

Ecobiogaz

Biogas as a prerequisite to reduce both greenhouse gas and agriculture's energy dependence: is it a profitable alternative ?

G. Adam¹, A-C Romain¹, S. Lemaigre², P. Delfosse², J. Gennen³, B. Toussaint⁴,

¹University of Liège, Arlon Campus Environnement, Avenue de Longwy 185, 6700 ARLON, Belgium ;

²EVA Environment and Agro-biotechnologies Department, Centre de Recherche Public-Gabriel Lippmann, Rue du Brill 41, L-4422 Belvaux, Luxembourg

³Agra-Ost, Klosterstrasse 38, 4780 SaintVith, Belgium

⁴Au pays de l'Attert asbl Voie de la Liberte 107, 6717 Attert, Belgium

Ecobiogaz is a European Interreg IVa Great Region Project (2012-2014). It aims at contributing and evaluating agricultural anaerobic digestion as a more sustainable and profitable alternative in the Great Region for greenhouse gas and agriculture energy dependence. Four actions are in operation:

Action 1. An innovative and economic management of biogas plants in the Great Region. Analysis of the working biogas plant in partnership with the project. Biogas storage. Process monitoring by e-nose technology.

Action 2. New researches for biogas products. Digestate effect on the land and energy crops, CO₂ and heat use, limitation of ammonia volatilization, etc.

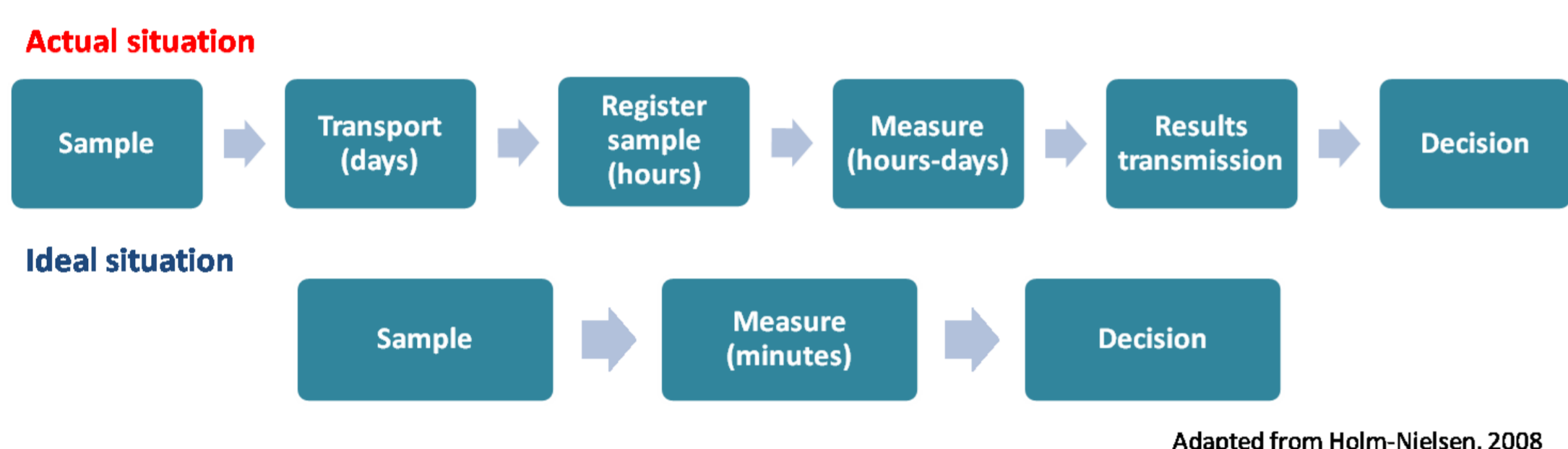
Action 3. Promotion of agricultural anaerobic digestion by-products: digestate, ammonia, heat and CO₂.

Action 4. Training and diffusion of agricultural anaerobic digestion technologies.

