a dry mass near 2.6 g required 1.6 L min<sup>-1</sup> pot<sup>-1</sup>.

Maximum yields in hydroponics are obtained with high growth rates, and consequently, high root densities. These large root densities have a high resistance to solution flow (Bugbee and Salisbury, 1989), and thus solution N levels may need to be increased (Edwards and Asher, 1974). Concentration gradients of  $O_2$  and other nutrients in the rhizosphere are minimized by rapid, uniform solution flow (Bugbee and Salisbury, 1989). The recirculating hydroponic system described by Bugbee and Salisbury (1989) allows large root densities (> 1000 km m<sup>-3</sup>) and rapid flow rates ( $\approx 0.50 \text{ Lm}^{-2}_{\text{surface min}^{-1}}$ ).

Chen (1989) grew wheat in a hydroponic system like that described by Bugbee and Salisbury (1989). There were no yield differences between plants grown at 1, 5, and 15 mM NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. The potential should exist to grow wheat in a hydroponic system like Chen's (1989) at NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> levels near 100  $\mu$ M.

#### Nitrogen losses

Bock (1984) cited many studies measuring fertilizer N losses of 30-70% in soils. Both soil and plant processes contribute to N losses from the root zone. When  $NO_3^-$  is the sole N source, plants can facilitate gaseous nitrogen losses by supplying denitrifiers with carbon. Plants may contribute to ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) volatilization during photorespiration, and NH<sub>3</sub> volatilization during leaf senescence. How much N might be lost by processes influenced or caused by plants?

#### Microbial denitrification

Microbial denitrification is the process by which bacteria reduce  $NO_3^-$  to nitric oxide, nitrous oxide, and atmospheric nitrogen. Plants can be an important contributor to denitrification because denitrifying bacteria populations and activity may be much higher in the rhizosphere than in the bulk soil. Plants influence denitrification by providing soluble carbon root exudates, which are a primary substrate for microorganisms (Christensen et al., 1990; Haider et al., 1985; Newman, 1985). Denitrifying bacteria are present on our hydroponic wheat roots (Smart et al., unpublished data).

Many denitrifying bacteria are facultative anaerobes, although some obligate anaerobes and aerobic bacteria strains have been cultured (Robertson and Kuenen, 1990). Therefore, heterotrophic facultative anaerobes are considered to be the most significant denitrifiers (Haynes and Sherlock, 1986). Although our bulk hydroponic solution is well aerated (> 95% saturated with oxygen), anaerobic microsites might exist in our root zones where roots overlap and plant and microbial respiration consume oxygen at the root surface faster than it can be supplied by the hydroponic solution (Hoberg and Sorensen, 1993). These conditions provide a suitable environment for facultative anaerobic denitrifiers.

### Ammonia volatilization

Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) is volatilized from senescing plant leaves. NH<sub>3</sub> volatilization increases as tissues age and enter senescence, while NH<sub>3</sub> emissions before anthesis are comparatively small (Parton et al., 1988). Parton et al. (1988) measured loss rates of 60-120 ng NH<sub>3</sub>-N m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> during presenescence; during final plant senescence loss rates increased to 200-300 ng NH<sub>3</sub>-N m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. NH<sub>3</sub> losses before anthesis were similar in high and low N treatments, but after anthesis, high N plants volatilized more NH<sub>3</sub>. NH<sub>3</sub> losses during senescence are usually less than 5% (O'Deen, 1989), so NH<sub>3</sub> volatilization losses may be much smaller than N loss by denitrification.

#### **Photorespiration**

 $NH_3$  is formed during the photorespiration process as oxygen competitively inhibits Rubisco. Most of this  $NH_3$  is probably rapidly reassimilated (Woo et al., 1978). Photorespiratory release of  $NH_3$  accounted for about 20% of total plant  $NH_3$  emission in spring wheat (Morgan and Parton, 1989). Assuming that  $NH_3$ volatilization during senescence accounted for 5% of total N lost (O'Deen, 1989) and that 20% of total volatilization is a result of photorespiration (Morgan and Parton, 1989), then  $NH_3$  losses during photorespiration might account for only about 1% of all plant N losses in ambient  $CO_2$ . Plants grown in elevated carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ ) have very little photorespiration (Bowes, 1991), so photorespiratory  $NH_3$  loss is probably a minor source of N losses.

# Nitrogen losses from hydroponic systems

Hydroponic systems allow the study of N losses due to plant-mediated processes, and significant N losses have occurred in hydroponic studies. Dr. Ray Huffaker has observed N losses from wheat of more than 25% after 30 days (pers. comm.). Chen (1989) measured N losses in a system similar to ours and found losses ranging from 33 to 47% at  $NO_3^-$  levels of 1, 5, and 15 mM. He found that N losses decreased as solution N concentrations were decreased.

# Nitrogen interactions with elevated CO<sub>2</sub>

Increasing atmospheric levels of  $CO_2$ , the substrate for photosynthetic carbon

assimilation, may require that current N management practices be modified (Conroy et al., 1992; Hocking and Meyer, 1991). Atmospheric levels of CO<sub>2</sub> will likely double in the next century from the current level near 355  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> (Conway et al., 1988). Watson et al. (1990) predicted that ambient CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations will increase to near 550  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> by the middle of the next century. Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> alters N uptake and concentration in plant tissues because elevated CO<sub>2</sub> increases aboveground productivity (Acock, 1990). The effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on N nutrition are complex and vary among species (Garbutt et al., 1990; Sage et al., 1989). If elevated CO<sub>2</sub> increases plant productivity without having a positive feedback effect on the N-cycle (Zak et al. 1993), then N could limit beneficial effects of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on productivity. Understanding the responses of agronomic species in agricultural ecosystems to increased CO<sub>2</sub> may help us to modify current N fertilization practices to sustain yields while minimizing N inputs in the future.

#### Nitrogen use efficiency

Nitrogen use efficiency (g biomass/g plant N) is typically increased in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (Cure et al., 1988; Goudriaan and De Ruiter, 1983; Hocking and Meyer, 1991; Larigauderie et al., 1988; Schmitt and Edwards, 1981), although plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> may require more total N. Nitrogen use efficiency increases because more biomass is produced per unit N assimilated. Nitrogen uptake is usually increased, and tissue N concentrations may be decreased by high CO<sub>2</sub>, although this is not always the case.

#### Nitrogen uptake

Total N uptake per m<sup>2</sup> was increased by elevated  $CO_2$  in wheat (Hocking and Meyer, 1991) and soybean (Allen et al., 1988; Cure et al., 1988). However, Wong (1979) observed no increases in NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> uptake by cotton relative to ambient  $CO_2$  controls. Hocking and Meyer (1985) measured little change in NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> uptake in cocklebur over a range of N concentrations. Acock (1990) reviewed research studying the effects of elevated  $CO_2$  on photosynthesis and plant growth, and concluded that crop plant fertilizer requirements should increase as  $CO_2$  levels increase.

Elevated  $CO_2$  might exacerbate N stress at low N levels. Grain yield of winter wheat was reduced at low N levels, while grain yield at high N increased 15% in elevated  $CO_2$  (Mitchell et al., 1993). This corresponds with other research suggesting that low N supply generally reduces the effect that elevated  $CO_2$  has on increasing growth and yield (Cure et al., 1988; Goudriaan and de Ruiter, 1983). In contrast, Hocking and Meyer (1991) found that N-stressed wheat had a larger proportional increase in dry matter production as a result of  $CO_2$  enrichment than plants receiving ample N. Wong (1979) and Hocking and Meyer (1985) obtained similar results in studies with cotton and cocklebur, respectively.

## Tissue nitrogen content

In elevated  $CO_2$ , N concentration in biomass usually decreases. Hocking and Meyer (1991) measured a 34% decrease in wheat tissue N concentrations;  $NO_3$  and  $NO_3$  reductase concentrations were greatly reduced. Lower N concentration has been measured in soybeans (Allen et al., 1988) and several other plants (Coleman et al., 1991; Garbutt et al., 1990; Vessey et al., 1990). In wheat, Smart et al. (D. Smart, K. Ritchie, J. Stark, and B. Bugbee) (unpublished data) measured lower N concentration per unit total biomass in  $CO_2$ -enriched plants, but found no differences in N concentrations between ambient and enriched  $CO_2$  levels when N concentration was expressed on a structural dry weight basis.

Foliar N concentration is strongly correlated with photosynthetic capacity because over half of the N in C<sub>3</sub> plant leaves is used for photosynthetic machinery construction (Evans, 1989). Ribulose-1,5-bisphosphate carboxylase oxygenase (Rubisco) is the largest sink for N in the photosynthetic apparatus (see Sage et al. 1989). At ambient CO<sub>2</sub>, Rubisco in C<sub>3</sub> plants has a low catalytic activity (Bowes, 1991). Photorespiration is inhibited in high CO<sub>2</sub>, so Rubisco activity is consistently reduced in high CO<sub>2</sub>, and Rubisco concentration may also decrease (Allen et al., 1988; Sage et al., 1989).

# <u>Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> may increase</u> <u>denitrification losses</u>

Denitrification activity is generally higher on root surfaces (or in the rhizosphere) than in bulk soil or hydroponic solution away from the root (Newman, 1985; Prade and Trolldenier, 1990). Elevating atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> to 1000  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> CO<sub>2</sub> increased denitrification activity by more than an order of

magnitude greater on hydroponic wheat roots (Smart et al., unpublished data). Labile carbon (C) is an important substrate for denitrification. In studies by Zak et al. (1993), labile C in the rhizosphere of poplar was significantly increased by elevated  $CO_2$ , but labile C in the bulk soil was unchanged by elevated  $CO_2$ . Microbial biomass was also greater in high  $CO_2$ . Consequently, it is possible that the combination of both microbial activity (due to increased C availability) and microbial biomass could increase microbial denitrification.

#### **Experimental** objectives

Chen (1989) found that N loss from hydroponic solutions decreased from 47% to 33% as NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentration decreased from 15 to 1 mM. Since yields were the same at all N levels, whereas N loss decreased at the lower N levels, we hypothesized that the amount of N supplied to the plants might be further decreased and N losses reduced while still sustaining high yields.

