Global Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Potential in Agriculture

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ACES
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Carbon Finance Opportunities in the Agriculture Sector –
How Can We Create the "Carbon Asset" to the Benefit of Smallholder Farmers?
World Bank, Washington D.C., 3 March 2009

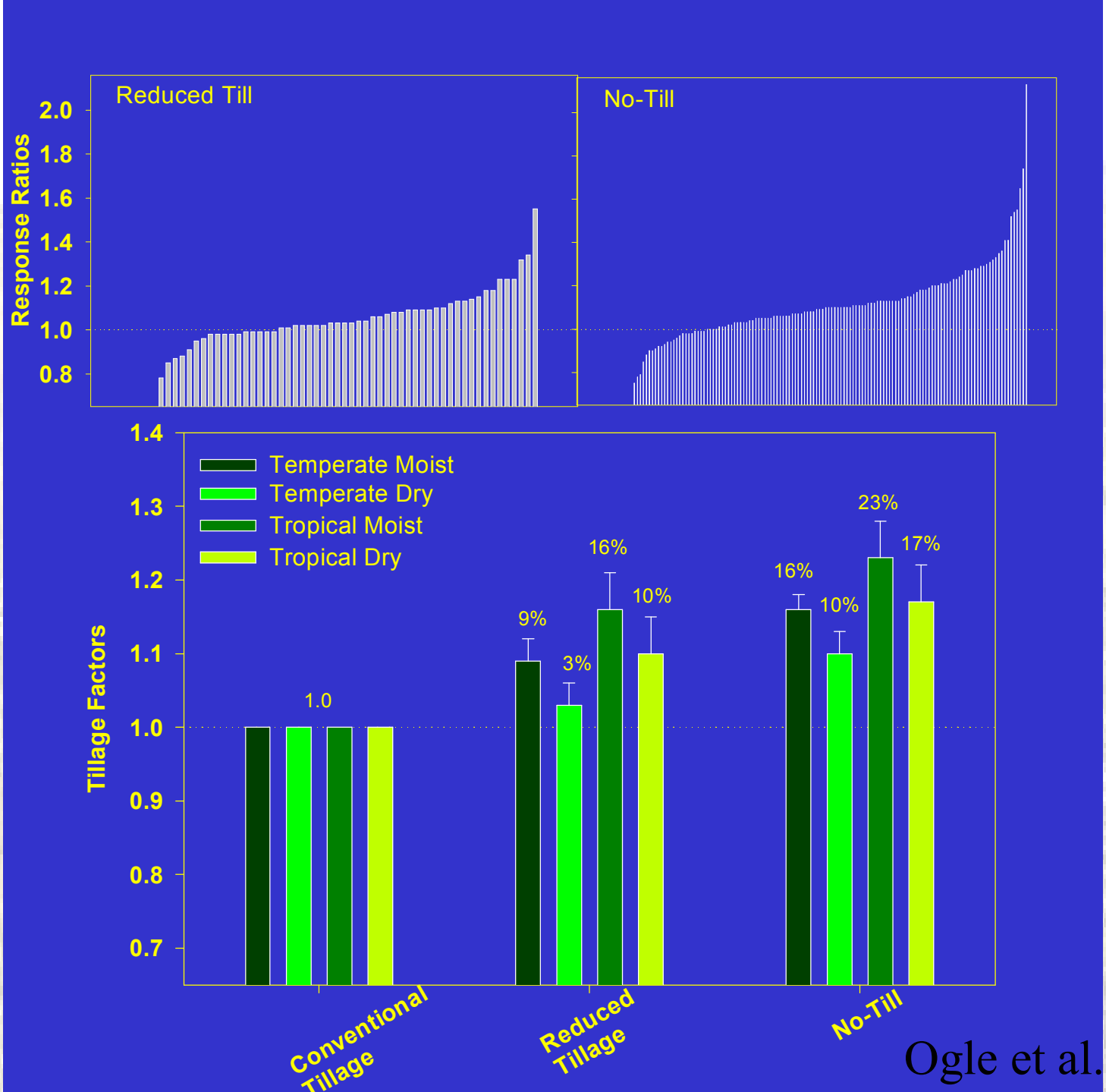
Co-authors of the work

- Daniel Martino, Zucong Cai, Daniel Gwary, Henry Janzen, Pushpam Kumar, Bruce McCarl, Stephen Ogle, Frank O'Mara, Charles Rice, Steve Rose, Bob Scholes, Oleg Sirotenko, Mark Howden, Tim McAllister, Genxing Pan, Vladimir Romanenkov, Uwe Schneider, Sirintornthep Towprayoon & Martin Wattenbach

Method

- Database of over 200 experiments to derive per-area / per-animal mitigation efficiencies for >60 agricultural mitigation options, for four climate zones – for CO_2, CH_4 and N_2O
- Mean estimates and low and high 95% CI values derived from mixed effects modelling
- Applied to appropriate agricultural (crop, grass, livestock) areas / numbers in each climate zone in each region

Smith et al. (2007, 2008)



Ogle et al. (2003)

