



# Maximizing Nutrient Retention from Manure Storages

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Rebecca A Larson

Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist

Biological Systems Engineering

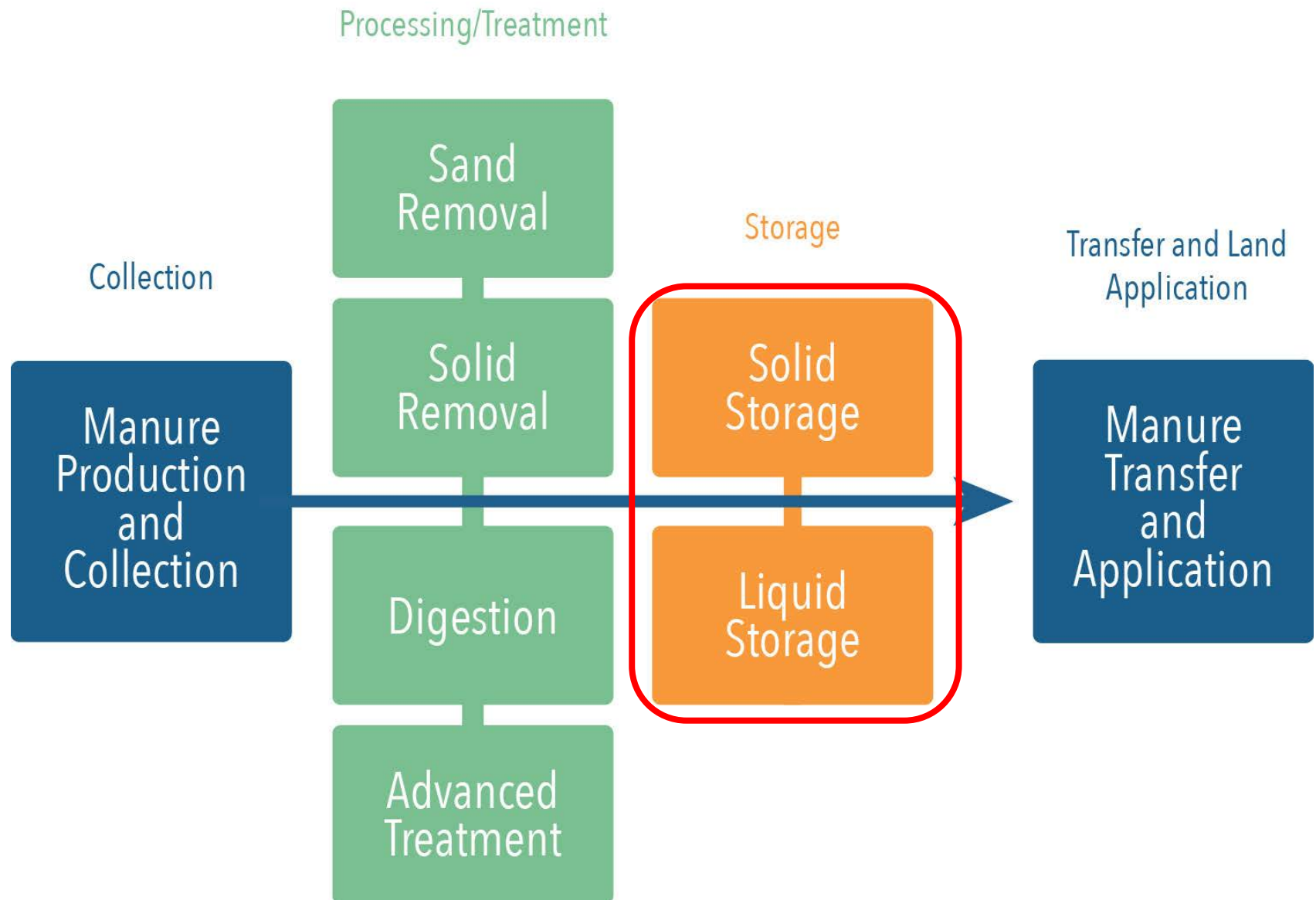
University of Wisconsin-Madison

H Aguirre-Villegas, Assistant Scientist, UW-Madison

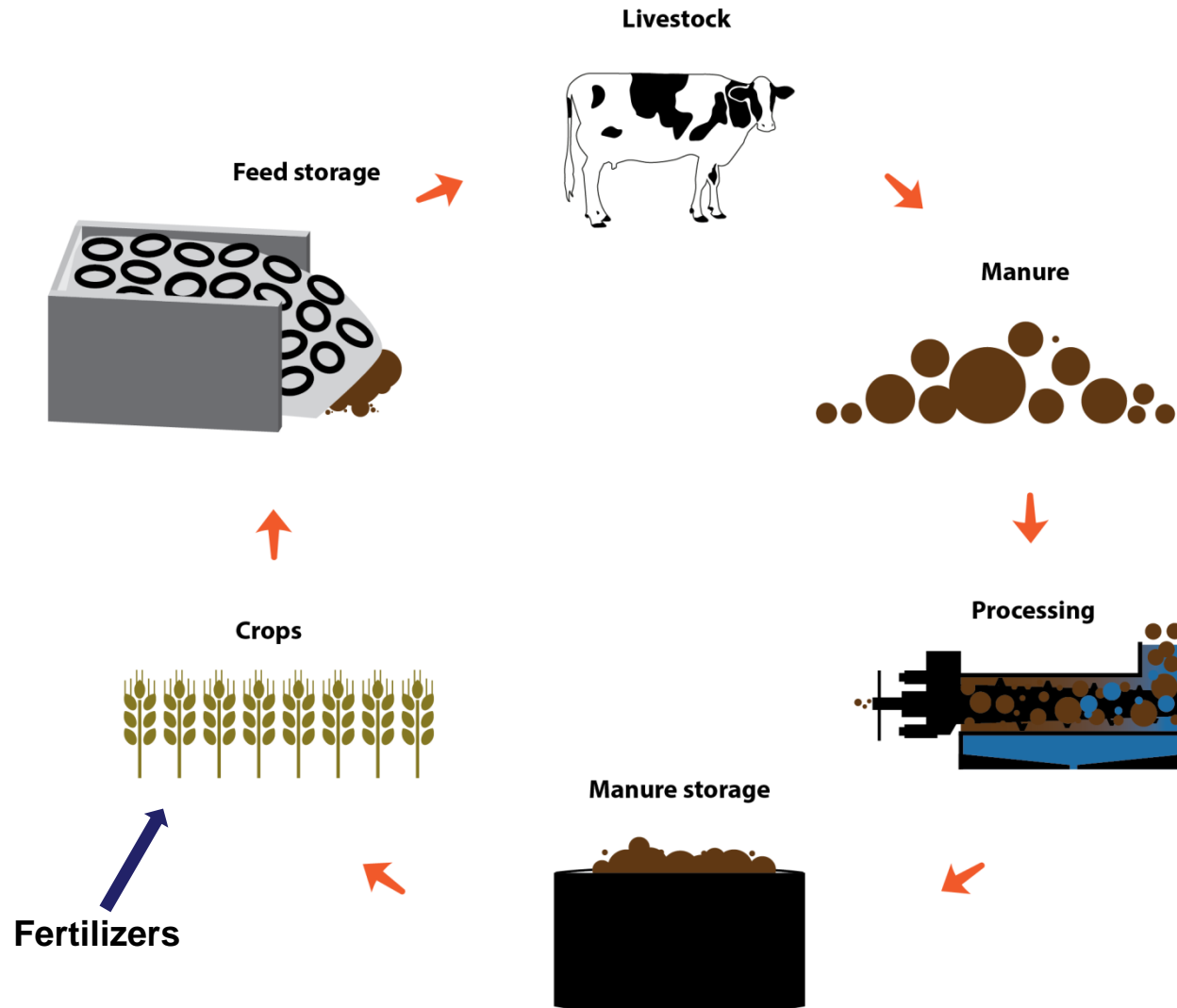
# Manure Storage



# Manure Systems



# Sustainability and Manure Cycling





- Nitrogen losses
- Stratification
  - Settling of solids and nutrients
  - Increased solids and phosphorus in settled material