Our hypotheses presume that microbial denitrification is the primary cause of the N loss measured by Chen (1989). Because  $NH_3$  volatilization is probably a minor source of N loss and hydroponic solution pH is maintained at a level that is not favorable to chemodenitrification (pH = 5.8), this premise seems reasonable. In my short-term experiments, wheat plants were harvested before anthesis, when very few leaves are senescent, so  $NH_3$  volatilization should be minimal.

Smart et al. (unpublished data) previously grew wheat plants to maturity in 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> solutions. Estimates of weekly N consumption indicated

that most of the N consumption occurred before anthesis. My short-term experiments were designed to examine the effect of elevated  $CO_2$  on daily N use, total biomass, and N recovery on wheat plants harvested before anthesis. This total profile of nitrogen consumption and recovery will provide information for the period where N consumption is greatest.

If denitrification potential in our hydroponic system increases in elevated  $CO_2$ , then nitrogen losses might also increase. My experiments were designed to study the effect of high  $CO_2$  on N recovery, daily N consumption, and N use efficiency in our hydroponic system.

My specific objectives were to answer the following questions:

Will reducing NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentration from 1000 to 100 μM reduce N losses?
Will high CO<sub>2</sub> increase N-losses?

3. Will 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> restrict growth at either ambient or elevated CO<sub>2</sub>?

4. How will daily N consumption be affected by 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub>?

5. How will daily N consumption be affected by elevated  $CO_2$ ?

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

Six studies were conducted in a walk-in growth room at the Utah State University Agricultural Experiment Station Research Greenhouse. Trial dates were as follows: trial 1 = June 25-July 23, 1993; trial 2 = Aug. 6-Sept. 3, 1993; trial 3 = Sept. 17-Oct. 15, 1993; trial 4 = Nov. 12-Dec. 10, 1993; trial 5 = Jan. 1-Jan. 28, 1994; trial 6 = Feb. 12-March 12, 1994.

# Foliar environment

# CO<sub>2</sub> treatments

Three studies were done at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and three studies were done at elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>). The elevated CO<sub>2</sub> level of 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> was chosen because CO<sub>2</sub> saturates the photosynthetic process (no photorespiration occurs) between 1000 to 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>, and because several studies of photosynthesis and respiration in our lab have been conducted at this level.

#### Tub arrangement

The hydroponic design allowed three separate nutrient solutions to be circulated through four tubs within each of three systems. Tubs were set on a platform above the solution reservoirs. The surface of each tub measured 390 mm X 515 mm, which provided a total surface area of  $0.2 \text{ m}^2$  per tub. Tubs were arranged in a randomized block design shown in Fig. 1.

A1	C2	B3	C4
B1	A2	C3	A4
C1	B2	A3	B4

Fig. 1. Tub arrangement with 4 replications per N treatment. Each tub appeared once in each block.

#### **Root zone environment**

The root zone environment was designed to provide rapid flow rates and ample root zone volume to sustain rapid growth rates.

#### Nitrogen treatments

Plants were grown for 23 days with three different levels of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Two of the NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments were kept constant at 100  $\mu$ M and 1000  $\mu$ M. The third NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment started at 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and depleted to about 200  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> at harvest. CO<sub>2</sub> treatments were 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Daily N use was calculated for the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments. The 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> nutrient solution is widely used in hydroponic wheat experiments at Utah State Unviersity and described by Bugbee and Salisbury (1989). Total N use, N recovery, and total biomass were measured for all three N treatments.

The nutrient solution composition for all N treatments is shown in Table 1.

	4000 µM NO3 <sup>-</sup>		100 or 1000 µM NO <sub>3</sub> .	
Salt	Initial Solution	Refill Solution	Initial Solution	Refill Solution
$Ca(NO_3)_2$	1.0mM	1.0mM	0.0mM	0.0mM
CaSO <sub>4</sub>	0.0mM	0.0mM	1.0mM	1.0mM
KNO <sub>3</sub>	2.0mM	2.0mM	0.1/1.0mM	0.0mM
KH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	0.6mM	0.5mM	0.6mM	0.6mM
MgSO <sub>4</sub>	0.5mM	0.25mM	0.5mM	0.5mM
$K_2SO_4$	0.5mM	0.5mM	1.25mM	1.25mM
Fe(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	10μΜ	2.5µM	0.0µM	0.0µM
FeCl <sub>3</sub> -HEDTA	25µM	5μΜ	20µM	20µM
FeSO₄-HEDTA	0.0µM	0.0µM	20µM	20µM
MnCl <sub>2</sub>	3μΜ	3μM	3μM	3μΜ
ZnSO <sub>4</sub>	3μΜ	1μM	3µM	3μΜ
H <sub>3</sub> BO <sub>3</sub>	2µM	1μM	2μΜ	2μΜ
CuSO <sub>4</sub>	0.3μM	0.1µM	0.3µM	$0.1 \mu M$
Na <sub>2</sub> MoO <sub>4</sub>	$0.1 \mu M$	0.1µM	0.1µM	0.1µM
K <sub>2</sub> SiO <sub>3</sub>	75µM	75µM	75µM	75µM

Table 1. Composition of the N treatment hydroponic solutions. The 100 and  $1000 \ \mu M \ NO_3^-$  treatments were alike except for the initial amount of KNO<sub>3</sub>. Nitrogen was not added to the refill solution in these treatments because N additions were controlled with syringe pumps.

# Nitrogen monitoring and control

Nitrogen in the root zone was continuously monitored with a  $NO_3^-$  selective electrode (Bloom, 1989; Smart and Bloom, 1993). A small capacity metering

pump (Fluid Metering Inc., model Q20-2) recirculated calibrating and plant nutrient solutions between their reservoirs and the NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ion selective electrode. A small volume pump (Little Giant, model 1-EA-42) circulated deionized water through a gland on the Q20-2 pump head to prevent salt buildup on the ceramic parts. A second pump (Fluid Metering Inc., model RHOOCKC) pushed the sampled solutions across the NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> selective electrode. The signal from the electrode was amplified with a high impedence amplifier and sent to a datalogger (Campbell Scientific, model CR-10) where appropriate software converted the signal to a NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentration reading.

The N monitor was calibrated daily with 100 and 1000 uM  $NO_3^-$  solutions. This calibration procedure minimized the amount of time required for a daily calibration while retaining a high degree of accuracy. Very little drift was detectable in daily calibrations as long as the electrode tips and ground wires were kept clean.

We used two systems simultaneously to control  $NO_3^-$  concentrations in each treatment. A syringe pump (Razel Corp., model A-99) supplied 30-50% of daily N by injecting KNO<sub>3</sub> or Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> at the same rate that NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> disappeared from the solutions, while nitric acid additions from a pH controller (Omega, model PHCN-36) supplied 50-70% of daily N. The pH controller opened a solenoid (ASCO, model D8260G53V) when pH exceeded 5.8 and allowed acid solution to flow over the tip of a pH electrode in the nutrient solution reservoir. The pH was maintained at  $5.8\pm0.1$  in the bulk solution.  $NO_3^-$  levels in the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments were maintained within ±10% throughout the entire experiment.

#### Hydroponic system

Three identical hydroponic systems were arranged in a design similar to that of Bugbee and Salisbury (1989). Tub size, flow rate, lid construction, and tub placement were modified for this study.

#### Flow rates

Hydroponic solution was circulated through each tub at a flow rate of 130 ml s<sup>-1</sup> tub<sup>-1</sup> (flow rate measured before planting) and returned to the reservoirs beneath the tubs. By harvest, roots typically plugged some of the inlet manifold holes, and flow rates decreased by about 15% to 108 ml s<sup>-1</sup> tub<sup>-1</sup>. Magnetic drive pumps (Little Giant, model 4-MD-SC) recirculated the solution. Solution volume was kept constant by liquid level switches (Omega, model LV91) that opened shielded core solenoids (ASCO, catalog no. D8260G53V), which replenished solution as it was depleted by transpiration.

Oxygen concentration (% of saturation) was measured in preliminary experiments with pumps having flow rates about 20% slower than those used in our experiments. Oxygen concentration in the incoming solution was above 95%of saturation. At peak root mass, oxygen concentration at the bottom of the tub near the inlet manifold ranged between 65 and 95% (average = 80%). Oxygen concentration near the outlet ranged from 10 to 90% (average = 70%).

#### Root zone and total solution volume

Total root zone depth was 200 mm. For the first six days, solution volumes inside each tub were maintained at 10 mm below the lids, a tub volume of 30 L, to facilitate germination. During the remainder of the trial, 26 L of solution were inside the tubs. Total solution volume (tubs and reservoir) was 286 L during the first six days and 274 L thereafter.

## **Cultural conditions**

The cultural environment provided conditions to maximize growth and yield.

# Seeding density

Lids supporting the plants were made from two pieces of plastic grid with fiberglass windowscreen sandwiched in between them. The plastic grid was composed of cells 15 mm by 15 mm by 10 mm deep. Lids were 505 mm long and 383 mm wide. Seeds were placed in every other cell, then covered with inert media (Isolite, size CG-2, Innova Corp.). Seeding density was 1780 seeds per m<sup>2</sup>. Seeding densities and yield determinations per unit area are based on the 0.2 m<sup>2</sup> surface area of the tub. Germination sample counts were conducted five days after emergence on rows 3, 9, 13, 16, 22, 27 (rows spanning lid width). Average germination for all trials was 87%. Germination for each trial is shown in table 2.

		Germination (%)	
Trial	100 µM NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	1000 μM NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	4000 µM NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>
1	92.2	90.7	89.3
2	92.8	92.5	89.8
3	90.8	91.0	94.5
4	88.8	90.5	85.5
5	80.3	81.2	84.3
6	79.0	83.5	80.5
x	87.3	88.2	87.3

Table 2. Average germination percentages calculated from sample counts 5 days after emergence. The average is symbolized by  $\bar{x}$ .

