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FORMS AND ACCUMULATION OF COPPER AND ZINC IN A SANDY TYPIC HAPLUDALF SOIL AFTER LONG-TERM APPLICATION OF PIG SLURRY AND DEEP LITTER⁽¹⁾

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SUMMARY

Successive applications of pig slurry and pig deep litter may lead to an accumulation of copper (Cu) and zinc (Zn) fractions in the soil profile. The objective of this study was to evaluate the Cu and Zn forms and accumulation in a Sandy Typic Hapludalf soil after long-term application of pig slurry and deep litter. In March 2010, eight years after initiating an experiment in Braço do Norte, Santa Catarina (SC), Brazil, on a Sandy Typic Hapludalf soil, soil samples were collected from the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0, 5-10 and 10-15 cm layers in treatments consisting of no manure application (control) and with applications of pig slurry and deep litter at two levels: the single and double rate of N requirement for maize and black oat

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succession. The soil was dried, ground in an agate mortar and analyzed for Cu and Zn contents by 0.01 mol L⁻¹ EDTA and chemically fractionated to determine Cu and Zn. The applications of Pig deep litter and slurry at doses equivalent to 90 kg ha⁻¹ N increased the contents of available Cu and Zn in the surface soil layer, if the double of this dose was applied in pig deep litter or double this dose in pig slurry, Cu and Zn migrated to a depth of 15 cm. Copper is accumulated mainly in the organic and residual fractions, and zinc preferentially in the fraction linked to clay minerals, especially in the surface soil layers.

Index terms: manure, trace elements, chemical fractionation, environmental contamination.

RESUMO: FORMAS E ACÚMULO DE COBRE E ZINCO EM UM ARGISSOLO VERMELHO COM HISTÓRICO DE APLICAÇÃO DE DEJETO LÍQUIDO E CAMA SOBREPOSTA DE SUÍNOS

As aplicações sucessivas de dejetos líquidos e cama sobreposta de suínos podem provocar o acúmulo de frações de cobre (Cu) e zinco (Zn) no perfil do solo. Este trabalho objetivou avaliar as formas e o acúmulo de Cu e Zn em um Argissolo Vermelho com histórico de aplicação de dejetos líquidos e cama sobreposta de suínos. Em março de 2010, após oito anos da instalação de um experimento localizado no município de Braço do Norte, Santa Catarina, SC, sobre um Argissolo Vermelho, foram coletadas amostras de solo nas camadas de 0-2,5; 2,5-5,0; 5-10; e 10-15 cm, em tratamentos sem a aplicação de dejetos e com a aplicação de dejetos líquidos de suínos e de cama sobreposta de suínos em duas doses para suprir uma e duas vezes a necessidade de N para a sucessão milho e aveia preta. O solo foi seco, moído em gral de pedra ágata e submetido à análise dos teores de Cu e Zn por EDTA 0,01 mol L⁻¹ e ao fracionamento químico de Cu e Zn. A aplicação de cama sobreposta de suínos e dejetos líquidos de suínos aumentou os teores de Cu e Zn disponíveis na camada superficial do solo; entretanto, quando se aplicaram a dose (equivalente a 90 kg ha⁻¹ de N) e o dobro da dose de cama sobreposta de suínos e o dobro da dose de dejetos líquidos de suínos o Cu e o Zn migraram até 15 cm de profundidade. O Cu no solo é acumulado especialmente na fração orgânica e residual e o Zn, preferencialmente na fração ligada aos argilominerais, especialmente nas camadas mais superficiais.

Termos de indexação: esterco, elementos-traço, fracionamento químico, contaminação ambiental.

INTRODUCTION

Pig slurry, generated from washing out the stalls with water, and pig deep litter, a residue from raising pigs on a layer of organic material, normally consisting of wood chips or straw from crops, has been used as a source of nutrients for crops in management systems such as no-tillage. The quantity of pig slurry or deep litter to be applied must be determined based on the dry matter percentage, nutrient concentration, and by the efficiency index. This index is related to the total quantity of nutrients contained in the manure which may be transformed from the organic to mineral form after soil application (CQFS-RS/SC, 2004). Nevertheless, due to the large volume of manure produced on pig raising properties, manure applications are carried out repeatedly. Thus, over the years, one expects an increase in the soil contents of nutrient such as nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg) (Ceretta et al., 2010; Guardini et al., 2012), but also in trace elements, particularly of copper (Cu) and zinc

(Zn) (Giroto et al., 2010; Popovic & Jensen, 2012), which are transferred from pig feed to manure.