Action 1c. Process monitoring by the use of e-nose technology

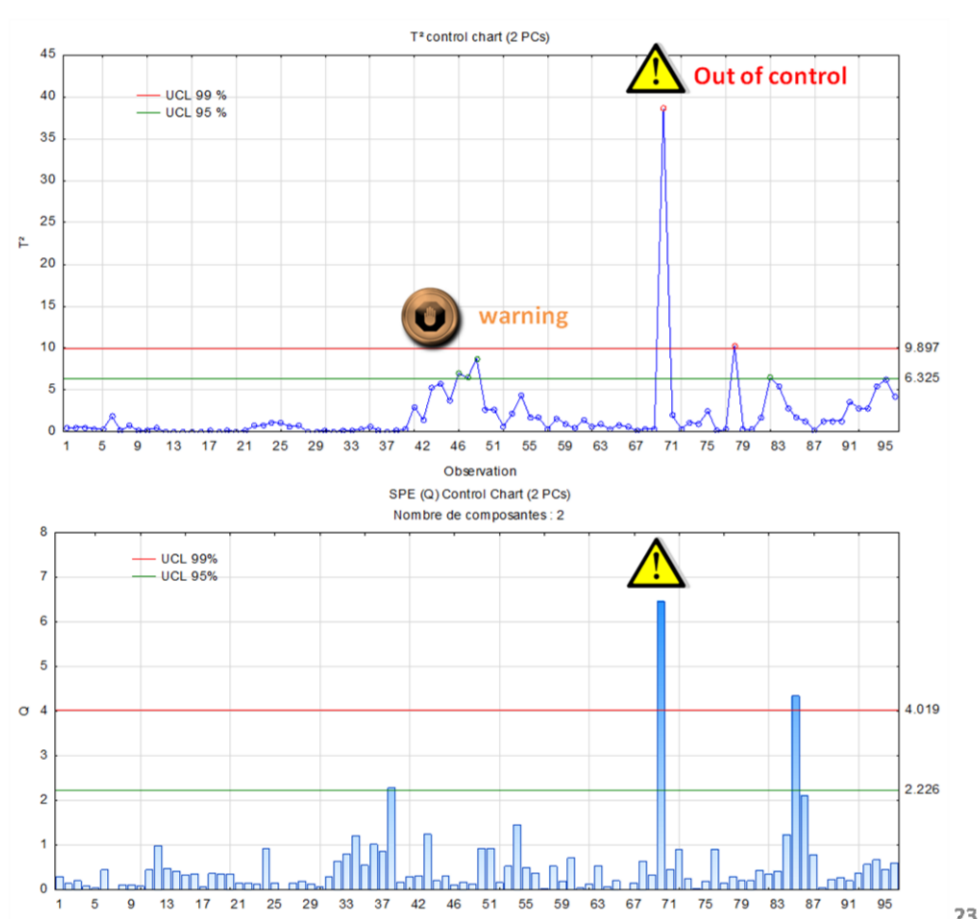
E-nose advantages:

- Real-time monitoring
- Ease of sampling (gas phase)

