



pH effects of the addition of three biochars to acidic Indonesian mineral soils

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3 1 **pH effects of the addition of three biochars to acidic Indonesian mineral**
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25 Abstract

26 Soil acidity may severely reduce crop production. Biochar (BC) may increase soil pH and
27 cation exchange capacity (CEC) but reported effects differ substantially. [In a systematic](#)
28 [approach, using a standardized protocol on a uniquely large number set of 31 acidic soils, we](#)
29 [quantified the effect of increasing amounts \(0-30% w:w\) of three types field-produced BC's](#)
30 [\(from cacao shell, oil palm shell and rice husk\) on soil pH and CEC. Soils were sampled from](#)
31 [croplands at Java, Sumatra and Kalimantan, Indonesia.](#) All BCs caused a significant increase
32 in mean soil pH with a stronger response and a greater maximum increase for the cacao shell
33 [BC addition, due to a greater acid neutralizing capacity \(ANC\) and larger amounts of](#)
34 [extractable base cations. At 1% BC addition, corresponding to about 30 tons ha⁻¹, the](#)
35 [estimated increase in soil pH from the initial mean pH of 4.7 was about 0.5 units for the cacao](#)
36 [shell BC, whereas this was only 0.05 and 0.04 units for the oil palm shell and rice husk BC,](#)
37 [respectively. Besides on BC type,](#) the increase in soil pH upon the addition of [each of the](#)
38 three BCs was mainly dependent on soil CEC (low CEC resulting in stronger pH increase),
39 [and to a lesser extent on](#) initial soil pH (higher initial pH resulting in stronger pH increase).
40 Addition of BC also increased the amount of exchangeable base cations (cacao shell >> oil
41 palm and rice husk) and CEC. [Through this systematic screening of the effect of BC on pH](#)
42 [and CEC of acidic soils, we show that small addition of BC, in particular if made of cacao](#)
43 [shell, to acidic agricultural soils increases soil pH and CEC. However, the response is highly](#)
44 [dependent on type, quality and amount of the added BC as well as on intrinsic soil properties,](#)
45 [mainly CEC.](#)

46 **Key words:** Biochar; pH; soil; CEC; Indonesia.

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1. Introduction

Biochar (BC) is the solid product formed after organic matter is charred via pyrolysis, i.e. without access to oxygen and at high temperature (250-900°C). Depending on its intrinsic properties and recalcitrance (Harvey *et al.*, 2012), BC may present a way of sequestering carbon in soils (Lehmann, 2007). In addition, BC can improve soil fertility (Atkinson *et al.*, 2010; Glaser *et al.*, 2002) and may serve as an attractive soil amendment for soils of low agricultural quality. Long-term use (100 to 1000 years) of BC as a soil amendment originates from the tropics: the *Terra preta* soils in the Amazonian forest have an improved fertility (Steiner *et al.*, 2007). It is known that the indigenous people added charcoal to these soils, and still today 100-1000 years later, these soils have enhanced physical and chemical properties due to the BC, compared to surrounding soils (Glaser *et al.*, 2001; Glaser *et al.*, 2002; Lehmann *et al.*, 2003; Neves *et al.*, 2003).

Biochar characteristics are strongly determined by source material and production procedure (Brewer *et al.*, 2011; Chun *et al.*, 2004; Jha *et al.*, 2010; Spokas *et al.*, 2012). The production temperature has been shown to have a profound effect on the C content, pH and CEC of the BC (Chen *et al.*, 2008). The feedstock of the **BC** has also been shown to be of importance for the liming capacity of the BC (Yuan and Xu, 2011; Yuan *et al.*, 2011). Upon mixing with BC, changes in soil pH are affected by CEC and levels of exchangeable acidity (acid saturation), which in turn depend on climatic conditions (leaching), mineralogy, clay content and amount and quality of soil organic matter (McBride, 1994; Ziadi and Sen Tran, 2007). Soils with high CEC and large acid saturation are well-buffered with respect to pH (Ziadi and Sen Tran, 2007). These factors combined with intrinsic BC characteristics may therefore be important in

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3 71 | influencing how BC changes soil pH and fertility and thus BC's potential impacts on crop
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5 72 | production (Spokas *et al.*, 2012).
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10 74 | Several studies have confirmed an increased crop production after BC amendment, although
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12 75 | other studies found small or no effects (Jeffery *et al.*, 2011; Spokas *et al.*, 2012). The addition
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14 76 | of BC to soil, in combination with fertilizer, has been reported to increase yield (Chan *et al.*,
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16 77 | 2007; Asai *et al.*, 2009) or have no effect (Jeffery *et al.*, 2011). Yamato *et al.* (2006)
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18 78 | experienced significantly increased yields of maize and peanut and attributed this to the
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20 79 | increases in pH and CEC for Indonesian soils after the addition of BC of bark from *A.*
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22 80 | *mangium*. In an acid Alfisol from NSW Australia, radish crop yields were significantly
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24 81 | greater when BC was added in combination with fertilizer as compared to fertilizer only
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26 82 | (Chan *et al.*, 2007). The positive effect of BC on crop production may be due to pH and CEC
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28 83 | increases and changes in the physical properties of the soils, rather than to nutrients associated
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30 84 | with the BC per sé (Chan *et al.*, 2007). Also, Asai *et al.* (2009) showed greater increases in
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32 85 | rice yields in Laos, when fertilizer additions were combined with BC, as compared to the
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34 86 | addition of fertilizer alone.
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40 88 | Increases in pH and CEC of acidic soils are commonly observed in response to BC
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42 89 | amendments (Glaser *et al.*, 2002). However, most studies only included a limited number of
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44 90 | soils (Albuquerque *et al.*, 2014; Atkinson *et al.*, 2010; Lehmann, 2007). In studies of pH-
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46 91 | neutral soils from the USA Mid-west, Laird *et al.* (2010) showed only minor increases in both
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48 92 | soil pH (<1 pH unit) and CEC (~3 cmol_c/kg) in response to 2% BC additions. Recently a
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50 93 | meta-analysis (Jeffery *et al.*, 2011) revealed an overall positive effect of BC addition to soils
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52 94 | on crop productivity with greatest effects in acidic and neutral pH soils with a coarse or
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54 95 | medium texture. The main mechanisms were suggested to be liming effects and improved
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3 96 | water holding capacity (Jeffery *et al.*, 2011). [A significant increase in soil pH upon BC](#)
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5 97 | [addition was also confirmed in a meta-analysis by Biederman & Harpole \(2013\), who used](#)
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7 98 | [underlying a combination of several independent studies, which in contrast to our approach,](#)
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9 99 | [involve a wide variation in protocol and applied techniques. The change in soil pH upon BC](#)
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11 100 | [addition was related to the initial soil pH and the alkalinity of the BC. A systematic study of](#)
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13 101 | [the effect of different types and doses of BC on such a large number of soils has to our](#)
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15 102 | [knowledge not been conducted so far.](#)
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21 104 | More than 50% of the agricultural soils in Indonesia are acidic (Uexküll and Mutert, 1995).
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23 105 | Oxisols (USDA, Soil taxonomy) and Ultisols are common in the tropics and are characterized
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25 106 | by low pH, low CEC and high contents of aluminium- (Al(OH)₃) and iron-hydroxides
26
27 107 | (Fe(OH)₃) (Van Wambeke, 1992). These features cause severe phosphorus (P) deficiency due
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29 108 | to the strong sorption of PO₄³⁻ to oxide surfaces in the soils and the formation of insoluble
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31 109 | iron (Fe) and aluminium (Al) phosphates (Cross and Schlesinger, 1995). At the same time, the
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33 110 | low CEC of the ~~eroded~~ soils causes considerable leaching of nitrogen (N) making fertilization
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35 111 | both inefficient and expensive (Chan *et al.*, 1993; Thomsen *et al.*, 1993). The low pH of [these](#)
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37 112 | [soils](#) also results in elevated concentrations of Al. Dissolved Al in soils tends to increase
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39 113 | exponentially [to high values particularly](#) at pH below 4.5 (Berggren and Mulder, 1995;
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41 114 | Mulder *et al.*, 1989) and may reach levels toxic to plants (Kinraide, 2003).
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47 116 | We investigated the general [effectiveness](#) of three types of locally produced BC to acidic
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49 117 | Indonesian soils in terms of changes in soil pH and CEC. [In addition, we assessed if](#) these
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51 118 | changes can be directly related to initial [soil characteristics and](#) BC properties. [According to](#)
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53 119 | [our knowledge, this is the first study to systematically investigate effects of different BCs on](#)
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55 120 | [selected soil chemical properties according to a standardized protocol, using a large number](#)
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3 121 [of soils \(31\)](#). Most other studies focus on a limited number of soils only (Butnan *et al.*, 2015;
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5 122 [Albuquerque *et al.*, 2014](#)) or involve meta-analysis, where the underlying studies apply a
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7 123 [range of techniques \(Biederman & Harpole, 2013; Jeffery *et al.*, 2011\)](#). The large number of
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9 124 [soils allowed us to draw conclusions on the effect of soil characteristics on the pH effect of](#)
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11 125 [the BCs](#).

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14 126 [In most earlier studies, laboratory-made BCs were used. Such biochars are mostly made in a](#)
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16 127 [muffle furnace or microwave oven. These approaches bear little relevance for a tropical rural](#)
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18 128 [situation where simple traditional kiln technologies are the norm. Thus here "real-world" BCs,](#)
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20 129 [actually made and used in field experiments using locally made pyrolysis units, were tested.](#)
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23 130 [The use of field-made biochars represents a realistic situation for small scale farmers because](#)
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25 131 [advanced BC production systems, microwave ovens and furnaces are unavailable in such](#)
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27 132 [situations \(Spokas *et al.*, 2012\)](#).

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29 133 [Our main questions were: To what extent does BC increase in both soil pH \(Q1\) and CEC](#)
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31 134 [\(Q2\) with increasing concentrations of BC. How does the increase in soil pH depend on initial](#)
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33 135 [soil CEC and pH \(Q3\). How do](#) changes in soil pH and/or CEC depend on BC type (Q4).
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136 2. Material and methods

137 2.1. Site description and sampling

138 The samples were collected from 31 different sites (agricultural fields < 100 ha), from [Java](#)
139 [\(site 1\)](#), Sumatra [\(site 2-22\)](#) and Kalimantan [\(site 23-31\)](#), Indonesia (Fig. 1 and Table 1). At
140 each of the 31 sites, soil samples of 250-1000g from 10-15 points (depth 0-15 cm) were
141 bulked, air dried at ± 35 °C for 12 h and thoroughly mixed by hand. The sites were chosen to
142 represent a wide range of well-drained acidic agricultural land in Indonesia, both regarding
143 geographic distribution, agricultural use and soil properties. Soils at sites 2 to 12 were
144 collected in close proximity to each other. However, both the content of C and the CEC varied
145 by a factor of five, so the samples represented variable soil characteristics even though they
146 were geographically close together.

147
148 In the laboratory, each of the 31 bulked soil samples (sieved at 2 mm) were divided into 21
149 subsamples ([~10-50 g](#)), **to which was added either** 0, 0.1, 0.3, 1, 3, 10 or 30 % (dw) of one of
150 three BCs ([sieved at 2 mm](#)).-Assuming a bulk density of 1.5 g cm^{-3} (typical for A-horizons in
151 tropical soils, cf. Batjes (1996)) and a soil depth of 20 cm (common depths for the plough
152 layer) these amounts of BC correspond to 0, 3, 9, 30, 90, 300 and 900 tons **BC** ha^{-1} .

154 2.2. Biochar production

155 Three types of BC (cacao shell , oil palm shell, and rice husk) were produced in a locally
156 constructed unit (Fig. S1) of 30-40 L, and a chamber temperature around 250-350 °C (average
157 300°C). Several pyrolysis times were tested and the ratio of **BC**:syngas and the **BC** yield were
158 measured. The pyrolysis times were selected after charring the respective feedstock materials
159 for 1, 2 and 3.5 h. The optimal pyrolysis time was selected on the basis of the amount of

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3 160 carbon recovered (i.e., the C content times the yield), as part of the motivation for using [BC](#) is
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5 161 the C sequestration effect. In addition, the characteristics of the BC (%ash, N, P) varied by <
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7 162 5% between the three pyrolysis times (Table S1). The yield for each of the three BC produced
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9 163 (compared to dry weight of feed stock) were 22.0%, 53.5% and 30.4% for cacao shell, oil
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11 164 palm shell and rice husk, respectively (Table S1).
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166 2.3. Analysis of soil and biochar soil mixtures

167 pH of the soil and the [BC](#) soil mixtures was determined electrometrically (*W/V Orion Model*
168 *410A*) in a soil suspension with distilled water as well as a 1 M KCl solution ([weight soil:](#)
169 [volume solution ratio of 1:5](#)). The CEC and exchangeable cations were determined by
170 percolation with 1M ammonium acetate (pH = 7.0) followed by extraction with 0.17 M
171 sodium chloride after washing with alcohol. [pH was measured on four soil samples without](#)
172 [added BC and in each of the 0.1, 0.3, 1, 3, 10 or 30 % BC soil mixtures at each site. CEC was](#)
173 [measured without BC at each site \(for characterization\) and in each of the 0, 0.1, 0.3, 1, 3, 10](#)
174 [or 30 % BC soil mixtures of each of the five sites 18, 19, 24, 30, 31 \(i.e. on four soil samples](#)
175 [without added BC at each of the five sites\).](#) Base cations (Ca, Mg, K, Mn and Na) replaced by
176 ammonium ions (NH₄⁺) were measured in the first [eluent](#) with a flame spectrophotometer
177 (Perkin Elmer, AAS 3300). After washing with ethanol (96%) to remove excess ammonium
178 acetate, adsorbed NH₄⁺ [was](#) displaced by Na⁺ - ions. The CEC was determined
179 colorimetrically as the total amount of extracted NH₄⁺ ions, using blue indofenol
180 complexation (Ciesielski and Sterckeman, 1997; Rhine *et al.*, 1998), using a
181 spectrophotometer (*Autoanalyzer 3 Bran Luebbe*) at 636nm. [The procedure used for](#)
182 [determining CEC might have underestimated the actual CEC due to dissolution of organic](#)
183 [matter and subsequent hydrolysis as reported by Harada and Inoko \(1980\).](#) The exchangeable
184 acidity (H⁺ and Al³⁺) was measured in 1 M KCl solutions, where phenolphthalein was added

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3 185 and the solution titrated with 0.02 M NaOH to pH 7. For exchangeable Al^{3+} , 1 M NaF was
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5 186 added to the titrated sample, and the solution was titrated back to pH 7 with 0.02 M HCl (until
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7 187 colour disappears). The difference between these two measurements equals the approximate
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9 188 exchangeable H^+ concentration (Mc Lean in Black *et al.* (1965)). Total C and N were
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11 189 determined by the dry combustion (Nelson and Sommers, 1982) (Leco CHN-1000; Leco
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13 190 Corporation, Sollentuna, Sweden) and the Dumas method (Bremmer and Mulvaney, 1982),
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16 191 respectively. Due to the absence of carbonates in the native soils, suggested by their low pH,
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18 192 total C represents organic C before BC addition. All measured soil attributes are listed in the
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21 193 supporting information (Table S2).