In the soil, Cu and Zn are retained by physical-chemical bonds, and their lability depends on the ligand, especially on the content of clay minerals, iron (Fe) oxides and hydroxides, aluminum (Al) and manganese (Mn), carbonates, and organic matter (McBride, 1994; Bradl, 2004), but also on the pH value of the soil (Bradl, 2004), cation exchange capacity (CTC) and the quality of organic matter. Therefore, these factors define Cu and Zn adsorption in the soil and are therefore found in different fractions in the soil, since naturally they are adsorbed at different energy levels (Casali et al., 2008; Giroto et al., 2010). However, the increase of Cu and Zn contents in the soil because of frequent pig slurry and deep litter applications may affect the distribution of their fractions in the soil. Normally, Cu and Zn adsorption in the soil occurs primarily in the most avid binding sites and then the remaining trace elements are redistributed in fractions bound with less energy with, consequently, greater availability and mobility. Thus,

frequent manure applications may increase the quantity of soluble and exchangeable Cu and Zn fractions in the soil, creating a risk of potential toxicity for plants, but also of potential water contamination, by transfer in runoff on the soil surface and leaching through the profile (Ceretta et al., 2010).

Various chemical methods are used in the laboratory to estimate the availability of elements that are potentially toxic to plants and microorganisms and their mobility in the soil profile. Most commonly, extractions are made with chemical products in an isolated manner, such as diluted acids, saline solutions (CaCl_2 , MgCl_2 , NH_4OAc) and especially chelating agents, such as diethylene triamine pentaacetic acid (DTPA) and ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA) (Schramel et al., 2000). However, for some soils, the EDTA may be limited to estimate the trace element contents that are potentially toxic for plants or leachable (Chaignon & Hinsinger, 2003). Thus, the data of availability of trace elements such as Cu and Zn, obtained by a single analysis method such as EDTA, may be improved by evaluation with chemical fractionation of Cu and Zn in the soil. This fractionation consists of sequentially applied chemical extractors, removing the Cu and Zn from the most labile to the most stable fractions (Tessier et al., 1979; Girotto et al., 2010). It is thus possible to separate the total quantity of trace element in the soils or sediments into bioavailable (soluble in water and exchangeable), potentially bioavailable (linked to clay minerals, oxides, carbonates, and organic matter) and residual (mineral structure) fractions (Tessier et al., 1979). By this technique, it was observed, especially in soils receiving long-term Cu and Zn application via pig slurry and sewage sludge, that these two trace elements accumulate in the soil; Cu mainly in the organic fraction and Zn in the clay mineral fraction (Girotto et al., 2010). However, studies on soils after long-term application of pig deep litter are scarce in Brazilian literature. The objective of this study was to evaluate Cu and Zn forms and accumulation in a Sandy Typic Hapludalf after long-term application of pig slurry and deep litter.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment was carried out on a swine farm in Braço do Norte, a municipality in the south of the State of Santa Catarina (SC), in southern Brazil (Latitude $28^\circ 14' 20.7''$; Longitude $49^\circ 13' 55.5''$; 300 m asl). The climate in the region is humid sub-tropical (Cfa), with an annual average temperature of 18.7°C and annual average rainfall of 1,471 mm. The soil on the farm was a Sandy Typic Hapludalf (Soil Survey Staff, 1999) (Table 1). In December 2002, in a naturalized pasture area of predominantly *Paspalum notatum*, *Paspalum plicatulum*, *Eryngium ciliatum*, and *Stylosanthes montevidensis*, after long-term,

Table 1. Main physical and chemical characteristics of the soil prior to the experiment, in the 0-10 cm layer

Characteristic	0-10 cm
Clay (g kg^{-1}) ⁽¹⁾	330
Organic matter (g kg^{-1}) ⁽¹⁾	33.0
pH (H_2O) ⁽²⁾	5.1
Al^{3+} ($\text{cmol}_c \text{ dm}^{-3}$) ⁽²⁾	0.8
Mg^{2+} ($\text{cmol}_c \text{ dm}^{-3}$) ⁽²⁾	0.8
Ca^{2+} ($\text{cmol}_c \text{ dm}^{-3}$) ⁽²⁾	3.0
P (mg dm^{-3}) ⁽²⁾	19.0
K (mg dm^{-3}) ⁽²⁾	130
$\text{CEC}_{\text{pH } 7.0}$ ($\text{cmol}_c \text{ dm}^{-3}$) ⁽³⁾	11.9
Al saturation (%) ⁽³⁾	16.13
Base saturation (%) ⁽³⁾	41.7

⁽¹⁾ Embrapa (1997). ⁽²⁾ Tedesco et al. (1995). ⁽³⁾ CQFS-RS/SC (2004).