# Light intensity and uniformity

Light intensity has a direct effect on photosynthesis and yield, so careful measurements are critical to uniformity. Lighting was provided by 1000-watt high pressure sodium lamps (Energy Technics). On the first day (day 0; 0 to 24 hours after emergence), plants received 4 hours of radiation at a photosynthetic photon flux (PPF) of 600  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. On day 1 (24 to 48 hours after emergence), 600  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> was supplied for 16 hours. Thereafter, the photoperiod was 18 hours at a PPF above 1000  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Reflectors were added on the walls to improve uniformity of light distribution. Light intensity fluctuated about 2.2% during a 30-minute time interval due to temperature fluctuations. PPF declined slowly as the lights aged. At the beginning of the first trial, the PPF at tub level averaged 1140  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, at 16 cm above the tub surface, it was 1183  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, and at

37 cm above the tub surface (canopy height at harvest), it was 1263  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. By the fifth trial, PPF at tub level was 1045  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, an 8.3% decrease. PPF levels at tub level for trial 1 are shown in Fig. 2; Fig. 3 shows PPF levels and uniformity for trial 5.

Edges of the tubs not bordering other tubs (guard rows) were shaded by three layers of windowscreen to reduce guard row effects. Table 3 compares light attenuation in a plant canopy to light attenuation through two and three layers of windowscreen.

A1	1109	C2 1125	<b>B3</b> 1141	C4 1138
<b>B</b> 1	1142	A2 1150	C3 1182	<b>A4</b> 1177
C1	1118	<b>B2</b> 1115	A3 1155	<b>B4</b> 1162

Fig. 2. Trial 1 PPF intensity and uniformity. All values are expressed as  $\mu$  mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Average PPF = 1141  $\mu$  mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

A1	1033	C2 1021	<b>B3</b> 1023	C4 1035
<b>B</b> 1	1069	A2 1062	C3 1099	A4 1086
C1	1012	<b>B2</b> 1010	<b>A3</b> 1074	<b>B4</b> 1017

Fig. 3. Trial 5 PPF intensity and uniformity. All values are expressed as  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. Average PPF = 1045  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

Table 3. Guard row radiation attenuation. PPF values are  $\mu$ mol m<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>.

mm from top of canopy	center of tub	(edge) 3 layers of windowscreen	(edge) 2 layers of windowscreen
0	1100	1100	1100
60	750	750	750
100	265	225	225
170	50	35	100
360	0	0	20

# Temperature

Seeds were vernalized for 4 days at 4 °C, then placed in the dark growth chamber for 5 days before receiving light. Germination temperature was  $16\pm1$ °C. After the lights were turned on, air temperatures were  $22.5\pm1$  °C daytime, and  $19.5\pm1$  °C at night. Nutrient solution temperature was consistently 1.5 °C warmer than air temperature. Air temperature was continuously measured with a Type E thermocouple shielded from radiation and connected to a datalogger (Campbell Scientific, model 21-X). Nutrient solution temperature was monitored continuously throughout trial number three using a Type E thermocouple connected to a datalogger (Campbell Scientific, model CR-10).

# Air velocity

Air velocity above the crop canopies was constant at an average speed of 0.65 m s<sup>-1</sup> (Fig. 4).

A1	0.68	C2 0.72	<b>B3</b> 0.72	C4 0.68
B1	0.69	A2 0.56	C3 0.65	<b>A4</b> 0.67
C1	0.58	<b>B2</b> 0.57	<b>A3</b> 0.52	<b>B4</b> 0.57

Fig. 4. Air velocity measurements (m s<sup>-1</sup>) made 30 mm above a canopy that was 170 mm high.

#### **Relative humidity**

Relative humidity was maintained above 95% while seeds germinated in the dark. Throughout the rest of the trial, relative humidity was  $65 \pm 3\%$  during the light period and  $85 \pm 3\%$  during the dark period.

#### **Data analysis**

#### Sample preparation

Roots, shoots, and the stem bases left in the Isolite were separated at harvest. A subsample of shoots was rinsed in DI water to wash away aluminum and sodium deposits on the leaves; the remaining shoots were not rinsed. Roots were separated into three portions. The first sample was not rinsed; N concentrations from this sample were used to calculate total N disappearing from the nutrient solution. The second sample was rinsed with DI water for 60 seconds to wash away occluded  $NO_3$ ; the N levels in this sample were used to calculate N inside the roots. The third sample was rinsed in 100 mM HCl for 60 seconds, then DI water for 60 seconds. The acid rinse washed away occluded iron from the roots.

Plant samples were dried at 50 °C for 72 hours, then at 70 °C for 24 hours. Sample weights were recorded, then samples were ground to pass through a 1-mm screen.

#### <u>Plant nitrogen measurements</u>

Total N was analyzed by combustion (LECO, model CHN-1000, St. Joseph, MI). Precision of analysis by this instrument compares favorably with the Kjeldahl procedure (see Watson and Isaac, 1990).

 $NO_3^-$  within plant tissues was measured colorimetrically using a modified Griess-Ilosvay procedure with an autoanalyzer (QuikChem AE, Lachat
Instruments). Methods reviewed by Keeney and Nelson (1982) were modified for our plant tissues. Plant tissue (250 mg) was shaken in 50 ml of 2 M KCl for 15 minutes, refrigerated at 4 °C overnight, then filtered through Whatman 42 paper. The filtrate was diluted 10 fold, then analyzed for  $NO_3^-$ . The 2 M KCl solution contained 2 ml of 32 N H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> L<sup>-1</sup> to suppress microbial activity. Reduced N was calculated by subtracting  $NO_3^-$ -N from total N.

### Other nutrient analysis

Inorganic elements in plant tissues from an elevated  $CO_2$  and ambient  $CO_2$ trial including B, Ca, Co, Cu, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Mo, P, S, Si, and Zn were analyzed using the Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) atomic emission spectrophotometer (Watson and Isaac, 1990).

## Nitrogen consumption and recovery

Daily nitrogen consumption from the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments was calculated by adding N additions from the pH controllers, syringe pumps, and pipette spikes, then measuring the net increase or decrease in solution N concentration at the beginning of each day, and subtracting the solution removed by the NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> monitor (100 ml per hour). Total N disappearing from all nutrient solutions was calculated by subtracting the amount of N added from that remaining in solution at harvest. Nitrogen recovery was determined by dividing the N recovered in the plant by the N removed from the nutrient solution.

## Potassium recovery

Potassium recovery was measured as a check of our mass balance approach for measuring N recovery. Potassium was selected because of its high solubility. Other elements such as calcium precipitate in the hydroponic system, thus underreporting the amount remaining in solution at the end of the trial. Potassium recovery was calculated using the same methods as N recovery, except potassium in nutrient solution and plants was measured using ICP.

Potassium analysis by ICP is sensitive to the preanalysis digestion and dilution procedure. Digesting plant tissue with nitric acid/hydrogen peroxide instead of nitric acid/perchloric acid increased potassium recovery by about 2%. Sample dilution had a greater effect on potassium recovery; proper dilution increased recovery about 15%. Measurement of potassium in the hydroponic solution had limitations, too. Potassium values of our nutrient solution were underreported from 8.1 to 22.2% (average = 16.1%).

### Statistical analysis

Lid position within each system was changed six days after emergence to minimize possible position effects and allow data to be analyzed as a completely randomized design. Nitrogen treatments were randomized among systems for each trial. Data was analyzed with the assistance of Dr. Donald Sisson. When analysis of variance (ANOVA) procedures indicated statistical significance ( $\alpha$ =0.05), least significance difference (LSD) was calculated. Yield and tissue N data were analyzed as a completely randomized design. Daily N uptake data was analyzed using repeated measures ANOVA.

Twenty-five samples of plant material from each N treatment were analyzed for total N: eight unrinsed shoots, four rinsed shoots, four unrinsed roots, four DI water-rinsed roots, four acid rinsed roots, and one sample of stem bases. Four unrinsed shoots, two acid-rinsed roots, two unrinsed roots, and one stem base sample were analyzed by ICP.  $NO_3^-$  was measured in four shoots and four roots from each treatment.

Data analysis was complicated by problems with trials 3-6 of Mn deficiency and *Pythium* fungal infection. Therefore, many of our measurements have less replication than we originally planned.

## **Extenuating circumstances**

The 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment became infected with *Pythium* fungus during trial 2. All N treatments became infected in Trial 3 and Trial 6. Metalaxyl ([N-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-N-(methoxyacetyl) alanine methyl ester]) CIBA-GEIGY Corporation, Agricultural Division) was used in trials 4 and 5 as a preventative against *Pythium* infection. Metalaxyl was also added in trials 3 and 6 after *Pythium* infection symptoms were seen.

Subsequent analysis of plant tissue from trials 3-6 revealed that all plants were manganese (Mn) deficient. Trial 3 was moderately deficient (Mn levels were 10  $\mu$ g g<sup>-1</sup>; about 33% of optimum), while trials 4-6 were severely deficient (manganese levels 3-5  $\mu$ g g<sup>-1</sup>; about 10% of optimum). The Mn deficiency was caused by the use of an incorrect salt (MgCl<sub>2</sub> instead of MnCl<sub>2</sub>) in the stock

solution, which had been mixed by an undergraduate student worker.

A summary of metalaxyl additions and *Pythium* symptoms is provided in Table 4.

Table 4. Summary of metalaxyl additions and *Pythium* symptoms in all trials. Visual *Pythium* symptoms were indicated by discoloration of the roots, and in severe cases, some wilting of the shoots. Visual estimates of *Pythium* infection were made as follows: slight = less than 10% of roots discolored; moderate = 10-50% discoloration; severe = more than 50% discoloration. Presence of *Pythium* was confirmed by laboratory analysis.

Trial	CO <sub>2</sub> (ppm)	Metalaxyl (ppm)	Pythium Visual Symptoms
1	360	0	None
2	1200	0	4000 $\mu$ M N treatment moderate infection
3	360	7.5	1000 and 4000 $\mu$ M severe, 100 $\mu$ M moderate
4	1200	5.5	None (metalaxyl added early as preventative)
5	360	5.5	None (metalaxyl added early as preventative)
6	1200	2.25	100 and 1000 moderate, 4000 $\mu$ M slight

### RESULTS

Although three replicate studies were conducted at each CO<sub>2</sub> level, two of each of the three replications (four studies) were confounded by *Pythium* fungus, or by manganese deficiency. Most of the following discussion will compare results obtained from the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments grown once at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> and once in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. However, the discussion of N recovery, N use efficiency, and water use efficiency utilizes data from all six trials. Detailed results of yield, nitrogen uptake, and tissue N concentrations from the experiments with the confounding factors (trials 3-6) are presented in Appendix A.