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23 195 *2.4. BC analyses*

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25 196 pH of the three BCs was determined electrometrically (*Orion, model 720, Orion Research*
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28 197 *Inc., Cambridge, MA, USA*) in a suspension with distilled water and 1M KCl (10 ml BC and
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30 198 25 ml water/KCl solution), respectively. The CEC and exchangeable cations of the BCs (air-
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33 199 dried and sieved at 2 mm) were determined by percolation with 1M ammonium acetate (pH =
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35 200 7.0) followed by extraction with 1 M potassium chloride after washing with alcohol. In the
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37 201 first eluent base cation concentrations were determined using ICPOES (Optima 5300 DV,
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39 202 PerkinElmer Inc., Shelton, CT, USA). Extractable acidity was determined by back titration
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41 203 with 0.05 M sodium hydroxide to pH 7. The sum of exchangeable base cations and acidity
42
43 204 was used to determine CEC (i.e. including base cations leached from ashes) according to
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45 205 Schollenberger & Simon (1945). After washing with propan-2-ol the samples were extracted
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47 206 with KCl and the CEC determined photometrically as the total amount of extracted NH_4^+ ions
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49 207 (Photometer, Gilford Instrument). In addition, CEC was determined after saturation with 1M
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51 208 KCl and subsequent extraction with 0.5M $NaNO_3$ according to the method described by
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53 209 Mukherjee *et al.* (2011). Total C and N were determined as described above.

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5 211 The BCs (samples of approximately 10 and 100 mg) were analysed for moisture and ash
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7 212 content on a thermogravimetric analyzer (TGA). The samples were heated to 150 °C and held
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9 213 at that temperature for 45 minutes. The percentage mass loss after this hold time is reported as
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11 214 the percentage moisture in the **BC**. The temperature was raised to 650 °C and held for one
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14 215 hour then raised to 900 °C and held for 45 minutes. The combined weight loss at these two
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16 216 temperatures is taken as the loss on ignition (LOI) and the percentage ash (100% less LOI)
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18 217 reported on a dry weight basis. In addition, approximately half a gram of sample was weighed
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20 218 into a polypropylene bottle, 50 mL of an aqueous solution of 0.05 N HCl and 0.1 N NaNO₃
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22 219 was added and the mixture equilibrated on a rotator for 16 to 24 hours. The mixture was
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24 220 filtered through a nominal 0.7 µm glass fiber filter and the filtrate back titrated with 0.05 N
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26 221 NaOH and 0.1 N NaNO₃ solution. The acid consumed is reported in cmol_c/kg and represents
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28 222 the acid neutralizing capacity (ANC).
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34 224 The surface area (BET) of the chars was determined by adsorption of nitrogen (N₂) at -196°C,
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36 225 using an automated surface area analyzer at US Geological survey, Denver Colorado. The
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38 226 samples were out-gassed by heating at 110°C under a flow of ultrahigh purity helium at 10
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40 227 cm³ min⁻¹ for 16 to 24 hr prior to analysis. Isotherm data were recorded at partial pressures of
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42 228 N₂ between 0.05 and 0.95 atmospheres. The apparent surface areas of samples were obtained
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44 229 from the statistical monolayer capacities of N₂ from the BET plots (Atkins, 1990). For further
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46 230 details see Rutherford *et al.* (2005).
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51 232 2.5. Statistical analyses

52 233 To describe the intrinsic nonlinear relationship between BC addition and the observed soil
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54 234 pH, a nonlinear regression model was used. For each of the three BCs oil palm shell, cacao
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3 235 shell, and rice husk, a three-parameter exponential function (Equation (1) was fitted to
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5 236 describe the response of soil pH (in H₂O and KCl, respectively) to BC addition (0, 0.1, 0.3, 1,
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7 237 3, 10 and 30%).
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11 239 $y = a + b * (1 - \exp^{-x/c})$ (1)
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16 241 In Equation (1) x is the amount of added BC (%) and y denotes soil pH (the dependent
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18 242 variable). In the regression model parameter “a” represents the mean soil pH level for soils
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20 243 without BC addition (i.e., for 0% BC). Parameter “b” represents the maximum additional
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22 244 increase in soil pH (added to the level a) as BC addition is increased from 0% to 30%.
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24 245 Parameter “c” is the rate of change (i.e. a rate constant, which has the reciprocal unit of
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26 246 percentage BC added; the smaller the rate constant c the faster are the changes in pH per unit
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28 247 increase in BC in soil.
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34 249 Initially, we assumed that the model parameters “b”, and “c” differed between BC types,
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36 250 whereas only a single parameter “a” was used for all soils to denote the common mean level
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38 251 in soil pH without BC addition. Due to substantial variation in soil characteristics between the
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40 252 31 sampling sites (Table 1), site-specific variation was modelled in the regression parameters
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42 253 “a”, “b” and “c” by introducing random effects so that each model parameter was the sum of a
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44 254 contribution reflecting the pure BC effect and another contribution, reflecting the site-specific
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46 255 effect. This means that we extended the ordinary nonlinear regression model based on
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48 256 Equation (1), as it ignored variation between sites, to a nonlinear mixed-effects regression
49
50 257 model with site-specific random effects (e.g. Crawley (2007) and Pinheiro and Bates (2000)).
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52 258 Likelihood ratio tests were used to simplify the fixed-effects structure of the models (Table
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54 259 S3), i.e., we investigated whether or not the model parameters “b” and “c” were in fact BC-

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3 260 specific (cf. Suuster *et al.* (2011)). The [resulting](#) estimated mean curves for the three [BCs](#)
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5 261 reflect the trends [seen](#) across all sites. Additionally, the same nonlinear mixed models were
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7 262 fitted to the subset consisting of sites [18, 19, 24, 30, 31](#) (Table 1) [randomly selected for the](#)
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9 263 [analysis of CEC](#) to determine the effect of BC addition on CEC and exchangeable base
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11 264 cations (Table S3).

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16 266 Subsequently, linear regression was used for analysing the relationship between the estimated
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18 267 site-specific rates of change ("[c](#)" parameters) obtained from the nonlinear mixed model
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20 268 analysis (i.e., the estimated fixed effect and random effect added up) and initial pH, CEC and
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22 269 total C of the soils at each site. This analysis is independent of BC type as BC-specific
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24 270 differences in the rates of change amounts to vertical shifts in the rate constants. For the linear
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26 271 regression we used the cacao shell BC rates of change. We present parsimonious models
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28 272 obtained after model reduction using backwards stepwise elimination of non-significant
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30 273 terms.

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36 275 The statistical software package "R", version 2.13.2 (R Development Core Team, 2011), was
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38 276 used for all statistical analyses. The nonlinear mixed-effects models were fitted using the
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40 277 function "[nlme](#)" in the R extension package nlme (Pinheiro *et al.*, 2011). Visualization of the
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42 278 fitted models was achieved using the package ggplot2 (Wickham, 2009).

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46 47 280 **3. Results**

48 49 281 *3.1. Properties of the soils and the biochars*

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51 282 The selected Indonesian soils from the 31 sites were acidic (mean $\text{pH}_{(\text{H}_2\text{O})} = 4.7 \pm 0.47$ (sd), n
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53 283 = 122, mean $\text{pH}_{(\text{KCl})} = 3.9 \pm 0.28$ (sd), $n = 122$) with a moderate CEC (mean 7.5 ± 4.03 (sd)

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3 284 cmol_e/kg, n = 43, Table S2). The mean percentage of organic C and N was 1.7 ± 1.67 (sd) %
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5 285 and 0.1 ± 0.1 (sd) %, respectively (n= 31, Table 1) with levels of C ranging from 0.43% to
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7 286 8.9%. There were substantial differences in the properties of the three BCs (Table 2). pH and
8
9 287 ANC were in the range of 6.7 (oil palm shell BC) to 10.5 (cacao shell BC) and 36 cmol_e/kg
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11 288 (oil palm shell BC) to 217 cmol_e/kg (cacao shell BC), respectively. NH₄Ac-extractable
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13 289 cations and CEC were greater for the cacao shell BC (197 and 30-37 cmol_e/kg, respectively)
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15 290 as compared to the oil palm shell BC (35 and 11-20 cmol_e/kg, respectively) and the rice husk
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17 291 BC (20 and 7-26 cmol_e/kg, respectively).
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22 293 3.2. Changes in soil pH in response to BC addition

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25 294 As pH_{H₂O} and pH_{KCl} were significantly correlated ($r= 0.96$, $p<0.001$, $n= 674$) [and both](#)
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27 295 [parameters responded to the addition of BC in a similar fashion](#), only the pH_{H₂O} are shown in
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29 296 figures and used in the models presented. Recalling that model parameter “a” represents the
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31 297 mean pH for all sites without BC addition (thus the same for all 3 BC types), the pH response
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33 298 to BC addition is determined by model parameters “b” (maximum additional increase in pH)
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35 299 and “c” (the rate of change) only. The estimated parameters “b” for the pH_(H₂O) response upon
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37 300 the addition of cacao shell-, oil palm shell- and rice husk-BCs were significantly greater than
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39 301 0 ($p<0.001$) for all three BCs (Table 3) therefore, resulting in a significant increase in pH with
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41 302 BC addition ([Question 1](#); Fig. 2). In addition, the mean response in soil pH as a function of
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43 303 BC addition differed substantially between the three types of char ([Question 4](#)). More
44
45 304 specifically, we found that parameter “b” was not significantly different between oil palm
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47 305 shell and rice husk ($p=0.59$), whereas parameter “c” was significantly different ($p=0.048$;
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49 306 Table S3). There were highly significant differences in both parameters “b” (greater) and “c”
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51 307 (smaller) between cacao shell on the one hand and oil palm shell and rice husk on the other
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53 308 ($p<0.0001$ in both cases) illustrating a stronger response and a greater maximum increase in
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3 309 soil pH with addition of cacao shell BC as compared to oil palm shell and rice husk BC. We
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5 310 found a significant linear relationship between the estimated parameters “c” (i.e. the rate of
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7 311 [change in pH](#)) for the cacao shell [BC](#) addition to the different soils and the initial CEC ($c =$
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9 312 $3.2 + 0.58 * CEC, R^2 = 0.71, p < 0.001$, Fig. 3) [indicating a more distinguished effect on soil pH](#)
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11 313 [upon BC addition for low CEC soil than for high CEC soil with high buffering capacity](#)
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13 314 [\(Question 3\)](#).
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18 316 3.3. Changes in soil CEC and levels of base cations with biochar addition

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21 317 The cation exchange capacity (determined only for sites [18, 19, 24, 30, 31](#), Table 1) increased
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23 318 significantly ($p < 0.001$) with BC addition ([Question 2](#), Table 3, Fig. 4). At 30% BC addition,
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25 319 the CEC increased to 8.12 and 7.93 cmol_e/kg for the cacao shell/oil palm shell and rice husk
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27 320 [BC](#) soil mixtures, respectively, as compared to the initial CEC of 5.62 cmol_e/kg at the five
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29 321 sub-sites (Table 3). There was no significant ($p = 0.42$) difference in the “b” parameter (2.51)
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31 322 between the three BCs but parameter “c” was significantly greater (hence a smaller rate of
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33 323 change in CEC, [Question 4](#)) for the rice husk [BC](#) as compared to cacao shell and oil palm
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35 324 shell [BCs](#) ($p < 0.0001$), which did not differ significantly from each other ($p = 0.32$).

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37 325 Furthermore, there was a highly significant increase in amounts of extractable Ca and Mg
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39 326 upon the addition of all three BCs ($p < 0.001$; Table 3, Fig. 4). In contrast, only the addition of
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41 327 cacao shell BC significantly increased levels of K ($p < 0.001$). For Ca, Mg and K the
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43 328 parameters “b” and “c” were significantly different for the cacao shell BC as compared to the
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45 329 oil palm shell and rice husk BC’s ($p < 0.05$; Table 3, Fig. 4). Significantly larger “b”
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47 330 parameters for the cacao shell BC indicate a larger maximum increase in the amount of base
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49 331 cations for this [BC](#).
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55 333 4. Discussion

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3 334 The cacao shell, oil palm shell and rice husk [BCs](#) differed substantially in physical and
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5 335 chemical properties (Table 2). Large differences in the quality of BCs due to intrinsic
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7 336 feedstock properties and production procedures have been reported [previously](#) by e.g. Chen *et*
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9 337 *al.* (2008), Yuan and Xu (2011), Yuan *et al.* (2011) and Rutherford *et al.* (2012). Assessing
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11 338 the ameliorative effects of low temperature BC generated from nine different crop residues,
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13 339 Yuan and Xu (2011) found a great variation in soil pH, alkalinity and amounts of extractable
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15 340 base cations, with the most prominent difference occurring between legume vs non-legume
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17 341 feedstocks. The pH and alkalinity of the BCs was in general greater in legumes as compared
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19 342 to non-legume feedstocks [due to](#) a larger uptake of alkali ions in [the former](#). [In addition to](#)
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21 343 [feedstock properties affecting the quality of BC, the production temperature and method may](#)
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23 344 [also be of significant importance as e.g. reported by Budai *et al.* \(2014\) for corncob and](#)
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25 345 [miscanthus BCs](#). In our study the production procedure is similar for the three BCs, with the
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27 346 exception [of](#) a shorter pyrolysis time for the oil palm shell BC. This shorter time was selected
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29 347 for reasons described in the method section. However, the resulting differences in yield and
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31 348 ash content between 1h and 3.5h pyrolysis time for the oil palm shell was small (4.9% and
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33 349 0.3% respectively, Table S1). In addition, the differences in properties are between the cacao
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35 350 shell [BC](#) on the one hand, and oil palm shell and rice husk on the other. If pyrolysis time was
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37 351 to explain the differences between the [BC](#) properties, the oil palm shell [BC](#) should have been
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39 352 the material with properties much different from the two other materials. Thus, the different
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41 353 properties of the three BCs are likely caused by the feedstock. Furthermore, the amount of
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43 354 NH₄Ac-extractable cations is in the order cacao shell>>oil palm shell>rice husk while the
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45 355 CEC (i.e. excluding the ash fraction) is in the order cacao shell>>rice husk~oil palm shell
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47 356 (Table 2). [This](#) clearly [illustrates](#) the importance of methodology when determining CEC, viz.
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49 357 sum of base cations and acidity as compared to analysis of extractable NH₄-N or K. [Potassium](#)
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51 358 in particular was found at the highest concentration in the cacao shell [BC](#), which also had the