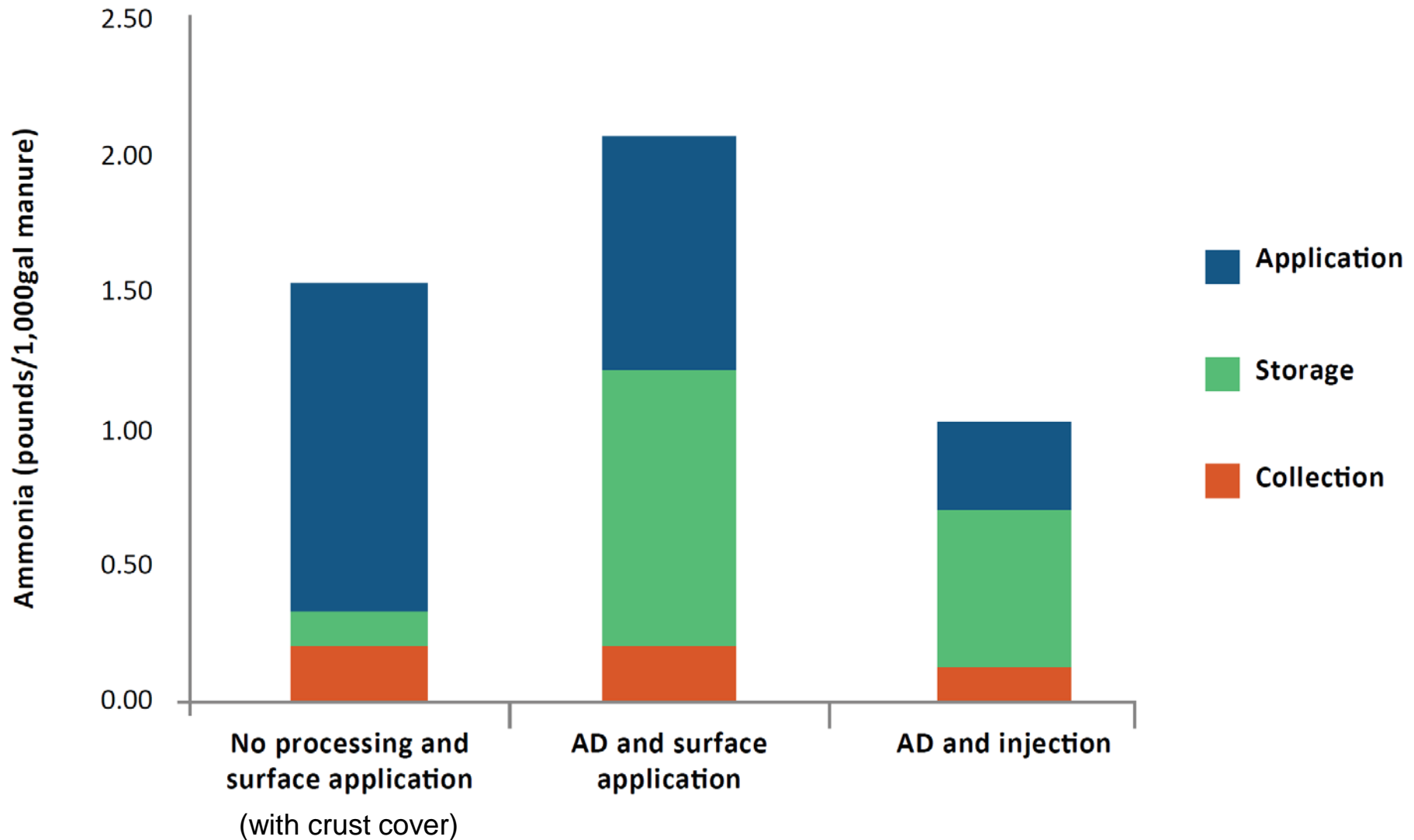
# Selection of storage facility

## Nitrogen Retention in Different Manure-Handling Systems

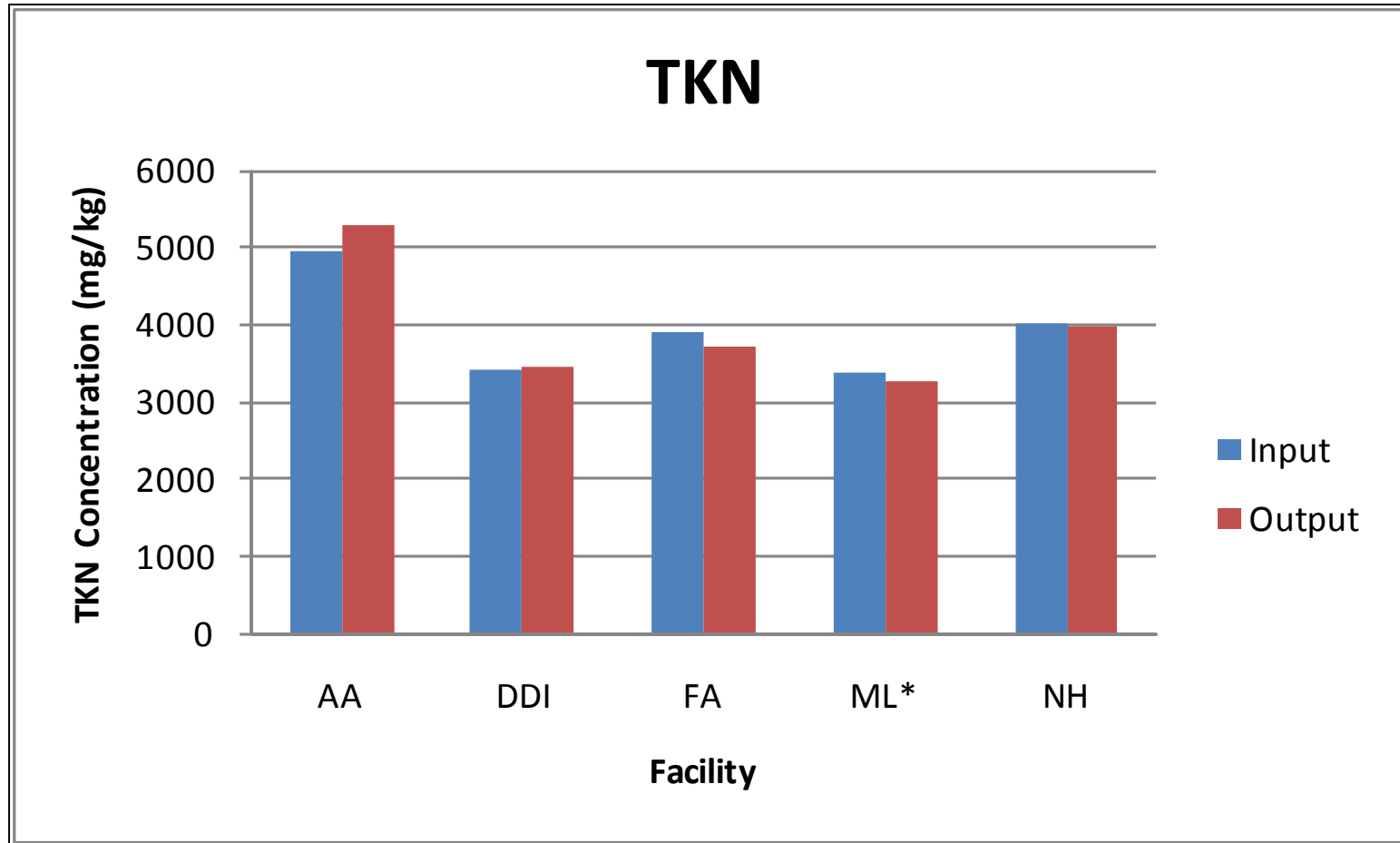
System	Nitrogen Lost, %	Nitrogen Retained, %
Daily scrape and haul	20-35	65-80
Manure pack	20-40	60-80
Open lot	40-55	45-60
Deep pit (poultry)	25-50	50-75
Litter	25-50	50-75
Under floor pit	15-30	70-85
Aboveground tank	10-30	70-90
Holding pond	20-40	60-80
Anaerobic lagoon	70-85	15-30

