

STØTTET AF

Promilleafgiftsfonden for landbrug

Nitrogen utilization on different soil types

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SEGES, Crop innovation

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Nutrient utilization on different soil types

- Question: Is there a difference in the maximum achievable NUE at different soil types?
- Recommended N fertilisation rates and standard yields would suggest that there is!

Normer til landbrugsafgrøder og grønsager på friland (kvælstof, fosfor og kalium)																	
Afgrødekode	Afgrøde	Forfrugts-værdi	Indregning af forfrugtsværdi i afgrødens kvælstofnorm	Uvandet grovsand		Uvandet finsand		Vandet sandjord		Sandblandet lerjord		Lerjord		Retnings-givende normer for fosfor og kalium			
				kg N/ha	Ja/Nej	Udbytte-norm hkg/ha	Kvælstof-norm kg N/ha	kg N/hkg	kg P/ha	kg K/ha							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11	Vinterhvede ²	0	Ja	55 (61)	175	69 (76)	181	73 (80)	202	88 (97)	209	93 (102)	221	1,5	1,5	19	71
13	Vinterhvede, brødhvede ²	0	Ja	55 (61)	212	69 (76)	221	73 (80)	243	88 (97)	252	93 (102)	266	1,7	0,0	21	67
57	Vinterrhavre	0	Ja	51 (56)	143	65 (72)	144	64 (70)	158	77 (85)	159	81 (89)	168	1,2	1,2	18	53
14	Vinterrug ²	0	Ja	51 (56)	143	65 (72)	144	64 (70)	158	77 (85)	159	81 (89)	168	1,2	1,2	18	53

Analysis of NUE in winter wheat and spring barley

	Winter wheat	Spring barley
Total no. of trials	1049	626
Period	1987	2018
Typical N rates	0-250 kg N ha ⁻¹ (300, since 2015)	0-200 kg N ha ⁻¹
Increments	50 kg N ha ⁻¹	40 kg N ha ⁻¹

N yield in grain measured = Yes

Previous crop = Wheat, barley, rye or triticale

Financially optimal nitrogen application rate >50 kg N ha⁻¹

Soil mineral nitrogen content in spring < 50 kg N ha⁻¹

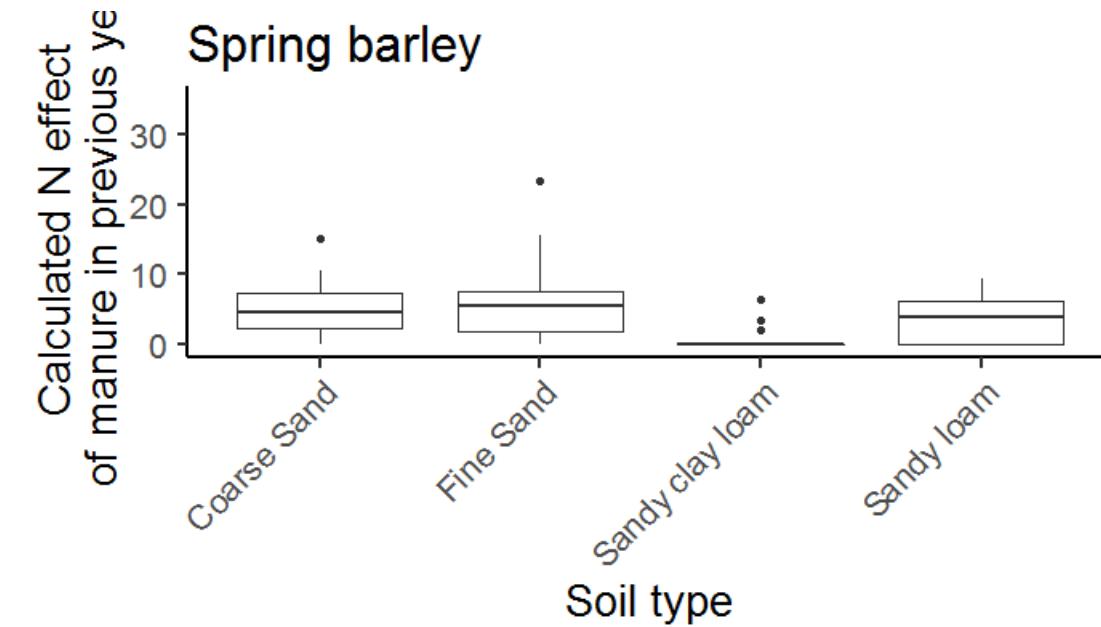
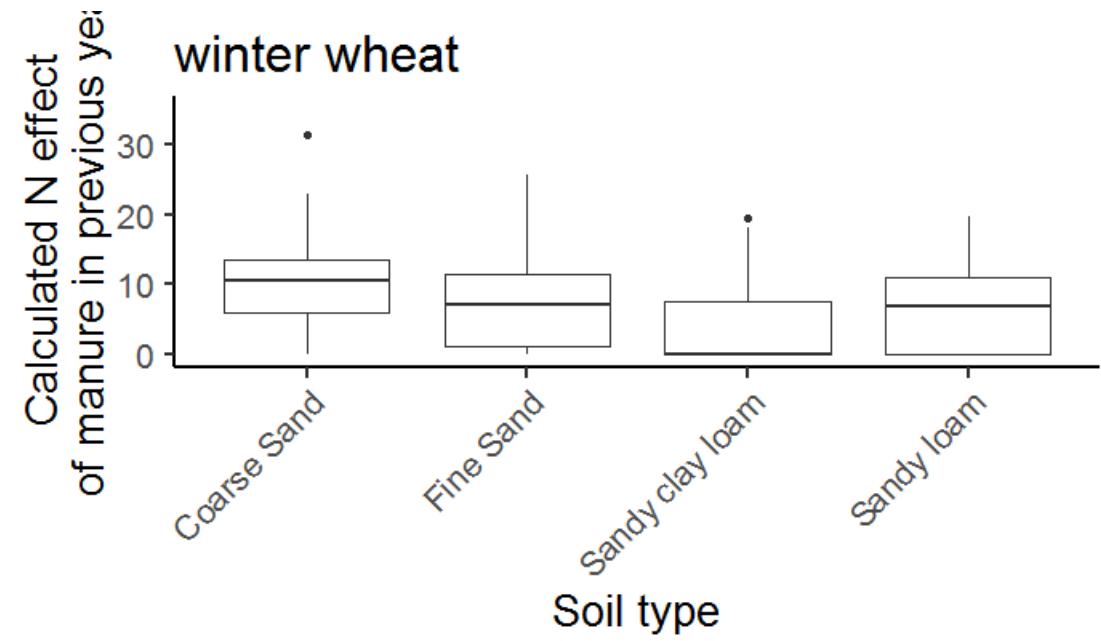
Soil type had been determined by measurement (0-25 cm depth)