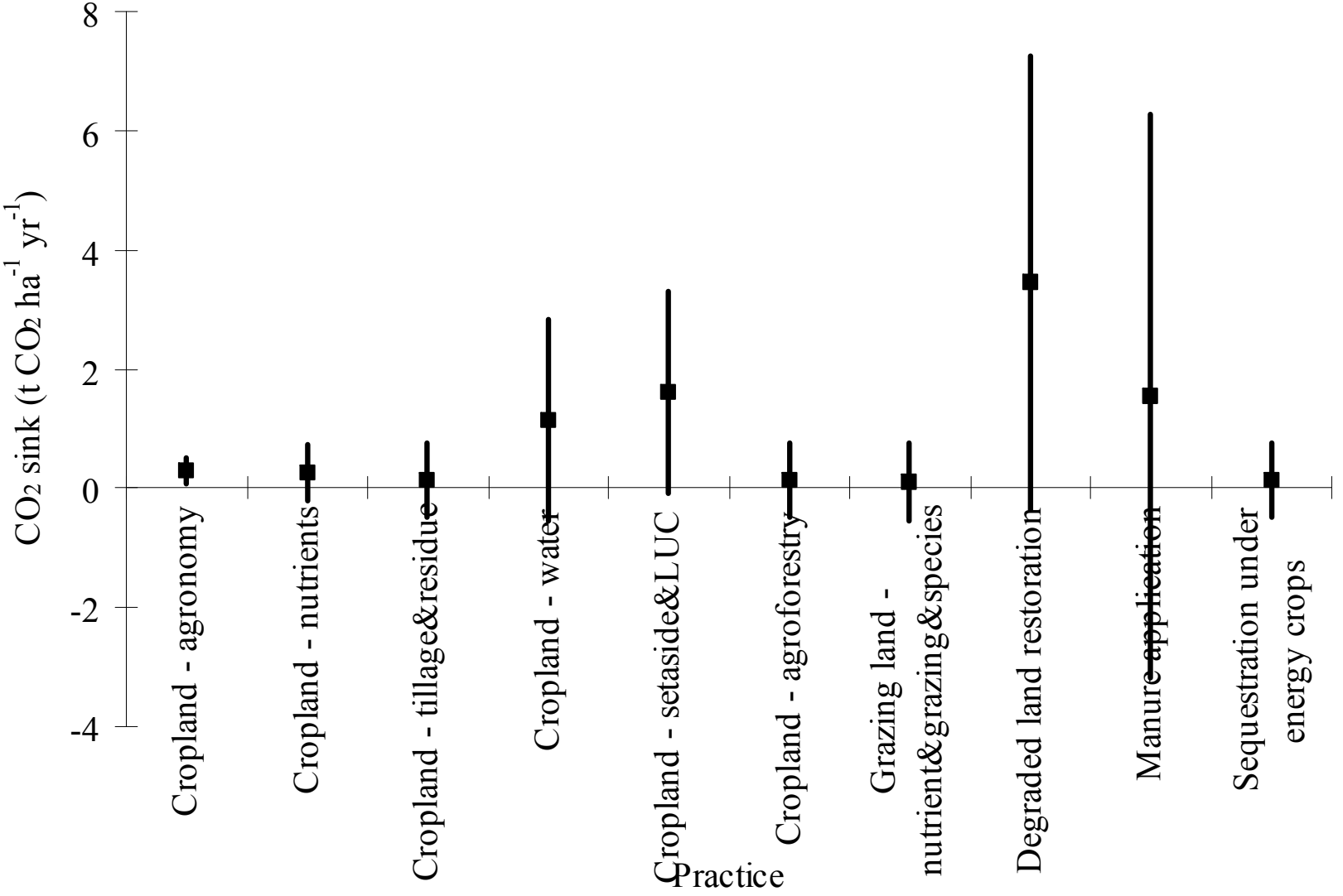
Per-area / per-animal mitigation potential

			CO_2 (t CO_2 ha^{-1} y^{-1})			CH_4 (t CO_2-eq. ha^{-1} y^{-1})			N_2O (t CO_2-eq. ha^{-1} y^{-1})			All GHG (t CO_2-eq. ha^{-1} y^{-1})		
Climate zone	Activity	Practice	Mean estimate	Low	High	Mean estimate	Low	High	Mean estimate	Low	High	Mean estimate	Low	High
Cool-dry	Croplands	agronomy	0.29	0.07	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.20	0.39	0.07	0.71
	Croplands	nutrient management	0.26	-0.22	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.32	0.33	-0.21	1.05
	Croplands	tillage and residue management	0.15	-0.48	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.17	-0.52	0.86
	Croplands	water management	1.14	-0.55	2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	-0.55	2.82
	Croplands	set-aside and LUC	1.61	-0.07	3.30	0.02	0.00	0.00	2.30	0.00	4.60	3.93	-0.07	7.90
	Croplands	agro-forestry	0.15	-0.48	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.17	-0.52	0.86
	Grasslands	grazing, fertilizaltion, fire	0.11	-0.55	0.77	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	-0.54	0.79
	Organic soils	restoration	36.67	3.67	69.67	-3.32	-0.05	-15.30	0.16	0.05	0.28	33.51	3.67	54.65
	Degraded lands	restoration	3.45	-0.37	7.26	0.08	0.04	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.53	-0.33	7.40
	Manure / biosol	application	1.54	-3.19	6.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.17	1.30	1.54	-3.36	7.57
	Bioenergy	soils only	0.15	-0.48	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.17	-0.52	0.86
Cool-moist	Croplands	agronomy	0.88	0.51	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.20	0.98	0.51	1.45
	Croplands	nutrient management	0.55	0.01	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.32	0.62	0.02	1.42
	Croplands	tillage and residue management	0.51	0.00	1.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.53	-0.04	1.12
	Croplands	water management	1.14	-0.55	2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	-0.55	2.82
	Croplands	set-aside and LUC	3.04	1.17	4.91	0.02	0.00	0.00	2.30	0.00	4.60	5.36	1.17	9.51
	Croplands	agro-forestry	0.51	0.00	1.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.53	-0.04	1.12
	Grasslands	grazing, fertilizaltion, fire	0.81	0.11	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.11	1.50
	Organic soils	restoration	36.67	3.67	69.67	-3.32	-0.05	-15.30	0.16	0.05	0.28	33.51	3.67	54.65
	Degraded lands	restoration	3.45	-0.37	7.26	1.00	0.69	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.45	0.32	8.51
	Manure / biosol	application	2.79	-0.62	6.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.17	1.30	2.79	-0.79	7.50
	Bioenergy	soils only	0.51	0.00	1.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.53	-0.04	1.12
Warm-dry	Croplands	agronomy	0.29	0.07	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.20	0.39	0.07	0.71
	Croplands	nutrient management	0.26	-0.22	0.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.32	0.33	-0.21	1.05
	Croplands	tillage and residue management	0.33	-0.73	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.35	-0.77	1.48
	Croplands	water management	1.14	-0.55	2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	-0.55	2.82
	Croplands	set-aside and LUC	1.61	-0.07	3.30	0.02	0.00	0.00	2.30	0.00	4.60	3.93	-0.07	7.90
	Croplands	agro-forestry	0.33	-0.73	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.35	-0.77	1.48
	Grasslands	grazing, fertilizaltion, fire	0.11	-0.55	0.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	-0.55	0.77
	Organic soils	restoration	73.33	7.33	139.33	-3.32	-0.05	-15.30	0.16	0.05	0.28	70.18	7.33	124.31
	Degraded lands	restoration	3.45	-0.37	7.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.45	-0.37	7.26
	Manure / biosol	application	1.54	-3.19	6.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.17	1.30	1.54	-3.36	7.57
	Bioenergy	soils only	0.33	-0.73	1.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.35	-0.77	1.48
Warm-moist	Croplands	agronomy	0.88	0.51	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.20	0.98	0.51	1.45
	Croplands	nutrient management	0.55	0.01	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.32	0.62	0.02	1.42
	Croplands	tillage and residue management	0.70	-0.40	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.72	-0.44	1.89
	Croplands	water management	1.14	-0.55	2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	-0.55	2.82
	Croplands	set-aside and LUC	3.04	1.17	4.91	0.02	0.00	0.00	2.30	0.00	4.60	5.36	1.17	9.51
	Croplands	agro-forestry	0.70	-0.40	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.72	-0.44	1.89
	Grasslands	grazing, fertilizaltion, fire	0.81	0.11	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.81	0.11	1.50
	Organic soils	restoration	73.33	7.33	139.33	-3.32	-0.05	-15.30	0.16	0.05	0.28	70.18	7.33	124.31
	Degraded lands	restoration	3.45	-0.37	7.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.45	-0.37	7.26
	Manure / biosol	application	2.79	-0.62	6.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.17	1.30	2.79	-0.79	7.50
	Bioenergy	soils only	0.70	-0.40	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.04	0.09	0.72	-0.44	1.89