Adapted from: Livestock Waste Facilities Handbook, MWPS

# Ammonia Emissions Losses

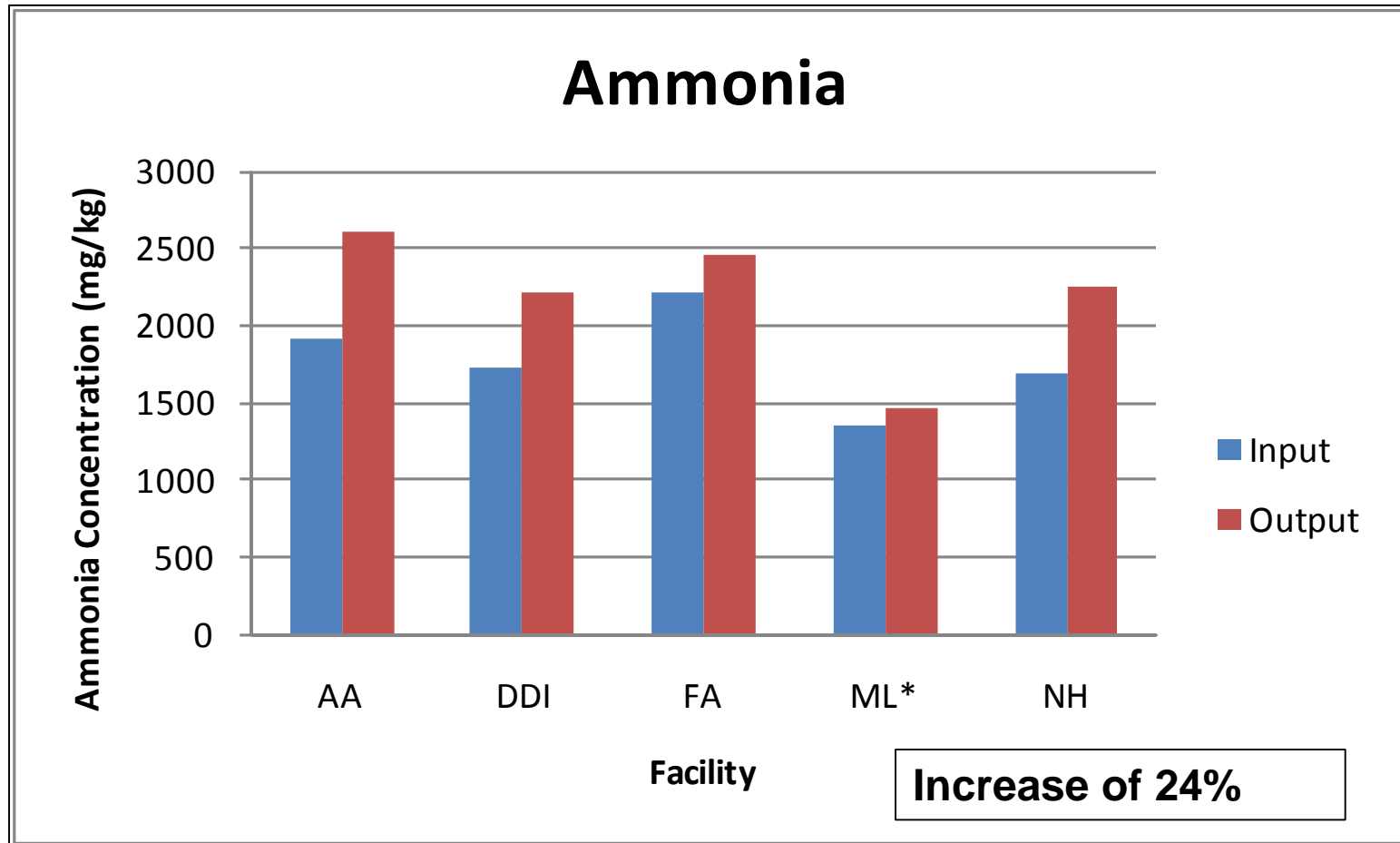


# Nutrients & Anaerobic Digestion



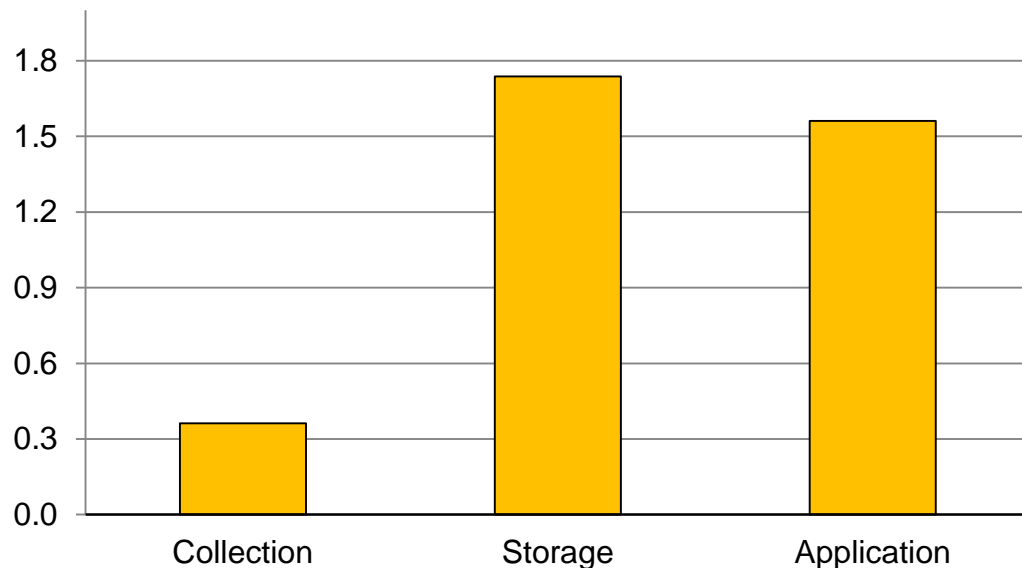
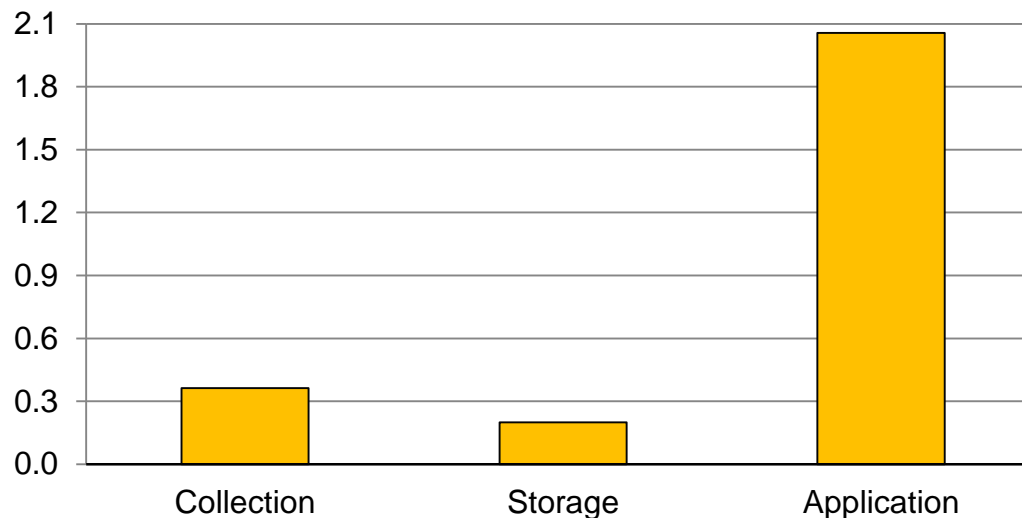