occasional application of pig slurry to the soil surface, 6 Mg ha^{-1} of limestone was applied (total neutralizing power = 87.5 %) on the soil surface without incorporation to raise water pH to 6.0 (CFS-RS/SC, 1994). In January 2003, the pasture was desiccated and five treatments were established: control (C); annual fertilization with pig slurry rates of 90 and 180 kg ha^{-1} N (PS90 and PS180) and annual fertilization with deep litter rates of 90 and 180 kg ha^{-1} N (DL90 and DL180). The recommended N rate for the pig slurry and deep litter treatments was 90 kg ha^{-1} N year⁻¹ for *Zea mays* and *Avena strigosa* succession in a no-tillage system (CFS-RS/SC, 1994; CQFS-RS/SC, 2004). To calculate manure rates, the total N content of each manure type was used and the residual effect of this material on N availability in the second year was not considered. The dry matter and quantity of PS and DL applied are shown in table 2; however, over the years, the Cu and Zn contents in PS and DL were not determined. The residues were the only nutrient source applied to the system of crop succession over the years. The experiment was set up in a randomized block design with three replications, on experimental plots of 27 m^2 (4.5 x 6.0 m). Pig slurry was applied 32 times during the experimental period from 2002 to 2010 (four applications per year during *Zea mays* and *Avena strigosa* development). The residue was applied to the soil surface four times a year: before sowing corn, 51 and 95 days after sowing corn and 15 days after sowing black oat. In the same period (2002-2010), deep litter was applied eight times on the soil surface, around 15 to 30 days before sowing corn.

Soil collection and copper and zinc analysis in the soil profile

In March 2010, a trench (40 x 40 x 40 cm) was dug in the center of each experimental unit and soil was sampled (layers 0-2.5, 2.5-5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20 and 20-30 cm). This soil was air-dried, ground in an

Table 2. Dry matter and rate of pig slurry (PS) and deep litter (DL) applied during the experiment (2002-2010)

Source	Year	Dry matter	Rate applied
		%	m ³ ha ⁻¹
PS90	2003	2.94	20.0
	2004	3.00	24.4
	2005	1.63	78.5
	2006	2.54	59.5
	2007	2.32	63.3
	2008	2.10	67.0
	2009	0.20	176.0
	2010	3.28	49.5
PS180	2003	2.94	40.6
	2004	3.00	48.8
	2005	1.63	157.0
	2006	2.54	119.0
	2007	2.32	126.6
	2008	2.10	134.0
	2009	0.20	352.0
	2010	3.28	99.0
			Mg ha ⁻¹
DL90	2003	69.20	13.0
	2004	38.10	44.1
	2005	43.80	20.9
	2006	41.10	23.7
	2007	39.00	25.6
	2008	61.00	10.7
	2009	69.90	8.1
	2010	45.00	20.0
DL180	2003	69.20	26.0
	2004	38.10	88.2
	2005	43.80	41.8
	2006	41.10	47.4
	2007	39.00	51.2
	2008	61.00	21.4
	2009	69.90	16.2
	2010	45.00	40

agate mortar and stored in three portions. The first part of the soil was analyzed for physical properties such as clay, sand and silt (Embrapa, 1997), as well as chemical properties, e.g., total organic carbon content (Embrapa, 1997), water pH; exchangeable Ca, Mg and Al; exchangeable K, and available P (Tedesco et al., 1995); these analysis results were published earlier by Guardini et al. (2012). The second sample portion was analyzed for Cu (CuEDTA) and Zn levels (ZnEDTA) (Chaignon et al., 2003). The third soil portion was chemically fractionated and Cu and Zn contents determined (Tessier et al., 1979). In triplicate, 1 g of soil was transferred to 50 mL Falcon polypropylene centrifuge tubes to which the following extractors were applied in sequence: 1) Soluble

fraction: 8 mL of Mill-Q water; 2) Exchangeable fraction: 8 mL of 1.0 mol L⁻¹ MgCl₂ solution at pH 7.0; 3) Fraction bonded to clay minerals: 20 mL of the solution 0.04 mol L⁻¹ NH₂OH·HCl in 25 % (v/v) CH₃COOH at pH 2.0; 4) Fraction linked to organic matter: 3 mL of 0.02 mol L⁻¹ HNO₃ solution + 8 mL of 30 % H₂O₂ adjusted to pH 2.0 with HNO₃; 5) Residual fraction: total digestion with HF and HClO₄. Total Cu and Zn were analyzed in non-fractionated 1 g soil samples (Tessier et al., 1979). After each extraction of the chemical fractionation, the samples were centrifuged at 3,500 rpm for 30 min and an aliquot of the supernatant was filtered and set aside for determination of the Cu and Zn content. Determination of the Cu and Zn contents in the solution was performed by Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry ICP-AES (Perkin Elmer, Optima 2100 DV). Determination of Cu and Zn extracted from other fractions was performed by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry. The glassware of all analyses was cleaned with 10 % HNO₃ and maintained in this acid for at least 24 h; after this period, the recipients were washed three times with deionized water.