For 14 practices, for 4 climate zones, for CO_2, N_2O & CH_4, estimates for mean and +/- 95%CI

Smith et al. (2008)

Soil C sequestration rates for cool dry climate

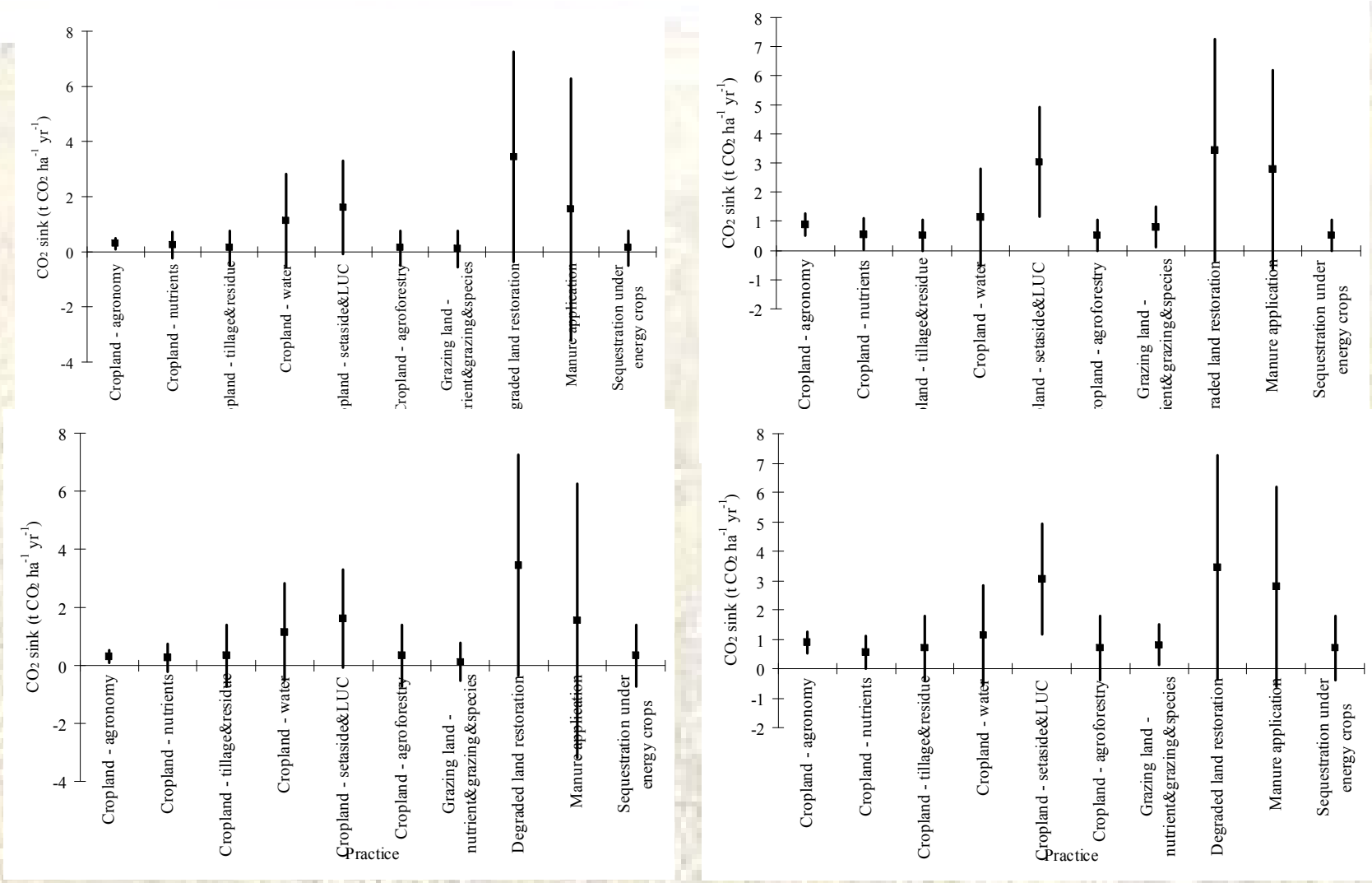


Data from: Smith et al. (2008)