# Nutrients & Anaerobic Digestion



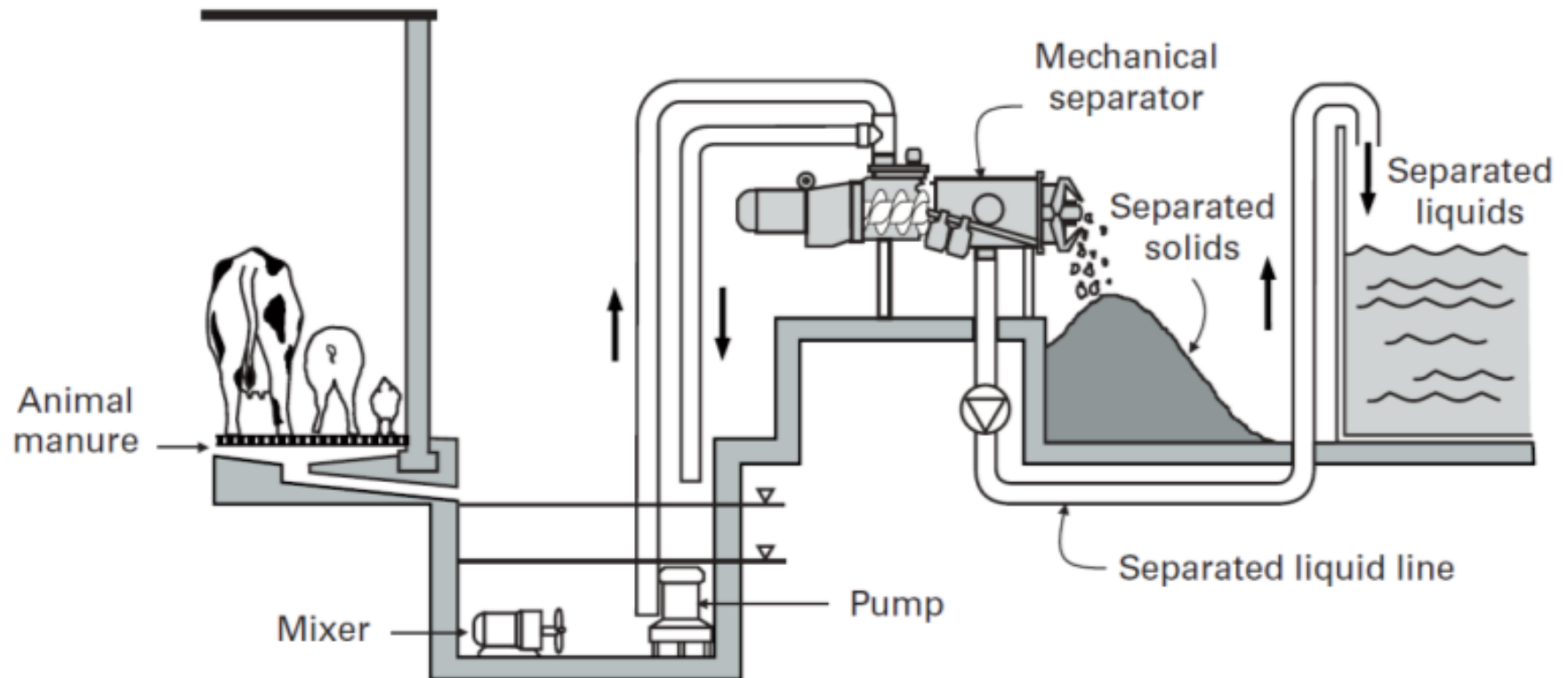
# Ammonia Emissions

NH<sub>3</sub> emissions (kg NH<sub>3</sub> per ton of excreted manure)



Aguirre-Villegas, H. A., Larson, R. and Reinemann, D. J. (2014), From waste-to-worth: energy, emissions, and nutrient implications of manure processing pathways. *Biofuels, Bioprod. Bioref.*, 8: 770–793. doi:10.1002/bbb.1496

# Separation Systems



# N-P-K

Concentration	N (g/kg)	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (g/kg)	K <sub>2</sub> O (g/kg)
Manure	50	18	41
Liquid	101	27	75
Solid	15	14	8

Ratio	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O
Manure	3	1	2
Liquid	4	1	3
Solid	2	2	1

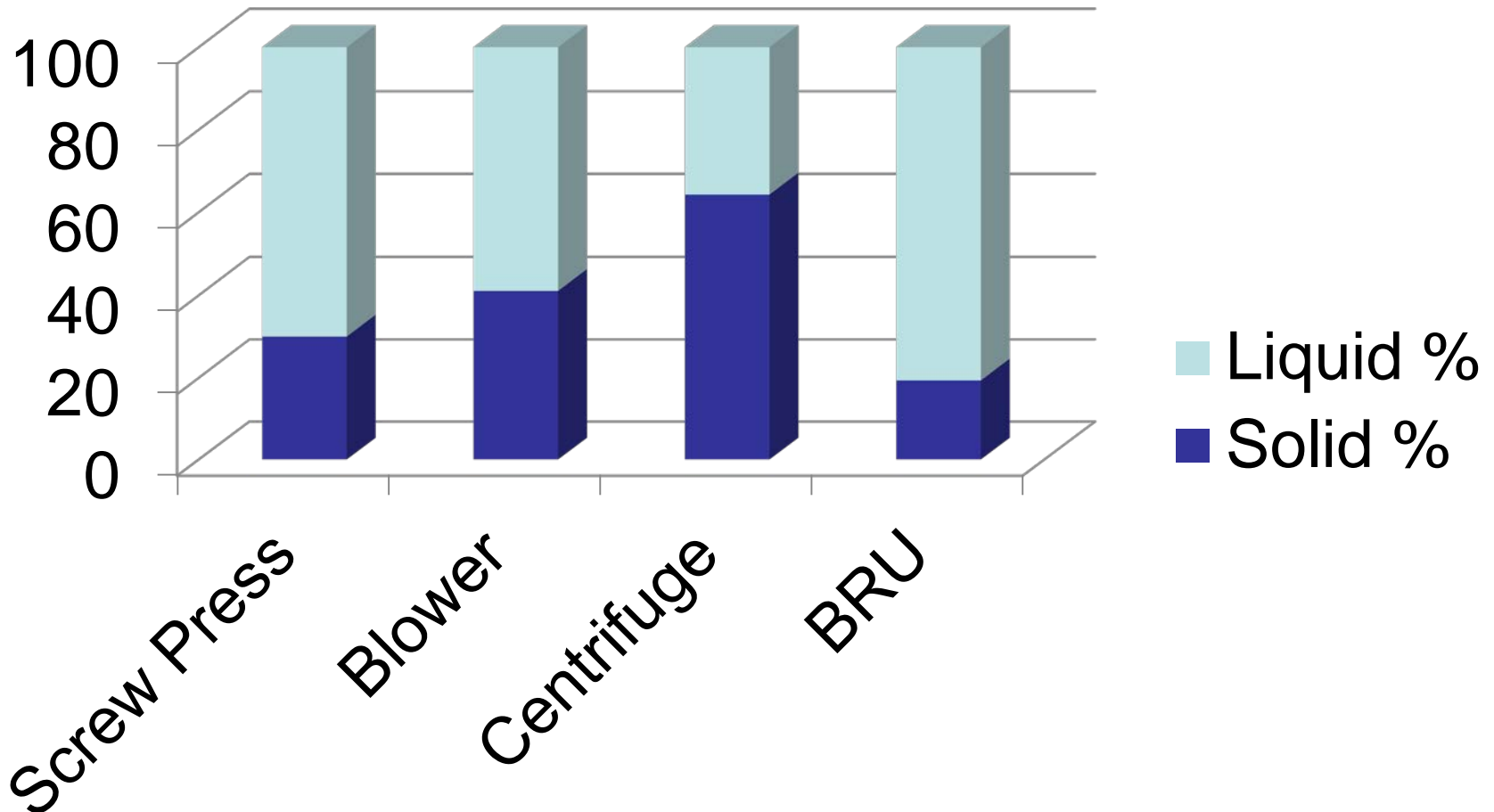
# Mass Separator Efficiency

Component	Mass separation efficiency (%) <sup>1</sup>
Total solids	45
Total nitrogen	18
Organic nitrogen	20
Inorganic nitrogen	15
Total phosphorous	21