### Nitrogen recovery

Nitrogen losses ranged from 5.3 to 40.0%. Nitrogen losses generally decreased as solution N supply decreased (Table 5). This trend was significant at P = 0.11 between the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M N treatments. There was no consistent effect of CO<sub>2</sub> level on N recovery (Table 6). Table E-1 displays ANOVA results for N recovery from the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M N treatments. The ANOVA for all three N treatments is shown in Table E-2.

	Nitrogen Recovery (%)								
[N]	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4	Trial 5	Trial 6	x	s.e.	
100 µM	81.2	89.4	83.9	77.0	88.8	83.7	84.0	1.9	
1000 µM	80.9	81.3	83.4	74.2	81.4	73.4	79.1	1.7	
4000 µM	81.8	94.7	59.3	60.4	60.0	75.2	71.9	6.0	

Table 5. Percentage of N added to hydroponic system that was recovered in the plant tissue and nutrient solution at the end of the trial. The average for all treatments is denoted by  $\bar{x}$ ; s.e. signifies standard error of the mean.

Table 6. Average N recovery (%) at all N levels in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and elevated (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) CO<sub>2</sub>. The average for all treatments is denoted by  $\bar{x}$ ; s.e. signifies standard error of the mean.

	Nitrogen Recovery (%)					
	ambier	nt CO <sub>2</sub>	elevated CO <sub>2</sub>			
[N]	×	s.e.	x	s.e.		
100 µM	84.6	2.2	83.4	3.6		
1000 µM	81.9	0.8	76.3	2.5		
4000 μM	67.0	7.4	76.8	9.9		

### **Growth analysis**

#### Total biomass

Elevating CO<sub>2</sub> from 360 to 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> increased total biomass by 16.3% at 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and by 15.2% at 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Biomass increased with increasing NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> by 4.1% (P = 0.11) (Fig. 5). Table E-3 provides the ANOVA.



Fig. 5. Total biomass (kg m<sup>-2</sup>) of wheat grown at CO<sub>2</sub> levels of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.

### Carbon partitioning to the roots

Percent root mass increased at both NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> levels when plants were grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. Percent root mass of the 100  $\mu$ M N treatment was higher than the 1000  $\mu$ M N treatment at both CO<sub>2</sub> levels (P < 0.01). There was not a significant CO<sub>2</sub> X NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> interaction (Fig. 6, Table E-4).



Fig. 6. Percent root mass of wheat grown at  $CO_2$  levels of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.

## Nitrogen uptake

## Ambient CO<sub>2</sub>

Rigorous statistical analysis of all 23 days is not possible because confounding factors decreased N uptake after day 10 in some of the trials. However, N uptake during the first 10 days was unaffected by confounding factors, so a repeated measures ANOVA was calculated for days 0-8 (Table E-5). Nitrogen disappearance rates from all experiments are shown for days 0-10, but N disappearance during days 11-22 is not replicated.

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There was not a significant difference in average daily uptake between the two N levels through 8 days after emergence (Fig. 7).

# Elevated CO<sub>2</sub>

Daily N disappearance followed a similar pattern in elevated  $CO_2$  and ambient  $CO_2$ , with uptake peaking near 12 days after emergence (Fig. 8).



Fig. 7. Daily N disappearance (mmol N m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>) from plants grown in 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> at a CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. 8. Daily N disappearance (mmol N m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>) from plants grown in 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub> at a CO<sub>2</sub> concentration of 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.

### Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> vs. ambient CO<sub>2</sub>

Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> increased total N consumption in both the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments, especially after day 6. Fig. 9 compares daily N consumption from the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment in ambient and elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, while Fig. 10 compares the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments in ambient and elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. When both NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments are pooled within each CO<sub>2</sub> level, differences in N uptake caused by CO<sub>2</sub> are evident from days 5-22 (Fig. 11). Fig. 12 shows the ratio of average daily N uptake in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> compared to ambient CO<sub>2</sub> when N levels are pooled.



Fig. 9. Daily N disappearance (mmol N m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>) from plants grown in 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> at CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. 10. Daily N disappearance (mmol N m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>) from plants grown in 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> at CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. 11. Daily N disappearance (mmol N m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>) from plants grown in 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> at CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>. Values from the N treatments are pooled. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. 12. Ratio of average daily uptake in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) compared to ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>). Values from N treatments are pooled and expressed as a ratio (N uptake elevated CO<sub>2</sub>:N uptake ambient CO<sub>2</sub>).

## Nitrogen use efficiency

Nitrogen use efficiency is often defined as the amount of N in plant biomass per unit of biomass produced (Hocking and Meyer, 1991). Table 7 compares nitrogen use efficiency calculated in this way. There is no effect of N or  $CO_2$ concentration on nitrogen use efficiency.

Because we measured total N applied, N assimilated, and N lost, we may also calculate nitrogen use efficiency as the amount of N disappearing from the hydroponic system per unit of biomass produced. Calculating nitrogen use efficiency in this manner provides different results (Table 8), but there are no significant differences among any treatments (Table E-6).

Table 7. Nitrogen use efficiency  $(g_{biomass} g_{N absorbed}^{-1})$ . The average for all treatments is denoted by  $\bar{x}$ ; s.e. signifies standard error of the mean.

		[CO <sub>2</sub> ] (µr	nol mol <sup>-1</sup> )	
	3	12	200	
[NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ] (µM)	x	s.e.	x	s.e.
100	27.4	0.78	27.2	0.38
1000	27.6	0.98	26.6	0.29

		[CO <sub>2</sub> ] (µ1	nol mol <sup>-1</sup> )	
	3	60	12	200
[NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ] (μM)	x	s.e.	x	s.e.
100	23.2	0.11	22.7	0.67
1000	23.1	1.13	20.9	0.56

Table 8. Nitrogen use efficiency  $(g_{biomass} g_{N removed}^{-1})$ . The average for all treatments is denoted by  $\bar{x}$ ; s.e. signifies standard error of the mean.

### **Tissue nitrogen content**

### CO<sub>2</sub> effects on shoot nitrogen

Shoot total N increased in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (5.1%) as compared to ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (4.8%, Fig. 13a). This increase was significant at both N levels (P = 0.04) and was caused by the increased shoot NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> found in plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. Reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) concentrations were nearly identical in plants grown at both CO<sub>2</sub> levels (Fig. 13b). ANOVAs for N content in shoots and roots are provided in Appendix E, Tables E-7, E-8, and E-9.



Fig. 13. Total N (%) in shoots and roots (A); N fractions (%) in shoots (B); and N fractions (%) in roots (C) of plants grown in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M.

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#### Nitrogen effects on shoot nitrogen

In ambient CO<sub>2</sub>, the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment accumulated slightly more total N in the shoots (4.9%) than did the 100  $\mu$ M treatment (4.7%), but this difference was not statistically significant. In elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, tissue N concentrations were nearly identical in both N treatments (5.1%) (Fig. 13a). Shoot NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and NH<sub>2</sub> levels were not significantly affected by N treatments (Fig. 13b). There was no significant difference in total N concentrations between N treatments at either CO<sub>2</sub> level.

## CO<sub>2</sub> effects on root nitrogen

Although root total N concentrations were similar at both CO<sub>2</sub> levels (Fig. 13a), plants grown in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> had increased levels of NH<sub>2</sub> (3.1% vs 2.1%) and decreased levels of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> (0.2% vs 1.1%) (Fig. 13c).

## Nitrogen effects on root nitrogen

Neither root total N (Fig. 13a) nor N fractions were significantly affected by N treatment (Fig. 13c).

## Recovery of other inorganic elements

Because of the difficulty of accurately measuring trace amounts of elements with ICP, some micronutrient elements had recoveries greater than 100% (Table 9), which typically occurs from trace contamination in the hydroponics system. The initial data and calculations for the 100  $\mu$ M N treatment in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (column one) are shown in Appendix D.

	Ambient	CO <sub>2</sub> Reco	very (%)	Elevated CO <sub>2</sub> Recovery (%)				
	Nitrate Treatment (µM)							
Element	100	1000	4000	100	1000	4000		
Boron	63.6	50.8	53.2	87.5	21.3	#		
Calcium	40.5	48.6	56.1	38.5	30.2	72.2		
Copper	1000.0	862.3	739.8	100.8	57.3	20.9		
Iron	43.6	38.1	53.5	64.9	38.1	70.5		
Magnesium	60.3	56.2	81.6	71.0	52.0	96.7		
Manganese	288.1	290.6	48.8	11.8	3.7	0.5		
Molybdenum	#	#	#	87.8	#	4.2		
Potassium	76.3	89.5	86.3	65.5	90.7	87.9		
Phosphorus	75.1	74.3	69.9	78.9	83.1	77.0		
Silicon	30.9	47.6	24.4	17.2	24.6	22.6		
Sulfur	54.0	35.6	97.0	40.7	36.3	67.3		
Zinc	#	#	97.7	73.1	53.0	66.7		

Table 9. Percent recoveries of inorganic elements added to nutrient solution. Cells marked with # indicate that more of this nutrient was measured in the solution remaining at the end of the trial than was added during the trial (see Appendix D).

### Transpiration

Transpiration rates were similar between NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> levels at each CO<sub>2</sub> level, but transpiration decreased in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. Fig. 14 shows daily transpiration per m<sup>2</sup> ground area. Note that plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> weighed about 15% more than ambient-grown plants; if transpiration were expressed per kg biomass or per m<sup>2</sup> leaf area, the CO<sub>2</sub>-induced reduction in transpiration rate would be even larger. As expected, plants grown in elevated  $CO_2$  had greater water use efficiency ( $g_{plant} kg_{water transpired}^{-1}$ ) (Table E-10).



Fig. 14. Daily transpiration rate (L m<sup>-2</sup><sub>ground</sub> d<sup>-1</sup>) of plants grown in 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> at CO<sub>2</sub> levels of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>.

### DISCUSSION

### Nitrogen recovery

Decreasing N levels from 1000 to 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> reduced N losses by 6.2% (P = 0.11). However, elevated CO<sub>2</sub> did not alter N recovery. These findings may be important to NASA's efforts to produce wheat in contained environments in space for two reasons. First, accumulation of gaseous products from volatile N losses such as ammonia and nitrous oxides would be undesirable in an enclosed environment. Secondly, resources such as N are expensive to supply in space, so minimal N supply levels need to be found.