Number of trials carried out on same soil type >10

Leaves 351 winter wheat trials and 155 spring barley trials

N from previous years manure fertilisation

	Pig slurry % of TN mineralized	Cattle slurry % of TN mineralized
1 st year	4	6
2 nd year	2	3
3 rd year	2	2
4 th year	1	2
5 th year	1	2
Total	10	15



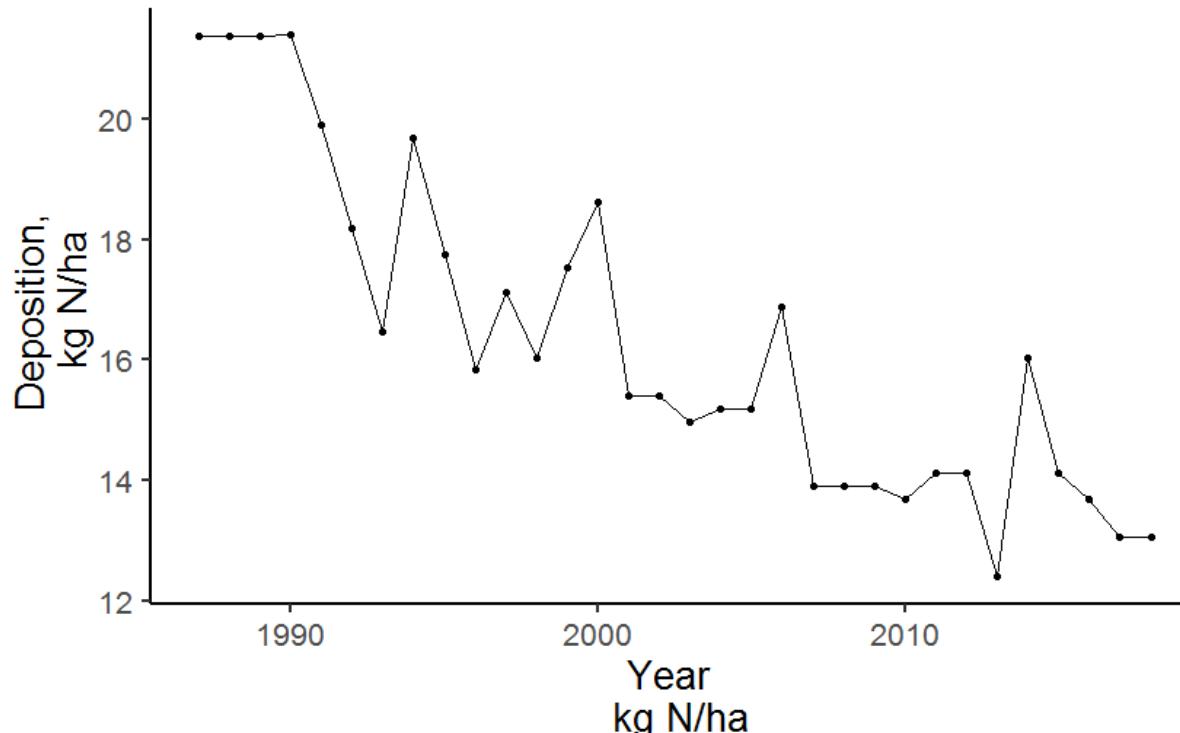
Distribution of trials on soil types

	Coarse sand	Fine sand	Sandy loam	Sandy clay loam	Clay	Organic	Total
Winter wheat	28	63	148	112	0	0	351
Spring barley	50	45	38	22	0	0	155

- Coarse and fine sand: <10% clay
- Sandy loam: 10 – 15% clay
- Sandy clay loam 15 – 45% clay (very rarely >25%)