Soil C sequestration rates in different climates

Cool

Warm



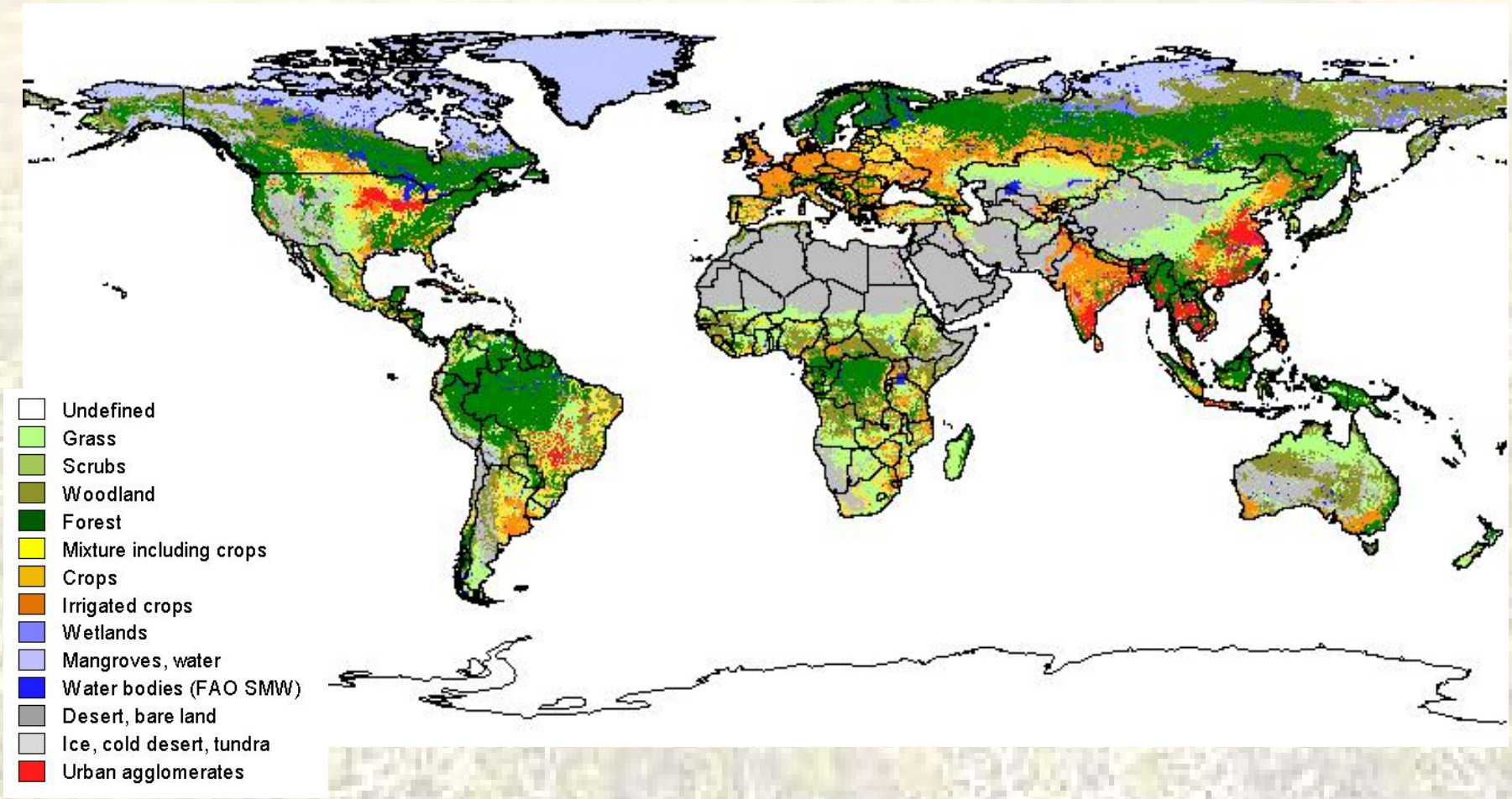
Dry

Moist

Data from: Smith et al. (2008)