Nitrogen losses measured by mass balance ranged from 5.3 to 40.0%. These results could be affected by Mn deficiencies and *Pythium* infections, as well as possible shortcomings in the mass balance N recovery approach. Because root health did not significantly affect N recovery when it was blocked in the ANOVA comparing the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M N treatments (Table E-1), it is unlikely that the Mn deficiencies and *Pythium* infections strongly affected N recovery. There are several possible sources of experimental error in the mass balance N recovery measurements, such as inexact N concentrations in the stock hydroponic solutions, solution spilling from the N monitoring system, errors in reading solution level in the syringes or pH control buckets, or improper calibration of the ion selective electrode. Great effort was taken to mimimize these errors, and they should have occurred at similar magnitudes in all trials. These errors could equally overestimate, as well as underestimate, N recovery. Therefore, although the trend

of increasing N recovery with decreasing N content was not statistically significant (P = 0.11), it appears to be real. The exact amount of N lost from our hydroponic systems may need to be established by more replications using mass balance measurements or by alternative methods of measuring N recovery, such as using <sup>15</sup>N tracers.

Potassium recovery is probably not an accurate reference ion for mass balance N recovery in our hydroponic systems. We had difficulty recovering more than 90% of the potassium added using the mass balance approach. Potassium recovery was often less than N recovery. Nitrogen recovery should be more accurate than potassium recovery because the instruments used to measure both solution and plant N are more accurate than those used for potassium. Potassium measurement by ICP was highly influenced by dilution and digestion procedures.

My studies did not indicate a  $CO_2$  effect on N recovery (P > 0.25), although N losses due to microbial denitrification may increase in elevated  $CO_2$ . Results by Smart et al. (unpublished data) show that denitrifying enzyme activity is substantially increased in elevated  $CO_2$ . Zak et al. (1993) found that labile C (an important denitrifying bacteria substrate) in the rhizosphere significantly increases in elevated  $CO_2$ . Microbial denitrification, however, may not be a significant contributor to N losses in this hydroponic system. If denitrification occurred in my experiments at the potential rate measured by Smart et al. (unpublished data), only 0.5% of the added N would have been lost by denitrification processes. full denitrification potential because diffusion limitations or energy source (glucose) in the reaction flasks differ from typical root zone conditions.

Ammonia volatilization may be a more important mechanism for N losses than suggested by my literature review. While these experiments were being conducted, measurements of ammonia losses from hydroponic wheat (grown in a similar environment) were made in our lab and estimated to be about 7% of the added N (Monje and Bugbee, unpublished data).

Photorespiration may have accounted for some N loss as ammonia. However, if losses from photorespiration were a major factor, N recovery in elevated  $CO_2$  should increase (all other things being equal) because photorespiration should be minimal in high  $CO_2$  (Bowes, 1991). Nitrogen losses did not increase in elevated  $CO_2$  in our studies, suggesting that photorespiration was not an important source of N loss.

Determination of the importance of the mechanisms by which N is lost from our hydroponic system was beyond the scope of this study. Research conducted in this area would need to measure ammonia and nitrous oxide production. Although ammonia production is relatively easy to measure, nitrous oxide is very difficult to measure because it is quickly reduced to atmospheric nitrogen. Nitrogen isotopes or an in-line gas chromatograph would probably have to be used to measure nitrous oxide production.

## **Growth analysis**

### Total biomass

Elevated  $CO_2$  increased total biomass by about 15%. Mitchell et al. (1993) found that elevated  $CO_2$  increased grain yield of winter wheat by 15%. Hocking and Meyer (1991) reported a 112% increase in dry matter production due to elevated  $CO_2$ , but conceded that this response may have been much smaller if their plants had been grown as communities at commercial densities instead of one plant per pot. Several studies have found increased biomass production in elevated  $CO_2$  in a variety of plant species (Acock, 1990; Lawlor and Mitchell, 1991).

There was no significant difference in total biomass produced between the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments at either ambient or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 5). Previous experiments conducted in our lab suggested that plants supplied with 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> would yield less than plants supplied with 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (Smart et al., unpublished data). However, these preliminary experiments differed from my current experiments in that they were conducted in a hydroponic system with a smaller root zone volume and slower flow rates (about 20%). My current studies were less likely to be N limited because a larger root zone volume and faster flow rates provide more room for root growth and allow plants to grow at lower N concentrations (Edwards and Asher, 1974). My results show that vegetative wheat can be successfully grown in hydroponic systems at NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100  $\mu$ M. Further research should be conducted to

determine if grain yields would also be equivalent in both  $NO_3^-$  treatments.

### Percent root mass

Plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> had a higher percent root mass than at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> in both N treatments (Fig. 6). Vessey et al. (1990) measured lower root mass in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> in soybeans. Hocking and Meyer (1991) found that wheat grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> had a lower percent root mass than in ambient CO<sub>2</sub>. They also found that wheat grown with deficient N supply had about 25% higher root mass in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, and over 50% higher root mass in ambient CO<sub>2</sub>. In our studies, percent root mass increased in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> by 4.7% at 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and by 3.0% at 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Although this interaction between CO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> was not significant (Table E-4), this may suggest that 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> stressed the plants for N enough to increase carbon partitioning to the roots, even though biomass was more similar (P = 0.11) between the N treatments than was percent root mass (P < 0.01).

High  $CO_2$  might exacerbate N stress by increasing biomass production. Hocking and Meyer (1991) reported that N stress developed at a faster rate in  $CO_2$ -enriched wheat that was N deficient. It might also limit the ability of plants to take advantage of increased  $CO_2$  availability. For example, Cure et al. (1988) cited research finding that increases in dry mass due to elevated  $CO_2$  were reduced in low N treatments.

### Nitrogen uptake

Elevated  $CO_2$  should increase crop plant fertilizer requirements (Acock, 1990; Allen et al., 1988; Hocking and Meyer, 1991), but there is little information on the magnitude of this projected increase or the life cycle stages at which this might occur. Knowledge of the life cycle stages at which N uptake is increased by elevated  $CO_2$  might be useful in developing fertilizer management programs as global  $CO_2$  levels increase.

#### Nitrogen concentration

In ambient CO<sub>2</sub>, daily N disappearance rates were similar in both N treatments until 16 days after emergence, at which point plants grown in 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> consumed less N. This extra uptake during the last 7 days probably accounted for the slightly higher total N concentration in the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment, since yields and N recovery from the two treatments were similar. Since the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> yielded 4.6% more than the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment, this extra growth in the higher N treatment may have occurred in the last week before harvest, thus increasing N uptake.

In elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, plants grown in 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> began taking up more N on day 9 than the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment (Fig. 8). This extra N uptake did not result in significantly higher tissue N concentrations (Fig. 13) or biomass (Fig. 5). The 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment had a higher N recovery in this experiment (89.4 vs 81.3%); therefore, some of the extra N disappearance from the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment during days 9-22 may be N losses from the system.

### CO<sub>2</sub> concentration

At NO<sub>3</sub> concentrations of 100  $\mu$ M, wheat grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> consumed more N from days 7-11 and 16-22 than in ambient CO<sub>2</sub>. The 7- to 11-day period features tiller formation and rapid leaf expansion. The first tiller began forming at day 6, and the second tiller emerged on day 7. Leaf 3 expanded on day 7 to about 85% of full size, and then leaf 4 emerged on day 8. By day 9, leaf 4 was about 50% of full size. Therefore, high N demand during this period probably reflects high plant growth demand. During the 16- to 22-day period, the flag leaf was expanding, and the grain head was beginning to form. Plant N uptake declined during this period and may indicate that flag leaf expansion and grain fill N demands may come more from reallocation of tissue N than from root uptake. Plants were harvested in the early boot stage, when the grain head was just beginning to emerge.

At NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 1000  $\mu$ M, N consumption was increased by elevated CO<sub>2</sub> during days 7-15 and 19-22 (Fig. 10). Plants grown in 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> followed similar ontogenetic development patterns as those grown in 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Because days 11-22 are not replicated at each CO<sub>2</sub> level, it is difficult to form conclusions regarding the importance of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> level (100 vs 1000) and the days later in the life cycle when CO<sub>2</sub> caused increased N disappearance (16-22 at ambient CO<sub>2</sub>, 19-22 at elevated CO<sub>2</sub>).

Pooling the values from the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments (Fig. 11) showed that N uptake was consistently higher from day 5 to harvest in elevated

 $CO_2$ , although this difference was not always statistically significant. These increases were greatest on days 7 and 8, when the plants grown in elevated  $CO_2$ consumed over 30% more N than ambient-grown plants, and during days 19-22, when N consumption in elevated  $CO_2$  was 45% higher than in ambient  $CO_2$  (Fig. 12).

This research should assist the development of N management programs in elevated  $CO_2$  by providing useful information regarding the magnitude and timing at which fertilizer N requirements for wheat will differ from current practices. If fertilizer is applied only once, then 15-20% more fertilizer may need to be applied. Based on this research, split N applications should be increased at tillering and early boot stages by about 40% over current rates. More research studying N uptake needs to be conducted in soils with lighting and temperature conditions similar to agricultural environments to better estimate the effects that elevated  $CO_2$  will have on current N fertilizer management practices.

#### Nitrogen use efficiency

Nitrogen use efficiency, whether defined as plant growth per unit N taken up or per unit N removed from the hydroponic system, was not affected by either N level or  $CO_2$  level. Many other researchers have measured increased N use efficiency in elevated  $CO_2$  (Cure et al., 1988; Goudriaan and De Ruiter, 1983; Hocking and Meyer, 1991; Larigauderie et al., 1988; Schmitt and Edwards, 1981), primarily because plants grown in elevated  $CO_2$  increased in biomass while tissue N concentrations decreased. However, in my experiments, plants grown in elevated  $CO_2$  accumulated more tissue N than those grown in ambient  $CO_2$ . This increase in tissue N offset the expected improvement in N use efficiency due to increased growth. My tissue N results should be replicated, though, because in my experiments that were Mn deficient, total tissue N increased in ambient  $CO_2$ .