Statistical data treatment

The contents of CuEDTA and ZnEDTA as well as the of the forms of the two elements were subjected to analysis of variance by the statistical program SISVAR (Ferreira, 2003), with the model $y_{ijk} = \mu + B_i + W_j + \text{error}_a(i,j) + D_k + \text{error}_b(i,k) + W.D_{jk} = \text{error}_c(i,j,k)$, where μ = general mean; B = treatments (i = 1,2,3,4,5); D = depth (j = 1,2,3,4) and error = experimental error. When significant, the data were compared by the Scott-Knott test ($p < 0.05$).

RESULTS

Available copper and zinc in the soil profile

The natural contents of available Cu extracted by EDTA (CuEDTA) from the soil of the control treatment were 3.7 mg kg⁻¹ in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers, and 3.0 mg kg⁻¹ in the 10-15 cm layer (Table 3). These contents were equal among the layers. On the other hand, the natural contents of available Zn extracted by EDTA (ZnEDTA) were 10.3, 7.4, 4.4 and 2.1 mg kg⁻¹ in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0, 5.0-10 and 10-15 cm layers, respectively (Table 3). In the PS90, PS180, DL90 and DL180 treatments, the greatest CuEDTA and ZnEDTA contents were observed in the surface layer, 0-2.5 cm. Nevertheless, in all layers evaluated, i.e., to a depth of 15 cm, CuEDTA and ZnEDTA contents were highest in DL180, treated with eight applications of pig deep litter between 2002 and 2010. Likewise, in all layers of the DL90 treatment, CuEDTA and ZnEDTA contents were lower than in DL180, but higher than in the control and of PS90 and PS180. The CuEDTA contents obtained in the 0-

Table 3. Copper (CuEDTA) and zinc (ZnEDTA) available in soil layers treated with pig slurry and deep litter applications for eight years

Source	Layer (cm)			
	0-2.5	2.5-5.0	5.0-10	10-15
Available Cu (CuEDTA) (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	3.7 Ae	3.7 Ae	3.7 Ad	3.0 Ad
PS90	14.1 Ad	9.0 Bd	5.5 Cd	2.3 Dd
PS180	29.0 Ac	17.5 Bc	11.3 Cc	6.2 Dc
DL90	54.7 Ab	37.8 Bb	25.1 Cb	10.2 Db
DL180	121.6 Aa	101.4 Ba	49.9 Ca	23.2 Da
Available Zn (ZnEDTA) (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	10.3 Ae	7.4 Ae	4.4 Bd	2.1 Bd
PS90	30.4 Ad	14.3 Bd	6.0 Cd	2.1 Cd
PS180	62.5 Ac	31.8 Bc	18.4 Cc	8.1 Dc
DL90	182.5 Ab	85.5 Bb	47.7 Cb	9.9 Db
DL180	310.9 Aa	222.4 Ba	87.9 Ca	29.3 Da

⁽¹⁾ Mean values followed by the same capital letter in the row (layer) and small letter in the column (source) are not significantly different (Scott-Knott test, $p < 0.05$).

2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm layers of the PS90 and PS180 treatments were lower than those observed in DL90 and DL180, but greater than in the control treatment (Table 3). In the 5.0-10 and 10-15 cm layers, the CuEDTA contents in PS180 continued lower than those observed in the DL90 and DL180 treatment, but exceeded those found in the PS90 and control treatment. In the 5.0-10 and 10-15 cm layers of these two treatments (PS90 and control), the CuEDTA contents were equal. On the other hand, the ZnEDTA contents in the 0-2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm layer in the PS90 and PS180 treatment were lower than in the DL90 and DL180 treatment, but greater than in the control treatment, as observed for the CuEDTA contents. But in the 5.0-10 and 10-15 cm layers, the ZnEDTA content in the PS90 and PS180 treatment was lower than in DL90 and DL180, but the content in PS180 was greater than in PS90 and the control, which were equal in these two layers (5.0-10 and 10-15 cm).

Copper fraction in the soil profile

The copper contents in the soluble fraction in the control treatment were equal in all soil layers (Table 4). Copper contents in the soluble fraction increased to a depth of 10 cm in PS90 and in PS180, DL90 and DL180 the content increased to a depth of 5.0 cm. Nevertheless, the Cu contents were highest in the soluble fraction in all layers in the DL180 treatment, followed by DL90, similarly to the CuEDTA and ZnEDTA contents (Table 3). Soluble Cu contents, in all soil layers of DL90 were higher than in the other treatments (control, PS90 and PS180). On the other hand, in the exchangeable Cu fraction, in PS90, contents were only high in the top soil layer (0-2.5 cm), but in PS180, the Cu contents in the exchangeable fraction increased to a depth of 10 cm

(Table 4). In DL90 and DL180, the Cu contents in the exchangeable fraction were highest to a depth of 5.0 cm. Nevertheless, in all layers, the greatest Cu contents in the exchangeable fraction were observed in DL180, in line with the Cu data in the soluble fraction.