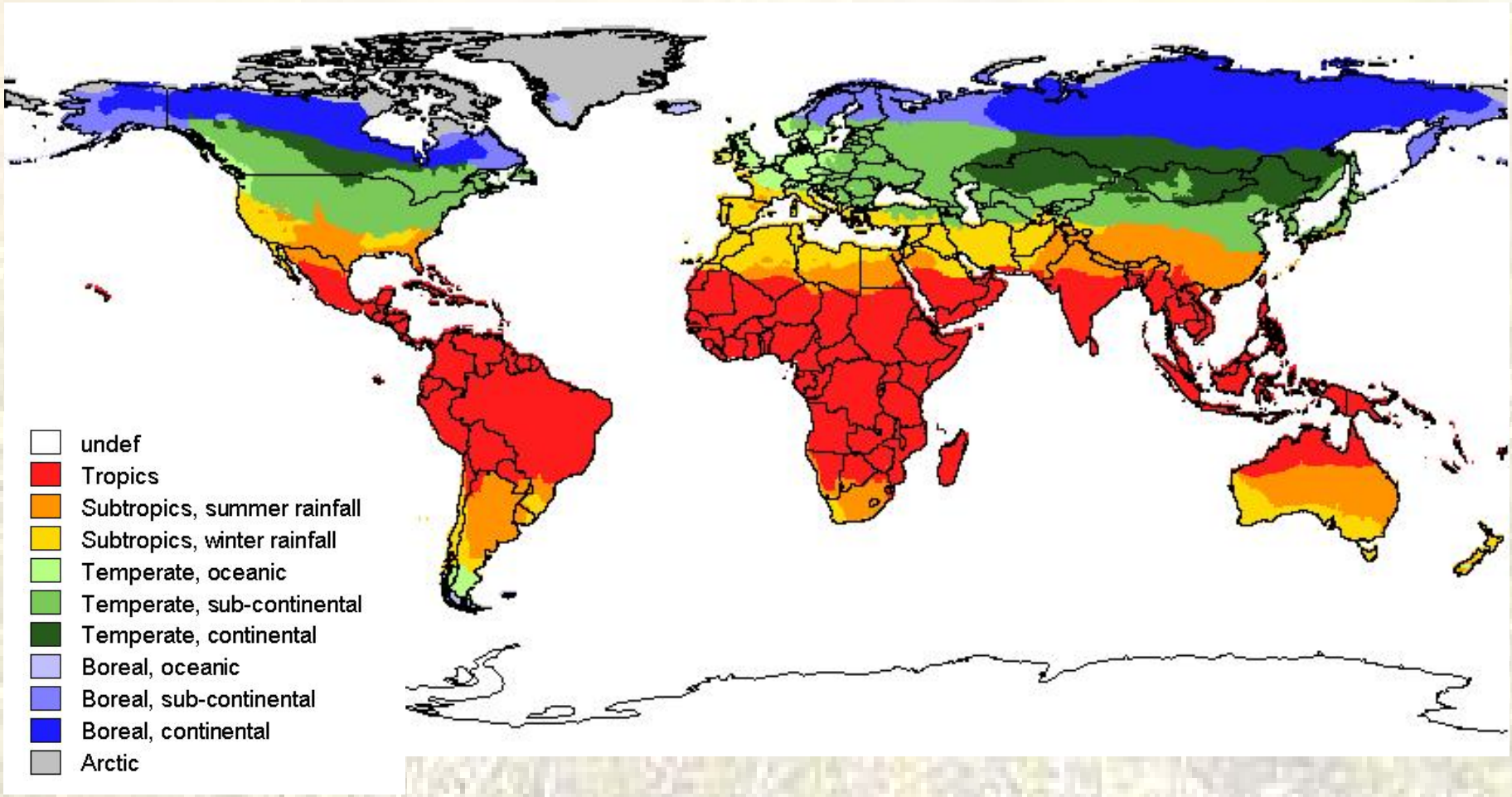
IPCC AR4 Agricultural GHG Mitigation

FAO AEZ Database (e.g. showing land cover)