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3 359 | greatest K content in the feedstock (Table S1). This suggests a better K-fertilizing effect of
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5 360 | the cacao shell BC when applied to soil, as compared to the oil palm shell BC and rice husk
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7 361 | BC. However, the addition of rice husk BC may also increase the levels of K in soils, as
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9 362 | reported by Haefele *et al.* (2011). Adding 4.13 kg m⁻² of carbonized rice husk BC combined
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11 363 | with a medium fertilizer rate significantly increased levels of K from 441 mg kg⁻¹ to 620 mg
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13 364 | kg⁻¹ in anthraquic Gleysols (depth 0-0.15 m), at the IRRI lowland research farm in the
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15 365 | Philippines (Haefele *et al.*, 2011).
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21 367 | Soil pH was more sensitive and had a greater maximum increase with the addition of cacao
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23 368 | shell BC as compared to oil palm shell and rice husk BC. Soil pH increased rapidly
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25 369 | (parameter c = 8.59) with only small amounts of cacao shell BC added (Fig. 2A, Table 3). An
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27 370 | increase in soil pH from the initial mean value of 4.73 to pH 5 required only addition of 0.6%
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29 371 | cacao shell BC. In contrast, much more oil palm shell BC (10 times more) or rice husk BC
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31 372 | (12 times more) were needed for the same increase in pH (from 4.73 to 5; Fig. 2A, B and C,
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33 373 | Table 3). After 30% BC addition (corresponding to the unrealistic amount of ~900 tons BC
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35 374 | ha⁻¹ which was only tested for mechanistic purposes), the estimated soil pH was 8.95 for the
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37 375 | cacao shell BC and 5.52 and 5.47 for the oil palm shell- and rice husk BCs, respectively. In
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39 376 | most field experiments, application rates of 0.5-2% (or 15 to 60 ton/ha assuming an
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41 377 | incorporation depth of 20 cm and a dry bulk density of 1.5 g/cm³) are used (Jeffery *et al.*,
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43 378 | 2011; Martinsen *et al.* 2014; Schimmelpfennig *et al.* 2014). Within this range of BC addition
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45 379 | our findings clearly show the different potentials of the BCs as liming agents; viz. cacao shell
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47 380 | BC has a large potential to act as a liming agent, whereas oil palm shell and rice husk BCs
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49 381 | have not. As the alkalinity of the BC is a key factor controlling its liming effect (Yuan and
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51 382 | Xu, 2011), the greatest response when adding cacao shell BC could be explained by its higher
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3 383 ANC (217 cmol_c/kg) as compared to the oil palm shell and rice husk BCs (ANC = 36 and 45
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5 384 cmol_c/kg , respectively; Table 2).
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9 386 Different effects on soil pH of the addition of various types of BC were previously reported
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11 387 by Yamato *et al.* (2006) and Yuan and Xu (2011). The addition of 37 tons ha⁻¹ (10 dm³ m⁻²,
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13 388 BD_{biochar} 0.37 kg dm³) bark charcoal (*Acacia mangium*) increased the pH between 0.9 and 1.4
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15 389 units in soils from three sites in South Sumatra (Yamato *et al.*, 2006). The pH_(H₂O) of the
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17 390 charcoal was 7.4, hence more similar to the oil palm shell and rice husk BC than the cacao
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19 391 shell BC used in our study (Table 2). However, at 1% BC addition in our study (i.e. about 30
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21 392 tons ha⁻¹) the estimated increase in soil pH was about 0.5 units for the cacao shell BC whereas
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23 393 this was only 0.05 and 0.04 units for the oil palm shell and rice husk BC, respectively.
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25 394 Furthermore, adding 1% of different BCs derived from legume and non-legume feedstocks to
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27 395 an acidic ultisol from China, Yuan and Xu (2011) found an increase in pH ranging from 0.18
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29 396 (non-legume) to 1.05 (legume) units. This corresponds with our findings for the cacao shell
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31 397 BC and further indicates the limited liming potential of the BCs from oil palm shell and rice
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33 398 husk-BCs. Interestingly, both Yamato *et al.* (2006) and Yuan and Xu (2011) reported a
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35 399 significant reduction in exchangeable acidity (Al³⁺ and H⁺ cmol_c/kg) upon the addition of BC.
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37 400 This positive effect of increased pH and thus reduced risk for Al toxicity was also observed
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39 401 with the addition of cacao shell BC in our study. Based on a subset from the 31 sites (five
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41 402 sites, numbered [18](#), [19](#), [24](#), [30](#), [31](#); Table 1) amounts of exchangeable Al³⁺ before BC addition
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43 403 (mean 2.3 ± 2.25 (sd) cmol_c/kg, n= 14) were reduced to zero at all sites after addition of 3%
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45 404 cacao shell BC (Table S2). By contrast, exchangeable Al³⁺ was not eliminated at all sites after
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47 405 the addition of 30% oil palm shell and rice husk BC (mean oil palm shell 0.31 ± 0.38 (sd)
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49 406 cmol_c/kg (n=4) and mean rice husk 0.87 ± 1.56 (sd) cmol_c/kg (n=5)).
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3 408 There was a large variation in the response of soil pH to BC addition between the 31 sampling
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5 409 locations, which resulted in different parameter estimates (and thus response curves) for each
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7 410 of the sampling sites (Fig. 2A, B and C). [This clearly illustrates the importance of intrinsic](#)
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9 411 [soil properties \(Table 1\) when determining effects of BC addition on changes in soil pH.](#)
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11 412 There was a significant relationship between the estimated parameters “c” for the cacao shell
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13 413 BC additions and initial [soil](#) CEC and pH ($R^2 = 0.58, p < 0.001$). The parameters decreased (i.e.
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15 414 a [greater](#) increase in pH) with an increase in initial soil pH and increased (i.e. smaller increase
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17 415 in pH) with initial CEC, suggesting a [greater](#) response in pH with BC addition at sites with
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19 416 low CEC and high pH and thus smaller amounts of exchangeable acidity. [Contrary to](#)
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21 417 [expectations, the CEC of the soil was more important than the initial soil pH for the pH effect](#)
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23 418 [of BC.](#) Of the two explanatory variables, the initial CEC ($R^2 = 0.42$) explained more of the
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25 419 variation seen in the parameter “c” than [initial](#) pH ($R^2 = 0.16$). The estimated “c” parameters
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27 420 for sites 9 and 12 were unduly large (19.29 and 15.08, respectively). If these two points are
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29 421 [excluded](#) from the regression model, [initial](#) CEC is the only parameter retained ($R^2 = 0.71$,
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31 422 [p < 0.001](#), Fig. 3). In accordance with the model including both CEC and pH, the latter predicts
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33 423 an increased (0.58) value for parameter “c” (thus a smaller pH response with BC addition) per
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35 424 unit increase in CEC (Fig. 3). This is in accordance with the results reported by Streubel *et al.*
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37 425 (2011) who found a greater increase in soil pH with the addition of herbaceous and woody
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39 426 BCs to a sandy soil (3.3 cmol_c/kg) as compared to silty loamy soils (CEC 15.4-16.6 cmol_c/kg)
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41 427 in Washington. [As in our case,](#) the different responses were attributed to an inherently lower
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43 428 buffering capacity of sands as compared to medium and fine texture soils (Streubel *et al.*,
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45 429 2011).
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49 431 Biochar addition to acidic soils has earlier been observed to increase CEC and amounts of
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51 432 exchangeable base cations (Yuan and Xu, 2011; Yuan *et al.*, 2011; Glaser *et al.*, 2002).
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3 433 According to Glaser *et al.* (2002), the addition of BC₂ which naturally includes ash, adds free
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5 434 bases to the soil. This may increase the pH and the readily available nutrients for plant
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7 435 growth. In addition, the nutrient retention can be improved with BC (Hale *et al.*, 2013), an
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9 436 effect that does not derive from the ash but from the BC *per se* (Glaser *et al.*, 2002). Our
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11 437 results support these findings, despite a more pronounced BC specific effect on the quantity of
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13 438 base cations (and thus soil pH) as compared to CEC (Fig. 4). The addition of 2% BC
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15 439 increased the CEC about 1 and 0.4 cmol_c/kg for cacao shell/oil palm shell BC and rice husk
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17 440 BC soil mixtures, respectively (Table 3, Fig. S2). In accordance with its great amount of
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19 441 exchangeable base cations (Table 2), addition of 2% cacao shell BC caused the largest
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21 442 increase in soil exchangeable Ca, Mg and K (0.66, 0.47 and 1.58 cmol_c/kg, respectively).
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23 443 Increases in soil exchangeable Ca, Mg and K due to addition of 2% of the other BCs were
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25 444 significantly smaller (for oil palm shell 0.21, 0.16 and 0.04 cmol_c/kg, respectively and for rice
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27 445 husk 0.04, 0.07 and 0.09 cmol_c/kg, respectively; Fig. 4 and Fig. S2). For the sites included in
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29 446 this study, there was no significant relationship between organic C content and CEC, ($p =$
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31 447 0.70, $R^2 = 0.006$, $n = 29$). However, when excluding the three sites (23, 25 and 26, Table 1)
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33 448 with organic C content > 3%, the relationship was significant ($CEC = 4.16 + 3.78 \%C$, $p =$
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35 449 0.04, $R^2 = 0.16$, $n = 26$). This relationship indicates that the CEC per percent organic C is
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37 450 similar to recently published values for acid forest soils from southern Poland (Gruba and
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39 451 Mulder, 2015). In addition, the average contribution of clay minerals to CEC (4.16 cmol_c kg⁻¹
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41 452 soil) in our soils is of the same order of magnitude or slightly smaller than the contribution of
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43 453 soil organic matter (Fig. S3). The three BCs, having CEC values of 30-37, 11-20 and 7-26
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45 454 cmol_c/kg (cacao shell, oil palm shell and rice husk BCs, respectively; Table 2), were added to
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47 455 soils that had a mean CEC of 5.62 cmol_c/kg (Table 3). If there would be no pH-dependent
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49 456 effects on CEC through the addition of 30 % BC, the CEC would potentially increase to ~13-
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51 457 15, 7-10 and 6-11.8 cmol_c/kg, respectively. As shown in Fig. 4, we found that at 30% BC

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3 458 | addition the [modeled mean increase of](#) CEC [was](#) 8.12 and 7.93 cmol_c/kg for the cacao
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5 459 | shell/oil palm shell and rice husk [BC](#) soil mixtures, respectively. The somewhat smaller
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7 460 | change in CEC than expected based on the potential might be due to a reduction of the CEC
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9 461 | of the BC (pH dependent binding sites at the BCs) when added to the acidic soils.
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14 463 | The present paper shows that [BC has a pH-increasing](#) effect on soil, and that the effect is
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16 464 | dependent on both soil and [BC](#) characteristics. The strongest effects were observed for high-
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18 465 | CEC [BC](#) in [the least acid soils with relatively](#) low-CEC. [In these soils, the](#) CEC was a more
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20 466 | important characteristic than initial pH (Fig. 3). This work will aid in mapping the extent to
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22 467 | which [BC](#) can have a beneficial effect on soil fertility in acidic agricultural lands.
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27
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33
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36 474

37 475 **Supplementary data**

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39 476 | The supplementary data contains one figure and three tables.
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635 Figure Legends

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637 Fig. 1 Map of soil sampling locations in Indonesia.

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639 Fig. 2 [Estimated](#) (curves) and observed (points) response in soil $\text{pH}_{(\text{H}_2\text{O})}$ following the
640 addition of cacao shell [BC](#) (A. n = 186 for 0.1 to 30% BC), oil palm shell [BC](#) (B. n= 180 for
641 0.1 to 30% BC) and rice husk [BC](#) (C. n= 186 for 0.1 to 30% BC) in soils from 31 sites
642 across Indonesia (Table 1). The figure shows fitted curves (Table 3) for the mean response in
643 soil pH (bold curve; **A**: a = 4.73, b = 4.35 and c = 8.59; **B**: a = 4.73, b = 1.00 and c = 19.35;
644 **C**: a = 4.73, b = 1.00 and c = 22.49) superimposed on predictions of the response in soil pH
645 for each of the 31 sampling sites. Note: Y-axis scales differ between A-C. Oil palm shell was
646 missing for site [30](#). [The relationship between the observed response in pH and CEC of the](#)
647 [BCs is given in Figure 3.](#)

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649 Fig. 3 Relationship between estimated parameters "[c](#)" (parameter "[c](#)" estimates deriving from
650 nonlinear mixed model analysis; $\text{pH}_{(\text{H}_2\text{O})}$ vs. BC addition) and cation exchange capacity (CEC,
651 cmol_c/kg) of soils before BC addition from 30 sites across Indonesia (Table 1). The
652 parsimonious model after removal of two large rate constants (site 9 and 12; grey dots) is
653 shown). One sampling site ([20](#)) is omitted due to lack of CEC. Note: A decrease in the
654 parameter "[c](#)" implies a greater change in soil pH in response to BC addition (cf. Fig. 2).

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656 Fig. 4 Predicted response in soil CEC (cmol_c/kg) and of available Ca, Mg and K (cmol_c/kg)
657 to added cacao shell [BC](#), oil palm shell [BC](#) and rice husk [BC](#) in soils from 5 sites (site [18, 19,](#)
658 [24, 30, 31](#); Table 1) across Indonesia. The fitted curves derive from the model $y = a + b \cdot (1 -$

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3 659 | $\exp^{(-x/c)}$ (eq. 1) based on restricted maximum likelihood estimates (Table 3) for the mean
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5 660 | response in CEC (n=101) and levels of cations (Ca; n=97[§], Mg; n=97^{§§} and K; n=90) to BC
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7 661 | addition. [§]One outlier excluded (site [18](#), cacao shell-BC level 30%). ^{§§} One outlier excluded
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9 662 | (site [19](#), oil palm shell-BC level 10%). Note: Y-axis scales differ between the plots.
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For review

Table 1. Site ID, location, agricultural use (crop type), soil type (Soil Survey Staff, 1999), clay mineralogy, carbon (C) and nitrogen (N) content (in dry weight %), pH in H₂O and KCl (mean of 4 subsamples \pm SE) and CEC (cmol_c/kg; \pm SE for the sites 18,19,24,30,31) for 31 sampling sites across Indonesia. nd = not done.

Site ID	Site name	Coordinate	Agricultural use	Soil type	Clay mineralogy		C (wt%)	N (wt%)	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	CEC (cmol _c /kg)
					Dominant	Others					
1	Babakan Dramaga Village. Bogor. W. Java	6.56363 S 106.72734 E	Maize and cassava	Typic Dystrudepts	Kaolinite	Halloysite	1.18	0.12	4.69 \pm 0.07	3.79 \pm 0.03	15.37
2	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.29492 N 99.68059 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.67	0.12	4.49 \pm 0.06	3.77 \pm 0.02	13.44
3	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.30941 N 99.67722 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	0.43	0.03	5.28 \pm 0.06	3.91 \pm 0.02	9.33
4	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.30362 N 99.68623 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	2.18	0.15	4.58 \pm 0.06	3.85 \pm 0.06	15.39
5	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.30194 N 99.67887 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.62	0.08	4.68 \pm 0.05	3.99 \pm 0.05	9.00
6	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.29922 N 99.67598 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.72	0.09	4.36 \pm 0.02	3.90 \pm 0.06	12.76
7	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.31621 N 99.67390 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.14	0.05	4.73 \pm 0.06	3.95 \pm 0.04	7.29
8	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.30428 N 99.67834 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.42	0.07	4.19 \pm 0.07	3.81 \pm 0.03	12.15
9	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.30124 N 99.67244 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	0.76	0.03	4.35 \pm 0.01	3.60 \pm 0.01	15.83
10	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.29720 N 99.69182 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.27	0.06	4.51 \pm 0.01	3.87 \pm 0.04	10.69
11	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.29735 N 99.67092 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.04	0.04	4.58 \pm 0.04	3.81 \pm 0.03	6.90
12	Portibi.Padang Lawas Utara. N. Sumatera	1.31126 N 99.67369 E	Palm oil	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	1.45	0.07	3.35 \pm 0.04	3.10 \pm 0.02	3.34
13	Riau	0.30383 N 100.91294 E	Maize, peanut and cassava	Hapludults	Kaolinite		0.97	<0.02	5.61 \pm 0.04	4.75 \pm 0.03	2.51
14	Riau	1.09086 N 102.11622 E	Maize	Sulfaquents	Kaolinite	Vermiculite	1.03	0.03	5.12 \pm 0.09	3.93 \pm 0.03	5.83
15	Riau	1.08622 N 102.13917 E	Cassava	Sulfaquents	Kaolinite	Vermiculite	1.23	0.06	4.16 \pm 0.03	3.81 \pm 0.02	7.08
16	Jambi	3.51574 S 104.88022 E	Rubber area	Tropaquepts	Kaolinite	Goethite	0.88	0.04	4.11 \pm 0.03	4.03 \pm 0.04	7.15
17	Jambi	3.36217 S 104.83245 E	Rubber area	Tropaquepts	Kaolinite	Goethite	1.62	0.09	4.80 \pm 0.06	3.81 \pm 0.03	9.05
18	Riau	0.89505 N 112.55643 E	Annual crop	Typic Kanhapludults	Kaolinite		0.81	0.04	4.43 \pm 0.02	3.90 \pm 0.01	6.95 \pm 0.03
19	Jambi	0.00015 N 112.54450 E	Oil palm area	Typic Kandiuults	Kaolinite		1.34	0.09	4.87 \pm 0.10	4.23 \pm 0.04	2.22 \pm 0.09
20	Kayu Agung. Palembang	0.00015 N 112.54450 E	Maize	Typic Kandiuults	Kaolinite		1.54	0.11	5.41 \pm 0.01	4.31 \pm 0.01	nd
21	Kayu Agung. Palembang	0.90170 N 112.54189 E	Maize	Typic Dystrudepts	Kaolinite		1.53	0.11	4.66 \pm 0.07	3.78 \pm 0.03	11.88
22	Tamanbogo. East Lampung	0.89570 N 112.55680 E	Maize, paddy and cassava	Typic Kanhapludults	Kaolinite	Goethite	0.90	0.05	4.44 \pm 0.08	3.88 \pm 0.03	4.97
23	W. Kalimantan	0.30769 N 100.90822 E	Scrubland	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	6.01	0.40	5.20 \pm 0.07	4.28 \pm 0.03	3.51
24	W. Kalimantan	0.89580 N 112.55636 E	Annual crop	Typic Kanhapludults	Kaolinite		0.81	<0.02	4.79 \pm 0.11	3.82 \pm 0.01	6.15 \pm 0.25
25	W.t Kalimantan	0.31728 N 100.90089 E	Rubber area	Hapludults	Kaolinite	Gibbsite	8.91	0.37	4.32 \pm 0.08	3.93 \pm 0.08	7.52
26	E. kalimantan	5.01128 S 105.49458 E	Vegetable area	Kanhapludults	Kaolinite		3.06	0.28	5.18 \pm 0.16	3.91 \pm 0.03	10.04
27	E. kalimantan	0.41894 N 101.45967 E	Maize and vegetable area	Humitropepts	Kaolinite		1.94	0.21	5.19 \pm 0.16	3.86 \pm 0.04	10.73
28	E. kalimantan	1.01956 N 102.13917 E	Vegetable area	Sulfaquents	Kaolinite	Illite, vermiculite	1.84	0.14	4.57 \pm 0.04	3.78 \pm 0.03	12.28
29	E. Kalimantan	0.89520 N 112.55636 E	Maize, peanut and vegetables	Typic Kanhapludults	Kaolinite		0.98	0.07	4.39 \pm 0.01	3.85 \pm 0.01	3.41
30	E. Kalimantan	0.89535 N 112.55646 E	Vegetable area	Typic Kanhapludults	Kaolinite		0.82	<0.02	5.05 \pm 0.11	4.43 \pm 0.01	10.03 \pm 0.02
31	E. Kalimantan	0.89501 N 112.55652 E	Cassava, pineapple and king grass	Typic Kanhapludults	Kaolinite		0.52	0.05	4.70 \pm 0.17	4.19 \pm 0.01	1.61 \pm 0.01

Table 2. Selected attributes of biochars produced from cacao shell, oil palm shell and rice husk.