NUE calculation

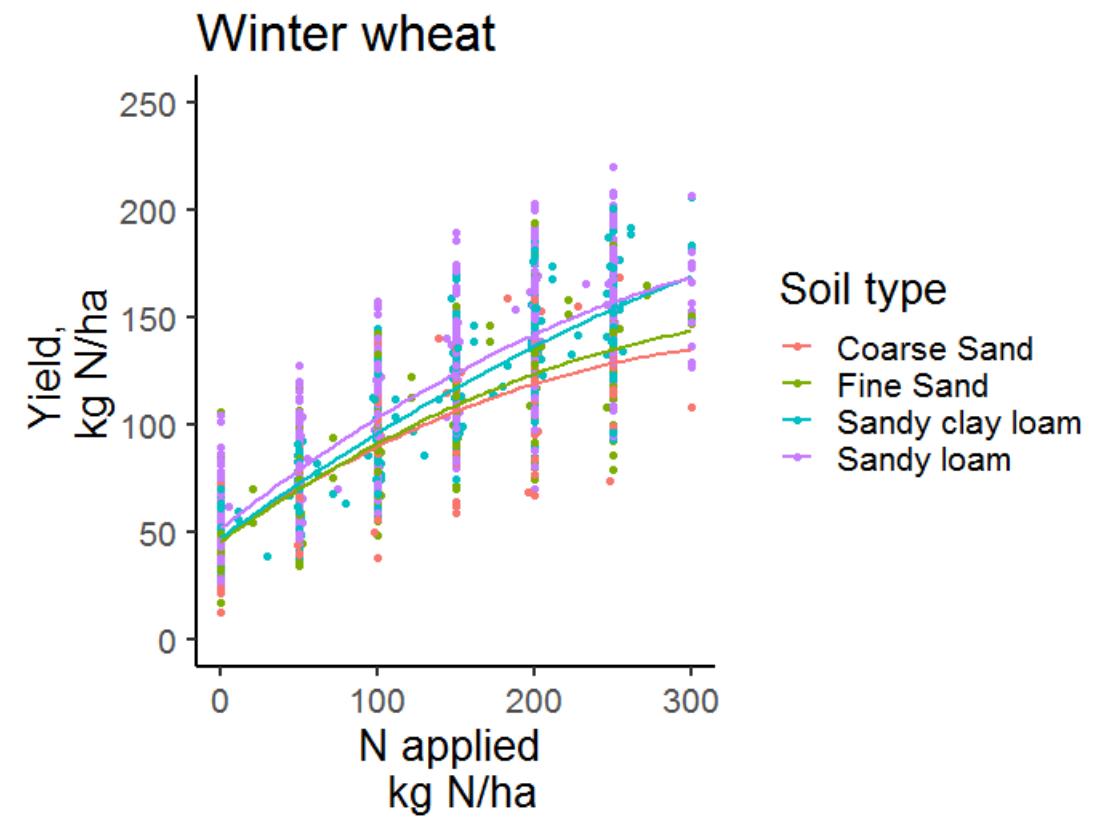
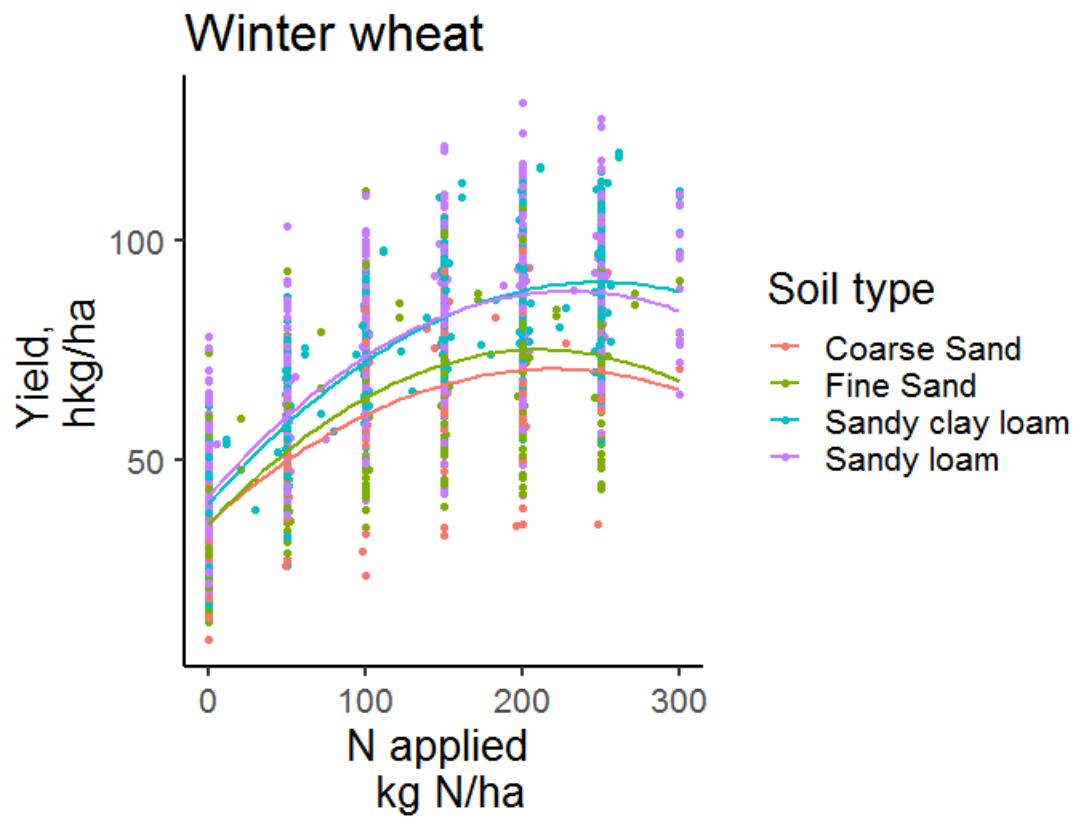
$$NUE = \frac{Harvested\ N}{N\ applied + N\ deposition + N\ seedgrain}$$



