



# Modelling nitrogen partitioning to filling seeds in pea (*Pisum sativum L.*) : a tool to predict seed N concentration

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## ► To cite this version:

Annabelle Larmure, Caroline Surleau, Nathalie G. Munier-Jolain, Vincent Faloya. Modelling nitrogen partitioning to filling seeds in pea (*Pisum sativum L.*) : a tool to predict seed N concentration. 5th European Conference on Grain Legumes and ICLGG, Jun 2004, Dijon, France. 85, 2004, Legumes for the benefits of agriculture nutrition and the environment : their genomics, their products, and their improvement. hal-01874604

HAL Id: hal-01874604

<https://hal.science/hal-01874604>

Submitted on 14 Sep 2018

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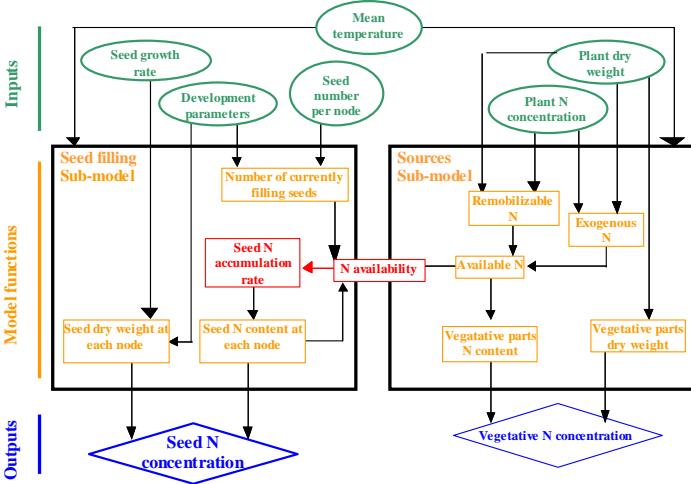
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# Modelling nitrogen partitioning to filling seeds in pea : a tool to predict seed N concentration

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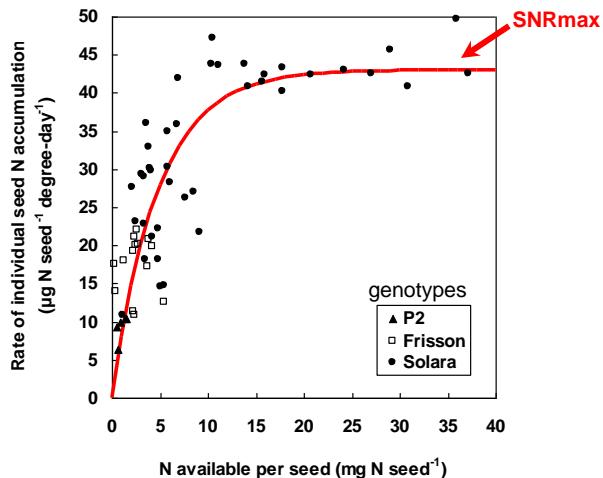
**Seed nitrogen concentration is one of the main quality criteria in grain legume crops.**

## How can be seed N concentration at harvest simulated in pea (*Pisum sativum* L.) ?



A dynamic *crop model component* simulating N partitioning was developed in order to predict seed N concentration at harvest.

**Calculation are done for a mean stem for a one day period during the seed filling period (1)**



The rate of seed N accumulation is estimated as a function of the plant N available per seed (2).

The parameter “maximum rate of seed N accumulation” (SNRmax), has been demonstrated to vary among genotypes (1)

## ***Evaluation of the crop model component***

## **23 independent field situations**

- ✓ four genotypes  
Baccara, Solara, Frisson  
P2 (a non-nodulating mutant of Frisson)
  - ✓ various N nutrition levels
  - ✓ 3 years in 3 locations in France  
Dijon, Roupy and Epehy

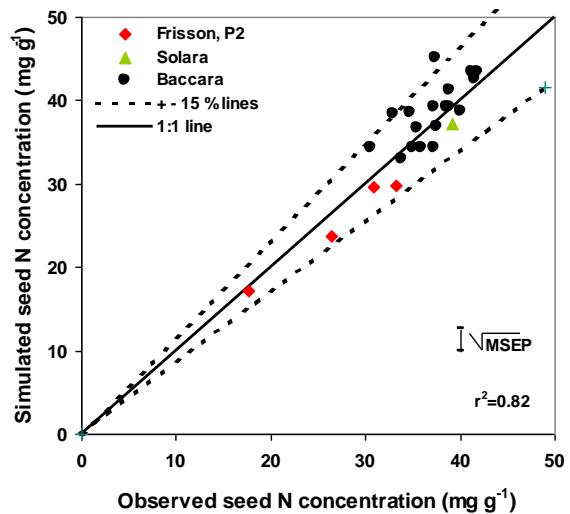


Photo  
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## The estimation of seed N concentration by the crop model component is good ...

- high coefficient of determination ( $r^2 = 0.82$ )
  - low root of the mean squared error of prediction ( $\sqrt{\text{MSEP}} = 2.7 \text{ mg g}^{-1}$ )

... but need precise input variables ; it could also be further improved by integrating stresses effects.



#### What the crop model component simulating N partitioning offers :

- A tool to improve the understanding of “self destruction” processes during the seed filling period in pea (3)
  - A valuable part of a larger model simulating pea yield and seed quality

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 (3) Sinclair T.R. and De Witt C.T. (1976) *Agron. J.* 68, 319-324.