Biochar type	Pyrolysis time (h)	C (%)	N (%)	BET (m ² g ⁻¹)	pH (H ₂ O)	pH (1M KCl)	CEC ¹	CEC ²	CEC ³	Ca	K	Mg	Na	Ash ⁴ %	ANC (cmolc/kg)
Cacao shell	3.5	69.59	1.37	29	10.5	10.0	197 ± 1.2	37 ± 2.4	30 ± 3.6	37.1	126.8	32.8	0.3	18.9	217
Oil palm shell	1	61.49	1.73	<1	6.7	5.7	35 ± 5.2	20 ± 2.1	11 ± 3.6	9.0	6.5	7.4	0.2	10.5	36
Rice husk	3.5	41.24	1.00	51	7.3	6.1	20 ± 4.3	26 ± 4.8	7 ± 0.1	3.2	9.5	3.6	0.2	51.0	45

¹CEC measured as the sum of base cations and exchangeable acidity in NH₄Ac-extracts (n=3, SE shown).

²CEC measured as the amount of extractable NH₄ after saturation with NH₄Ac and subsequent extraction with 1M KCl (n=3, SE shown).

³CEC measured after saturation with 1M KCl and subsequent extraction with 0.5M NaNO₃ (n=2, SE shown) (Mukherjee et al. 2011).

⁴Large sample of approximately 100 mg.

Table 3. Estimated fixed-effects parameters for the model $y = a + b * (1 - \exp^{-x/c})$ (eq. 1) based on restricted maximum likelihood estimates from nonlinear mixed effects-models for the response in CEC, Ca, Mg and K (cmol_c/kg) to BC addition (%). The table shows biochar specific estimates (cacao shell, oil palm shell and rice husk) for the parameters a, b, and c ± SE. For each model capital letters for the parameters b and c indicate differences between the BC types. Different letters indicate difference in parameter estimate at a level of significance <0.05. Number of observations (n) for each model is shown.

Model	Biochar	Parameter estimates (± SE)		
		a	b	c
pH _(H2O) ~ BC%, n= 674 [§]	Cacao shell		4.35 ^A ± 0.09	8.59 ^A ± 0.64
	Oil palm shell	4.73 ± 0.09	1.00 ^B ± 0.10	19.35 ^B ± 1.85
	Rice husk			22.49 ^C ± 2.08
CEC ~ BC%, n= 101 ^{§§}	Cacao shell			3.94 ^A ± 0.94
	Oil palm shell	5.62 ± 1.47	2.51 ± 0.43	
	Rice husk			11.77 ^B ± 3.13
Ca ~ BC%, n= 97	Cacao shell		5.63 ^A ± 0.37	16.10 ^A ± 3.13
	Oil palm shell	0.50 ± 0.12	1.29 ^B ± 0.15	11.45 ^B ± 2.90
	Rice husk			62.93 ^C ± 22.97
Mg ~ BC%, n= 97	Cacao shell		5.79 ^A ± 0.51	23.60 ^A ± 3.67
	Oil palm shell	0.19 ± 0.03	1.82 ^B ± 0.50	21.58 ^B ± 11.28
	Rice husk			50.71 ^C ± 20.38
K ~ BC%, n= 90	Cacao shell		31.32 ^A ± 4.25	38.67 ^A ± 6.76
	Oil palm shell	0.05 ± 0.03	1.94 ^B ± 3.56	85.94 ^B ± 187.34
	Rice husk		3.94 ^C ± 7.30	

[§]n=552 for 0.1-30% BC addition (Oil palm shell not analysed at site 30) + 122 0% BC addition (1 missing value at site 20 and 30); Table S2.

^{§§}n=83 for 0.1-30% BC addition (Oil palm shell not analysed at site 30 and 1 missing value at site 24) + 18 0% BC addition (1 missing value at site 30 and 31); Table S2.



Fig. 1.

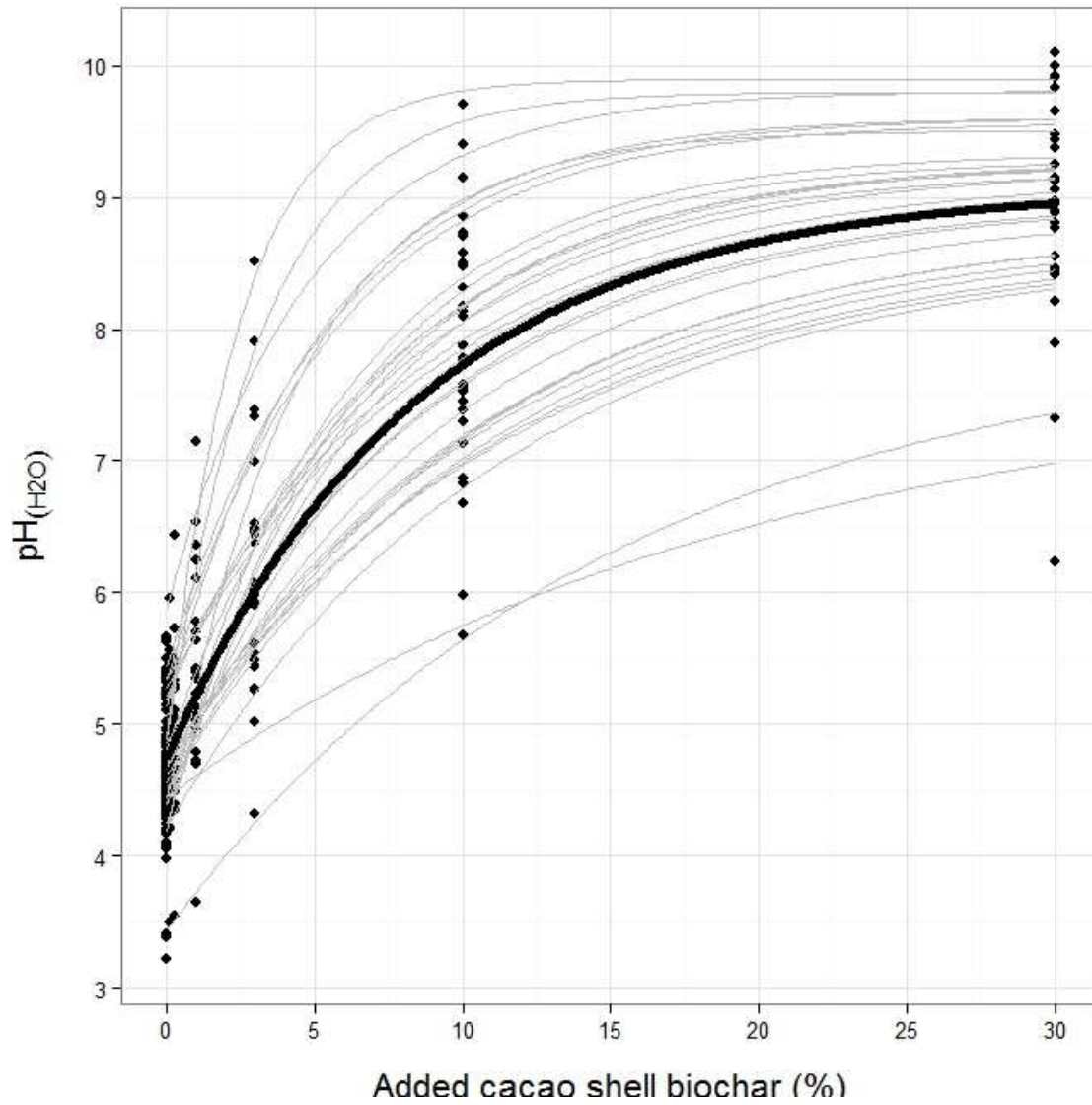


Fig. 2 A.

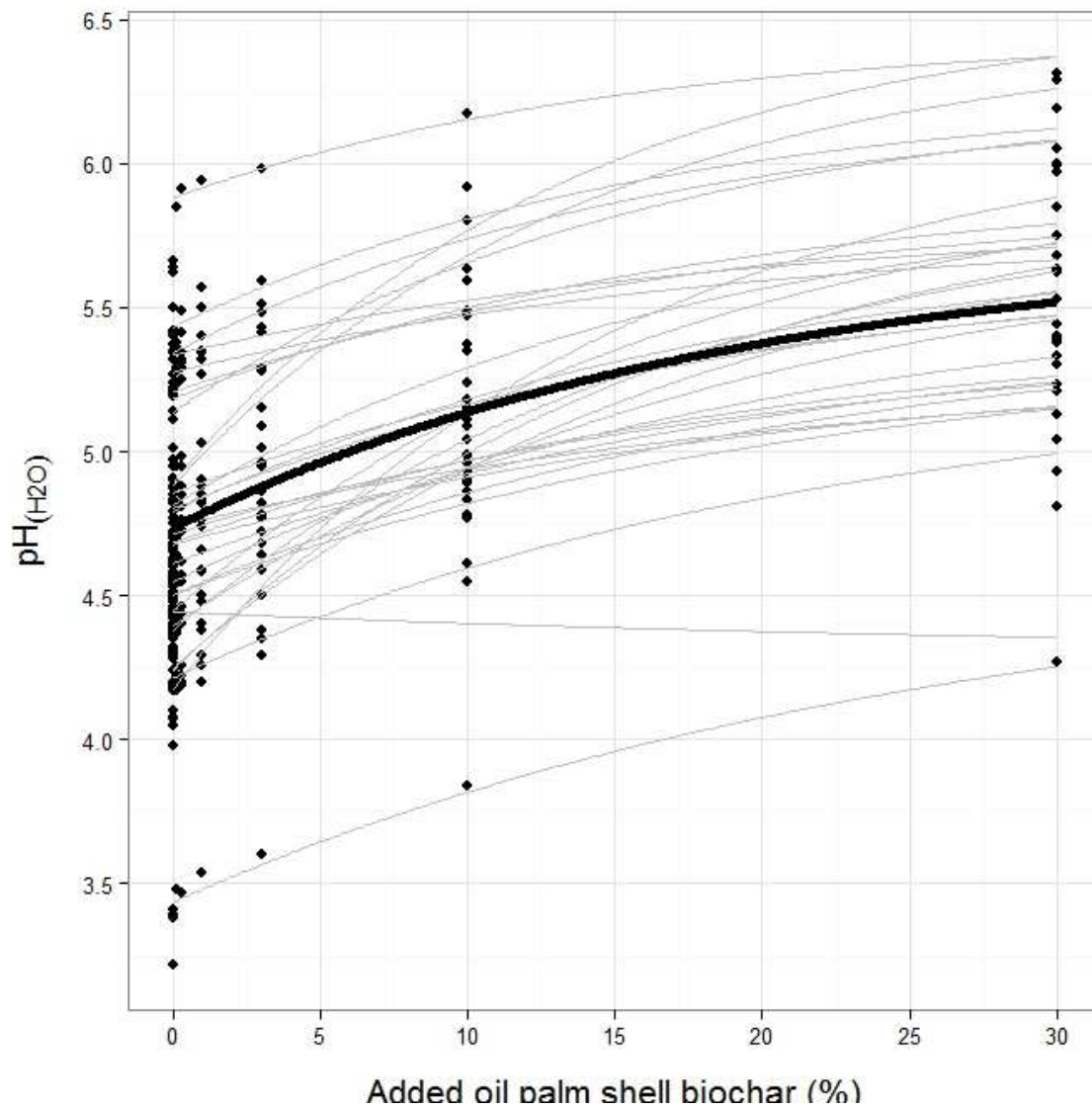


Fig. 2 B.

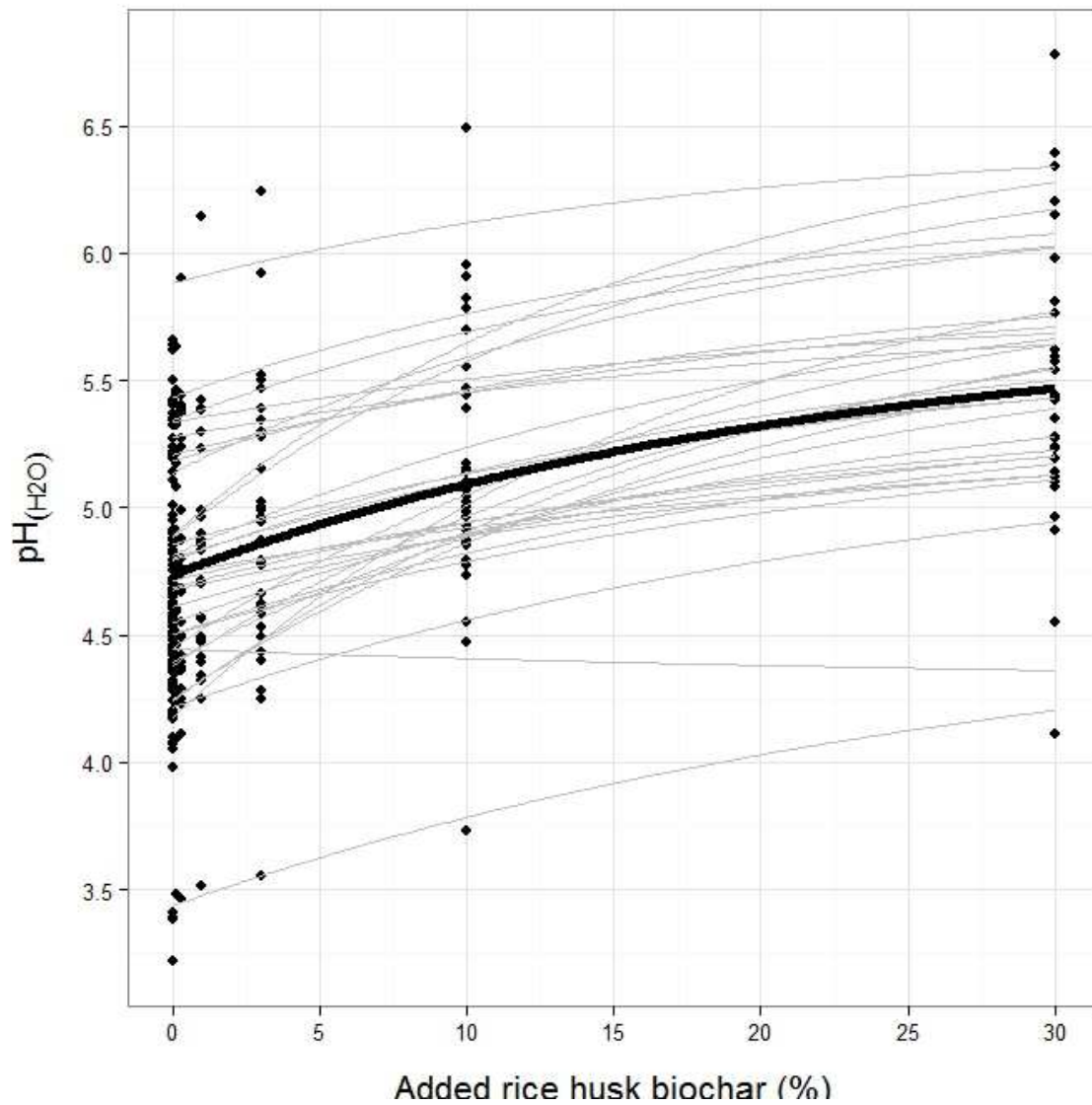


Fig. 2 C.