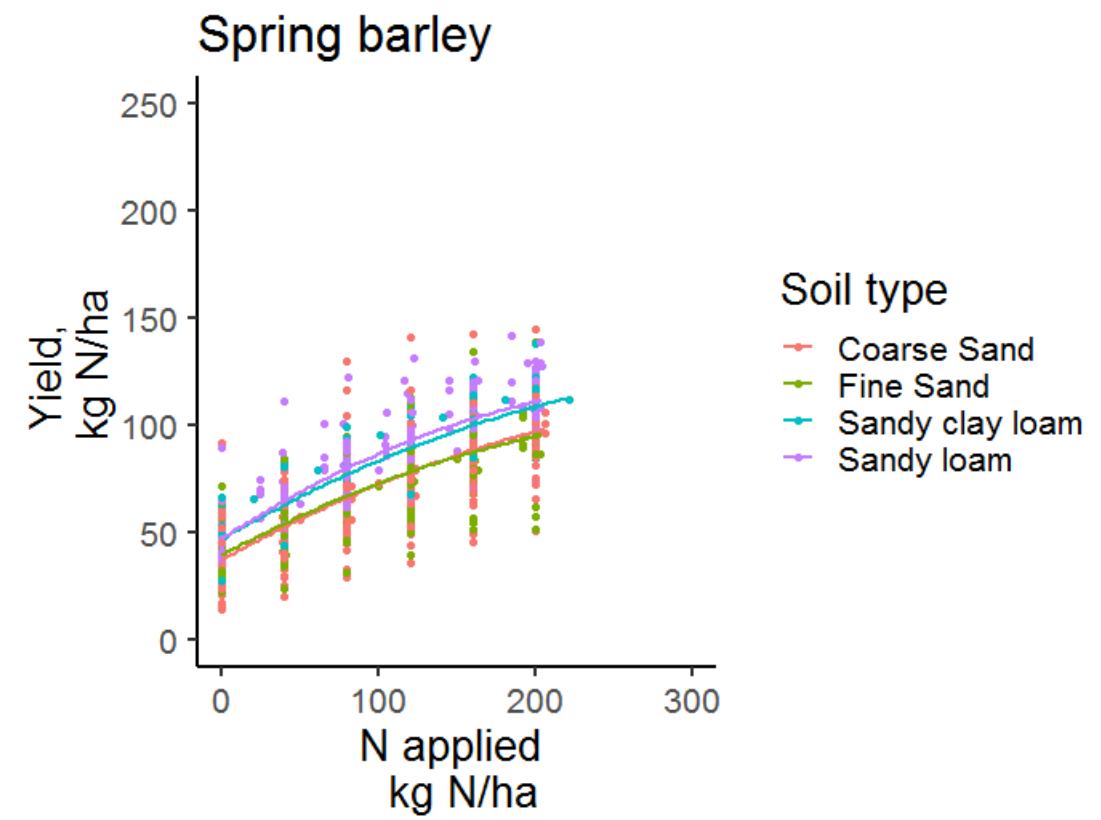
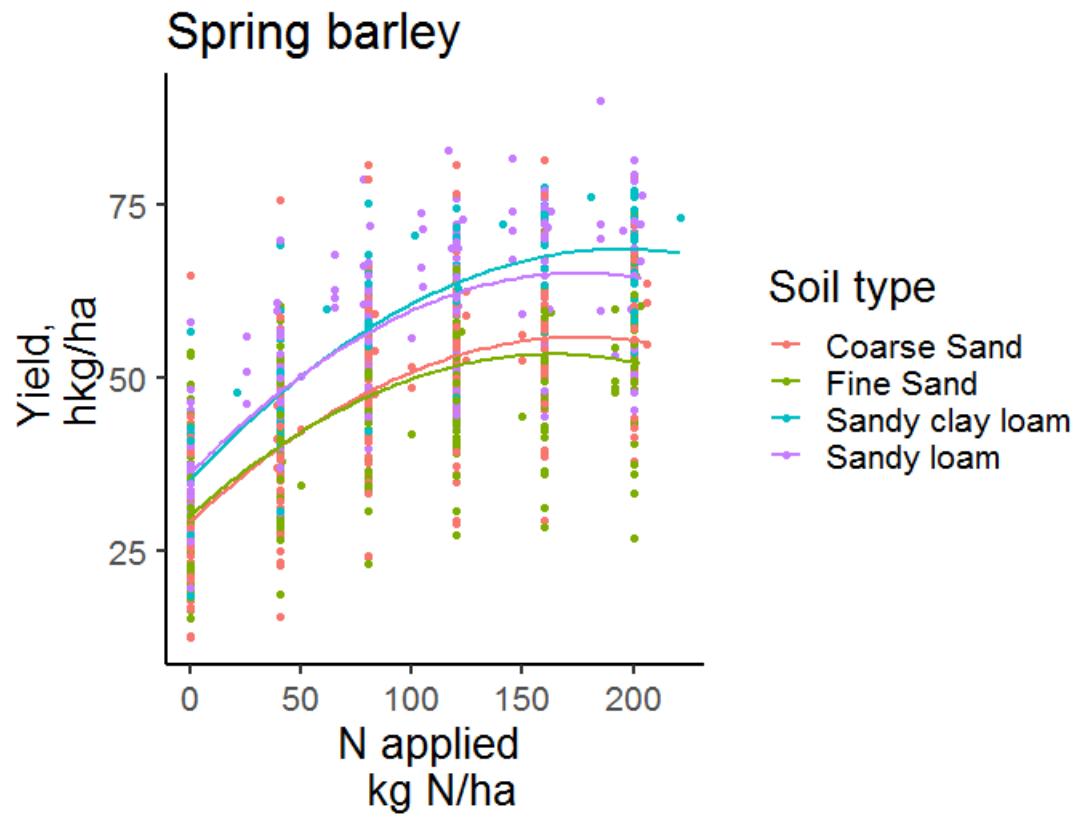
Redrawn from
Ellermann (2019)



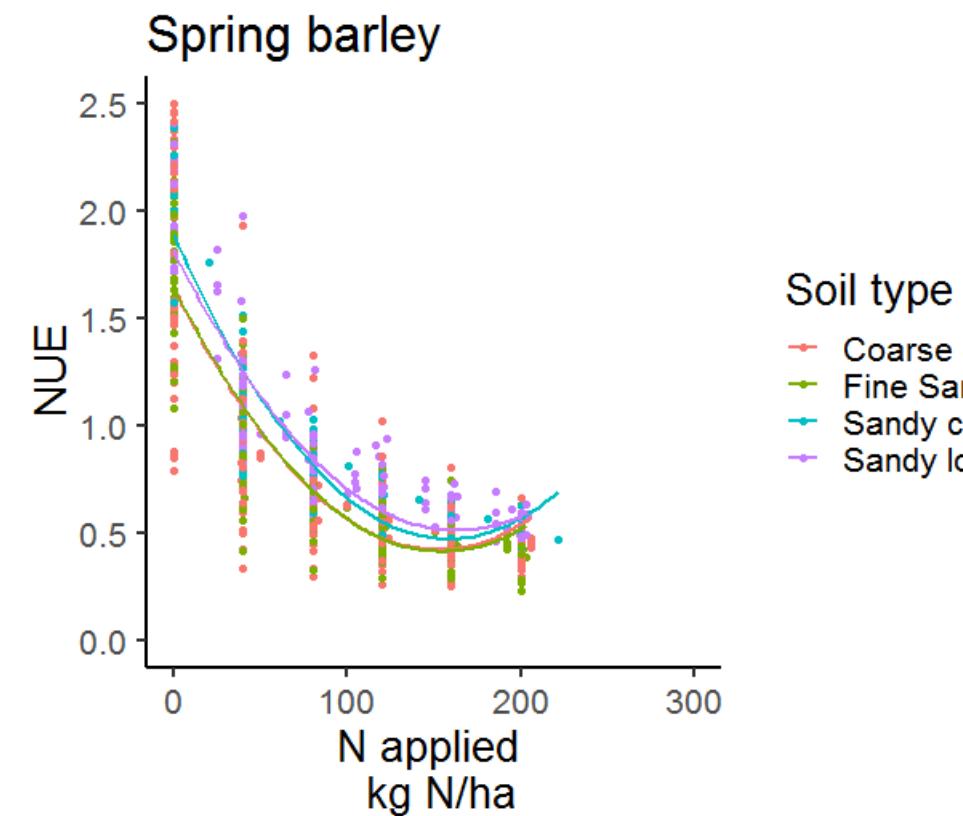
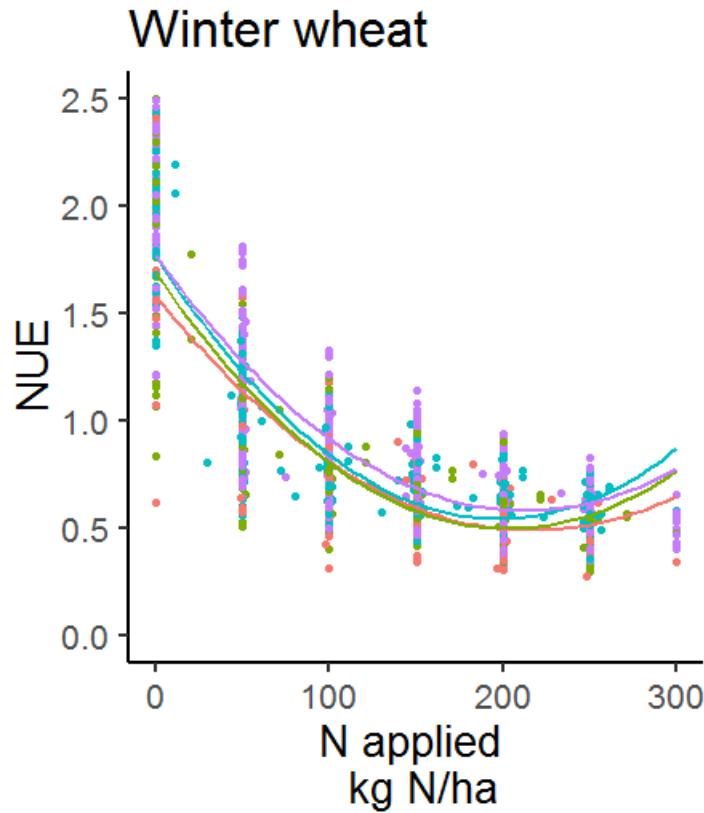
Yields, winter wheat



