

Impact of Organic Fertilizers of micronutrient availability VOC's in tropical soils

Summary

We partnered with two Ghanaian universities to investigate how biochar addition to neutral and acid soils influences uptake of micronutrients into leafy greens and how the biochar production process influences the release of potentially harmful volatile organic compounds



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Key findings/learning/outcomes

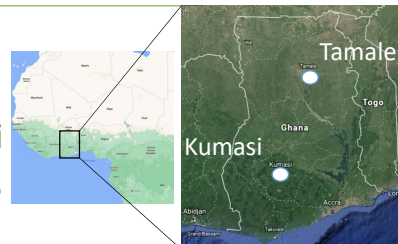
- Only biochars produced at very low temperatures release potentially harmful VOCs
- Biochar addition to acidic soils raises pH, increases plant growth and maintains micronutrient content
- Biochar addition to neutral soils raises pH and reduces plant growth and micronutrient uptake
- Training and soil testing is required prior to biochar addition
- The concept of a 'soil conditioner' rather than a 'fertiliser' was difficult to explain

Where?

Ghana

• Kumasi

• Tamale



Project partners/funders

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

University for Development Studies

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