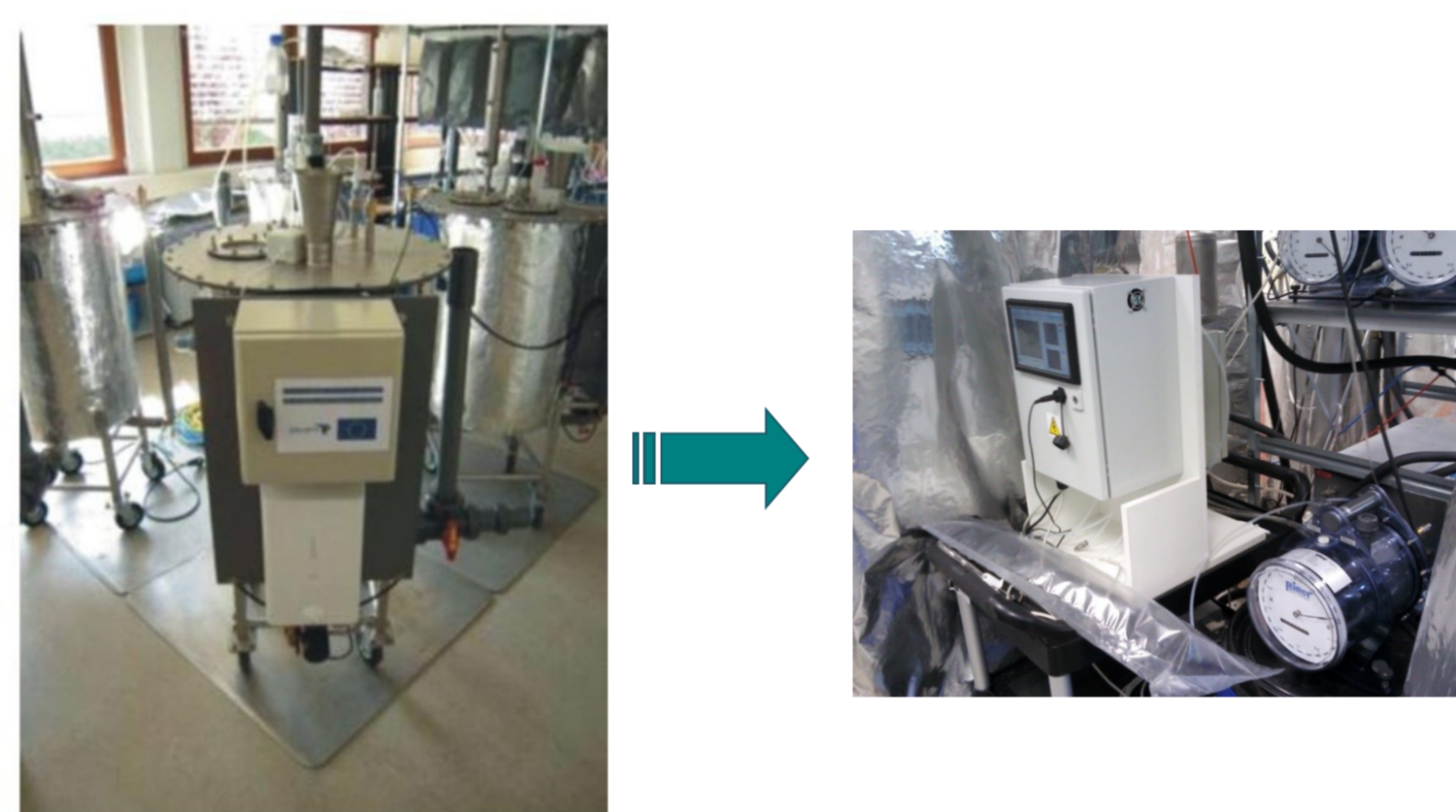


Adapted from Holm-Nielsen, 2008

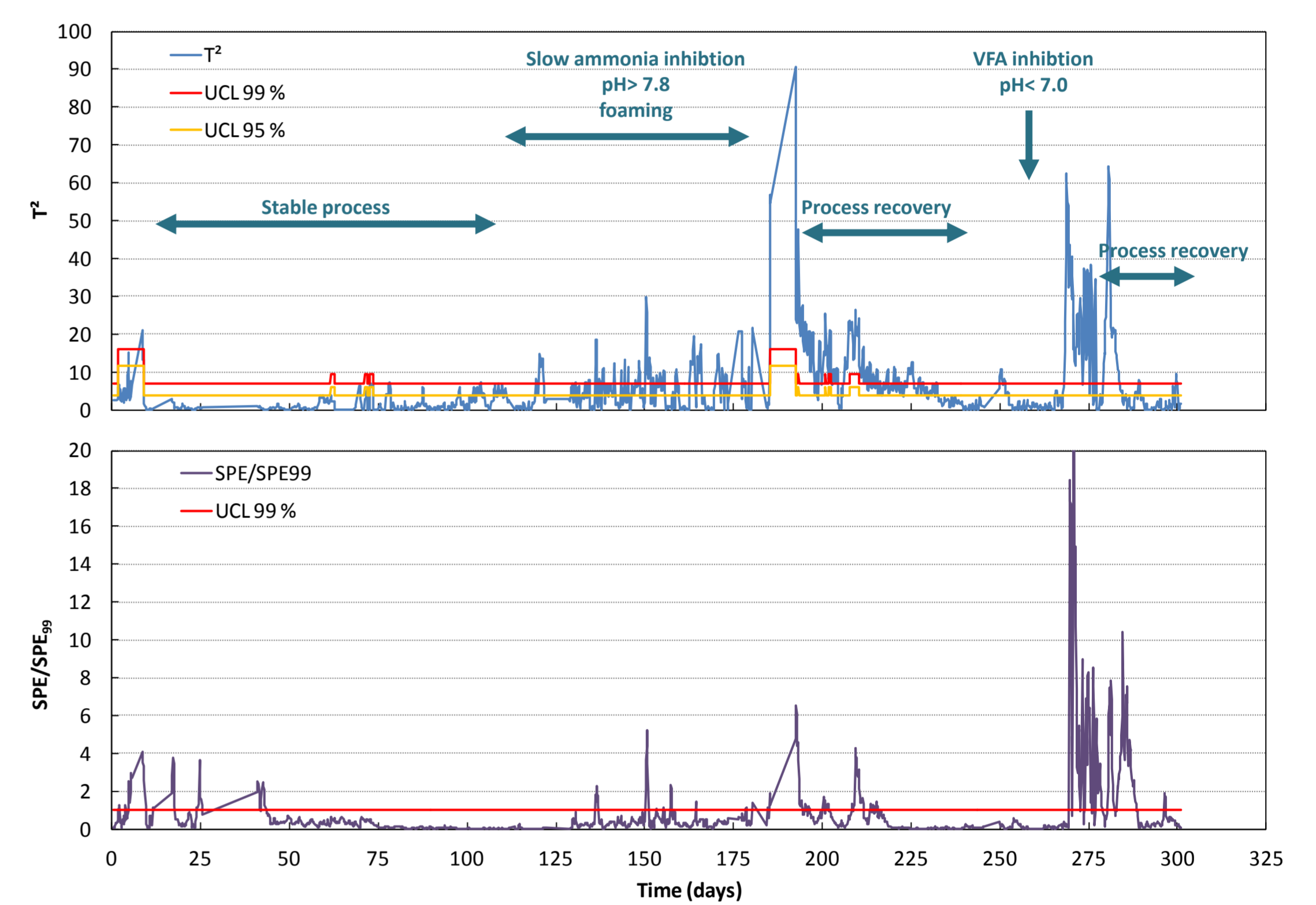
Use of multivariate process control techniques on e-nose data + recursive PCA for drift management