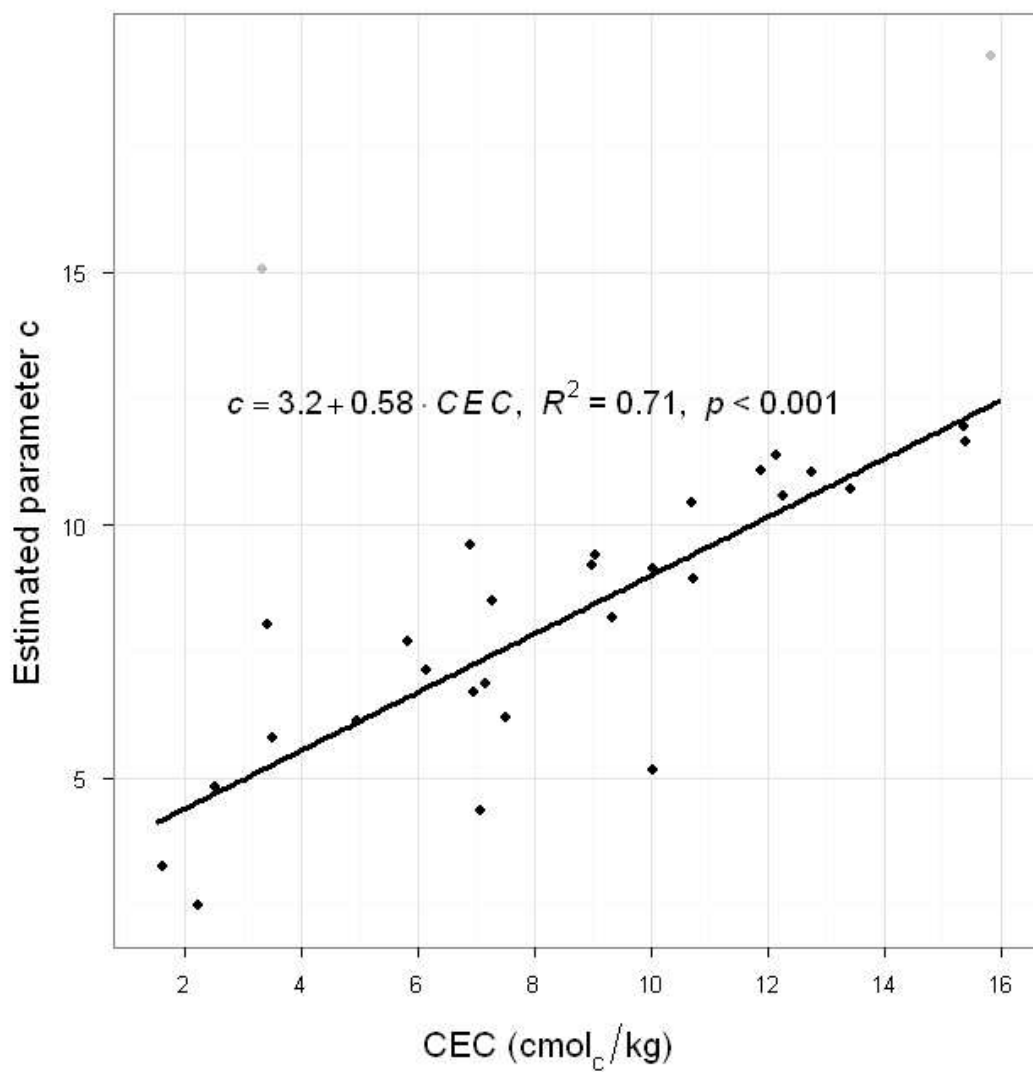


Fig. 3.

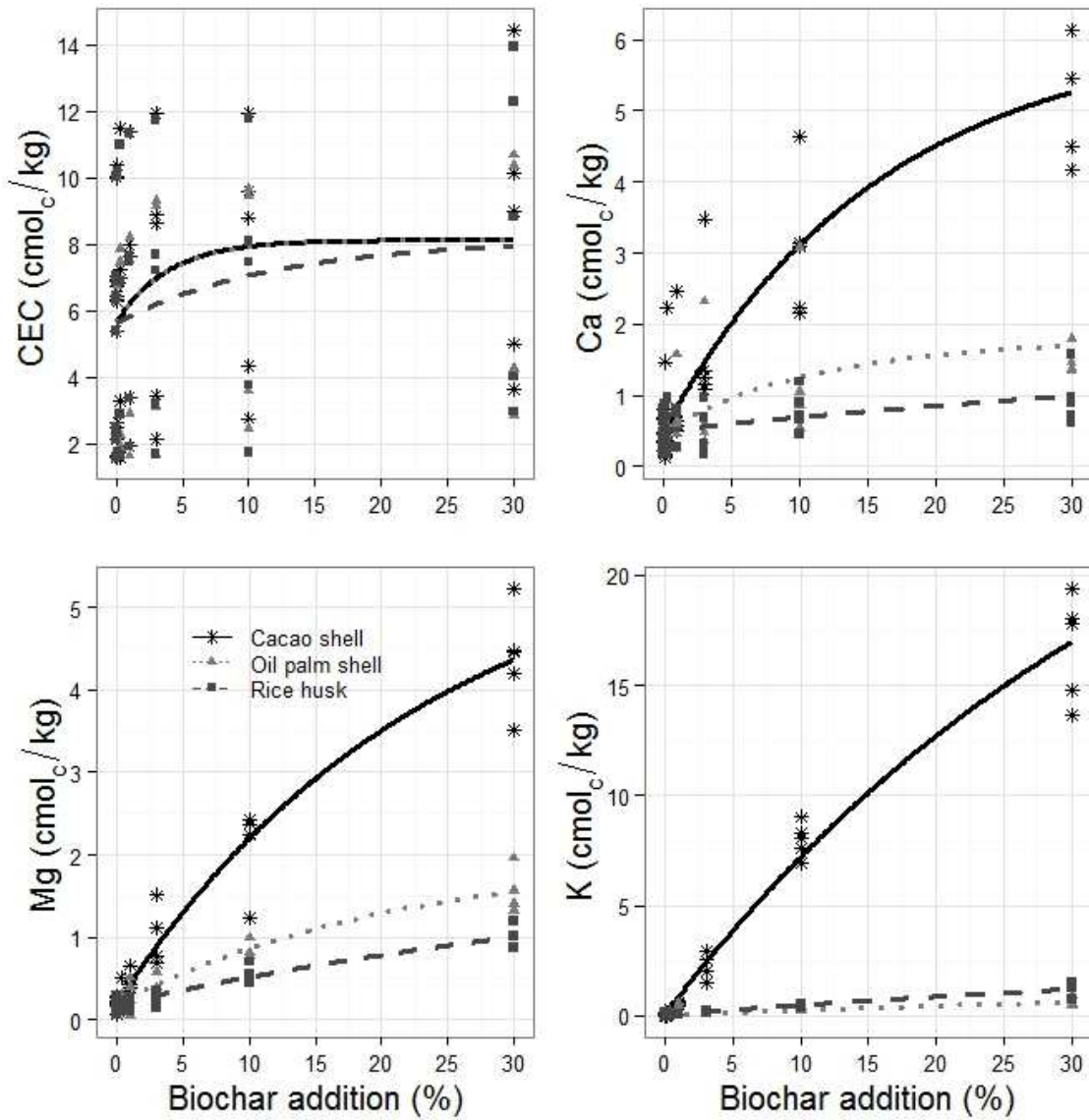


Fig. 4.

Martinsen, V., Alling, V., Nurida, N.L., Mulder, J., Hale, S.E., Ritz, C., Rutherford D.W., Heikens, A. ,
Breedveld, G.D. and Cornelissen, G., 2015 (Soil Science and Plant Nutrition): "pH effects of the addition of
three biochars to acidic Indonesian mineral soils"

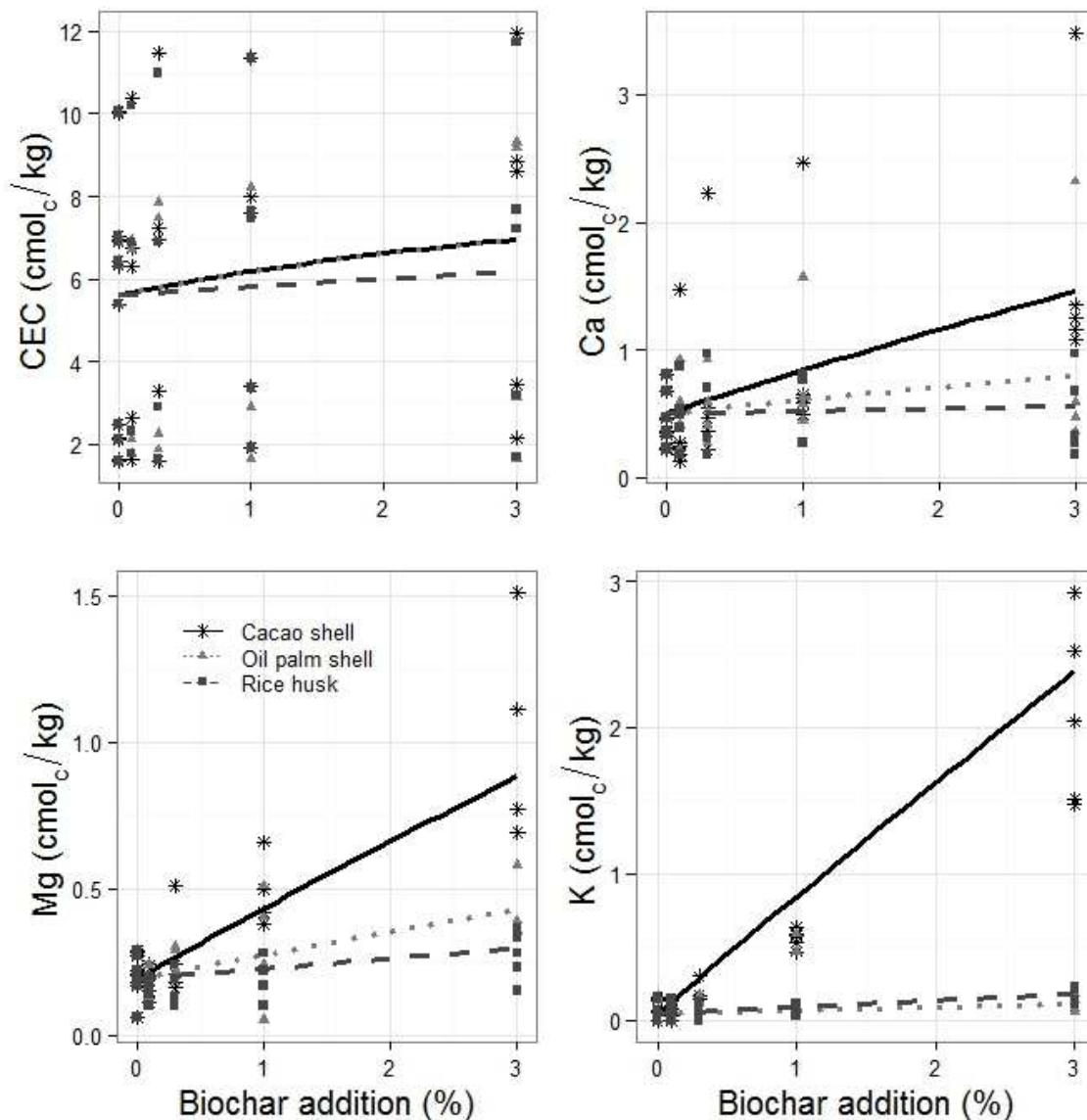
Supporting information

Figure S1. Locally constructed unit for biochar production.



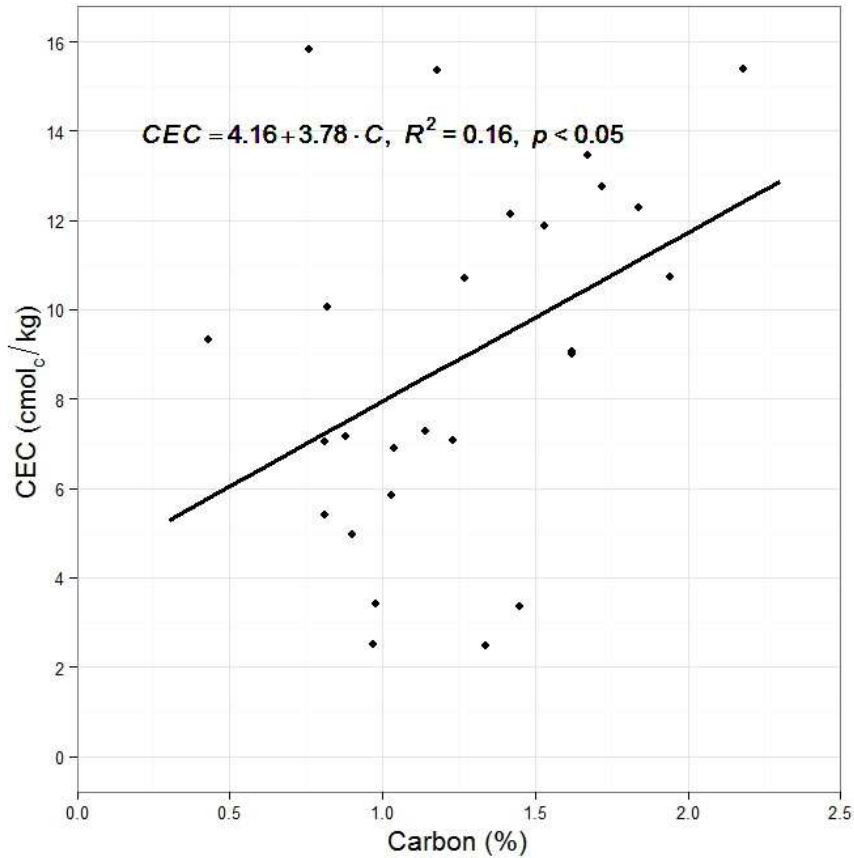
Martinsen, V., Alling, V., Nurida, N.L., Mulder, J., Hale, S.E., Ritz, C., Rutherford D.W., Heikens, A., Breedveld, G.D. and Cornelissen, G., 2015 (Soil Science and Plant Nutrition): "pH effects of the addition of three biochars to acidic Indonesian mineral soils"

Figure S2. Predicted response in soil CEC (cmol_c/kg) and of available Ca, Mg and K (cmol_c/kg) to added cacao shell BC, oil palm shell BC and rice husk BC in soils from 5 sites (site 18, 19, 24, 30, 31; Table 1) across Indonesia. The fitted curves derive from the model $y = a + b * (1 - \exp^{(-x/c)})$ (eq. 1) based on restricted maximum likelihood estimates (Table 3) for the mean response in CEC and levels of cations (Ca, Mg and K) for 0-30% BC. Note: Predicted responses are presented for 0-3% only. For the full dataset, see Figure 4.