Copper contents in the clay minerals and the organic matter fraction linked were equal in the layers evaluated in the control treatment, which agrees with the data obtained in the soluble Cu fraction (Table 4). In the Cu fraction linked to clay minerals and organic matter, the contents of the element in the PS180, DL90 and DL180 treatment were highest in the surface layer (0-2.5 cm). However, in the Cu fraction linked to organic matter in the PS90 treatment, the greatest contents of the element were observed to a depth of 5 cm. In the Cu fraction linked to clay minerals and the organic matter, the greatest contents of the trace element, in all layers, were observed in the soil of DL180, which agrees with the results of soluble and exchangeable Cu (Table 4), followed by the contents observed in DL90. The Cu contents linked to clay minerals and the organic fraction, especially down to the 2.5-5 cm layer in the PS90 and PS180 treatment, were less than those observed in DL90 and DL180, but were greater than those observed in the control treatment.

The greatest Cu contents in the residual fraction, as well as in the total fraction, in the soil of the PS90, DL90 and DL180 treatments were observed in the 0-2.5 cm layer (Table 4). However, in the residual fraction of PS180, the greatest Cu contents were observed to a depth of 5 cm. Nevertheless, in all layers, the Cu contents in the residual and total fraction were highest in DL180. Copper contents in the residual and total fraction in DL90 were lower than in DL180,

Table 4. Forms of copper in soil layers treated with pig slurry and deep litter applications for eight years

Source	Layer (cm)			
	0-2.5	2.5-5.0	5.0-10	10-15
Soluble (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	0.10 Ad ⁽¹⁾	0.11 Ad	0.10 Ad	0.13 Ac
PS90	0.16 Ad	0.17 Ad	0.13 Ad	0.07 Bd
PS180	0.53 Ac	0.41 Ac	0.29 Bc	0.18 Cc
DL90	0.70 Ab	0.64 Ab	0.48 Bb	0.36 Cb
DL180	1.32 Aa	1.66 Aa	0.92 Ba	0.66 Ca
Exchangeable (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	0.14 Be	0.23 Ad	0.28 Ac	0.28 Ab
PS90	0.68 Ab	0.40 Bc	0.25 Cc	0.11 Dc
PS180	0.39 Ad	0.25 Ad	0.44 Ab	0.10 Cc
DL90	0.57 Ac	0.52 Ab	0.33 Bc	0.14 Cc
DL180	0.92 Aa	1.06 Aa	0.69 Ba	0.37 Ca
Cu-minerals (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	1.37 Ae	1.26 Ae	1.15 Ae	1.15 Ad
PS90	4.35 Ad	3.44 Ad	2.32 Bd	1.19 Cd
PS180	11.90 Ac	7.84 Bc	5.06 Cc	2.86 Dc
DL90	17.83 Ab	16.29 Bb	11.72 Cb	4.84 Db
DL180	40.24 Aa	37.98 Ba	23.53 Ca	12.72 Da
Cu-organic matter (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	2.74 Ae	2.58 Ae	2.34 Ad	1.30 Ac
PS90	9.64 Ad	4.42 Bd	1.81 Cd	1.00 Cc
PS180	17.58 Ac	9.80 Bc	4.52 Cc	2.50 Dc
DL90	36.67 Ab	22.86 Bb	12.46 Cb	3.51 Db
DL180	79.94 Aa	62.13 Ba	22.68 Ca	8.82 Da
Residue (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	5.99 Be	7.58 Ae	7.58 Ad	5.65 Bc
PS90	11.24 Ad	8.49 Bd	7.11 Cd	4.91 Dc
PS180	14.38 Ac	12.90 Ac	9.94 Bc	6.98 Cc
DL90	37.28 Ab	28.30 Bb	20.78 Cb	11.85 Db
DL180	65.85 Aa	54.24 Ba	25.10 Ca	14.42 Da
Sum fractions (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	10.34 Ae	11.77 Ae	11.45 Ad	8.51 Ad
PS90	26.08 Ad	16.91 Bd	11.62 Cd	7.28 Dd
PS180	44.79 Ac	31.19 Bc	20.25 Cc	12.61 Dc
DL90	93.05 Ab	68.61 Bb	45.77 Cb	20.70 Db
DL180	188.28 Aa	157.08 Ba	72.92 Ca	37.00 Da
Total (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	8.40 Ae	8.95 Ae	8.40 Ad	8.40 Ad
PS90	26.81 Ad	19.82 Bd	12.30 Cd	6.99 Dd
PS180	45.49 Ac	31.36 Bc	22.31 Cc	13.91 Dc
DL90	83.53 Ab	56.90 Bb	41.30 Cb	19.86 Db
DL180	185.15 Aa	157.91 Ba	69.68 Ca	36.18 Da

⁽¹⁾ Mean values followed by the same capital letter in the row (layer) and small letter in the column (source) are not significantly different (Scott-Knott test, p<0.05).

but greater than in PS90 and PS180. Copper contents in the residual and total fraction in PS180 were higher than in PS90, but both were higher than in the control treatment.