Test at pilot-scale level



Example of pilot-scale test results



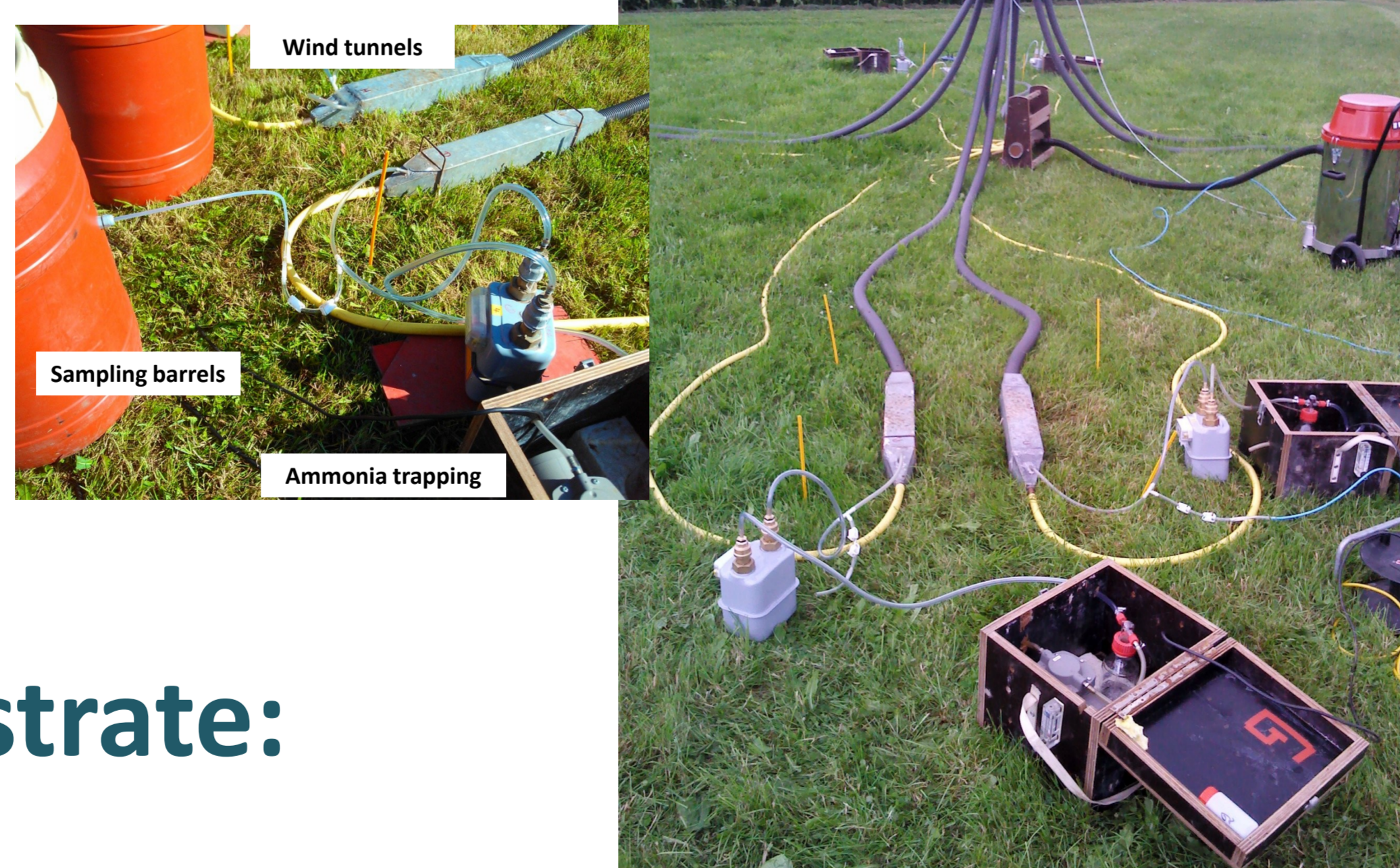
Test at real-scale level



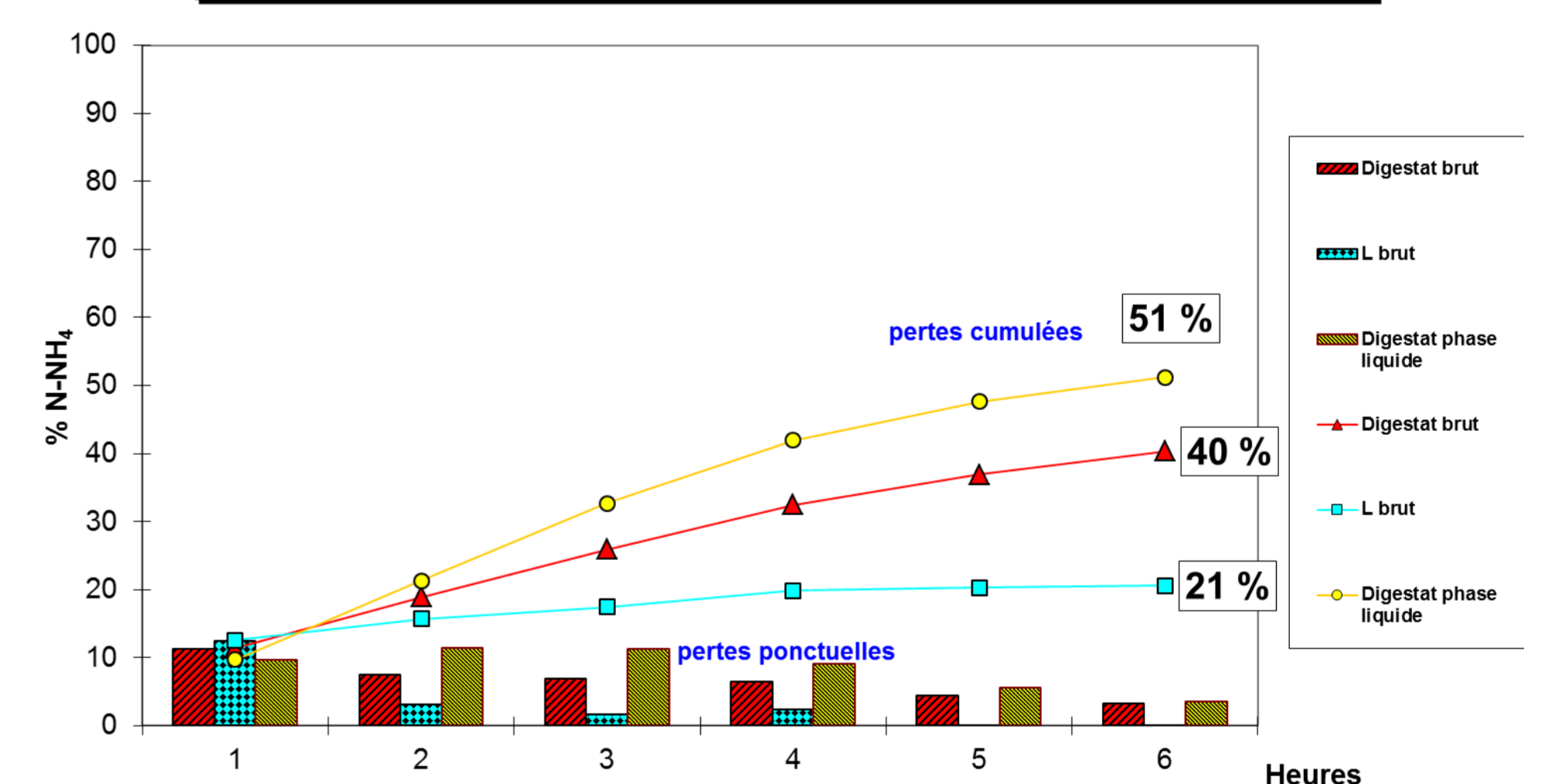
Action 2e. Ammonia volatilization and odor emissions evaluation



Use of wind tunnels for the evaluation of ammonia and odor emissions from digestate and manure