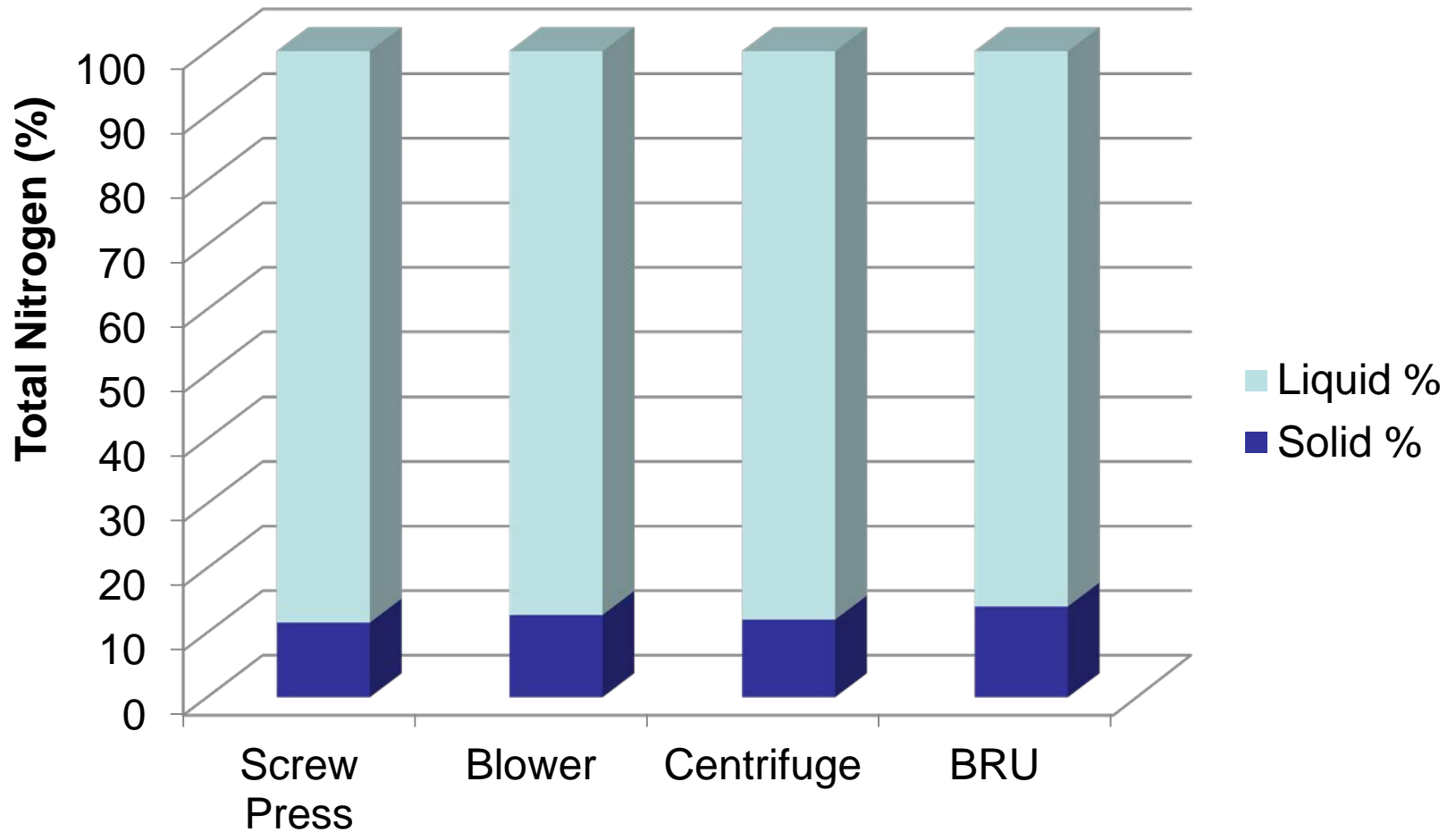
<sup>1</sup>From Chastain (2013) based on (Gooch, Inglis, and Czymmek 2005; Chastain, Vanotti, and Wingfield 2001)



