Technical Report Series on the Boreal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study (BOREAS)

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BOREAS TE-1 CH₄ Flux Data over the SSA-OA

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BOREAS TE-1 CH₄ Flux Data over the SSA-OA

Darwin Anderson, Andrea Papagno

Summary

The BOREAS TE-1 team collected various data to characterize the soil-plant systems in the BOREAS SSA. Particular emphasis was placed on nutrient biochemistry, the stores and transfers of organic carbon, and how the characteristics were related to measured methane fluxes. The overall transect in the Prince Albert National Park (Saskatchewan, Canada) included the major plant communities and related soils that occurred in that section of the boreal forest. Soil physical, chemical, and biological measurements along the transect were used to characterize the static environment, which allowed them to be related to methane fluxes. Chamber techniques were used to provide a measure of methane production/uptake. Chamber measurements coupled with flask sampling were used to determine the seasonality of methane fluxes. This particular data set contains methane flux and soil profile methane concentration values from the SSA-OA site. The data were collected from 29-May to 17-Sep-1994. The data are stored in tabular ASCII files.

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1. Data Set Overview

1.1 Data Set Identification
BOREAS TE-01 CH₄ Flux Data over the SSA-OA

1.2 Data Set Introduction
This data set contains methane flux and soil profile methane concentration measurements taken at the BOREal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study (BOREAS) Southern Study Area (SSA) Old Aspen (OA) flux tower site. Chamber techniques were used to provide a measure of methane production/uptake. Chamber measurements coupled with flask sampling were used to determine the seasonality of methane fluxes.
1.3 Objective/Purpose
The objective of the research was to characterize the various soil-plant systems along a transect in one of the ecosystems selected for study at the SSA.

1.4 Summary of Parameters
The main parameters are soil methane fluxes and concentrations.

1.5 Discussion
None given.

1.6 Related Data Sets
- BOREAS TGB-01 CH4 Tower flux data over NSA
- BOREAS TGB-01 CO2 and CH4 Chamber Flux data over the NSA
- BOREAS TGB-01/TGB-03 NEE Data over the NSA Fen
- BOREAS TGB-03 CO2 and CH4 Chamber Flux data over the NSA
- BOREAS TGB-05 CO, CO2, and CH4 Chamber Flux data over the NSA

2. Investigator(s)

2.1 Investigator(s) Name and Title
Dr. Darwin Anderson
Research Professor
University of Saskatchewan

2.2 Title of Investigation
Stores and Dynamics of Organic Matter in Boreal Ecosystems

2.3 Contact Information
Contact 1:
Dr. Darwin Anderson
Department of Soil Science
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Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
S7N0W0
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Contact 2:
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NASA GSFC
Code 923
Greenbelt, MD 20771
(301) 286-3134
(301) 286-0239 (fax)
Andrea.Papagno@gsfc.nasa.gov

3. Theory of Measurements
None given.
4. Equipment

4.1 Sensor/Instrument Description

4.1.1 Collection Environment
Methane fluxes were measured during all ambient environmental conditions at the sites.

4.1.2 Source/Platform
Ground.

4.1.3 Source/Platform Mission Objectives
The mission objective was to determine the methane fluxes at the SSA-OA.

4.1.4 Key Variables
The key variables measured were the methane fluxes.

4.1.5 Principles of Operation
None given.

4.1.6 Sensor/Instrument Measurement Geometry
None given.

4.1.7 Manufacturer of Sensor/Instrument
None given.

4.2 Calibration

4.2.1 Specifications
None given.

4.2.1.1 Tolerance
None given.

4.2.2 Frequency of Calibration
None given.

4.2.3 Other Calibration Information
None given.

5. Data Acquisition Methods

None given.

6. Observations

6.1 Data Notes
None given.

6.2 Field Notes
None given.
7. Data Description

7.1 Spatial Characteristics

7.1.1 Spatial Coverage
The North American Datum of 1983 (NAD83) coordinates of the SSA-OA flux tower (site id C3BTT), close to where the measurements were taken, are 53.62889° N Lat, 106.19779° W Long, Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone 13, N: 5,942,899.9, E: 420,790.5.