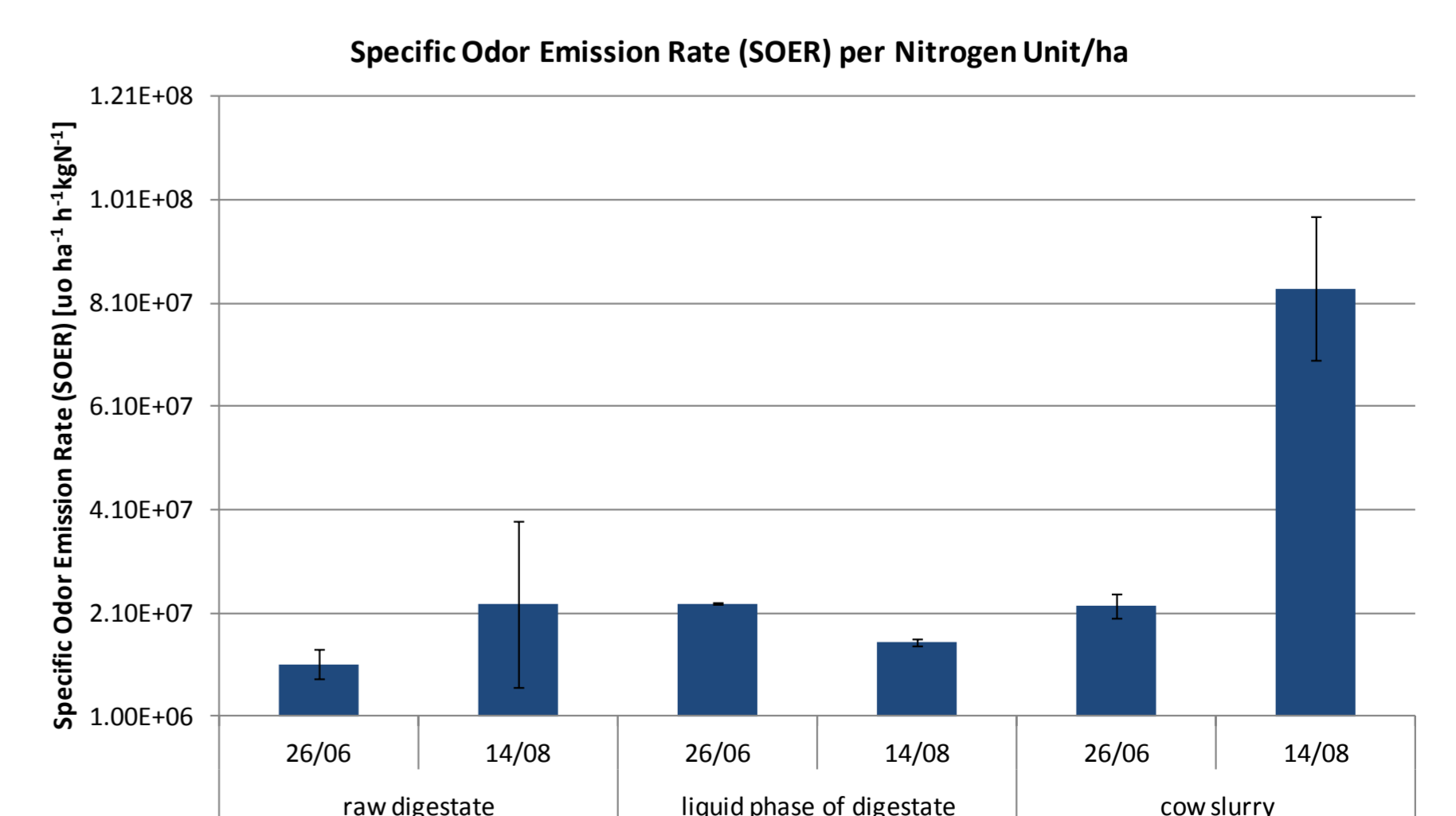


Pertes ammoniacales par volatilisation après épandage d'un digestat non traité par rapport à une phase liquide d'un digestat et d'un lisier bovin brut, exprimé en % de la quantité totale d'N-NH₃ épandu - 26.06.2013



First results demonstrate:

- The use of gas phase is suitable for the detection of process disorders
- The e-nose is able to detect troubles in anaerobic reactors both at the pilot and real-scale level
- Land spreading of digestate must be carefully evaluated to avoid high ammonia emissions.
- Lower odor emissions for digestate than for cow slurry



Contact

Mr Benoit TOUSSAINT, Project Coordinator
Au pays de l'Attert asbl Voie de la Liberte 107,
6717 Attert, Belgium
benoit.toussaint@attert.be