# Phosphorus by Separator Type



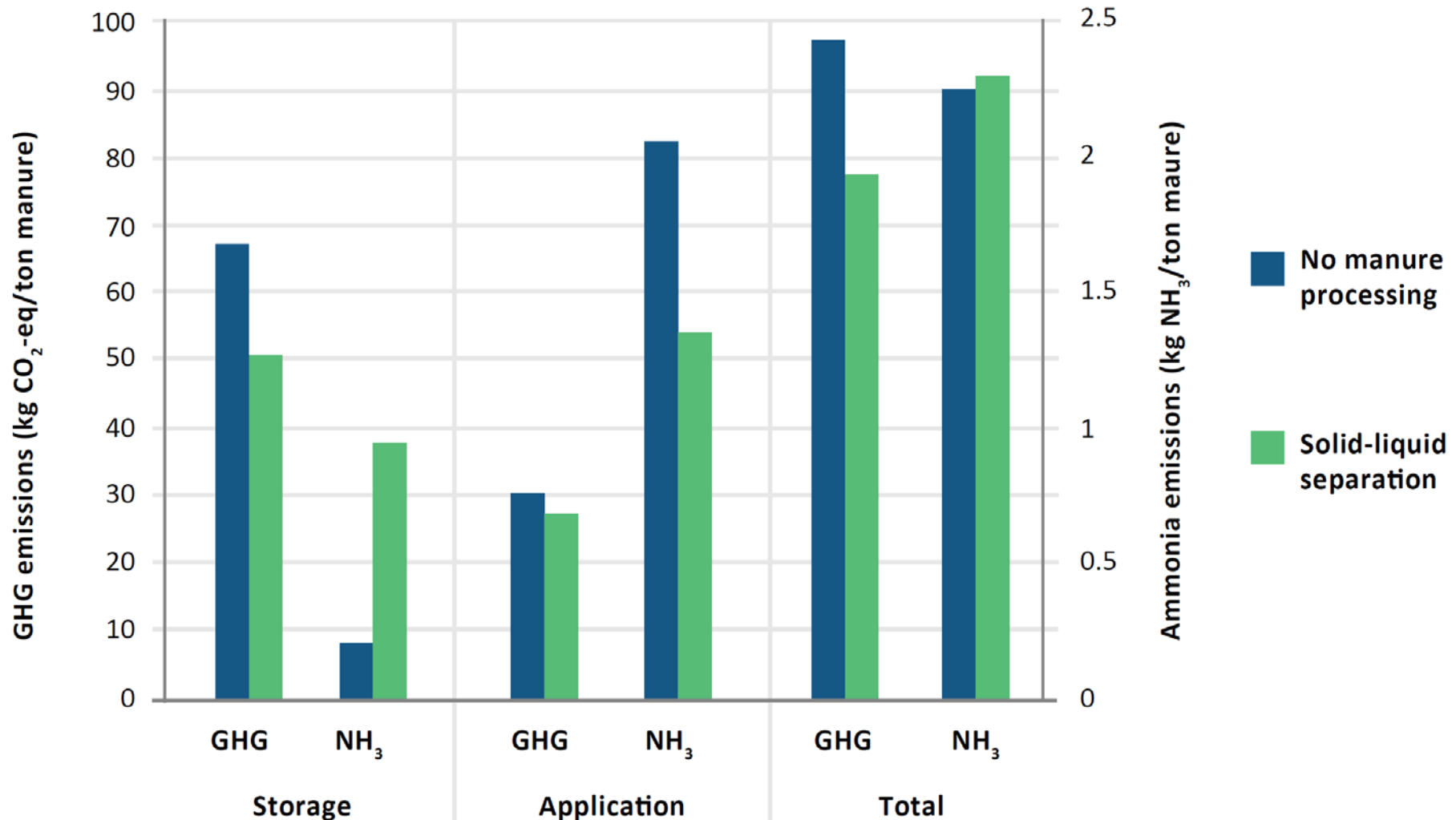
# Total Nitrogen by Separator Type



# Screens

Screen size <sup>[b]</sup> (mm)	TSS		VSS		TKN		TP	
	Amount retained (g/L)	Fraction of TSS (%)	Amount retained (g/L)	Fraction of VSS (%)	Amount retained (mg/L)	Fraction of TKN (%)	Amount retained (mg/L)	Fraction of TP (%)
3.360	0.74	6.4	0.38	6.7	43.13	7.6	10.57	6.8
2.000	2.76	23.9	0.94	16.6	43.85	7.7	8.16	5.7
1.588	3.24	28.1	1.78	31.4	33.04	5.8	8.86	6.0
1.000	3.78	32.8	1.60	28.3	66.11	11.6	16.66	11.4
0.794	3.18	27.6	2.18	38.5	66.12	11.6	16.67	12.1
0.590	3.98	34.5	2.48	43.8	77.93	13.7	16.96	12.3
0.500	3.92	34.0	1.54	27.2	59.81	10.5	15.16	11.0
0.297	4.22	36.6	1.90	33.6	60.68	10.6	15.43	11.1
0.250	4.82	41.8	2.14	37.8	78.26	13.7	23.26	16.7

# Ammonia Emissions with Separation



Aguirre-Villegas, H.A., R.A. Larson, and D. Reinemann. 2014. From Waste-To-Worth: Energy, Emissions, and Nutrient Implications of Manure Processing Pathways. *Biofuels, Bioproducts & Biorefining*, 8:770-793.

# Separation and Emissions Reductions

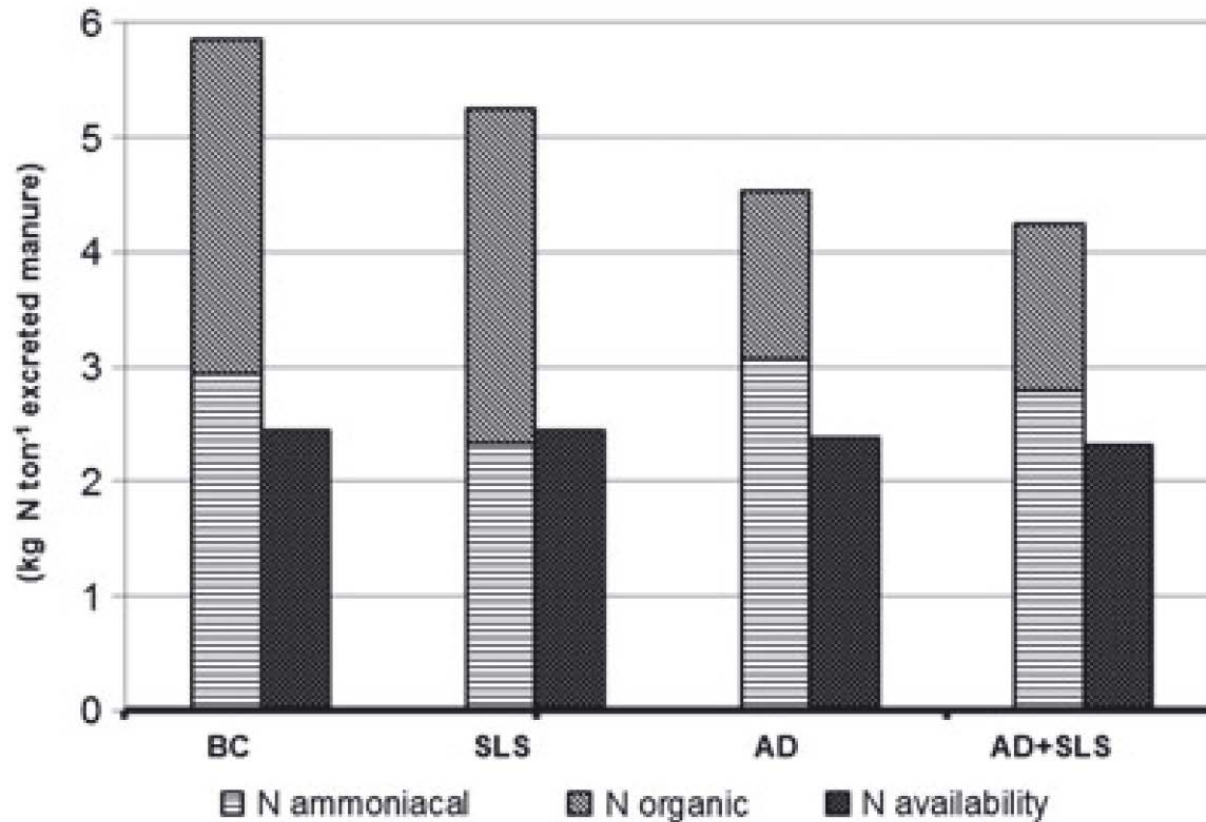


Figure 7. Organic N, ammoniacal, and N availability after land application for each pathway.