7.1.2 Spatial Coverage Map
Not available.

7.1.3 Spatial Resolution
These are point source measurements along a transect near the given location.

7.1.4 Projection
Not applicable.

7.1.5 Grid Description
Not applicable.

7.2 Temporal Characteristics

7.2.1 Temporal Coverage
The data were collected from 29-May to 17-Sep-1994.

7.2.2 Temporal Coverage Map
Not available.

7.2.3 Temporal Resolution
Measurements were taken on a daily basis. Three methane flux measurements, one obtained from each of the closed chambers, were averaged every 2 days from 29-May to 17-Sep-1994.

7.3 Data Characteristics

7.3.1 Parameter/Variable
The parameters contained in the data files on the CD-ROM are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE_NAME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUB_SITE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE_OBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDEV_CH4_FLUX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST_QUARTILE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOURTH QUARTILE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_5CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_9_TO_16CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_31CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_26_TO_28CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_43_TO_46CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_79_TO_93CM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 4
7.3.2 Variable Description/Definition

The descriptions of the parameters contained in the data files on the CD-ROM are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE_NAME</td>
<td>The identifier assigned to the site by BOREAS, in the format SSS-TTT-CCCCC, where SSS identifies the portion of the study area: NSA, SSA, REG, TRN, and TTT identifies the cover type for the site, 999 if unknown, and CCCCC is the identifier for site, exactly what it means will vary with site type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUB_SITE</td>
<td>The identifier assigned to the sub-site by BOREAS, in the format GGGGG-III, where GGGGG is the group associated with the sub-site instrument, e.g. HYD06 or STAFF, and IIII is the identifier for sub-site, often this will refer to an instrument.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE_OBS</td>
<td>The date on which the data were collected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>Mean of all daily methane flux measurements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDEV_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>The standard deviation of all daily methane flux measurements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>Median of all daily methane flux measurements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST_QUARTILE</td>
<td>1ST quartile of all daily methane flux measurements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOURTH_QUARTILE</td>
<td>4TH quartile of all daily methane flux measurements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_5CM</td>
<td>Methane concentration in the peat at 5 cm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_9_TO_16CM</td>
<td>Methane concentration in the peat at 9-16 cm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_31CM</td>
<td>Methane concentration in the peat at 31 cm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_26_TO_28CM</td>
<td>Methane concentration in the peat at 26-28 cm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_43_TO_46CM</td>
<td>Methane concentration in the peat at 43-46 cm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_79_TO_93CM</td>
<td>Methane concentration in the peat at 79-93 cm depth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRTFCN_CODE</td>
<td>The BOREAS certification level of the data. Examples are CPI (Checked by PI), CGR (Certified by Group), PRE (Preliminary), and CPI-??? (CPI but questionable).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVISION_DATE</td>
<td>The most recent date when the information in the referenced data base table record was revised.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.3.3 Unit of Measurement
The measurement units for the parameters contained in the data files on the CD-ROM are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column Name</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE_NAME</td>
<td>[none]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUB_SITE</td>
<td>[none]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE_OBS</td>
<td>[DD-MON-YY]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>[micromoles][meter^-2][second^-1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDEV_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>[micromoles][meter^-2][second^-1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>[micromoles][meter^-2][second^-1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST_QUARTILE</td>
<td>[micromoles][meter^-2][second^-1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOURTH_QUARTILE</td>
<td>[micromoles][meter^-2][second^-1]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_5CM</td>
<td>[parts per million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_9_TO_16CM</td>
<td>[parts per million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_26_TO_28CM</td>
<td>[parts per million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_43_TO_46CM</td>
<td>[parts per million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_79_TO_93CM</td>
<td>[parts per million]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRTFCN_CODE</td>
<td>[none]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVISION_DATE</td>
<td>[DD-MON-YY]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.3.4 Data Source
The sources of the parameter values contained in the data files on the CD-ROM are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column Name</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE_NAME</td>
<td>[BORIS Designation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUB_SITE</td>
<td>[BORIS Designation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE_OBS</td>
<td>[Human Observer]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDEV_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIAN_CH4_FLUX</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIRST_QUARTILE</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOURTH_QUARTILE</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_5CM</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_9_TO_16CM</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_31CM</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_26_TO_28CM</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_43_TO_46CM</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4_CONC_79_TO_93CM</td>
<td>[Laboratory Equipment]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRTFCN_CODE</td>
<td>[BORIS Designation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVISION_DATE</td>
<td>[BORIS Designation]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.3.5 Data Range
The following table gives information about the parameter values found in the data files on the CD-ROM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Column Name</th>
<th>Minimum Data Value</th>
<th>Maximum Data Value</th>
<th>Missing Data Value</th>
<th>Unrel Data Value</th>
<th>Below Data Limit</th>
<th>Detect Not Collectd</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE_NAME</td>
<td>SSA-9OA-FLXTR</td>
<td>SSA-9OA-FLXTR</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUB_SITE</td>
<td>9TE01-FLX01</td>
<td>9TE01-FLX01</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE_OBS</td>
<td>29-MAY-94</td>
<td>17-SEP-94</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Sample Data Record

The following are wrapped versions of data record from a sample data file on the CD-ROM.