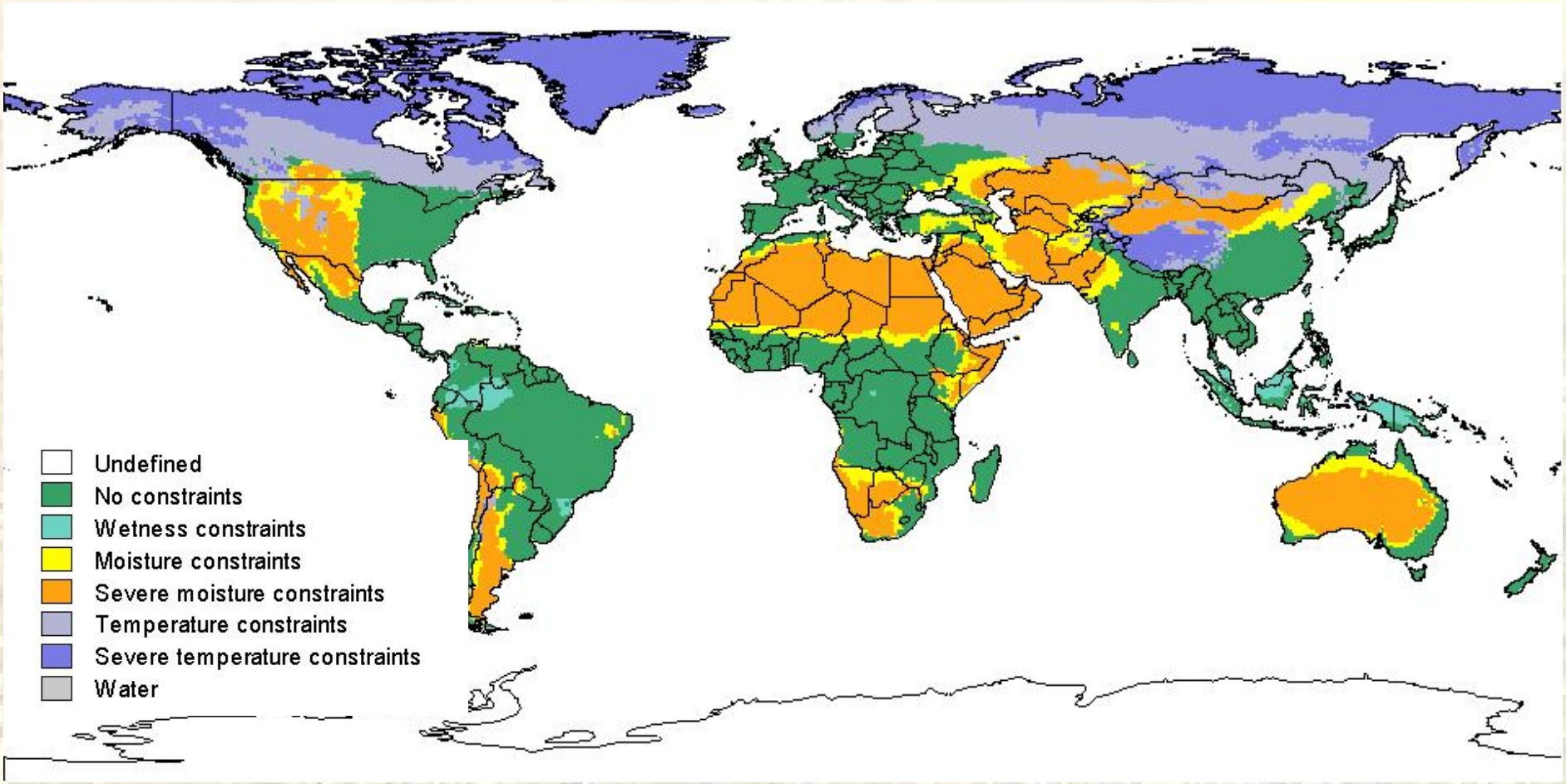
IPCC AR4 Agricultural GHG Mitigation

FAO AEZ Database (e.g. showing thermal climate)

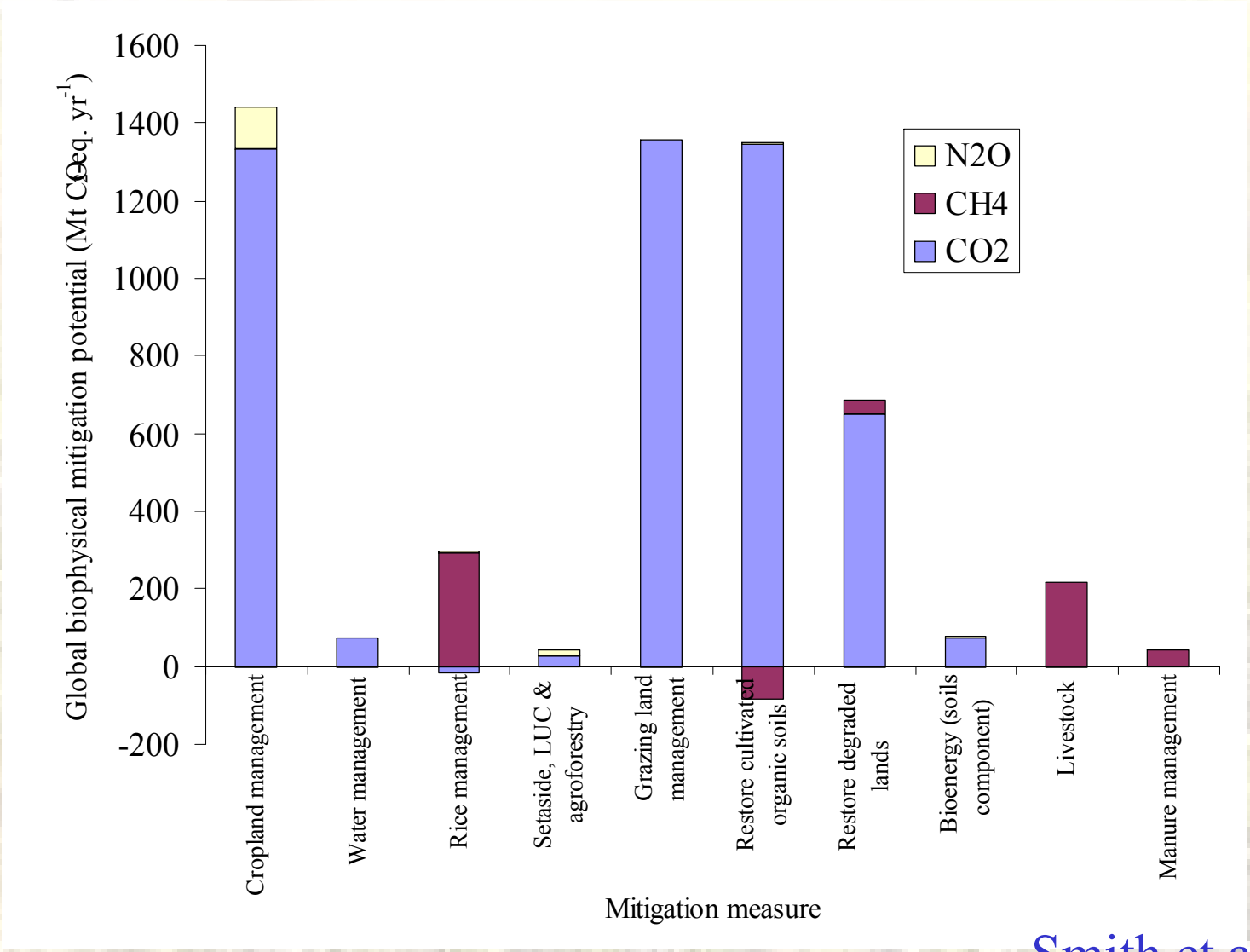


IPCC AR4 Agricultural GHG Mitigation

FAO AEZ Database (e.g. showing production constraints)