# Field Validation of Ammonia Emissions

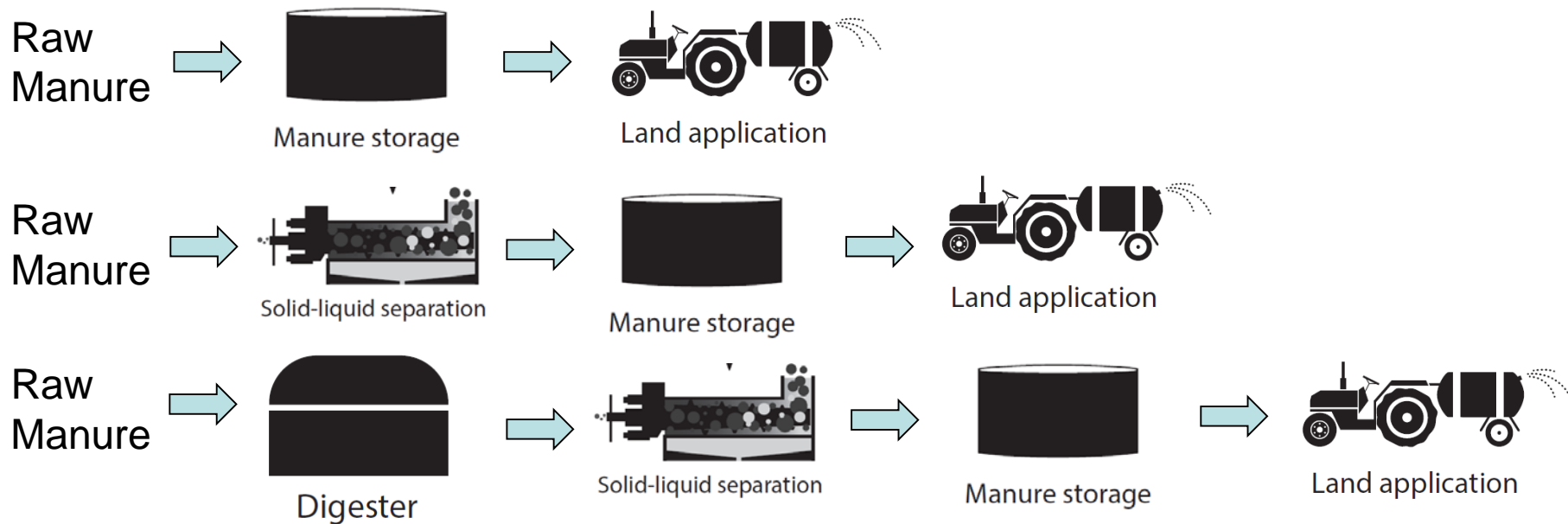
6 months storage



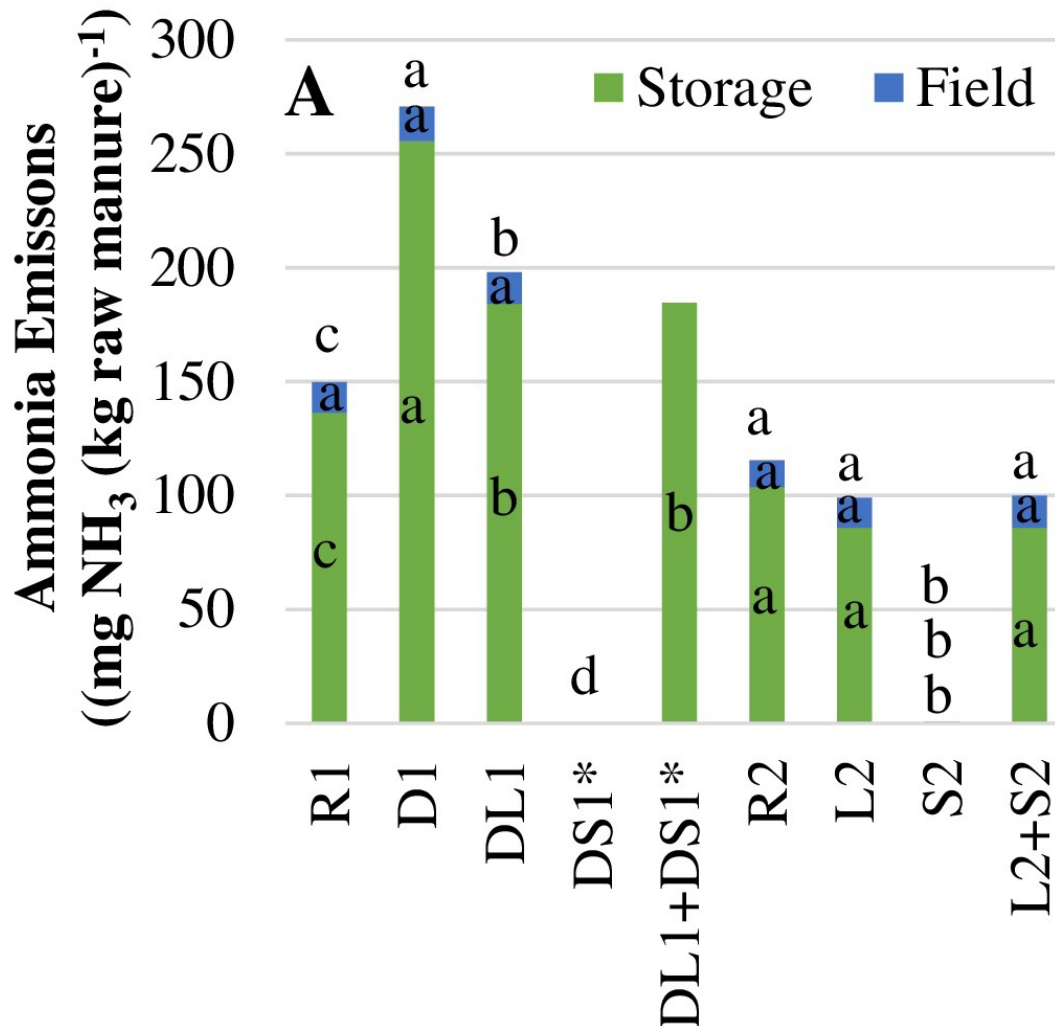
4.5 months field



# Treatments



# Ammonia Emissions



M.A. Holly, R.A. Larson, J.M. Powell, M.D. Ruark, H. Aguirre-Villegas, Greenhouse gas and ammonia emissions from digested and separated dairy manure during storage and after land application, *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment*, Volume 239, 15 February 2017, Pages 410-419, ISSN 0167-8809, <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.agee.2017.02.007>

# Manure Storage Covers

## Impermeable covers

Reduce all forms of emissions and odors  
Can be expensive and difficult to manage



- Permeable covers (natural crust, biomass covers)
  - Straw covers 15 cm and 30 cm straw covers reduce  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions by 28% and 90% (VanderZaag et al. 2009)
  - Chopped straw increases emissions of  $\text{CH}_4$  (Berg et al., 2006; Guarino et al., 2006)
  - Straw covers increase emissions of carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) and nitrous oxide ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ) due to aerobic conditions at the surface and the increased organic material (VanderZaag et al., 2009)
  - Limited life span (straw 3 months – Guarino et al. 2006)
  - Other natural permeable covers: chopped corn stalks, saw dust, rice hulls, ground corn cobs, and grass clippings also reduce  $\text{NH}_3$  emissions (Vanderzaag et al., 2008) similar issues to straw



# Thermally Treated Biomass Storage Covers



Intensity of Thermal Treatment

# Cover Treatments

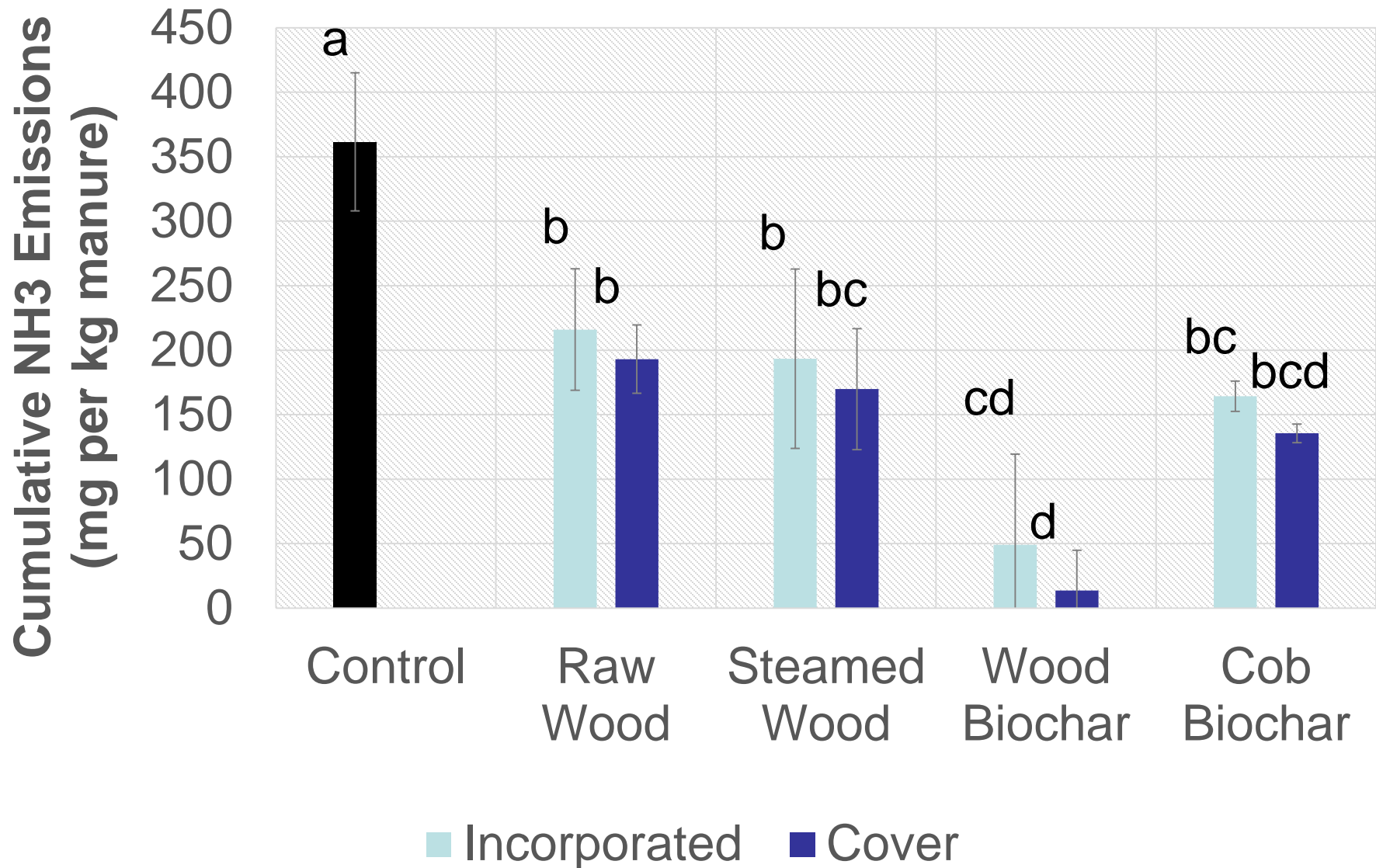
<b>Biomass Treatment</b>	<b>Manure Incorporation</b>	<b>Suspended as a Cover</b>
<b>Raw Wood</b>	Incorporated Raw Wood	Raw Wood Cover
<b>Wood Biochar</b>	Incorporated Wood Biochar	Wood Biochar Cover
<b>Steam Treated Wood</b>	Incorporated Steamed Wood	Steamed Wood Cover
<b>Corn Cob Biochar</b>	Incorporated Cob Biochar	Cob Biochar Cover