### Nitrogen content

### CO<sub>2</sub> effects on shoot nitrogen

Elevated CO<sub>2</sub> increased shoot total N (5.1%) as compared with ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (4.8%) (Fig. 13a). This finding is not consistent with many published results which have found that tissue N concentrations either remained constant or decreased in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (Allen et al., 1988; Hocking and Meyer, 1991; Garbutt et al., 1990; Vessey et al., 1990). However, most of the increase in N concentration in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> was attributed to increased shoot NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> found in plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>, while reduced N concentrations were similar in plants grown at both CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations (Fig. 13b). Hocking and Meyer (1991) measured a decrease in nitrate reductase activity in wheat leaves. If nitrate reductase activity decreases but NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> transport to the leaves does not decrease at the same magnitude, then this might account for the shoots accumulating more NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>.

## <u>CO<sub>2</sub> effects on root nitrogen</u>

Although root total N concentrations were similar at both  $CO_2$  levels (Fig. 13a), N partitioning was altered by  $CO_2$ . Roots grown in ambient  $CO_2$  had

substantially more reduced N (3.1% vs. 2.1%) (Fig. 13c). Hocking and Meyer (1991) also measured lower concentrations of reduced N in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. However, in our experiments, levels of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N were much lower in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (0.2% vs. 1.1%). This finding differs sharply from that of Hocking and Meyer (1991), who measured lower concentrations of root NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. Their studies were conducted in soils that may have experienced limitations to N supply by mass flow to the root surface due to reduced transpiration in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. The rapid flow rates of our hydroponic system should minimize mass flow limitations.

More replication is necessary to establish whether my results are significant or due to experimental error, especially since my later experiments (although Mn deficient) followed trends similar to those observed by Hocking and Meyer (1991). Many published studies of elevated  $CO_2$  effects are limited by the lack of replication, or pseudoreplication of the  $CO_2$  treatment.  $CO_2$  enrichment is expensive and replication using single growth chambers is time consuming. In my experiments, I attempted to specifically avoid the problem of pseudoreplication by repeating each experimental treatment three times in the same growth chamber ( $CO_2$  concentration). Unfortunately, only one trial at each  $CO_2$  level had adequate Mn and absence of *Pythium* by harvest. Since N concentrations were determined only at harvest, the experimental results with the confounding factors were ignored because they varied sharply from the healthy plants. Some of the differences between my investigation and others that have been reported without replication (Hocking and Meyer, 1991) may be caused by inadequate replication.

There are also other cultural differences in addition to root zone environment (hydroponic vs. soil) between our studies and those of Hocking and Meyer (1991) that could contribute to discrepancies in results. Photoperiod was dramatically different. Their glasshouse study used natural light which averaged 25 mol<sub>photons</sub> d<sup>-1</sup>. Our wheat was supplied 71 mol<sub>photons</sub> d<sup>-1</sup>. Hocking and Meyer (1991) used temperatures ranging from 12 °C (min.) to 32.5 °C (max.); our temperatures were 22.5 °C/19.5 °C. Two of our experiments which were manganese deficient resulted in tissue N fractions following a trend similar to that found by Hocking and Meyer (1991), but root NH<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> were lower in plants supplied elevated  $CO_2$  (Appendix A). Our root N fraction results may deviate from those of Hocking and Meyer (1991) due to experimental error, or it may be that our conditions of fast growth actually influenced roots to accumulate more  $NO_3$  in elevated  $CO_2$ . Nitrogen uptake rates (Fig. 15) show that plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> take up more N daily, particularly during the last half of the experiments (11-22 days after emergence). It might be that this extra N is accumulated in the roots as NO<sub>3</sub> while awaiting transport to the leaves.

### Root zone effects on plant nitrogen

Shoot NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and NH<sub>2</sub> levels were not significantly affected by N treatments (Fig. 13b), suggesting that the 100  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment supplied adequate N. Similarly, N concentration did not significantly affect root total N or N fractions within CO<sub>2</sub> levels, which also suggests that 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> provided

equally adequate N supply.

## Transpiration

Transpiration rates were similar between NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> levels at each CO<sub>2</sub> level (Fig. 14), but plants grown in CO<sub>2</sub> had a higher water use efficiency. This finding is consistent with those of other researchers (Acock, 1990; Lawlor and Mitchell, 1991). Plants growing in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> open their stomates less than ambient-grown plants, thus increasing resistance to water diffusion from the leaf and reducing transpiration. Since transpiration within each CO<sub>2</sub> level is dependent on absorbed radiation, the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments should have similar transpiration rates.

### CONCLUSIONS

Future research should replicate minimal N supply, N recovery, daily N uptake, and N use efficiency in ambient and elevated  $CO_2$ . In addition to 23-day studies, these areas should be addressed throughout the full life cycle of wheat.

This research suggests that  $100 \ \mu M \ NO_3^{-}$  was adequate N to sustain total biomass production in our hydroponic system. Nitrogen losses decreased as solution N decreased. Therefore, N supply less than  $100 \ \mu M$  might further reduce N losses without reducing yields.

These studies clearly show that N is lost from our hydroponic systems. Although we measured N losses between 5 and 40%, we cannot account for the importance of the mechanisms that cause N losses. Future research should explore these N loss mechanisms, as well as their relative importance. An ammonia trap, N isotopes, and an in-line gas chromatograph might be used for this research.

Because our research in a rigorously controlled environment shows that elevated  $CO_2$  increases N uptake by 17.6%, particularly during tillering and early grain fill, daily N uptake as influenced by elevated  $CO_2$  should be studied in field conditions.

Nitrogen use efficiency (plant biomass/unit N absorbed by the plant) was similar at all  $CO_2$  and N levels in our experiments. This contradicts the results of Hocking and Meyer (1991). Our results should be further replicated to determine their possible significance.

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APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A: EXPERIMENTS WITH

CONFOUNDING FACTORS

This appendix compares yield, N uptake, and tissue N results from experiments affected by *Pythium* infection, fungicide additions, and manganese deficiency. These results from the treatment that started with 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub>- are also presented.

#### **Total biomass**

#### Ambient CO<sub>2</sub>

Because later experiments were infected with *Pythium* fungal species, metalaxyl [N-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-N-(methoxyacetyl)-DL-alanine, methyl ester] was added to one ambient and one elevated  $CO_2$  trial in small doses throughout the trial as a preventative. Metalaxyl prevented *Pythium* growth, but appeared to decrease yield. However, experiments in which metalaxyl was added were also manganese deficient, so it is unknown whether the results observed are due to metalaxyl, manganese deficiency, or a combination of both. Cumulative metalaxyl additions were about half of the recommended rate for a one-time soil drench, so it seems probable that manganese deficiency was the cause of the observed results.

Plants treated with metalaxyl (and manganese deficient) had total biomass reduced by about 20% as compared to healthy plants at all N levels. Within the metalaxyl experiment, the 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment yielded less than the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatments (Fig. A-1).



Fig. A-1. Total biomass (g m<sup>-2</sup>) of trials 1 and 5. The 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment is represented by it's average concentration throughout the trial, 2000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Values are expressed as means with standard errors. Trial 1 represents ambient CO<sub>2</sub> with no metalaxyl added. Trial 5 was ambient CO<sub>2</sub> with metalaxyl.

#### Elevated CO<sub>2</sub>

Additions of metalaxyl to plants grown in elevated  $CO_2$  reduced yields by about 25% compared to healthy plants with no metalaxyl added. There was no significant yield difference between the 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub> treatment within the metalaxyl treatment, but the 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub> treatment had a significantly lower yield than the 1000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub> treatment (Fig. A-2).



Fig. A-2. Total biomass (g m<sup>-2</sup>) of plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. The 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment is represented by it's average concentration throughout the trial, 2000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>. Values are expressed as means with standard errors. Trial 2 represents elevated CO<sub>2</sub> with healthy plants. Trial 4 was elevated CO<sub>2</sub> with metalaxyl added and Mn deficiency.

#### Yield Summary

As previously mentioned, *Pythium* infected some of the experiments and reduced yields. Fig. A-3 is a summary of the yield from all experiments, including those infected with *Pythium*.



Fig. A-3. Yield summary (g m<sup>-2</sup>) of all six trials. Trials 1, 3, and 5 were grown in ambient CO<sub>2</sub>; trials 2, 4, and 6 were elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. Trials 1 and 2 had healthy roots (except for the 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treatment in trial 2), trials 4 and 5 were treated with metalaxyl to prevent fungal infections, and trials 3 and 6 were infected with *Pythium*. Trials 3-6 were Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.

#### Percent root mass



Fig. A-4. Percent root mass at ambient  $CO_2$ . Trial 5 had metalaxyl added and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-5. Percent root mass at elevated  $CO_2$ . Trial 4 had metalaxyl added and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-6. Percentage root mass as affected by elevated  $CO_2$ . Trial 5 was at ambient  $CO_2$ , while trial 4 was conducted at elevated  $CO_2$ . Both trials were Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.

#### Nitrogen consumption

Nitrogen consumption dropped off near day 9 in both ambient and elevated  $CO_2$ . This was probably due to plants exhausting their Mn reserves and becoming N stressed (Fig.s A-7 and A-8).



Fig. A-7. Daily N consumption (mmol m<sup>-2</sup> d<sup>-1</sup>) from plants grown in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>). Trial 1 had healthy plants, while trial 5 plants were Mn deficient.



Fig. A-8. Daily N consumption (mmol  $m^{-2} d^{-1}$ ) from plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>). Trial 2 had healthy plants, while trial 4 plants were Mn deficient.

#### Nitrogen content



Fig. A-9. Concentration of total N (%) in shoots and roots of plants grown in ambient  $CO_2$  (trial 5) and elevated  $CO_2$  (trial 4) with 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl added to the root zone and Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-10. Concentration of total N (%) in shoots and roots of plants grown in ambient  $CO_2$  without metalaxyl (trial 1) and with 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl and Mn deficient (trial 5) added to the root zone. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-11. Concentration of total N (%) in shoots and roots of plants grown in elevated  $CO_2$  without metalaxyl (trial 2) and with 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl and Mn deficient (trial 4). Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-12. Concentration (%) of reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>N in shoots of plants grown in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100, 1000, and 2000  $\mu$ M. Trial 5 had 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl added and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-13. Concentration (%) of reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>N in shoots of plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100, 1000, and 2000  $\mu$ M. Trial 4 had 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl added and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-14. Concentration (%) of reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub>-N in shoots of plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> at average solution NO<sub>3</sub> concentrations of 100, 1000, and 2000  $\mu$ M. Trial 4 had 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl added and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-15. Concentration (%) of reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>N in roots of plants grown in `ambient (trial 5) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (trial 4) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M with 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl and Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-16. Concentration (%) of reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>N in roots of plants grown in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Trial 5 was treated with 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.