Thus, according to the results presented (Table 4) and based on the data of Figure 1, it may be observed that in the soil of the control treatment, at all depths, the greatest percentage of Cu was found linked to the residual fraction, followed by the fraction linked to organic matter and the fraction linked to clay minerals, with the lowest percentages linked to the exchangeable fraction and in solution (Figure 1). Nevertheless, after the application of pig slurry (PS90 and PS180) and deep litter (DL90 and DL180), the percentage of Cu in the residual fraction diminished in comparison with the control treatment, especially in the two surface layers (0-2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm). Copper, particularly in these two layers, was also linked to the residual fraction, but increased especially the percentage linked to the organic fraction, although there was also an increase in the percentage linked to clay minerals, which was lower than the percentage linked to the organic fraction. However, in the deepest soil layers, 5.0-10 and 10-15 cm, in all treatments, the highest percentage of Cu was observed in the residual fraction, but especially in DL180, DL90 and PS180. Percentage of copper in the residual fraction

decreased in comparison to the control treatment because the percentage of the trace element linked to organic matter and to the clay minerals increased. In the 5.0-10 cm layer in the DL180, DL90 and PS180 treatments, the percentages of Cu linked to organic matter were similar to the percentage of Cu linked to clay minerals, but in the 10-15 cm layer, the greatest percentage of Cu was found in the residual fraction, followed by the fraction linked to clay minerals and the organic fraction.

Zinc fraction in the soil profile

Zinc contents in the soluble and exchangeable fraction in the soil of the control treatment were equal in all layers evaluated (Table 5). In the PS90 treatment, the Zn content in the soluble fraction was equal in the layers, in agreement with the results obtained in the control treatment. However, in PS90 and DL90, the greatest Zn contents in the soluble and exchangeable fraction were observed in the surface layer (0-2.5 cm). On the other hand, in DL180, the highest soluble Zn contents were observed to a depth of 5 cm, but in the exchangeable fraction, up to 2.5 cm, which agrees with the results obtained in the PS90, PS180 and DL90 treatment. Nevertheless, especially in the 0-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers, the soluble Zn contents were highest in DL180, which agrees with

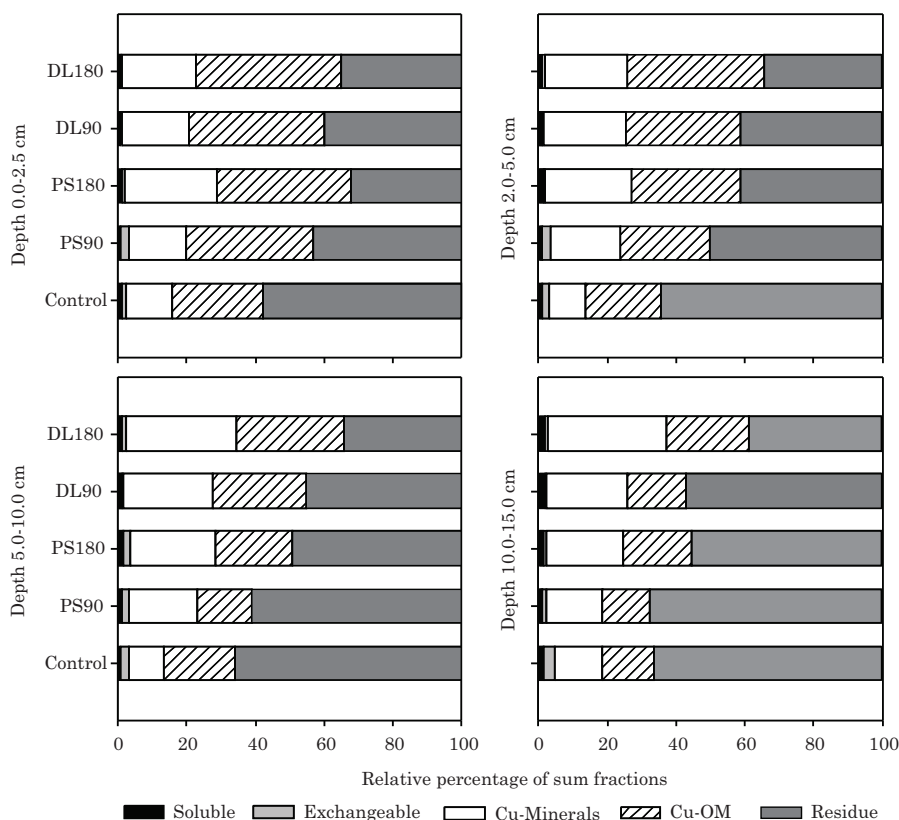


Figure 1. Relative percentage of copper in each fraction obtained in sequential extraction in relation to the sum of the quantity extracted in soil layers treated with pig slurry and deep litter applications for eight years.