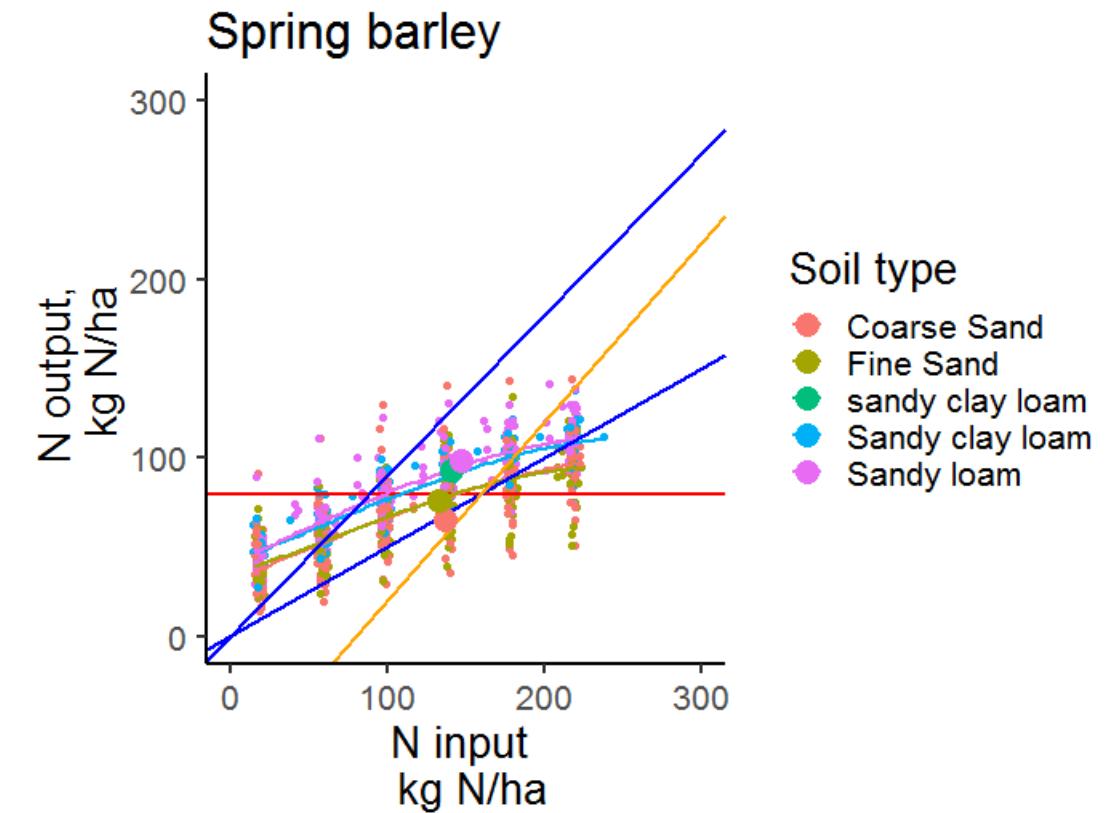
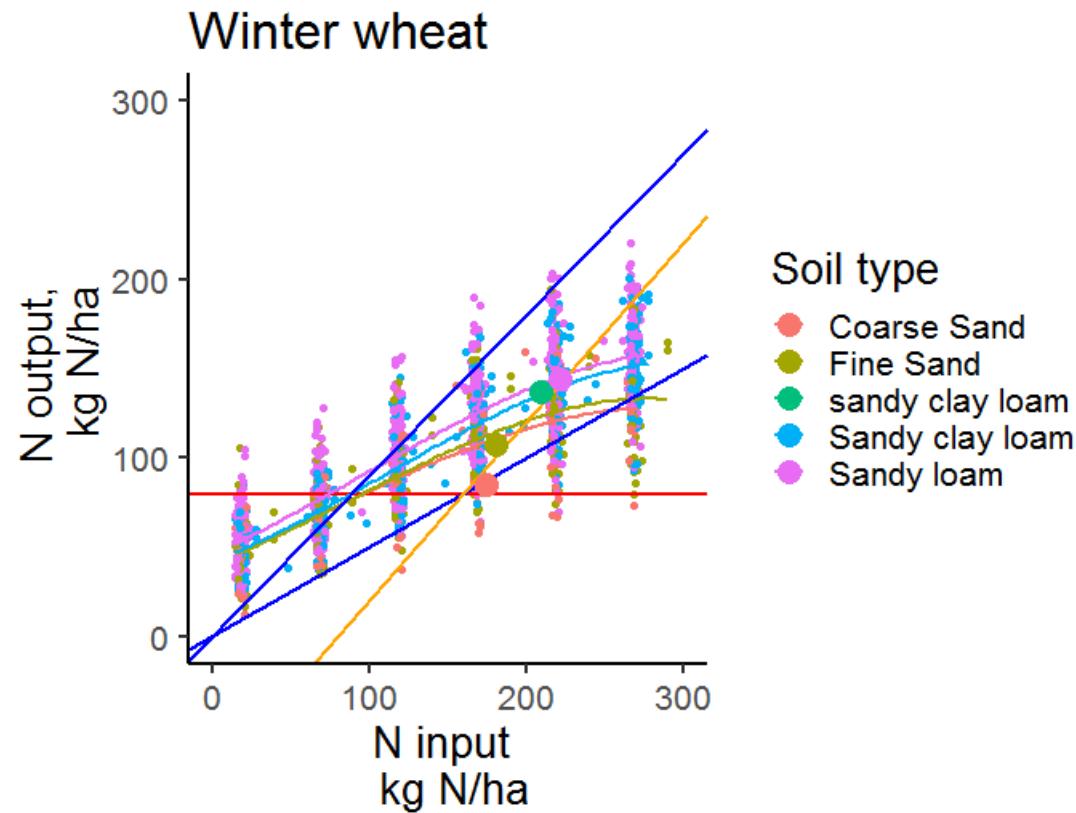
Yields, spring barley