Martinsen, V., Alling, V., Nurida, N.L., Mulder, J., Hale, S.E., Ritz, C., Rutherford D.W., Heikens, A., Breedveld, G.D. and Cornelissen, G., 2015 (Soil Science and Plant Nutrition): "pH effects of the addition of three biochars to acidic Indonesian mineral soils"

Figure S3. Relationship between CEC ($\text{cmol}_c \text{ kg}^{-1}$ soil) and the content of organic carbon (%) from 26 sites across Indonesia.



Martinsen, V., Alling, V., Nurida, N.L., Mulder, J., Hale, S.E., Ritz, C., Rutherford D.W., Heikens, A., Breedveld, G.D. and Cornelissen, G., 2015 (Soil Science and Plant Nutrition): "pH effects of the addition of three biochars to acidic Indonesian mineral soils"

Table S1. Selected attributes of biochars produced of cacao shell, oil palm shell and rice husk at pyrolysis times of 1, 2 and 3.5 hours. The pyrolysis times used for the different biochars are highlighted (bold).

Biochar type	Pyrolysis time (h)	BC yield (%)	Ash (%)	Water (%)	Total N (%)	Total P (%)	Total K (%)	Total Ca (%)	Total Mg (%)
Cacao shell (raw)	0	-	-	-	1.8	0.40	0.50	-	-
Cacao shell	1	18.7	27.9	18	1.1	0.40	1.10	1.29	0.85
Cacao shell	2	18	28.8	20	1.0	0.40	1.20	1.44	0.98
Cacao shell	3.5	22	27.4	12	1.4	0.36	1.25	1.30	0.86
Oil palm shell (raw)	0	-	-	-	1.1	0.10	<0.1	-	-
Oil palm shell	1	53.5	26.1	5	1.7	0.25	<0.1	0.67	0.31
Oil palm shell	2	45.6	40.9	3	1.3	0.40	<0.1	1.00	0.55
Oil palm shell	3.5	48.6	26.4	6	1.0	0.25	<0.1	0.66	0.31
Rice husk (raw)	0	-	-	-	0.8	0.15	<0.1	-	-
Rice husk	1	23.3	53.4	2	0.6	0.17	<0.1	0.31	0.13
Rice husk	2	23.3	47.0	3	0.6	0.10	<0.1	0.13	0.07
Rice husk	3.5	30.4	48.9	3	1.0	0.21	<0.1	0.21	0.13

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Table S2. Measured soil attributes in soils from 31 sites across Indonesia (Table 1) with and without addition of biochar (BC).

Site ID	BC type	BC addition (%)	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C (%)	N (%)	CN
cmol _c /kg soil														
1		0	4.9	3.7					15.37			1.18	0.12	9.8
1	Rice husk	0	4.65	3.82										
1	Rice husk	0.1	4.69	3.83										
1	Rice husk	0.3	4.74	3.81										
1	Rice husk	1	4.71	3.82										
1	Rice husk	3	4.96	3.85										
1	Rice husk	10	4.91	3.89										
1	Rice husk	30	5.27	4.04										
1	Oil palm shell	0	4.55	3.83										
1	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.8	3.84										
1	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.72	3.83										
1	Oil palm shell	1	4.82	3.81										
1	Oil palm shell	3	4.77	3.86										
1	Oil palm shell	10	4.77	3.91										
1	Oil palm shell	30	5.04	4.07										
1	Cacao shell	0	4.67	3.82										
1	Cacao shell	0.1	4.86	3.85										
1	Cacao shell	0.3	4.96	3.87										
1	Cacao shell	1	4.96	3.96										
1	Cacao shell	3	5.61	4.39										
1	Cacao shell	10	7.39	6.48										
1	Cacao shell	30	7.89	7.74										
2		0	4.31	3.71					13.44			1.67	0.12	13.9
2	Rice husk	0	4.51	3.8										
2	Rice husk	0.1	4.78	3.82										
2	Rice husk	0.3	4.8	3.83										
2	Rice husk	1	4.85	3.82										
2	Rice husk	3	5.02	3.82										
2	Rice husk	10	4.96	3.87										
2	Rice husk	30	5.08	3.94										
2	Oil palm shell	0	4.61	3.8										
2	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.73	3.81										
2	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.76	3.81										
2	Oil palm shell	1	4.74	3.85										
2	Oil palm shell	3	4.82	3.86										
2	Oil palm shell	10	4.99	3.93										
2	Oil palm shell	30	5.3	4.17										
2	Cacao shell	0	4.54	3.78										
2	Cacao shell	0.1	4.81	3.83										
2	Cacao shell	0.3	4.86	3.86										
2	Cacao shell	1	5.03	3.92										
2	Cacao shell	3	5.53	4.12										
2	Cacao shell	10	7.55	6.39										
2	Cacao shell	30	8.21	7.79										
3		0	5.11	3.86					9.33			0.43	0.03	13.9
3	Rice husk	0	5.37	3.91										
3	Rice husk	0.1	5.32	3.9										
3	Rice husk	0.3	5.27	3.91										
3	Rice husk	1	5.3	3.95										
3	Rice husk	3	5.34	3.97										
3	Rice husk	10	5.44	3.97										
3	Rice husk	30	5.62	4.05										
3	Oil palm shell	0	5.27	3.91										
3	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.29	3.94										
3	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.31	3.93										

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Site ID		BC addition (%)	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C (%)	N (%)	CN
cmol _c /kg soil														
3	Oil palm shell	1	5.32	3.94										
3	Oil palm shell	3	5.29	3.93										
3	Oil palm shell	10	5.35	3.97										
3	Oil palm shell	30	5.23	4.13										
3	Cacao shell	0	5.37	3.95										
3	Cacao shell	0.1	5.27	3.95										
3	Cacao shell	0.3	5.27	3.98										
3	Cacao shell	1	5.35	4.08										
3	Cacao shell	3	6.05	4.37										
3	Cacao shell	10	8.58	7.61										
3	Cacao shell	30	9.25	8.55										
4		0	4.4	3.68					15.39			2.18	0.15	14.7
4	Rice husk	0	4.6	3.9										
4	Rice husk	0.1	4.59	3.93										
4	Rice husk	0.3	4.68	3.94										
4	Rice husk	1	4.7	3.95										
4	Rice husk	3	4.79	3.98										
4	Rice husk	10	4.93	3.96										
4	Rice husk	30	5.08	3.99										
4	Oil palm shell	0	4.63	3.91										
4	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.7	3.94										
4	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.73	3.93										
4	Oil palm shell	1	4.76	3.94										
4	Oil palm shell	3	4.82	3.96										
4	Oil palm shell	10	4.98	4.02										
4	Oil palm shell	30	5.23	4.19										
4	Cacao shell	0	4.68	3.92										
4	Cacao shell	0.1	4.81	3.93										
4	Cacao shell	0.3	4.88	3.97										
4	Cacao shell	1	5.13	4.04										
4	Cacao shell	3	5.53	4.2										
4	Cacao shell	10	6.83	5.75										
4	Cacao shell	30	8.44	7.55										
5		0	4.54	3.85					9			1.62	0.08	19.4
5	Rice husk	0	4.72	4.01										
5	Rice husk	0.1	4.77	4.08										
5	Rice husk	0.3	4.76	4.1										
5	Rice husk	1	4.86	4.1										
5	Rice husk	3	5	4.12										
5	Rice husk	10	5.15	4.14										
5	Rice husk	30	5.24	4.15										
5	Oil palm shell	0	4.7	4										
5	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.82	4.08										
5	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.85	4.08										
5	Oil palm shell	1	4.88	4.11										
5	Oil palm shell	3	5.01	4.14										
5	Oil palm shell	10	5.18	4.27										
5	Oil palm shell	30	5.62	4.76										
5	Cacao shell	0	4.77	4.08										
5	Cacao shell	0.1	4.92	4.09										
5	Cacao shell	0.3	5.04	4.14										
5	Cacao shell	1	5.41	4.26										
5	Cacao shell	3	5.93	4.68										
5	Cacao shell	10	7.58	6.69										
5	Cacao shell	30	8.81	8.06										
6		0	4.29	3.73					12.76			1.72	0.09	20.2

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Site ID		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil						(%)	(%)		
6	Rice husk	0	4.39	3.96										
6	Rice husk	0.1	4.35	3.95										
7	Rice husk	0.3	4.36	3.96										
8	Rice husk	1	4.41	3.95										
9	Rice husk	3	4.49	3.97										
10	Rice husk	10	4.73	3.98										
11	Rice husk	30	5.28	4										
12	Oil palm shell	0	4.36	3.94										
12	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.42	3.95										
13	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.81	3.96										
14	Oil palm shell	1	4.83	3.95										
15	Oil palm shell	3	4.86	3.99										
16	Oil palm shell	10	4.89	4.02										
16	Oil palm shell	30	5.33	4.16										
17	Cacao shell	0	4.38	3.96										
18	Cacao shell	0.1	4.52	3.97										
19	Cacao shell	0.3	4.84	3.99										
20	Cacao shell	1	5.21	4.06										
21	Cacao shell	3	5.26	4.21										
21	Cacao shell	10	6.87	5.48										
22	Cacao shell	30	8.41	7.8										
23		0	4.55	3.84					7.29			1.14	0.05	21.6
24	Rice husk	0	4.79	3.98										
24	Rice husk	0.1	4.79	3.99										
25	Rice husk	0.3	4.8	3.99										
26	Rice husk	1	4.87	3.98										
27	Rice husk	3	4.96	3.99										
28	Rice husk	10	5.14	4.03										
28	Rice husk	30	5.43	4.02										
29	Oil palm shell	0	4.77	3.98										
30	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.76	3.99										
31	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.81	3.98										
32	Oil palm shell	1	4.85	4.01										
32	Oil palm shell	3	4.95	4.01										
33	Oil palm shell	10	5.11	4.09										
34	Oil palm shell	30	5.63	4.5										
35	Cacao shell	0	4.82	3.98										
36	Cacao shell	0.1	4.93	3.99										
36	Cacao shell	0.3	5.06	4.04										
37	Cacao shell	1	5.4	4.16										
38	Cacao shell	3	5.92	4.42										
39	Cacao shell	10	7.78	6.74										
40	Cacao shell	30	9.06	7.99										
41		0	3.98	3.72					12.15			1.42	0.07	21
41	Rice husk	0	4.29	3.84										
42	Rice husk	0.1	4.28	3.83										
43	Rice husk	0.3	4.29	3.82										
44	Rice husk	1	4.32	3.85										
45	Rice husk	3	4.25	3.84										
46	Rice husk	10	4.55	3.86										
46	Rice husk	30	4.91	4.05										
47	Oil palm shell	0	4.2	3.82										
48	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.17	3.82										
49	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.19	3.83										
49	Oil palm shell	1	4.2	3.83										
50	Oil palm shell	3	4.29	3.84										

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Site ID		BC addition (%)	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C (%)	N (%)	CN
												cmol _c /kg soil		
8	Oil palm shell	10	4.55	3.89										
8	Oil palm shell	30	4.93	4.01										
8	Cacao shell	0	4.3	3.84										
8	Cacao shell	0.1	4.32	3.84										
8	Cacao shell	0.3	4.35	3.85										
8	Cacao shell	1	4.7	3.91										
8	Cacao shell	3	5.27	4.07										
8	Cacao shell	10	6.68	5.45										
8	Cacao shell	30	8.45	7.5										
9	Rice husk	0	4.32	3.58					15.83			0.76	0.03	25.9
9	Rice husk	0	4.36	3.61										
9	Rice husk	0.1	4.35	3.68										
9	Rice husk	0.3	4.37	3.68										
9	Rice husk	1	4.39	3.69										
9	Rice husk	3	4.4	3.67										
9	Rice husk	10	4.47	3.71										
9	Rice husk	30	4.55	3.74										
9	Oil palm shell	0	4.37	3.61										
9	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.37	3.67										
9	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.4	3.69										
9	Oil palm shell	1	4.4	3.68										
9	Oil palm shell	3	4.5	3.69										
9	Oil palm shell	10	4.61	3.72										
9	Oil palm shell	30	4.81	3.84										
9	Cacao shell	0	4.36	3.61										
9	Cacao shell	0.1	4.5	3.68										
9	Cacao shell	0.3	4.57	3.72										
9	Cacao shell	1	4.72	3.75										
9	Cacao shell	3	5.02	3.88										
9	Cacao shell	10	5.98	4.39										
9	Cacao shell	30	6.23	5.24										
10	Rice husk	0	4.49	3.76					10.69			1.27	0.06	20.4
10	Rice husk	0	4.5	3.91										
10	Rice husk	0.1	4.51	3.89										
10	Rice husk	0.3	4.49	3.92										
10	Rice husk	1	4.57	3.88										
10	Rice husk	3	4.62	3.9										
10	Rice husk	10	4.77	3.93										
10	Rice husk	30	5.1	3.92										
10	Oil palm shell	0	4.51	3.9										
10	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.55	3.88										
10	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.55	3.9										
10	Oil palm shell	1	4.59	3.9										
10	Oil palm shell	3	4.64	3.91										
10	Oil palm shell	10	4.78	3.96										
10	Oil palm shell	30	5.21	4.2										
10	Cacao shell	0	4.53	3.92										
10	Cacao shell	0.1	4.61	3.89										
10	Cacao shell	0.3	4.68	3.9										
10	Cacao shell	1	4.79	3.95										
10	Cacao shell	3	5.43	4.21										
10	Cacao shell	10	7.13	6.17										
10	Cacao shell	30	8.77	7.7										
11	Rice husk	0	4.7	3.73					6.9			1.04	0.04	23.5
11	Rice husk	0	4.54	3.84										
11	Rice husk	0.1	4.55	3.85										