Fig. A-17. Concentration (%) of reduced N (NH<sub>2</sub>) and NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>N in roots of plants grown in elevated CO<sub>2</sub> at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Trial 4 was treated with 5.5 ppm of metalaxyl and was Mn deficient. Values are expressed as means with standard errors.

APPENDIX B: 4000  $\mu$ M N DEPLETION AND YIELD

The treatment that started at 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> has been used to grow hydroponic wheat at the Utah State University Research Greenhouses for several years (Bugbee and Salisbury, 1989), but no thorough characterization of solution N depletion has been made during this time. Fig. B-1 shows N depletion from this treatment during trials 2-5. One trial was conducted at ambient CO<sub>2</sub> in which the results from the 4000  $\mu$ M N treatment were not confounded by Mn deficiency or fungus. An ANOVA of these results is shown in Table B-1.



Fig. B-1. Depletion of solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> ( $\mu$ M) of the treatment that started with 4000  $\mu$ M NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>.

Source	DF	MS	F	Р
NO <sub>3</sub> -	2	288	3.88	0.061
Error	9	100		
Total	11			

Table B-1. ANOVA comparing total biomass (g m<sup>-2</sup>) of the three N treatments at ambient  $CO_2$ . Data were analyzed as a completely randomized design.

# APPENDIX C: EFFECTS OF ROOT RINSES

ON NITROGEN CONTENT

Table C-1. Comparison of three types of root rinses on N content. Nonrinsed roots (NR), roots rinsed with deionized water (DI), and roots rinsed with 100 mM HCl (AC) are compared. Values are normalized, with the nonrinsed roots representing 100% nitrogen content.

			Nitroger	n Content (%	6 of NR)
CO <sub>2</sub>	Metalaxyl (ppm)	[NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> ]	NR	DI	AC
360	0	100	100.0	91.3	74.3
		1000	100.0	90.1	81.3
		4000	100.0	90.9	73.3
1200	0	100	100.0	93.4	74.4
	•	1000	100.0	91.0	75.8
		4000	100.0	92.4	83.5
360	5.5	100	100.0	88.1	
		1000	100.0	86.0	
		4000	100.0	89.3	
1200	5.5	100	100.0	91.7	
		1000	100.0	88.8	
		4000	100.0	91.7	

APPENDIX D: ICP ANALYSIS

## Calculation of nutrient percent recovery

Calculation for percent recoveries of nutrients ([nutrient] denotes nutrient concentration):

[nutrient in plant tissue] [nutrient added to solution] - [nutrient in solution at trial's end]

Table D-1. Concentration (mmoles) of nutrients added to and removed from the nutrient solution and recovered in the biomass from the 100  $\mu$ M N treatment grown in ambient CO<sub>2</sub> (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>).

Element	Initial Solution	Final Solution	Total Added	Amount in Biomass	% Recovery
Boron	0.60	0.00	0.34	0.60	63.6
Calcium	300.00	710.70	586.60	71.10	40.5
Copper	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.20	1000.0
Iron	12.00	11.40	8.11	3.80	43.6
Magnesium	150.00	177.10	102.90	45.70	60.3
Manganese	0.09	0.00	0.06	0.60	387.6
Molybdenum	0.03	0.30	0.03	0.10	-41.4
Potassium	975.00	763.40	1212.90	1086.90	76.3
Phosphorus	180.00	80.00	123.00	167.50	75.1
Silicon	22.50	4.50	16.00	10.50	30.9
Sulfur	825.10	1232.10	566.60	86.20	54.0
Zinc	0.10	0.80	0.01	0.50	-72.5

	TANK										
Trial #	100 μM NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	1000 $\mu$ M NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	4000 µM NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>								
1	С	В	А								
2	В	Α	С								
3	А	С	В								
4	С	В	А								
5	А	С	В								
6	С	В	А								

Table D-2. List of tank that N treatment was in for each trial. This is needed to read ICP analysis results.

Many analyses were conducted for trials 1 and 2. A typical identification entry from trial 1 is "A1 S R-16." This is read as follows: tub A1 (4000  $\mu$ M N, Table D-2), shoots, rinsed with DI water, 16 row portion of the lid from tub A1. Shoots and roots were sampled, samples were rinsed with DI water or not rinsed (NR), and the shoots were split into 15 or 16 row portions of the lid.

For trials 3-6, one shoot sample was taken from each N treatment.

## Trial 1

Plant Samples

USU #	Ident.	AL	8	Ca	Cd	Co	Cr	Cu	fe	ĸ	Mg	Mn	MO	нs	Ni	Ρ	Pb	s	Se	Sr	Zn
		· · · · mg,	/kg · · · ·	%			· · mg/kg· ·				<b>(</b>		···mg/)	·g · · · · ·			mg/kg	· · X · ·		·mg/kg·	
5936	A1 S R . 16	40	7.3	0.54	<	<	<	9.9	142.3	7.27	0.20	43.5	7.3	74	<	0.65	<	0.33	<	4.1	42.2
5937	S+B A1 SB	194	6.5	0.30	<	<	<	66.1	290.7	5.15	0.10	45.7	5.9	208	۲	0.52	<	0.31	<	5.2	69.3
5938	A1 R R	30	<	0.06	<	<	<	10.0	242.7	1.00	0.03	7.2	2.6	90	<	0.35	<	0.19	<	1.5	19.2
5939	A1 R NR	141	<	0.19	<	<	3.4	18.6	724.8	4.26	0.11	10.5	¢	216	<	0.51	<	0.30	٢	3.6	58.0
5940	A2 R R	47	<	0.11	¢	<	1.4	13.0	310.6	1.51	0.05	8.0	2.3	96	۲	0.42	•	0.21	<	2.6	29.8
5941	A2 R NR	220	7.5	0.23	<	<	4.0	21.6	885 8	3.69	0.11	15.0	23	483	٢	0.46	(	0.29	(	4.4	56.5
5942	A2 S NR	27	<	0.46	<	<	<	10.9	46.7	6.76	0.18	34.4	7.4	58	٢	0.65	٢	0.29	(	3.8	38.0
5943	A4 S R . 15	24	6.2	0.47	<	<	٢	10.1	47.1	6.77	0.19	47.0	6.6	77	۲	0.61	<	0.29	<	3.6	40.8
5944	A3 S R . 16	18	6.5	0.54	<	<	<	10.8	45.4	7.09	0.19	37.8	7.2	71	۲	0.66	<	0.31	<	4.1	38.2
5945	A2 S R . 16	19	<	0.58	<	<	<	10.9	47.4	6.92	0.21	46.8	7.6	78	<	0.70	<	0.33	٢	4.4	39.3
5946	S+8 82	208	5.8	0.29	<	<	<	17.0	337.4	4.96	0.09	51.4	9.0	189	<	0.53	٢	0.34	<	4.3	121.9
5947	B1 S R . 15	15	6.6	0.51	<	<	<	10.5	60.8	7.67	0.16	47.2	9.1	79	<	0.70	۲	0.33	<	3.0	52.7
5948	C2 S R . 16	43	10.5	0.39	<	<	<	9.0	113.0	6.56	0.16	45.2	9.3	109	¢	0.70	۲	0.31	٢	2.7	27.7
5949	82 \$ R . 16	31	8.1	0.45	<	<	<	10.0	158.8	7.38	0.15	44.3	8.9	65	<	0.72	<	0.33	<	2.7	52.8
5950	83 S R - 15	32	9.4	0.47	<	<	<	10.0	131.1	7.29	0.16	45.4	8.1	57	<	0.74	٢	0.32	<	2.8	50.5
5951	84 S R . 15	14	8.6	0.48	<	<	<	9.1	60.4	7.46	0.15	43.6	8.4	71	<	0.70	<	0.32	۲	2.9	48.0
5952	84 S NR-15	14	6.7	0.44	<	<	<	9.4	57.1	7.58	0.14	42.3	7.9	77	<	0.60	<	0.30	٢	2.8	47.7
5953	83 R R	19	<	0.06	<	<	<	8.1	400.5	1.29	0.03	6.8	5.7	41	<	0.37	۲	0.20	<	1.1	28.0
5954	B3 R NR	105	<	0.36	<	<	3.5	16.3	268.4	3.46	0.10	20.4	8.1	136	<	0.54	<	0.41	<	3.4	79.2
5955	B4 R R	32	<	0.05	<	<	<	8.7	487.2	1.38	0.03	8.7	6.8	53	<	0.41	<	0.22	<	1.0	33.0
5956	B4 R NR	107	<	0.28	<	<	2.7	13.6	1408.2	4.10	0.07	20.5	7.6	271	٢	0.58	۲	0.40	۲	2.8	62.1
5957	C1 SB	244	8.0	0.23	•	<	<	70.7	381.3	5.19	0.09	36.2	8.3	161	٠	0.57	٢	0.40	•	3.2	47.1
5958	C1 S R-16	26	9.0	0.46	<	<	<	10.3	55.6	7.32	0.17	52.9	9.1	65	•	0.69	•	0.38	<	2.9	31.3
5959	C3 S R . 16	23	11.6	0.37	<	<	<	8.8	48.7	6.78	0.16	49.9	8.6	69	<	0.67	<	0.36	<	2.5	31.7
5960	C4 \$	26	9.7	0.39	<	<	<	8.8	49.8	6.73	0.16	50.0	8.9	65	•	0.64	<	0.33	<	2.6	29.9
5961	C3 S NR	25	8.6	0.42	<	<	<	10.1	53.9	7.28	0.17	46.2	7.9	93	<	0.68	<	0.40	<	2.8	32.2
5962	C1 R R	69	<	0.07	<	<	<	10.8	662.7	1.10	0.03	8.1	4.4	78	<	0.39	•	0.19	•	1.7	26.5
5963	C1 R NR	395	6.6	0.22	<	<	2.1	18.6	1835.6	3.87	0.07	18.0	6.1	147	•	0.72	<	0.36	<	3.4	64.8
5964	C3 R R	31	<	0.05	<	<	<	9.7	590.6	1.62	0.03	7.9	3.9	44	<	0.50	<	0.22	٢	1.0	29.8
5965	C3 R NR	94	<	0.35	<	<	2.1	19.7	741.3	3.89	0.09	21.1	7.3	175	<	0.71	<	0.43	<	3.7	97.9