Table 5. Forms of zinc in soil layers treated with pig slurry and deep litter applications for eight years

Source	Layer (cm)			
	0-2.5	2.5-5.0	5.0-10	10-15
Soluble (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	0.10 Ab ⁽¹⁾	0.09 Ac	0.11 Ac	0.19 Aa
PS90	0.13 Ab	0.12 Ac	0.11 Ac	0.09 Ab
PS180	0.41 Aa	0.34 Bb	0.30 Cb	0.23 Da
DL90	0.44 Aa	0.34 Bb	0.23 Cb	0.23 Ca
DL180	0.41 Aa	0.48 Aa	0.36 Ba	0.22 Ca
Exchangeable (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	1.80 Ad	1.54 Ad	1.50 Ad	1.16 Ad
PS90	5.33 Ac	3.01 Bc	1.90 Cc	0.87 Dc
PS180	20.03 Ab	13.64 Bb	8.24 Cb	4.93 Db
DL90	23.66 Aa	18.34 Ba	12.82 Ca	4.42 Db
DL180	17.95 Aa	15.88 Ba	10.88 Ca	6.05 Da
Zn-minerals (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	14.86 Ae	13.27 Ae	9.22 Bd	5.47 Bc
PS90	36.36 Ad	20.81 Bd	11.07 Cd	4.91 Dc
PS180	54.04 Ac	29.13 Bc	17.98 Cc	8.68 Dc
DL90	160.06 Ab	84.61 Bb	48.62 Cb	13.25 Db
DL180	270.24 Aa	204.72 Ba	81.91 Ca	32.34 Da
Zn-organic matter (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	0.88 Ad	0.78 Ac	0.54 Ac	0.12 Bb
PS90	1.85 Ac	1.15 Bc	0.39 Cc	0.06 Cb
PS180	1.90 Ac	1.27 Bc	0.73 Cc	0.49 Ca
DL90	5.86 Ab	3.05 Bb	1.74 Cb	0.63 Da
DL180	14.45 Aa	9.99 Ba	2.43 Ca	0.85 Da
Residue (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	24.99 Ab	28.21 Ab	30.24 Aa	27.00 Ab
PS90	29.90 Ab	26.27 Ab	31.25 Aa	28.41 Ab
PS180	31.64 Ab	28.26 Ab	29.61 Aa	23.23 Ab
DL90	47.47 Aa	33.31 Ba	35.97 Ba	35.02 Ba
DL180	48.03 Aa	43.15 Aa	30.18 Ba	38.76 Aa
Sum fractions (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	42.63 Ae	43.90 Ad	41.61 Ad	33.94 Ac
PS90	73.58 Ad	51.36 Bd	44.73 Bd	34.34 Cc
PS180	108.05 Ac	72.65 Bc	56.86 Cc	37.56 Dc
DL90	237.48 Ab	139.66 Bb	99.39 Cb	53.56 Db
DL180	351.08 Aa	274.22 Ba	125.76 Ca	78.22 Da
Total (mg kg ⁻¹)				
Control	43.31 Ae	34.77 Ad	35.67 Ac	35.40 Aa
PS90	70.86 Ad	55.67 Ac	41.29 Bc	31.53 Ba
PS180	106.86 Ac	64.64 Bc	53.38 Bc	39.15 Ca
DL90	214.95 Ab	124.54 Bb	92.19 Cb	45.68 Da
DL180	378.02 Aa	291.87 Ba	120.26 Ca	54.86 Da

⁽¹⁾ Mean values followed by the same capital letter in the row (layer) and small letter in the column (source) are not significantly different (Scott-Knott test, p<0.05).

the Cu data (Table 4). In the 0-2.5 and 10-15 cm layers, the soluble Zn contents were highest in the PS180, DL90 and DL180. It is worth emphasizing that in the 2.5-5.0 and 5-10 cm layers, the soluble Zn contents in PS180 and DL90 were equal, but lower than in DL180 and higher than in the PS90 and control treatments. In the exchangeable fraction, Zn contents in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers were highest in the DL90 and DL180 treatment. But in PS180, the Zn contents in the exchangeable fraction, especially in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers were lower than in DL90 and DL180, but higher than in PS90. In all layers, Zn contents in the exchangeable fraction in PS90, PS180, DL90 and DL180 were higher than in the control treatment.