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Site ID		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil							(%)	(%)	
11	Rice husk	0.3	4.55	3.84										
11	Rice husk	1	4.56	3.85										
11	Rice husk	3	4.61	3.83										
11	Rice husk	10	4.86	3.86										
11	Rice husk	30	5.12	3.9										
11	Oil palm shell	0	4.55	3.84										
11	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.54	3.84										
11	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.57	3.83										
11	Oil palm shell	1	4.58	3.84										
11	Oil palm shell	3	4.68	3.86										
11	Oil palm shell	10	5.04	3.93										
11	Oil palm shell	30	5.13	4.08										
11	Cacao shell	0	4.54	3.84										
11	Cacao shell	0.1	4.49	3.86										
11	Cacao shell	0.3	4.67	3.85										
11	Cacao shell	1	5.23	4.03										
11	Cacao shell	3	5.54	4.22										
11	Cacao shell	10	7.45	6.66										
11	Cacao shell	30	8.88	8.26										
12		0	3.22	3.04					3.34			1.45	0.07	19.8
12	Rice husk	0	3.38	3.12										
12	Rice husk	0.1	3.48	3.25										
12	Rice husk	0.3	3.46	3.26										
12	Rice husk	1	3.51	3.26										
12	Rice husk	3	3.55	3.26										
12	Rice husk	10	3.73	3.36										
12	Rice husk	30	4.11	3.52										
12	Oil palm shell	0	3.39	3.12										
12	Oil palm shell	0.1	3.48	3.24										
12	Oil palm shell	0.3	3.47	3.24										
12	Oil palm shell	1	3.54	3.24										
12	Oil palm shell	3	3.6	3.36										
12	Oil palm shell	10	3.84	3.45										
12	Oil palm shell	30	4.27	3.66										
12	Cacao shell	0	3.41	3.12										
12	Cacao shell	0.1	3.49	3.27										
12	Cacao shell	0.3	3.55	3.33										
12	Cacao shell	1	3.65	3.39										
12	Cacao shell	3	4.32	3.66										
12	Cacao shell	10	5.67	4.66										
12	Cacao shell	30	7.32	6.6										
13		0	5.66	4.67					2.51			0.97	0.02	40.6
13	Rice husk	0	5.5	4.78										
13	Rice husk	0.1	5.63	4.71										
13	Rice husk	0.3	5.9	4.73										
13	Rice husk	1	6.14	4.77										
13	Rice husk	3	6.24	4.82										
13	Rice husk	10	6.49	5.08										
13	Rice husk	30	6.78	5.46										
13	Oil palm shell	0	5.62	4.78										
13	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.85	4.73										
13	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.91	4.73										
13	Oil palm shell	1	5.94	4.78										
13	Oil palm shell	3	5.98	5										
13	Oil palm shell	10	6.17	5.34										
13	Oil palm shell	30	6.29	5.5										

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		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil						(%)	(%)		
13	Cacao shell	0	5.64	4.78										
13	Cacao shell	0.1	5.96	4.85										
13	Cacao shell	0.3	6.43	5.11										
13	Cacao shell	1	7.15	5.86										
13	Cacao shell	3	7.9	6.89										
13	Cacao shell	10	8.73	8.03										
13	Cacao shell	30	9.44	8.72										
14		0	4.85	3.84					5.83			1.03	0.03	33.4
14	Rice husk	0	5.2	3.96										
14	Rice husk	0.1	5.21	3.98										
14	Rice husk	0.3	5.24	3.98										
14	Rice husk	1	5.23	3.99										
14	Rice husk	3	5.28	4.01										
14	Rice husk	10	5.47	4.05										
14	Rice husk	30	5.59	4.18										
14	Oil palm shell	0	5.21	3.96										
14	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.24	3.96										
14	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.29	3.98										
14	Oil palm shell	1	5.27	3.97										
14	Oil palm shell	3	5.28	4.01										
14	Oil palm shell	10	5.37	4.13										
14	Oil palm shell	30	5.75	4.7										
14	Cacao shell	0	5.22	3.97										
14	Cacao shell	0.1	5.25	3.97										
14	Cacao shell	0.3	5.46	4.03										
14	Cacao shell	1	5.78	4.19										
14	Cacao shell	3	6.46	4.85										
14	Cacao shell	10	8.17	7.2										
14	Cacao shell	30	9.38	8.33										
15		0	4.07	3.77					7.08			1.23	0.06	20.9
15	Rice husk	0	4.18	3.83										
15	Rice husk	0.1	4.24	3.84										
15	Rice husk	0.3	4.23	3.84										
15	Rice husk	1	4.34	3.85										
15	Rice husk	3	4.43	3.91										
15	Rice husk	10	5.04	4										
15	Rice husk	30	5.54	4.4										
15	Oil palm shell	0	4.17	3.81										
15	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.25	3.84										
15	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.22	3.83										
15	Oil palm shell	1	4.29	3.84										
15	Oil palm shell	3	4.35	3.92										
15	Oil palm shell	10	5.15	4.14										
15	Oil palm shell	30	5.85	4.88										
15	Cacao shell	0	4.2	3.84										
15	Cacao shell	0.1	4.22	3.87										
15	Cacao shell	0.3	4.49	3.95										
15	Cacao shell	1	5.35	4.22										
15	Cacao shell	3	6.99	5.61										
15	Cacao shell	10	8.85	8.1										
15	Cacao shell	30	9.66	8.33										
16		0	4.19	3.92					7.15			0.88	0.04	25
16	Rice husk	0	4.05	4.08										
16	Rice husk	0.1	4.09	4.07										
16	Rice husk	0.3	4.11	4.05										
16	Rice husk	1	4.49	4.05										

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		BC addition	pH _(H2O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil							(%)	(%)	
16	Rice husk	3	4.78	4.05										
16	Rice husk	10	5	4.15										
16	Rice husk	30	5.44	4.46										
16	Oil palm shell	0	4.08	4.05										
16	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.17	4.03										
16	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.26	4.03										
16	Oil palm shell	1	4.38	4.04										
16	Oil palm shell	3	4.72	4.07										
16	Oil palm shell	10	4.93	4.22										
16	Oil palm shell	30	5.62	4.86										
16	Cacao shell	0	4.1	4.08										
16	Cacao shell	0.1	4.2	4.07										
16	Cacao shell	0.3	4.48	4.1										
16	Cacao shell	1	5.03	4.27										
16	Cacao shell	3	6.44	5.28										
16	Cacao shell	10	7.76	7.1										
16	Cacao shell	30	8.9	8.02										
17		0	4.61	3.72					9.05			1.62	0.09	17.6
17	Rice husk	0	4.87	3.82										
17	Rice husk	0.1	4.88	3.83										
17	Rice husk	0.3	4.87	3.82										
17	Rice husk	1	4.85	3.84										
17	Rice husk	3	4.94	3.85										
17	Rice husk	10	5.1	3.95										
17	Rice husk	30	5.42	4.08										
17	Oil palm shell	0	4.85	3.8										
17	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.88	3.82										
17	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.88	3.82										
17	Oil palm shell	1	4.9	3.83										
17	Oil palm shell	3	4.96	3.88										
17	Oil palm shell	10	5.09	3.97										
17	Oil palm shell	30	5.53	4.73										
17	Cacao shell	0	4.87	3.89										
17	Cacao shell	0.1	5.03	3.88										
17	Cacao shell	0.3	5.03	3.87										
17	Cacao shell	1	5.35	4.03										
17	Cacao shell	3	6.07	4.52										
17	Cacao shell	10	7.52	6.64										
17	Cacao shell	30	8.8	7.84										
18		0	4.48	3.86					7.04			0.81	0.04	20.8
18	Rice husk	0	4.42	3.92	0.81	0.28	0.07	0.07	6.93	4.12	0.24			
18	Rice husk	0.1	4.46	3.92	0.87	0.2	0.1	0.05	6.89	3.78	0.34			
18	Rice husk	0.3	4.42	3.91	0.97	0.24	0.1	0.05	6.89	3.81	0.16			
18	Rice husk	1	4.41	3.91	0.81	0.28	0.1	0.02	7.47	4.02	0.26			
18	Rice husk	3	4.53	3.93	0.97	0.36	0.23	0.07	7.22	3.18	0.32			
18	Rice husk	10	4.85	3.98	1.19	0.7	0.54	0.14	8.1	2.2	0.17			
18	Rice husk	30	5.19	4.18	1.58	1.19	1.48	0.16	8.82	0.67	0.21			
18	Oil palm shell	0	4.43	3.92	0.8	0.29	0.07	0.07	6.94	4.11	0.23			
18	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.38	3.91	0.92	0.2	0.1	0.07	6.93	3.55	0.24			
18	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.46	3.91	0.92	0.21	0.13	0.07	7.47	3.21	0.28			
18	Oil palm shell	1	4.5	3.92	1.57	0.24	0.07	0.07	7.51	3.53	0.24			
18	Oil palm shell	3	4.68	3.94	2.32	0.58	0.18	0.1	9.3	3.13	0.24			
18	Oil palm shell	10	4.86	4.03	3.08	0.99	0.37	0.09	9.65	1.83	0.21			
18	Oil palm shell	30	5.44	4.41	1.37	1.96	0.88	0.12	10.36	0.31	0.25			
18	Cacao shell	0	4.4	3.91	0.8	0.27	0.06	0.06	6.9	4.1	0.23			
18	Cacao shell	0.1	4.42	3.92	1.47	0.2	0.13	0.05	6.3	3.49	0.32			

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		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil							(%)	(%)	
18	Cacao shell	0.3	4.66	3.95	2.23	0.51	0.3	0.06	6.97	3.63	0.23			
18	Cacao shell	1	4.97	4.05	2.47	0.66	0.64	0.05	7.99	2.05	0.16			
18	Cacao shell	3	5.9	4.7	3.48	1.51	2.52	0.1	8.62	0	0.02			
18	Cacao shell	10	8.31	7.24	4.64	2.37	7.62	0.14	8.81	0	0.02			
18	Cacao shell	30	9.91	8.96	0.59	4.46	19.38	0.3	8.99	0	0			
19		0	4.58	4.1					2.48			1.34	0.09	14.3
19	Rice husk	0	4.97	4.27	0.47	0.22	0.15	0.05	2.14	1.18	0.2			
19	Rice husk	0.1	5.08	4.31	0.53	0.14	0.15	0.1	2.32	1.01	0.18			
19	Rice husk	0.3	4.99	4.33	0.7	0.13	0.12	0.05	2.9	0.57	0.17			
19	Rice husk	1	4.99	4.33	0.77	0.17	0.11	0.05	3.37	0.86	0.16			
19	Rice husk	3	5.15	4.33	0.68	0.33	0.21	0.07	3.19	0.52	0.23			
19	Rice husk	10	5.82	4.64	0.89	0.51	0.51	0.05	3.77	0	0.02			
19	Rice husk	30	6.39	5.21	0.61	1.01	1.24	0.1	4.01	0	0.07			
19	Oil palm shell	0	4.95	4.25	0.46	0.21	0.16	0.05	2.13	1.17	0.21			
19	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.95	4.26	0.59	0.13	0.14	0.05	2.11	1.03	0.16			
19	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.98	4.27	0.59	0.2	0.11	0.05	2.25	1.35	0.16			
19	Oil palm shell	1	5.03	4.38	0.45	0.05	0.07	0.05	2.91	0.5	0.17			
19	Oil palm shell	3	5.15	4.46	0.47	0.36	0.14	0.02	3.12	0.24	0.15			
19	Oil palm shell	10	5.8	4.8	0.53	3.54	0.22	0.05	3.59	0	0.09			
19	Oil palm shell	30	6.31	5.36	1.46	1.32	0.47	0.05	4.25	0	0.02			
19	Cacao shell	0	4.97	4.29	0.46	0.22	0.14	0.05	2.12	1.16	0.2			
19	Cacao shell	0.1	5	4.32	0.25	0.11	0.08	0.03	2.65	0.84	0.17			
19	Cacao shell	0.3	5.1	4.41	0.47	0.16	0.15	0.05	3.28	0.51	0.16			
19	Cacao shell	1	6.54	5.24	0.65	0.38	0.47	0.11	3.39	0	0.06			
19	Cacao shell	3	8.51	7.17	1.25	0.69	1.48	0.1	3.46	0	0			
19	Cacao shell	10	9.71	8.89	2.16	1.24	8.28	0.14	4.33	0	0			
19	Cacao shell	30	10.1	9.45	5.45	3.51	14.76	0.28	5.01	0	0			
20		0										1.54	0.11	13.7
20	Rice husk	0	5.41	4.32										
20	Rice husk	0.1	5.45	4.33										
20	Rice husk	0.3	5.44	4.36										
20	Rice husk	1	5.42	4.42										
20	Rice husk	3	5.5	4.4										
20	Rice husk	10	5.91	4.89										
20	Rice husk	30	6.34	5.25										
20	Oil palm shell	0	5.4	4.32										
20	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.41	4.28										
20	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.49	4.32										
20	Oil palm shell	1	5.57	4.48										
20	Oil palm shell	3	5.59	4.92										
20	Oil palm shell	10	5.63	5.18										
20	Oil palm shell	30	5.97	5.34										
20	Cacao shell	0	5.42	4.3										
20	Cacao shell	0.1	5.48	4.47										
20	Cacao shell	0.3	5.5	4.73										
20	Cacao shell	1	6.36	5.62										
20	Cacao shell	3	7.33	6.78										
20	Cacao shell	10	8.7	8.05										
20	Cacao shell	30	9.48	8.82										
21		0	4.45	3.7					11.88			1.53	0.11	14
21	Rice husk	0	4.75	3.81										
21	Rice husk	0.1	4.76	3.81										
21	Rice husk	0.3	4.74	3.79										
21	Rice husk	1	4.83	3.82										
21	Rice husk	3	4.87	3.86										
21	Rice husk	10	4.98	3.85										

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		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil						(%)	(%)		
21	Rice husk	30	5.14	3.96										
21	Oil palm shell	0	4.71	3.81										
21	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.74	3.8										
21	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.76	3.8										
21	Oil palm shell	1	4.78	3.81										
21	Oil palm shell	3	4.78	3.87										
21	Oil palm shell	10	4.96	3.98										
21	Oil palm shell	30	5.39	4.35										
21	Cacao shell	0	4.72	3.8										
21	Cacao shell	0.1	4.73	3.81										
21	Cacao shell	0.3	4.82	3.84										
21	Cacao shell	1	5.13	3.93										
21	Cacao shell	3	5.49	4.1										
21	Cacao shell	10	7.14	6.2										
21	Cacao shell	30	8.46	7.66										
22		0	4.66	3.8					4.97			0.9	0.05	19.6
22	Rice husk	0	4.36	3.92										
22	Rice husk	0.1	4.36	3.88										
22	Rice husk	0.3	4.39	3.88										
22	Rice husk	1	4.47	3.9										
22	Rice husk	3	4.66	3.95										
22	Rice husk	10	5.07	4.09										
22	Rice husk	30	5.81	4.62										
22	Oil palm shell	0	4.35	3.91										
22	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.42	3.87										
22	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.44	3.86										
22	Oil palm shell	1	4.48	3.9										
22	Oil palm shell	3	4.72	4.01										
22	Oil palm shell	10	5.24	4.25										
22	Oil palm shell	30	5.99	5.41										
22	Cacao shell	0	4.37	3.9										
22	Cacao shell	0.1	4.51	3.91										
22	Cacao shell	0.3	4.66	3.98										
22	Cacao shell	1	5.35	4.29										
22	Cacao shell	3	6.48	5.74										
22	Cacao shell	10	8.13	7.68										
22	Cacao shell	30	9.15	8.53										
23		0	5.01	4.18					3.51			6.01	0.4	14.9
23	Rice husk	0	5.24	4.31										
23	Rice husk	0.1	5.46	4.29										
23	Rice husk	0.3	5.4	4.28										
23	Rice husk	1	5.39	4.3										
23	Rice husk	3	5.52	4.34										
23	Rice husk	10	5.78	4.39										
23	Rice husk	30	6.15	4.81										
23	Oil palm shell	0	5.21	4.31										
23	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.38	4.27										
23	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.32	4.29										
23	Oil palm shell	1	5.34	4.31										
23	Oil palm shell	3	5.43	4.33										
23	Oil palm shell	10	5.47	4.54										
23	Oil palm shell	30	6.05	5										
23	Cacao shell	0	5.35	4.31										
23	Cacao shell	0.1	5.56	4.3										
23	Cacao shell	0.3	5.72	4.36										
23	Cacao shell	1	6.24	4.65										