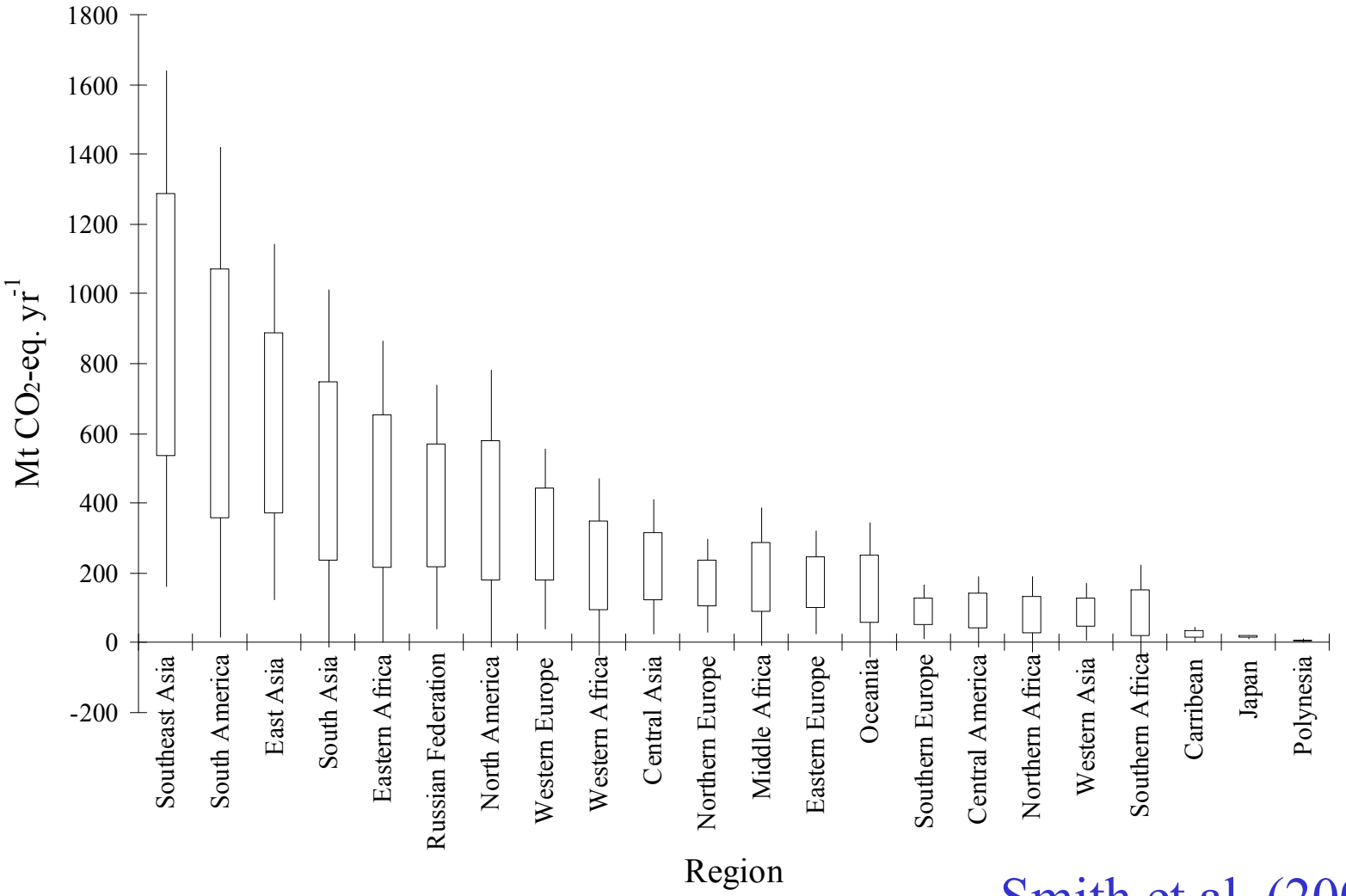


Global mitigation potential in agriculture



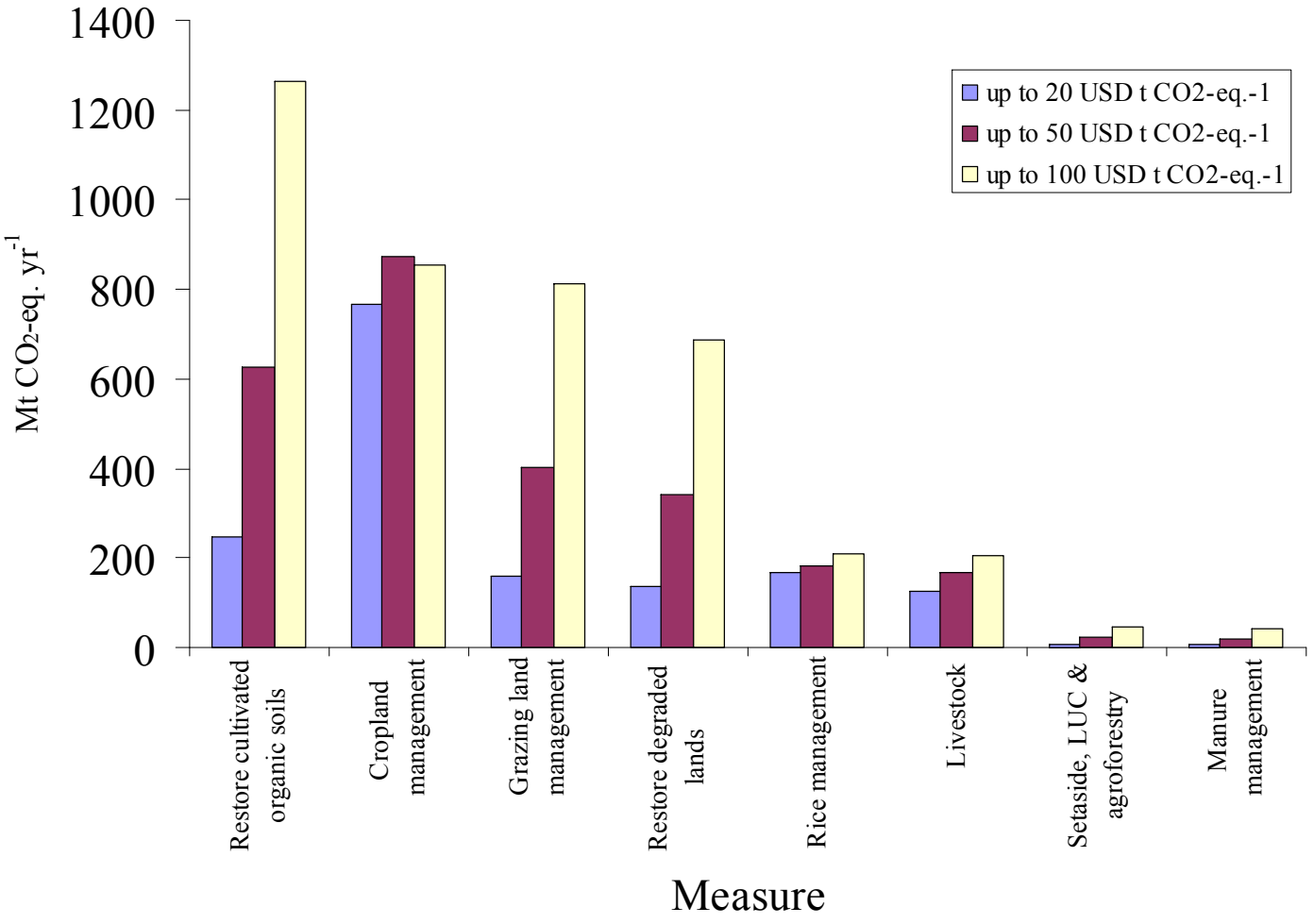
Smith et al. (2008)