NUE



NUE



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Statistical analysis

NUE ~Soil type + (1|Year)

	Winter wheat, 190-210 kg N ha ⁻¹	Spring barley, 140-160 kg N ha ⁻¹
Coarse sand	0.55 a	0.49 a
Fine sand	0.58 a	0.50 a
Sandy loam	0.66 b	0.58 b
Sandy clay loam	0.65 b	0.57 b

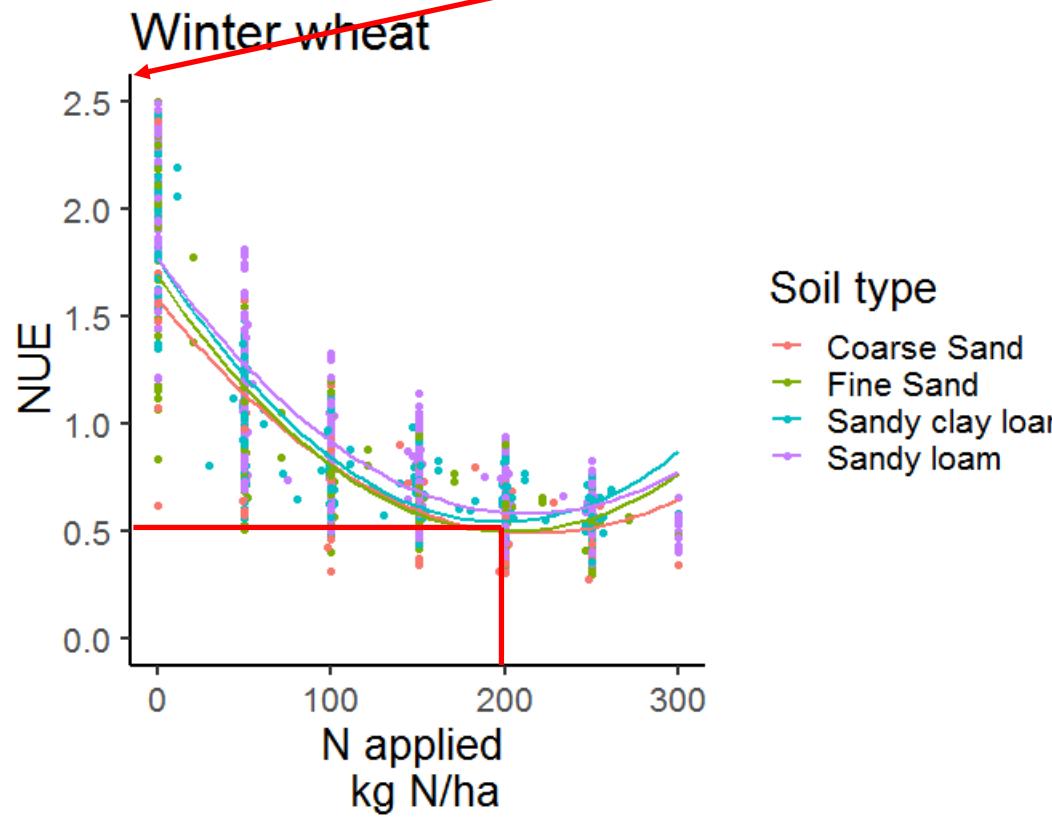
NUE.recommended rate ~Soil type + (1|Year)

	Winter wheat	Spring barley ¹
Coarse sand	0.52 a	0.49 a
Fine sand	0.59 ab	0.56 b
Sandy loam	0.63 b	0.62 b
Sandy clay loam	0.59 ab	0.58 b

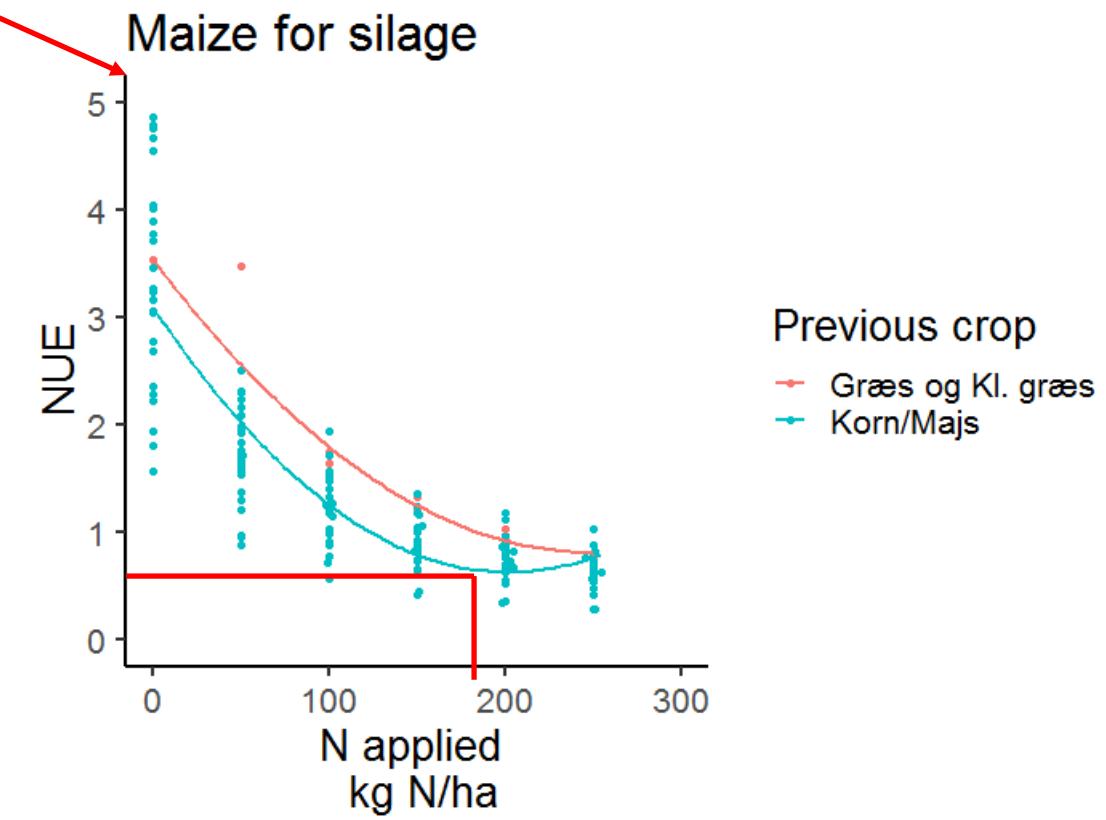
¹Model residuals for both fixed and random factor does not fulfil the assumption of normality