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		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil							(%)	(%)	
23	Cacao shell	3	7.39	5.95										
23	Cacao shell	10	8.48	7.55										
23	Cacao shell	30	9.48	8.62										
24		0	4.46	3.85					5.4			0.81	0.02	42.3
24	Rice husk	0	4.9	3.81	0.35	0.18	0.07	0.07	6.43	5.35	0.53			
24	Rice husk	0.1	4.91	3.8	0.49	0.18	0.06	0.03	6.9	4.34	0.43			
24	Rice husk	0.3	4.88	3.81	0.31	0.1	0.03	0.05		4.32	0.45			
24	Rice husk	1	4.96	3.8	0.27	0.17	0.06	0.13	7.65	4.01	0.26			
24	Rice husk	3	4.99	3.81	0.18	0.23	0.11	0.08	7.68	3.42	0.3			
24	Rice husk	10	5.17	3.87	0.67	0.56	0.47	2.97	7.46	3.81	0.24			
24	Rice husk	30	5.23	4.09	0.9	0.86	0.75	0.18	13.93	3.62	0.47			
24	Oil palm shell	0	4.88	3.81	0.36	0.2	0.07	0.07	6.45	5.37	0.52			
24	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.89	3.81	0.22	0.18	0.08	0.08	6.73	2.34	0.19			
24	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.95	3.85	0.41	0.29	0.17	0.08	7.87	3.62	0.35			
24	Oil palm shell	1	5.03	3.95	0.57	0.4	0.47	0.11	8.22	2.03	0.38			
24	Oil palm shell	3	5.09	3.95	0.59	0.39	0.08	0.08	9.17	0.39	0.23			
24	Oil palm shell	10	5.15	3.95	1.05	0.77	0.23	0.08	9.46	0.8	0.15			
24	Oil palm shell	30	5.39	4.23	1.8	1.56	0.53	0.1	10.68	0.85	0.23			
24	Cacao shell	0	4.91	3.82	0.33	0.17	0.07	0.07	6.33	5.32	0.53			
24	Cacao shell	0.1	4.92	3.83	0.27	0.24	0.08	0.08	6.74	4.51	0.16			
24	Cacao shell	0.3	4.95	3.84	0.54	0.18	0.17	0.03	7.25	3.71	0.32			
24	Cacao shell	1	5.22	3.94	0.58	0.5	0.59	0.08	7.62	2.41	0.2			
24	Cacao shell	3	5.98	4.64	1.35	1.11	1.51	0.21	8.87	0	0.04			
24	Cacao shell	10	8.5	7.58	3.1	2.25	6.94	0.26	9.61	0	0			
24	Cacao shell	30	9.83	9.05	4.5	4.2	17.78	0.36	10.14	0	0			
25		0	4.56	4.15					7.52			8.91	0.37	24.1
25	Rice husk	0	4.24	3.88										
25	Rice husk	0.1	4.26	3.89										
25	Rice husk	0.3	4.25	3.89										
25	Rice husk	1	4.25	3.88										
25	Rice husk	3	4.28	4.03										
25	Rice husk	10	4.79	4.16										
25	Rice husk	30	5.57	4.35										
25	Oil palm shell	0	4.2	3.8										
25	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.22	3.88										
25	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.2	3.84										
25	Oil palm shell	1	4.26	3.9										
25	Oil palm shell	3	4.38	4.12										
25	Oil palm shell	10	4.98	4.27										
25	Oil palm shell	30	6	4.69										
25	Cacao shell	0	4.28	3.88										
25	Cacao shell	0.1	4.36	3.94										
25	Cacao shell	0.3	4.4	4.04										
25	Cacao shell	1	5.02	4.28										
25	Cacao shell	3	6.53	5.04										
25	Cacao shell	10	8.09	6.8										
25	Cacao shell	30	8.94	7.89										
26		0	4.7	3.81					10.04			3.06	0.28	11
26	Rice husk	0	5.34	3.95										
26	Rice husk	0.1	5.35	3.95										
26	Rice husk	0.3	5.37	3.96										
26	Rice husk	1	5.38	3.96										
26	Rice husk	3	5.39	3.96										
26	Rice husk	10	5.39	4.02										
26	Rice husk	30	5.57	4.06										
26	Oil palm shell	0	5.32	3.92										

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		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil						(%)	(%)		
26	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.28	3.91										
26	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.34	3.92										
26	Oil palm shell	1	5.35	3.95										
26	Oil palm shell	3	5.41	3.97										
26	Oil palm shell	10	5.49	4.15										
26	Oil palm shell	30	5.63	4.82										
26	Cacao shell	0	5.35	3.95										
26	Cacao shell	0.1	5.4	3.96										
26	Cacao shell	0.3	5.43	3.98										
26	Cacao shell	1	5.64	4.17										
26	Cacao shell	3	6.37	4.87										
26	Cacao shell	10	7.87	7										
26	Cacao shell	30	8.97	8.13										
27		0	4.7	3.74					10.73			1.94	0.21	9.1
27	Rice husk	0	5.35	3.9										
27	Rice husk	0.1	5.33	3.89										
27	Rice husk	0.3	5.38	3.91										
27	Rice husk	1	5.42	3.92										
27	Rice husk	3	5.92	3.94										
27	Rice husk	10	5.95	3.98										
27	Rice husk	30	5.98	4.01										
27	Oil palm shell	0	5.35	3.9										
27	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.36	3.9										
27	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.41	3.91										
27	Oil palm shell	1	5.5	3.92										
27	Oil palm shell	3	5.51	3.97										
27	Oil palm shell	10	5.59	4.11										
27	Oil palm shell	30	5.68	4.65										
27	Cacao shell	0	5.35	3.9										
27	Cacao shell	0.1	5.36	3.91										
27	Cacao shell	0.3	5.4	3.91										
27	Cacao shell	1	5.42	4.09										
27	Cacao shell	3	6.01	4.43										
27	Cacao shell	10	7.88	7.18										
27	Cacao shell	30	9.12	8.37										
28		0	4.44	3.7					12.28			1.84	0.14	13.1
28	Rice husk	0	4.62	3.82										
28	Rice husk	0.1	4.69	3.81										
28	Rice husk	0.3	4.67	3.82										
28	Rice husk	1	4.71	3.81										
28	Rice husk	3	4.77	3.82										
28	Rice husk	10	4.87	3.86										
28	Rice husk	30	4.96	3.91										
28	Oil palm shell	0	4.6	3.8										
28	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.64	3.8										
28	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.62	3.81										
28	Oil palm shell	1	4.66	3.82										
28	Oil palm shell	3	4.72	3.85										
28	Oil palm shell	10	4.9	3.97										
28	Oil palm shell	30	5.4	4.36										
28	Cacao shell	0	4.61	3.8										
28	Cacao shell	0.1	4.72	3.81										
28	Cacao shell	0.3	4.74	3.85										
28	Cacao shell	1	4.97	3.89										
28	Cacao shell	3	5.45	4.11										
28	Cacao shell	10	7.3	6.23										

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		BC addition	pH _(H₂O)	pH _(KCl)	Ca	Mg	K	Na	CEC	Al ³⁺	H ⁺	C	N	CN
		(%)			cmol _c /kg soil						(%)	(%)		
28	Cacao shell	30	8.55	7.59										
29		0	4.4	3.82					3.41			0.98	0.07	14.4
29	Rice husk	0	4.38	3.86										
29	Rice husk	0.1	4.38	3.89										
29	Rice husk	0.3	4.41	3.9										
29	Rice husk	1	4.48	3.9										
29	Rice husk	3	4.58	3.93										
29	Rice husk	10	5.02	4.03										
29	Rice husk	30	5.35	4.37										
29	Oil palm shell	0	4.37	3.85										
29	Oil palm shell	0.1	4.39	3.87										
29	Oil palm shell	0.3	4.4	3.89										
29	Oil palm shell	1	4.4	3.9										
29	Oil palm shell	3	4.59	3.97										
29	Oil palm shell	10	4.83	4.12										
29	Oil palm shell	30	5.38	4.66										
29	Cacao shell	0	4.39	3.87										
29	Cacao shell	0.1	4.42	3.9										
29	Cacao shell	0.3	4.48	4										
29	Cacao shell	1	5.07	4.22										
29	Cacao shell	3	6.02	5.12										
29	Cacao shell	10	7.57	7.52										
29	Cacao shell	30	9.14	8.58										
30		0	4.83	4.41					10.06			0.82	0.01	59.8
30	Rice husk	0	5.19	4.45	0.67	0.06	0	0.05	10.01	0.16	0.12			
30	Rice husk	0.1	5.17	4.46	0.39	0.15	0	0.03	10.2	0.11	0.16			
30	Rice husk	0.3	5.39	4.45	0.18	0.1	0.03	0.02	10.99	0.14	0.12			
30	Rice husk	1	5.42	4.45	0.27	0.1	0.03	0.02	11.34	0.1	0.14			
30	Rice husk	3	5.47	4.56	0.32	0.15	0.14	0.01	11.73	0.04	0.12			
30	Rice husk	10	5.55	4.79	0.72	0.44	0.45	0.03	11.8	0.02	0.06			
30	Rice husk	30	5.76	5.11	0.98	0.88	1.39	0.13	12.28	0	0.04			
30	Cacao shell	0	5.14	4.43	0.68	0.06	0	0.05	10.02	0.14	0.11			
30	Cacao shell	0.1	5.19	4.5	0.13	0.15	0	0.05	10.37	0.06	0.12			
30	Cacao shell	0.3	5.33	4.7	0.36	0.21	0.17	0.08	11.49	0	0.02			
30	Cacao shell	1	5.7	5.45	0.63	0.42	0.58	0.1	11.37	0	0			
30	Cacao shell	3	6.99	6.69	1.16	0.77	2.04	0.13	11.95	0	0.02			
30	Cacao shell	10	9.15	8.29	3.14	2.24	9.01	0.23	11.96	0	0			
30	Cacao shell	30	9.92	9.19	6.13	5.22	18.03	0.31	14.43	0	0			
31		0	4.57	4.15								0.52	0.05	10.3
31	Rice husk	0	4.5	4.2	0.22	0.18	0	0.08	1.62	0.04	1.29			
31	Rice husk	0.1	4.6	4.2	0.18	0.1	0.03	0.03	1.77	0.06	1.68			
31	Rice husk	0.3	4.5	4.2	0.18	0.19	0	0.25	1.64	0.19	1.46			
31	Rice husk	1	4.9	4.2	0.76	0.22	0.06	0.1	1.91	0.11	1.68			
31	Rice husk	3	5.3	4.3	0.27	0.28	0.14	0.05	1.7	0.21	1.73			
31	Rice husk	10	5.7	4.4	0.45	0.56	0.36	0.08	1.73	0.08	1.24			
31	Rice husk	30	6.2	4.8	0.72	1.02	1.26	0.13	2.96	0.05	0.96			
31	Oil palm shell	0	5.22	4.2	0.23	0.17	0	0.08	1.6	0.04	1.28			
31	Oil palm shell	0.1	5.23	4.3	0.41	0.24	0.06	0.03	1.76	0.17	1.55			
31	Oil palm shell	0.3	5.25	4.3	0.27	0.3	0.17	0.13	1.87	0.14	1.2			
31	Oil palm shell	1	5.4	4.7	0.63	0.51	0.59	0.08	1.64	0.04	1.42			
31	Oil palm shell	3	5.48	4.3	0.36	0.35	0.06	0.05	1.66	0.18	1.33			
31	Oil palm shell	10	5.92	4.5	0.85	0.81	0.25	0.08	2.47	0.16	1.1			
31	Oil palm shell	30	6.19	4.9	1.35	1.4	0.53	0.1	2.85	0.08	1.18			
31	Cacao shell	0	4.5	4.2	0.23	0.17	0	0.07	1.61	0.05	1.28			
31	Cacao shell	0.1	4.9	4.3	0.18	0.19	0.03	0.05	1.63	0.15	1.32			
31	Cacao shell	0.3	5.3	4.4	0.22	0.24	0.17	0.05	1.6	0.14	1.29			
31	Cacao shell	1	6.1	4.7	0.49	0.5	0.53	0.08	1.92	0.02	1.51			
31	Cacao shell	3	7.9	6.5	1.08	1.11	2.92	0.15	2.14	0	1.82			
31	Cacao shell	10	9.4	8.3	2.24	2.42	8.09	0.23	2.76	0	1.11			
31	Cacao shell	30	10	9.3	4.17	4.47	13.65	0.37	3.64	0	1.18			

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Table S3. Estimated fixed-effects parameters for the model $y = a + b * (1 - \exp^{-BC\%/c})$ (eq. 1)
based on restricted maximum likelihood estimates from nonlinear mixed effects-models for
the response in $pH_{(H_2O)}$, CEC, Ca, Mg and K (cmol_c/kg soil) to BC addition (%). The table
shows biochar specific contrasts (cacao shell (CS), oil palm shell (OP) and rice husk (RH))
for the parameters a, b and c. p-values are based on likelihood ratio tests between selected
models. $p < 0.05$ indicates significant difference between two models. The selected model is
indicated in bold and italic.

For review

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Model	Model nr.	Assumed structure	Parameter estimates (\pm SE)			Test	p-value
			a	b	c		
pH _(H2O) ~ BC%, n= 674	1	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq OP \neq RH c: CS \neq OP \neq RH					
	2	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq (OP=RH) c: CS \neq OP \neq RH	CS/OP/RH: 4.73 \pm 0.085	CS: 4.35 \pm 0.087 OP/RH: 1.00 \pm 0.095	CS: 8.59 \pm 0.641 OP: 19.35 \pm 1.847 RH: 22.49 \pm 2.084	Model 1 vs. 2	0.59
	3	b: CS=OP=RH				Model 2 vs. 3	<0.0001
	4	c: CS \neq (OP=RH)				Model 2 vs. 4	0.048
	5	c: CS=OP=RH				Model 2 vs. 5	<0.0001
CEC ~ BC%, n= 101	1	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq OP \neq RH c: CS \neq OP \neq RH					
	2	b: CS=OP=RH				Model 1 vs. 2	0.4184
	3	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS=OP=RH c: (CS=OP) \neq RH	CS/OP/RH: 5.62 \pm 1.470	CS/OP/RH: 2.51 \pm 0.432	CS/OP: 3.94 \pm 0.940 RH: 11.77 \pm 3.133	Model 3 vs. 2	0.317
Ca ~ BC%, n= 97	1	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq OP \neq RH c: CS \neq OP \neq RH					
	2	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq (OP=RH) c: CS \neq OP \neq RH	CS/OP/RH: 0.50 \pm 0.121	CS: 5.63 \pm 0.366 OP/RH: 1.29 \pm 0.151	CS: 16.10 \pm 3.134 OP: 11.45 \pm 2.905 RH: 62.93 \pm 22.973	Model 1 vs. 2	0.8823
	3	b: CS=OP=RH				Model 2 vs. 3	0.0001
	4	c: CS \neq (OP=RH)				Model 2 vs. 4	<0.0001
	5	c: RH \neq (OP=CS)				Model 2 vs. 5	0.0044
Mg ~ BC%, n= 97	1	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq OP \neq RH c: CS \neq OP \neq RH					
	2	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq (OP=RH) c: CS \neq OP \neq RH	CS/OP/RH: 0.19 \pm 0.028	CS: 5.79 \pm 0.508 OP/RH: 1.82 \pm 0.499	CS: 23.60 \pm 3.674 OP: 21.58 \pm 11.284 RH: 50.71 \pm 20.377	Model 1 vs. 2	0.8479
	3	b: CS=OP=RH				Model 2 vs. 3	<0.0001
	4	c: CS \neq (OP=RH)				Model 2 vs. 4	<0.0001
	5	c: RH \neq (OP=CS)				Model 2 vs. 5	<0.0001
K ~ BC%, n= 90	1	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq OP \neq RH c: CS \neq OP \neq RH					
	2	a: CS=OP=RH b: CS \neq OP \neq RH c: CS \neq (OP=RH)	CS/OP/RH: 0.05 \pm 0.032	CS: 31.32 \pm 4.253 OP: 1.94 \pm 3.565 RH: 3.94 \pm 7.298	CS: 38.67 \pm 6.757 OP/RH: 85.94 \pm 187.342	Model 1 vs. 2	0.0735
	3	b: CS \neq (OP=RH)				Model 2 vs. 3	0.0002
	4	c: CS \neq OP \neq RH				Model 2 vs. 4	0.0132