High and low estimates of the mitigation potential in each region



Smith et al. (2007)

Effect of C price on implementation



Smith et al. (2007)

Global mitigation potential in agriculture (Mt CO_2-eq. yr^{-1})

	Price range (USD t CO_2-eq. $^{-1}$)			
Scenario	**0-20**	**0-50**	**0-100**	**0->>100 (technical potential)**
B1	1925	2384	3149	5480
A1b	1982	2439	3254	5670
B2	2047	2495	3330	5844
A2	2119	2549	3330	5957

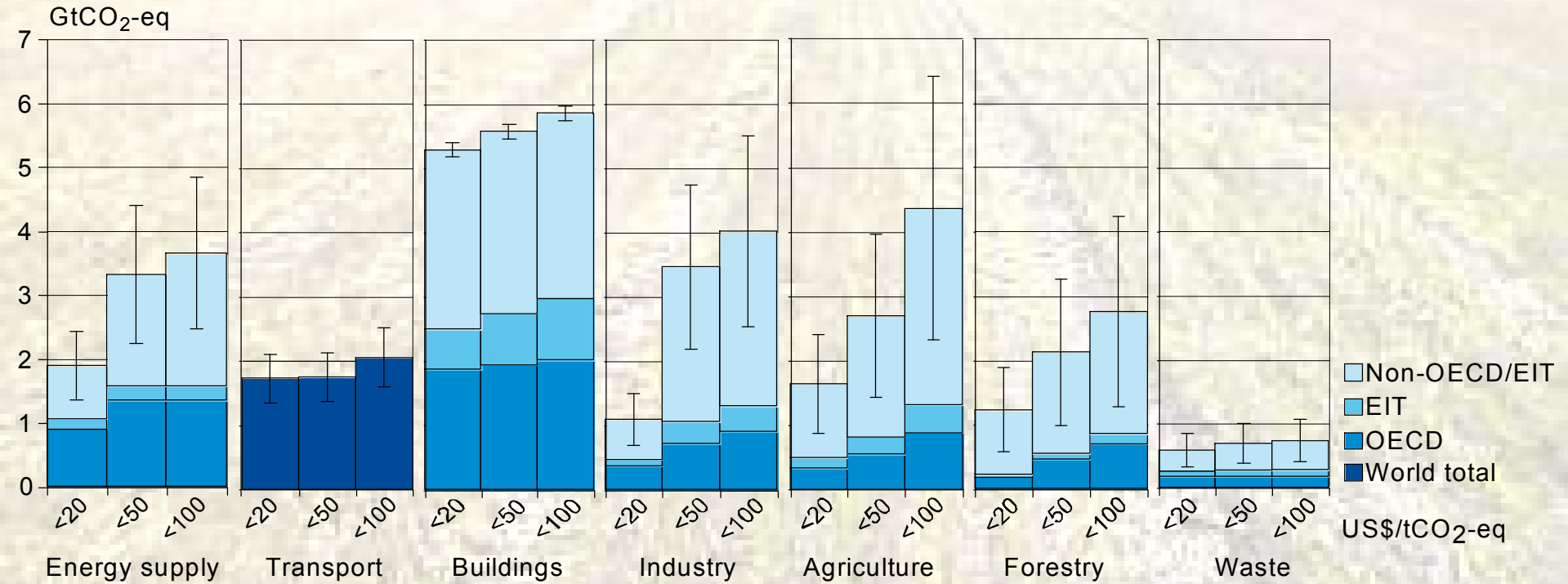
Smith et al. (2007a)

Additional mitigation from agriculture

- **Feed-stocks for bio-energy** (residues, dung and dedicated energy crops).
- The economic mitigation potential for agricultural bio-energy in 2030 is estimated to be 70-1260, 560-2320 and 2720 Mt CO_2-eq. yr^{-1} at prices up to 20, 50 and above 100 USD t CO_2-eq.$^{-1}$, respectively (5-90% of all other measures together).
- Additional mitigation of 770 Mt CO_2-eq. yr^{-1} could be achieved by 2030 by **improved energy efficiency** in agriculture

Smith et al. (2007a)

Global economic mitigation potential for different sectors at different carbon prices



IPCC WGIII (2007)

Conclusions

- Agriculture has a significant role to play in climate mitigation
- Agriculture is cost competitive with mitigation options in other sectors
- Bio-energy crops and improved energy efficiency in agriculture can contribute to further climate mitigation, but the savings are usually counted in other sectors
- Agricultural mitigation should be part of a portfolio of mitigation measures to reduce emissions / increase sinks whilst new, low carbon energy technologies are developed.

Thank you for your attention