# Biomass Covers

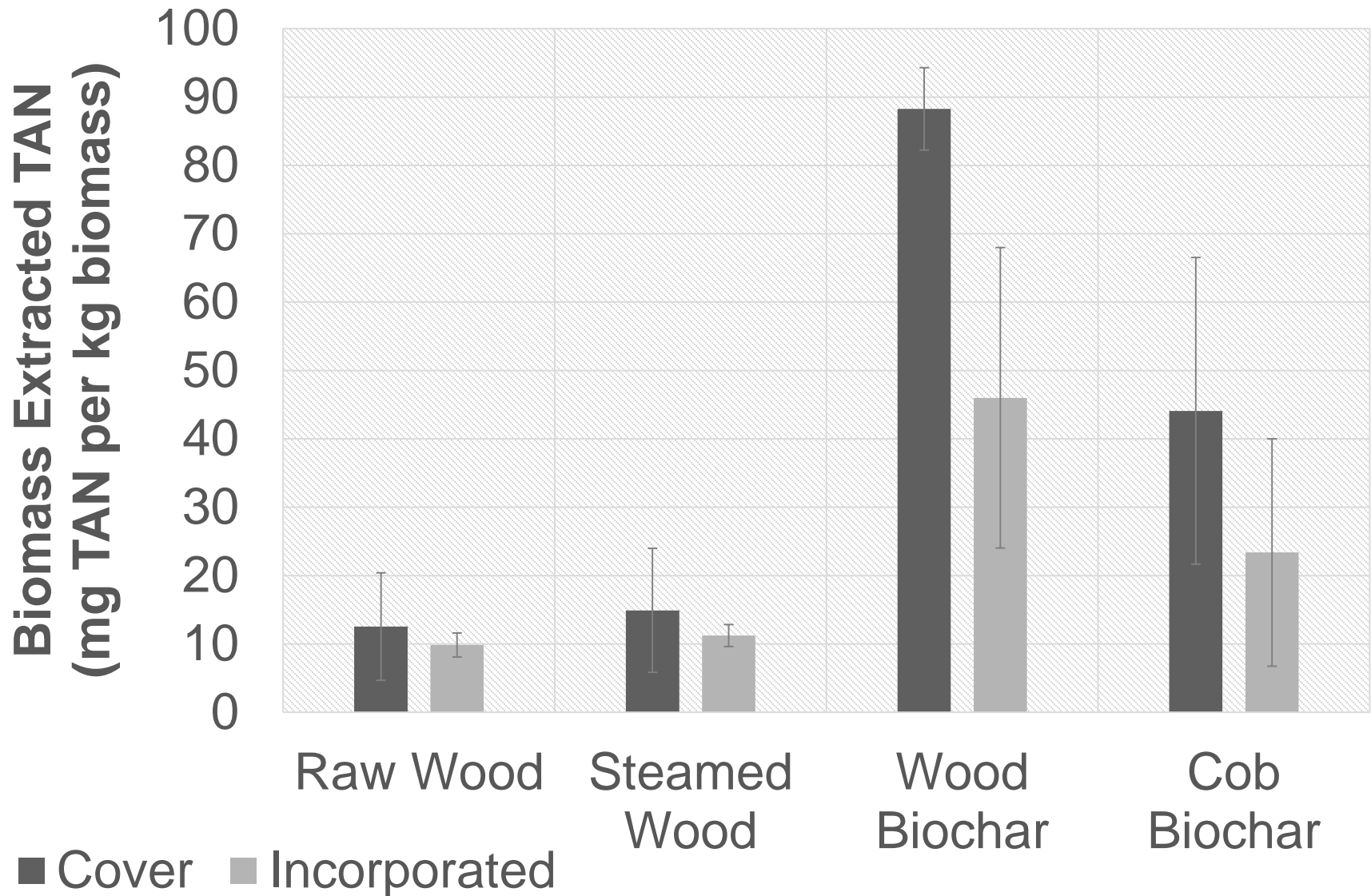
Raw wood 70% white birch 30% maple (left), steamed wood, wood biochar, and corncob biochar (right)



# Covered Storage Ammonia Emissions



# Biomass Nitrogen Uptake





# Ammonia Emissions & Sorption

	Total NH <sub>3</sub> Emissions (mg)	NH <sub>3</sub> mitigated (mg)	Sorption of NH <sub>3</sub> (mg)
Control	5462		
Raw Wood	3047	2414	16
Steamed Wood	2561	2900	18
Wood Biochar	221	5241	71
Cob Biochar	2257	3205	18

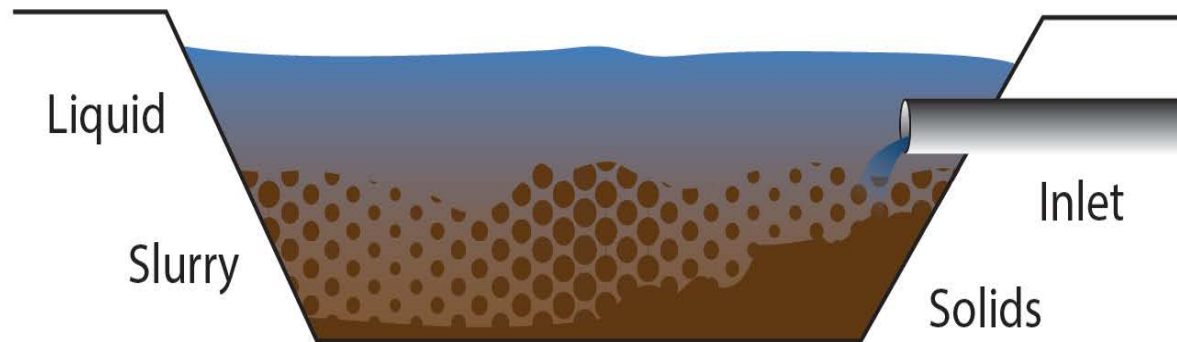
# Manure Agitation



# Manure variation

Caused by:

- Animal type
- Diet
- Bedding material
- Additional by-products
- Storage
- Processing



- Can cause inconsistencies in application (over and under application in manure)
  - environmental consequences
  - crop yield losses
- Consistency in manure can reduce application inconsistencies
- Agitation and sampling frequency are key aspects to reducing these inconsistencies
- Further steps down the line are not effective if the values for application are incorrect

- Key to obtaining uniformity in manure applications
- Can limit variability significantly
  - Dou et al. 2001
  - 6-8% variability without agitation
  - 20-30% variability with no agitation
  - 5 samples required with agitation
  - 40+ samples required without agitation
- How much agitation is enough agitation?
- Can be used in liquid and solid systems

Parameter	Min	Max	Avg
Ammonia	4%	10%	6%
TS	7%	21%	16%
TKN	8%	15%	9%
TP	5%	12%	8%



# Thank you!



rebecca.larson@wisc.edu

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