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R = ROOTS

S = SHOOTS

S+B = STEMS + BASES

1

81

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Sr	<b>66333606060606060606060606000000000000</b>						
s .	**************************************						
Se							
s	8888842889000000000000000000000000000000						
94	0 <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>						
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Trial 2

82

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	12	4
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Plant digests by HNO3/H2O2

USU #	Ident.	AL	в	Ca	Cd	Со	Cr	Cu	Fe	ĸ	Mg	Mn	Mo	NB	Ni	Ρ	Pb	S	Se	Sr	Zn
		mg	/kg	%			mg/kg··				<b>K</b>		· · · mg / k			%	mg/kg	%		mg/kg-	
4422	3A	27	13.6	0.38	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1	78.2	7.61	0.15	12.5	8.3	66	0	0.85	0	0.34	0	3.3	29.3
4423	38	29	12.7	0.34	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	57.5	7.50	0.26	10.9	8.7	112	0	0.90	0	0.36	0	3.3	51.1
4424	3C	15	13.6	0.54	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.7	52.2	7.76	0.16	10.6	5.2	82	0	0.89	0	0.34	0	4.1	29.7

NOTE: A value of zero means below detection limit

1

NOTE: Potassium values are with dilution

### Trials 4-6

#### Plant samples NITRIC/PEROXIDE DIGEST

USU #	Ident.	AL	В	Са	Cd	Co	Cr	Cu	Fe	ĸ	Mg	Mn	Mo	Na	Ni	Ρ	Pb	S	Se	Sr	Zn
		mg/	/kg	%		• • • • • • • •	-mg/kg-				*		····mg/	'kg		%	mg/kg	%		-mg/kg-	•••••
4342	4A	51.04	8.13	0.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.81	59.37	8.16	0.20	4.84	7.07	195.76	0.00	0.99	0.00	0.39	0.00	5.10	47.51
4344	48	80.35	8.32	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.64	98.00	8.68	0.17	4.23	6.81	102.29	0.00	1.02	0.00	0.41	0.00	4.57	47.60
4346	4C	17.99	0.00	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.65	64.20	8.04	0.15	4.96	6.40	98.88	0.00	1.10	0.00	0.40	0.00	5.71	46.96
4343	5A	30.67	0.00	0.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.65	70.51	7.69	0.19	6.46	8.00	106.82	0.00	0.98	0.00	0.40	0.00	4.69	44.77
4347	5B	54.89	9.84	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.81	62.97	8.27	0.32	4.35	5.87	82.99	0.00	1.17	0.00	0.41	0.00	2.58	53.56
4345	5C	21.96	0.00	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.65	65.79	7.94	0.16	5.73	3.74	107.81	0.00	0.99	0.00	0.33	0.00	4.89	37.72
4339	6A	34.18	0.00	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.66	70.84	7.24	0.19	5.40	3.87	104.78	0.00	1.02	0.00	0.38	0.00	3.05	57.13
4340	6B	28.18	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.66	62.45	8.05	0.15	5.36	3.07	113.60	0.00	1.06	0.00	0.39	0.00	3.46	40.37
4341	60	38.14	0.00	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.65	76.89	7.66	0.16	5.44	4.27	96.06	0.00	1.02	0.00	0.42	0.00	3.34	37.17

# APPENDIX E: STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

ANOVA indications of significance (P = 0.05) agreed closely with results displayed in graphs with standard errors of the mean. 95% confidence intervals masked significance and were too conservative. For example, 95% confidence intervals suggested that the only significant effect of CO<sub>2</sub> or N on percent root mass was an increase in percent root mass of the 100  $\mu$ M N treatment in elevated CO<sub>2</sub>. However, an ANOVA demonstrated that both CO<sub>2</sub> and levels were significant (Table E-4).

Table E-1. ANOVA of N recovery for all 6 trials (2 N treatments.) Three studies were conducted in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Root health status (healthy, Mn deficient, or infected with *Pythium*) was analyzed as a block effect.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	Р
Block	2	17.5			
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	35.4	35.4	1.62	>0.25
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	72.0	72.0	3.31	>0.10
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	1	14.1	14.1	0.65	>0.25
Pooled Error	6	130.6	21.8		
Total	11	269.5			

Table E-2. ANOVA of N recovery for all 6 trials (3 N treatments.) Three studies were conducted in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M, as well as a NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> treament that started at 4000  $\mu$ M but depleted to less than 500  $\mu$ M by the end of the trial. Health denotes root health status (healthy, Mn deficient, or infected with *Pythium*).

Source	DF	MS	F	Р
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	4.1	0.27	0.632
Health	2	205.3	13.37	0.017
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	2	222.3	14.48	0.015
CO <sub>2</sub> X Health	2	68.0	4.43	0.097
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	2	93.7	6.11	0.061
Health X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	4	114.9	7.48	0.038
Pooled Error	4	15.4		
Total	17			

Table E-3. ANOVA of total biomass for plants grown in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	Р
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	3868.8	3868.84	41.03	< 0.01
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	292.4	292.41	3.10	>0.10
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	1	0.4	0.44	0.00	>0.50
Pooled Error	12	1131.5	94.30		
Total	15	5293.2			

Source	DF	MS	F	Р	
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	9.30	10.30	< 0.01	
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	9.92	10.98	< 0.01	
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	1	0.02	0.02	>0.25	
Error	12	0.90			
Total	15	30.09			NUCLEUR

Table E-4. ANOVA of percent root mass of wheat grown at  $CO_2$  levels of 360 and 1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup> and  $NO_3^-$  concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M.

Table E-5. ANOVA of N uptake for 0-8 days after emergence for all 6 trials. Three studies were conducted in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Health describes root status (healthy, Mn deficient, or infected with *Pythium*). Day indicates days after emergence.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	Р	
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	9042.0	9042.00	104.96	0.00	
Health	2	356.2	178.10	2.07	0.16	
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	1130.4	1130.40	13.12	0.00	
Day	8	493410.7	61676.30	715.95	0.00	
CO <sub>2</sub> X Health	2	6777.2	3388.60	39.34	0.00	
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub>	1	173.5	173.50	2.01	0.18	
CO <sub>2</sub> X Day	8	12692.2	1586.50	18.42	0.00	
Health X NO <sub>3</sub>	2	50.1	25.10	0.29	0.75	
Health X Day	16	8234.6	514.70	5.97	0.00	
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Day	8	1238.7	154.80	1.80	0.15	
CO <sub>2</sub> X Health X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	2	1070.1	535.10	6.21	0.01	
CO <sub>2</sub> X Health X Day	16	9186.5	574.20	6.66	0.00	
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Day	8	2390.7	298.80	3.47	0.02	
Health X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Day	16	3240.4	202.50	2.35	0.05	
Pooled Error	16	1378.3	86.10			
Total	107	550371.7				

Table E-6. ANOVA for nitrogen use efficiency  $(g_{biomass} g_{N removed}^{-1})$ . Three studies were conducted in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M.

Source	DF	MS	F	Р
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	5.34	3.44	>0.10
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	2.67	1.72	>0.10
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub>	1	2.40	1.55	>0.25
Error	8	1.55		
Total	11	nak mang mga man ang kata pang man na banar sa b		

Table E-7. ANOVA of total N concentration in shoots and roots of plants grown in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Plant part denotes shoots or roots.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	Р
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	17.5	17.45	7.36	0.02
NO <sub>3</sub>	1	13.4	13.43	5.67	0.04
Plant part	1	2158.1	2158.08	910.56	0.00
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	1.6	1.62	0.68	0.43
CO <sub>2</sub> X Plant Part	1	23.0	23.00	9.70	0.01
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Plant Part	1	0.1	0.09	0.04	0.85
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Part	1	12.2	12.19	5.14	0.04
Rep ( $CO_2 \times NO_3^{-}$ )	12	43.2	3.60	1.52	0.24
Pooled Error	12	28.4	2.37		
Total	31	2207 5			

Table E-8. ANOVA of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>-N concentration in shoots and roots of plants grown in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Plant part denotes shoots or roots.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	Р	
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	293.79	293.79	289.48	0.00	
NO <sub>3</sub> .	1	4.31	4.31	4.24	0.06	
Plant Part	1	851.61	851.61	839.13	0.00	
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub>	1	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.57	
CO <sub>2</sub> X Plant Part	1	78.56	78.56	77.41	0.00	
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Plant Part	1	0.79	0.79	0.78	0.39	
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Part	1	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.67	
Rep ( $CO_2 \times NO_3^{-}$ )	12	1.18	1.18	1.16	0.40	
Pooled Error	12	1.02	1.02			
Total	31	1255.96				

Table E-9. ANOVA of NH<sub>2</sub>-N concentration in shoots and roots of plants grown in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) or elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M. Plant part denotes shoots or roots.

Source	DF	SS	MS	F	Р
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	168.0	168.04	64.73	0.00
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	2.5	2.53	0.97	0.34
Plant Part	1	298.4	298.35	114.93	0.00
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> .	1	3.5	3.48	1.34	0.27
CO <sub>2</sub> X Plant Part	1	186.6	186.58	71.87	0.00
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Plant Part	1	1.4	1.42	0.55	0.47
CO <sub>2</sub> X NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> X Part	1	15.5	15.47	5.96	0.03
Rep ( $CO_2 \times NO_3^{-}$ )	12	53.0	4.42	1.70	0.19
Pooled Error	12	31.2	2.60		
Total	31	760.1			

Table E-10. ANOVA for water use efficiency ( $g_{biomass}$  kg<sub>water transpired</sub>). Three studies were conducted in ambient (360  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) and elevated CO<sub>2</sub> (1200  $\mu$ mol mol<sup>-1</sup>) at average solution NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> concentrations of 100 and 1000  $\mu$ M.

Source	DF	MS	F	Р
CO <sub>2</sub>	1	8.47	16.94	< 0.01
NO <sub>3</sub> -	1	0.00	0.00	>0.90
$CO_2 X NO_3^-$	1	0.50	1.00	>0.25
Pooled Error	8	0.50		
Total	11			