Interactive comment on “Review of key causes and sources for N$_2$O emissions and NO$_3$-leaching from organic arable crop rotations” by Sissel Hansen et al.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 12 December 2018

The subject matter “N$_2$O and NO$_3$ losses from organic agriculture” is an interesting subject, unfortunately the paper is poorly written. A lack of organization results in repetition of certain points and completely missing other points. This lack of organization also creates a lack of focus. By the time I finished reading the paper, I still didn’t have a good idea of what the authors were trying to achieve. Also, I had difficulty following the paper in places because the authors just attached databases as supplementary material, rather than actually including summary tables or figures based on the supplementary materials. The authors need to find some way to summarize the data and present the summary in a meaningful way (either tables or figures). Once the data has been summarized, patterns may emerge, which can then be explored. But everything right now just seems haphazard. I also got the impression that the authors only used simple regression to look at drivers of N$_2$O/NO$_3$ losses. Why not some kind of multivariate analysis. There are also many more comments in the attached document.

Regards,

Please also note the supplement to this comment: https://www.biogeosciences-discuss.net/bg-2018-455/bg-2018-455-RC1-supplement.pdf