NUE

Different scales

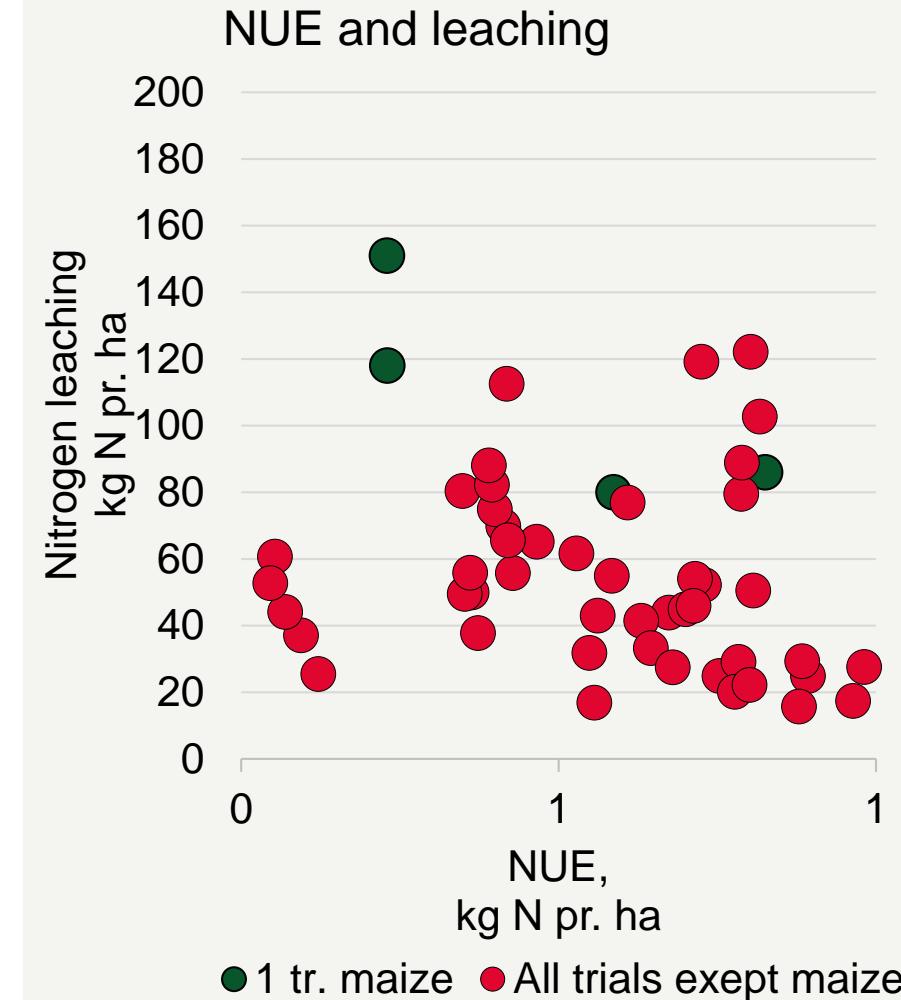
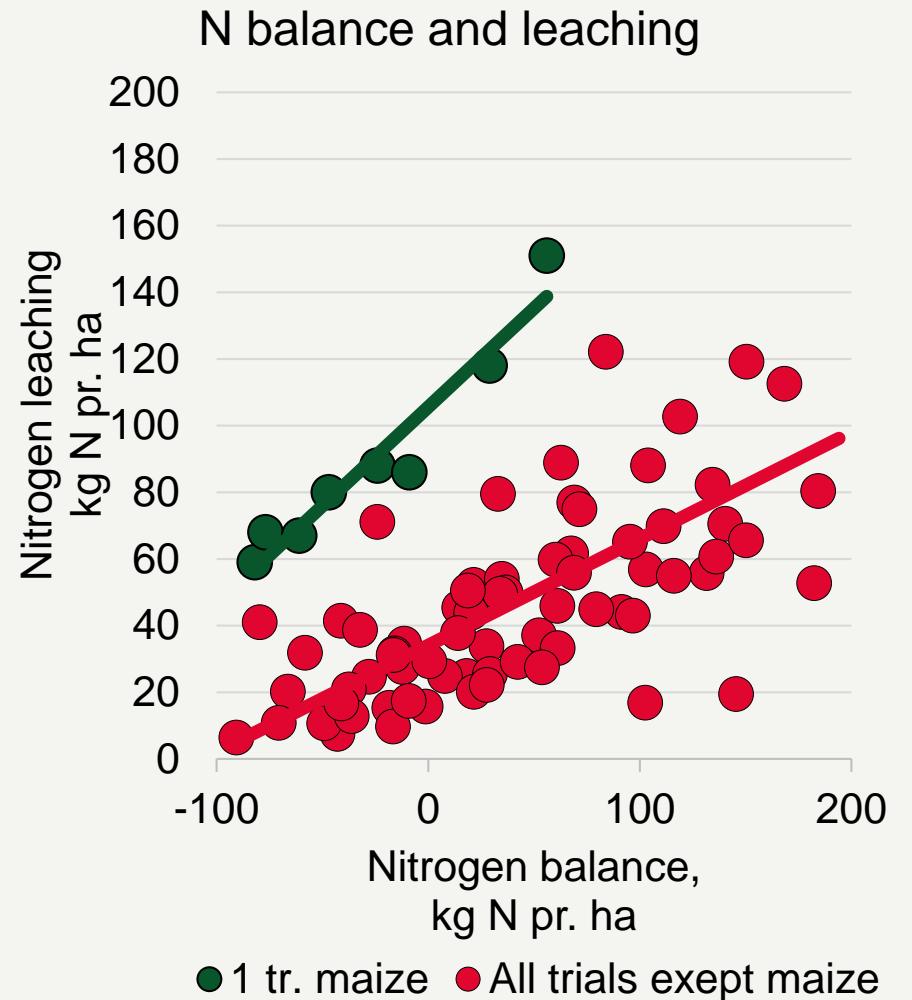