**SITE_NAME, SUB_SITE, DATE_OBS, MEAN_CH4_FLUX, SDEV_CH4_FLUX, MEDIAN_CH4_FLUX, FIRST_QUARTILE, FOURTH_QUARTILE, CH4_CONC_5CM, CH4_CONC_9_TO_16CM, CH4_CONC_31CM, CH4_CONC_26_TO_28CM, CH4_CONC_43_TO_46CM, CH4_CONC_79_TO_93CM, CRTFCN_CODE, REVISION_DATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE_NAME</th>
<th>SUB_SITE</th>
<th>DATE_OBS</th>
<th>MEAN_CH4_FLUX</th>
<th>SDEV_CH4_FLUX</th>
<th>MEDIAN_CH4_FLUX</th>
<th>FIRST_QUARTILE</th>
<th>FOURTH_QUARTILE</th>
<th>CH4_CONC_5CM</th>
<th>CH4_CONC_9_TO_16CM</th>
<th>CH4_CONC_31CM</th>
<th>CH4_CONC_26_TO_28CM</th>
<th>CH4_CONC_43_TO_46CM</th>
<th>CH4_CONC_79_TO_93CM</th>
<th>CRTFCN_CODE</th>
<th>REVISION_DATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSA-9OA-FLXTR</td>
<td>'9TE01-FLX01'</td>
<td>29-MAY-94</td>
<td>.00016204</td>
<td>.00008102</td>
<td>-999</td>
<td>.00016204</td>
<td>.00217593</td>
<td>-.00347222</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>CPI</td>
<td>12-NOV-96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SSA-9OA-FLXTR</td>
<td>'9TE01-FLX01'</td>
<td>29-MAY-94</td>
<td>.0000463</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>.0000463</td>
<td>.00069444</td>
<td>.0000463</td>
<td>.00069444</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>-999.0</td>
<td>CPI</td>
<td>12-NOV-96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Minimum Data Value** -- The minimum value found in the column.

**Maximum Data Value** -- The maximum value found in the column.

**Missng Data Value** -- The value that indicates missing data. This is used to indicate that an attempt was made to determine the parameter value, but the attempt was unsuccessful.

**Unrel Data Value** -- The value that indicates unreliable data. This is used to indicate that an attempt was made to determine the parameter value, but the value was deemed to be unreliable by the analysis personnel.

**Below Detect Limit** -- The value that indicates parameter values below the instruments detection limits. This is used to indicate that an attempt was made to determine the parameter value, but the analysis personnel determined that the parameter value was below the detection limit of the instrumentation.

**Data Not Clldtd** -- This value indicates that no attempt was made to determine the parameter value. This usually indicates that BORIS combined several similar but not identical data sets into the same data base table but this particular science team did not measure that parameter.

**Blank** -- Indicates that blank spaces are used to denote that type of value.

**N/A** -- Indicates that the value is not applicable to the respective column.

**None** -- Indicates that no values of that sort were found in the column.
8. Data Organization

8.1 Data Granularity
The smallest unit of data tracked by the BOREAS Information System (BORIS) was the data collected at a given site on a given date.

8.2 Data Format(s)
The Compact Disk-Read-Only Memory (CD-ROM) files contain American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) numerical and character fields of varying length separated by commas. The character fields are enclosed with single apostrophe marks. There are no spaces between the fields.

Each data file on the CD-ROM has four header lines of Hyper-Text Markup Language (HTML) code at the top. When viewed with a Web browser, this code displays header information (data set title, location, date, acknowledgments, etc.) and a series of HTML links to associated data files and related data sets. Line 5 of each data file is a list of the column names, and line 6 and following lines contain the actual data.

