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69. STICS: a generic and robust soil-crop model for modelling agrosystems response in various climatic conditions

Beaudoin Nicolas¹, Buis Samuel², Ripoché Dominique³, Justes Eric⁴, Bertuzzi Patrick³, Casellas Eri⁵, Constantin Julie⁴, Dumont Benjamin⁶, Durand Jean Louis⁷, Garcia de Cortazar-Atauri Iñaki³, Jégo Guillaume⁸, Launay Marie³, Le Bas Christine⁹, Lecharpentier Patrice², Leonard Joël¹, Mar Bruno¹, Poupa Jean Claude¹⁰, Ruget Françoise², Louarn Gaetan⁷, Coucheney Elsa¹¹

¹INRA, UR 1158 AgrolImpact, Site de Laon, 02000 Barenton-Bugny, France

²INRA, UMR 1114 EMMAH, INRA – UAPV, F-84914 Avignon, France

³INRA, US 1116 AGROCLIM, F-84914 Avignon, France

⁴INRA, UMR 1248 AGIR, INRA-INP-ENSAT, 31326 Castanet-Tolosan, France

⁵INRA, UMR 875 MIA-T, INRA-INP-ENSAT, 31326 Castanet-Tolosan, France

⁶Université de Liège - Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, Unité d'Agriculture de Précision, 5030, Gembloux, Belgium

⁷INRA, UR0004 URP3F. F- 86600 Lusignan, France

⁸Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada, CRDSGC, 2560 Boulevard Hochelaga, Québec, QC G1V 2J3, Canada

⁹INRA, US1106 InfoSol, 45075 Orleans, France

¹⁰INRA UMR1302 SMART, F- 35011, Rennes, France

¹¹Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Box 7014, 75007 Uppsala, Sweden

The engineering of a climate smart agriculture will strategically depend on the quality of process-based agricultural models used to assess candidate solutions of adaptation and mitigation of climate change (CC). STICS is a dynamic soil-crop model which has been developed in France at INRA since 1996 (Brisson *et al.*, 1998, 2002, 2003, 2008). It simulates production and environmental impacts of cropping systems, including one, two intercropped or several successive crop cycles. It simulates both crop production (quantity, quality of annual, perennial, herbaceous and woody plants), and environmental outputs as water drainage, emissions of CO₂, N₂O, NO₃, NH₃ and soil C, N storages. The model performances have been recently evaluated over a large dataset covering 15 crops and a wide range of agropedoclimatic conditions in France (76 sites) representing 1809 various situations (Coucheney *et al.*, 2015). Model results showed a good overall accuracy and trends induced by contrasted environmental conditions and management practices were also well reproduced. The STICS traits (genericity, robustness, operationnality) enable its use for studying the effects of changes in a wide diversity of agro-ecosystems and with future climate scenarios. Currently, the STICS crop model is used into international model intercomparison exercises such as AgMIP (the Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project) and in MACSUR (Modelling European Agriculture with Climate Change for Food Security). At national level, the model is integrated in several programs such as ISOP System-Pastures production evaluation for the Agriculture Ministry, PIREN-Seine research program (water catchment services), Veille Agroclimatique (to evaluate crop climatic conditions), CLIMATOR/ORACLE projects (CC impacts in agriculture)... The model can be used alone (java HCI) or integrated in modelling platforms (RECORD). STICS software and documentation are freely available (http://www6.paca.inra.fr/stics_eng).