$$\text{NUE, } 190 - 210 \text{ kg N ha}^{-1} = 0,57$$

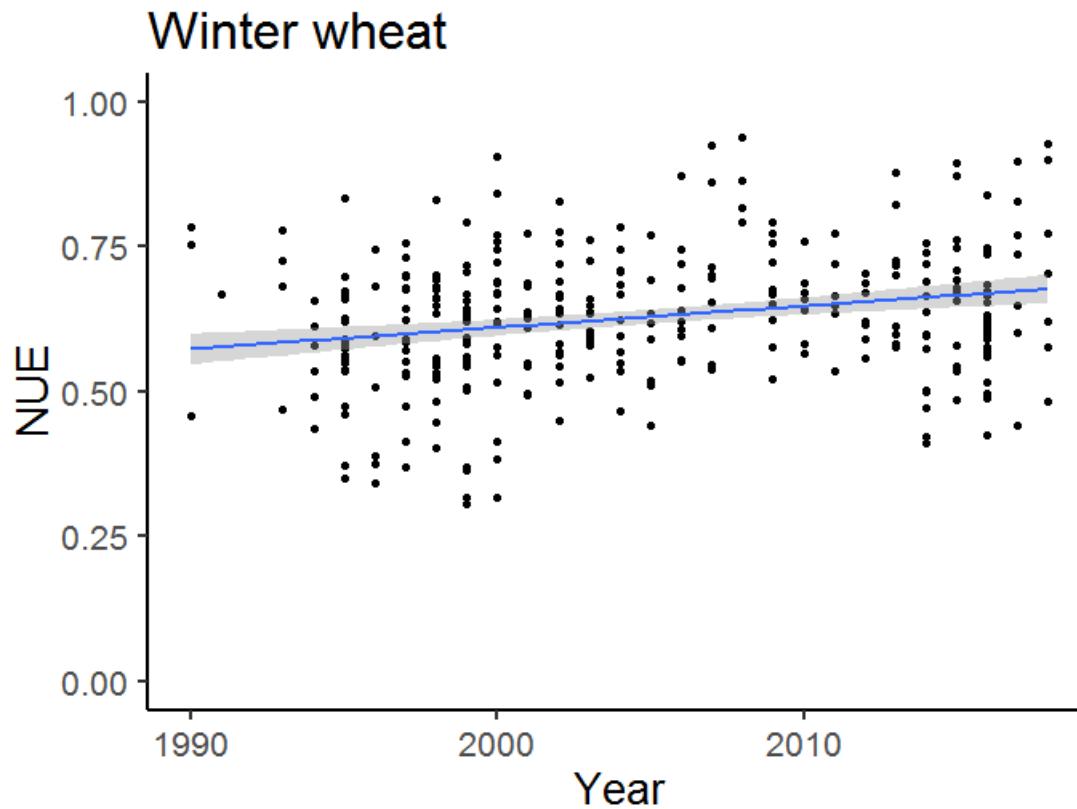


$$\text{NUE, } 165 - 200 \text{ kg N ha}^{-1} = 0,78$$

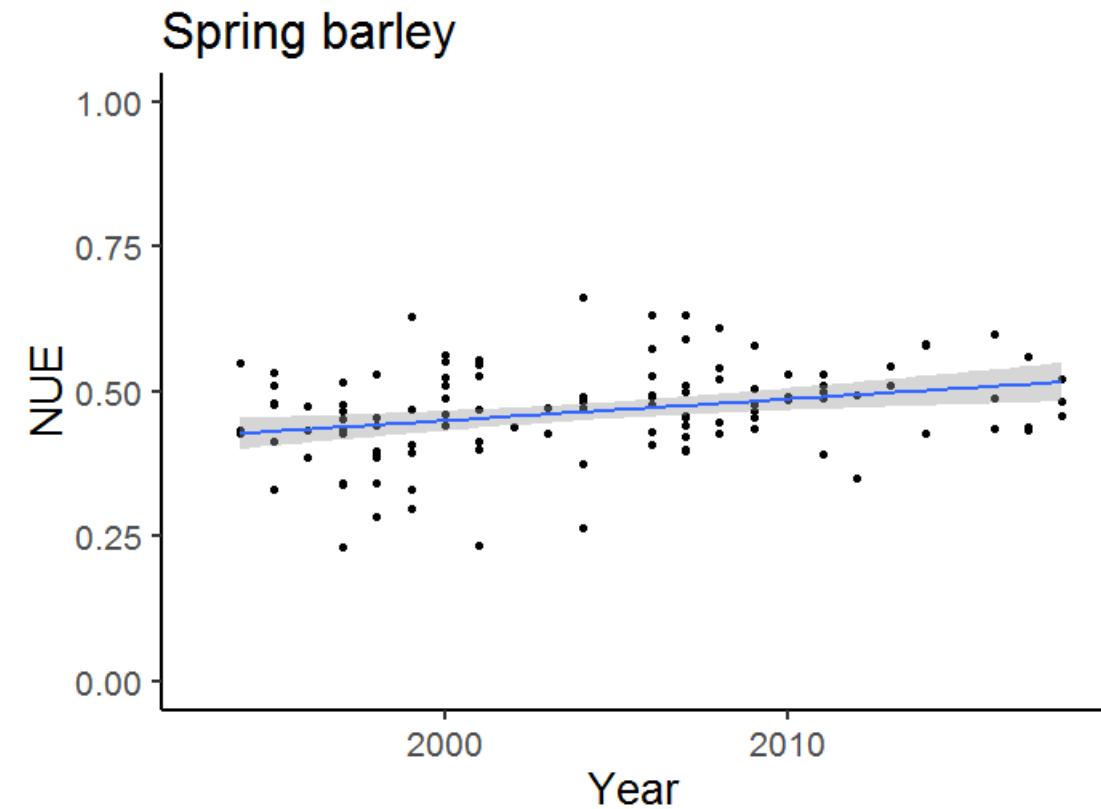
NUE, balance and leaching



NUE over time



Slope = 0.0037 yr^{-1} , p< 0,001



Slope = 0.0037 yr^{-1} , p< 0,002

Conclusion

- Question: Is there a difference in the maximum achievable NUE at different soil types?
- Answer: Yes, NUE is lower at sandy soils than at loamy soils
- Additional findings:
 - NUE increase over the years.
 - Much of Danish grain production is not within the defined operating space