9. Data Manipulations

9.1 Formulae

9.1.1 Derivation Techniques and Algorithms
None given.

9.2 Data Processing Sequence

9.2.1 Processing Steps
None given.

9.2.2 Processing Changes
None given.

9.3 Calculations

9.3.1 Special Corrections/Adjustments
None given.

9.3.2 Calculated Variables
None given.

9.4 Graphs and Plots
None.

10. Errors

10.1 Sources of Error
None given.

10.2 Quality Assessment
10.2.1 Data Validation by Source
None given.

10.2.2 Confidence Level/Accuracy Judgment
None given.

10.2.3 Measurement Error for Parameters
None given.

10.2.4 Additional Quality Assessments
None given.

10.2.5 Data Verification by Data Center
Data were examined for general consistency and clarity.

11. Notes

11.1 Limitations of the Data
None given.

11.2 Known Problems with the Data
None given.

11.3 Usage Guidance
None given.

11.4 Other Relevant Information
None given.

12. Application of the Data Set
None given.

13. Future Modifications and Plans
This data set is in its final format.

14. Software

14.1 Software Description
None given.

14.2 Software Access
None given.
15. Data Access

The CH$_4$ flux data are available from the Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC).

15.1 Contact Information

For BOREAS data and documentation please contact:

ORNL DAAC User Services
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
P.O. Box 2008 MS-6407
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6407
Phone: (423) 241-3952
Fax: (423) 574-4665
E-mail: ornldaac@ornl.gov or ornl@eos.nasa.gov

15.2 Data Center Identification

Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC) for Biogeochemical Dynamics

15.3 Procedures for Obtaining Data

Users may obtain data directly through the ORNL DAAC online search and order system [http://www-eosdis.ornl.gov/] and the anonymous FTP site [ftp://www-eosdis.ornl.gov/data/] or by contacting User Services by electronic mail, telephone, fax, letter, or personal visit using the contact information in Section 15.1.

15.4 Data Center Status/Plans

The ORNL DAAC is the primary source for BOREAS field measurement, image, GIS, and hardcopy data products. The BOREAS CD-ROM and data referenced or listed in inventories on the CD-ROM are available from the ORNL DAAC.

16. Output Products and Availability

16.1 Tape Products

None.

16.2 Film Products

None.

16.3 Other Products

These data are available on the BOREAS CD-ROM series.
17. References

17.1 Platform/Sensor/Instrument/Data Processing Documentation

None.

17.2 Journal Articles and Study Reports


17.3 Archive/DBMS Usage Documentation

None.

18. Glossary of Terms

None.

19. List of Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AES</td>
<td>Atmospheric Environment Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCII</td>
<td>American Standard Code for Information Interchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOREAS</td>
<td>BOReal Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BORIS</td>
<td>BOREAS Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BF</td>
<td>Beaver Pond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD-ROM</td>
<td>Compact Disk-Read-Only Memory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMDL</td>
<td>Climate Monitoring and Diagnostics Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAAC</td>
<td>Distributed Active Archive Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECD</td>
<td>Electron Capture Detector</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20. Document Information

20.1 Document Revision Date
Written: 07-Aug-1998
Last Updated: 18-Aug-1999

20.2 Document Review Date(s)
BORIS Review: 01-Dec-1998
Science Review:

20.3 Document ID

20.4 Citation
When using these data, please contact the individuals listed in Section 2.3 as well as citing relevant papers in Section 17.2.

If using data from the BOREAS CD-ROM series, also reference the data as:

Also, cite the BOREAS CD-ROM set as:

20.5 Document Curator

20.6 Document URL
The BOREAS TE-1 team collected various data to characterize the soil-plant systems in the BOREAS SSA. Particular emphasis was placed on nutrient biochemistry, the stores and transfers of organic carbon, and how the characteristics were related to measured methane fluxes. The overall transect in the Prince Albert National Park (Saskatchewan, Canada) included the major plant communities and related soils that occurred in that section of the boreal forest. Soil physical, chemical, and biological measurements along the transect were used to characterize the static environment, which allowed them to be related to methane fluxes. Chamber techniques were used to provide a measure of methane production/uptake. Chamber measurements coupled with flask sampling were used to determine the seasonality of methane fluxes. This particular data set contains methane flux and soil profile methane concentration values from the SSA-OA site. The data were collected from 29-May to 17-Sep-1994. The data are stored in tabular ASCII files.