The highest Zn contents linked to the clay mineral and organic matter fraction in the soil of the PS90, PS180, DL90 and DL180 treatments were detected in the surface soil layer (0-2.5 cm) (Table 5). The Zn contents in the fraction linked to clay minerals in all layers were highest in DL180, which agrees with the contents determined in the fraction linked to organic matter, but in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers. The Zn contents in the fraction linked to clay minerals and organic matter in DL90, with the exception of the 5.0-10 cm layer in the fraction linked to clay minerals, were lower than in DL180, but higher than in PS90 and PS180. In these two treatments and in the 0-2.5 and 5.0-10 layers, the Zn contents in the fraction linked to clay minerals were greater than in the control treatment, which was repeated in the Zn fraction linked to the organic fraction, but only in the 0-2.5 cm layer.

Zinc contents in the residual fraction were equal in all soil layers of the control, PS90 and PS180 treatments (Table 5). However, in DL90, the Zn contents in the residual fraction were highest in the 0-2.5 cm layer; and in the DL180 treatment, highest contents were observed to a depth of 5.0 cm. The highest Zn contents in the residual fraction in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 10-15 cm layers were found in DL90 and DL180, but in the PS90 and PS180 treatments, the Zn contents in the residual fraction were equal to the control. On the other hand, the Zn contents in the total fraction were highest to a depth of 5 cm in PS90 and to 2.5 cm deep in the PS180, DL90 and DL180 treatments (Table 5). However, Cu contents in the total fraction were highest in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers in DL180. The contents in the same fraction and layers observed in DL90 were lower than in DL180, but higher than in PS90 and PS180. Copper contents in the total fraction observed in these two treatments in the 0-2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm layers were higher than in the control treatment. On the other hand, in the 10-15 cm layer, the Zn contents in the total fraction were equal among the treatments.

These data, but especially those listed in figure 2, show that in all layers of the control treatment, the greatest percentage of Zn was found in the residual fraction, followed by the clay minerals and

exchangeable fraction, whereas a small quantity of the trace element was observed in the solution (Figure 2). Nevertheless, with the application of pig slurry (PS90 and PS180) and deep litter (DL90 and DL180), the percentage of Zn in the residual fraction diminished in comparison with the control treatment, particularly in the three surface soil layers (0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm). In these three layers, Zn was also linked to the residual fraction, but especially the percentage linked to clay minerals increased, followed by the exchangeable fraction, with a very small increase in the organic fraction. In the 10-15 cm layer, the residual Zn fraction, especially in DL180, DL90 and PS180, decreased in comparison with the control treatment because Zn increased in the fraction linked to clay minerals and exchangeable fraction. However, Zn in the fraction linked to clay minerals increased most markedly in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers in DL180 and DL90, followed by PS180.

DISCUSSION

Extraction by EDTA is frequently used to evaluate Cu and Zn availability to plants (Brun et al., 2001). The highest Cu and Zn contents extracted by EDTA (CuEDTA and ZnEDTA) in the surface layer (0-2.5 cm) (Table 3) of the soils treated with pig slurry (PS90 and PS180) and deep litter (DL90 and DL180) may be attributed to application of the organic sources of nutrients throughout the period from 2002 to 2010 on the soil surface, without incorporation, in no-tillage management. This fact is associated specifically to the binding of the trace elements to functional groups of different constituents of the mineral and organic phase (Schramel et al., 2000). However, the Cu and Zn migrated to a depth of 15 cm in the soil profile of PS180, DL90 and DL180 (Table 3), but quantities were highest in the soil of DL180, probably because deep litter has higher contents of nutrients, e.g., Cu and Zn, and of dry matter (Table 2), than pig slurry. Migration of the trace elements may occur through water flow in the soil mass, through turbulent water flow in macropores and through cracks in the soil or even through bioturbation (Giroto et al., 2010). For Zn, solute transport in the soil mass appears to be the most important mechanism since a fraction of the element tends to remain in the soil solution in free form or in soluble ion pairs (Citeau et al., 2003), but also in the exchangeable fraction (Table 5, Figure 2). On the other hand, the free Cu content in the soil solution is very low due to its high reactivity with the functional groups, above all with those of the soil organic matter (Croué et al., 2003) (Table 4, Figure 1). Thus, its migration in the soil profile preferentially occurs in the colloidal form and, therefore, turbulent flow and bioturbation assume great importance (Citeau et al., 2003; Giroto et al., 2010). In addition, part of the Cu and Zn may bond to organic acids of low

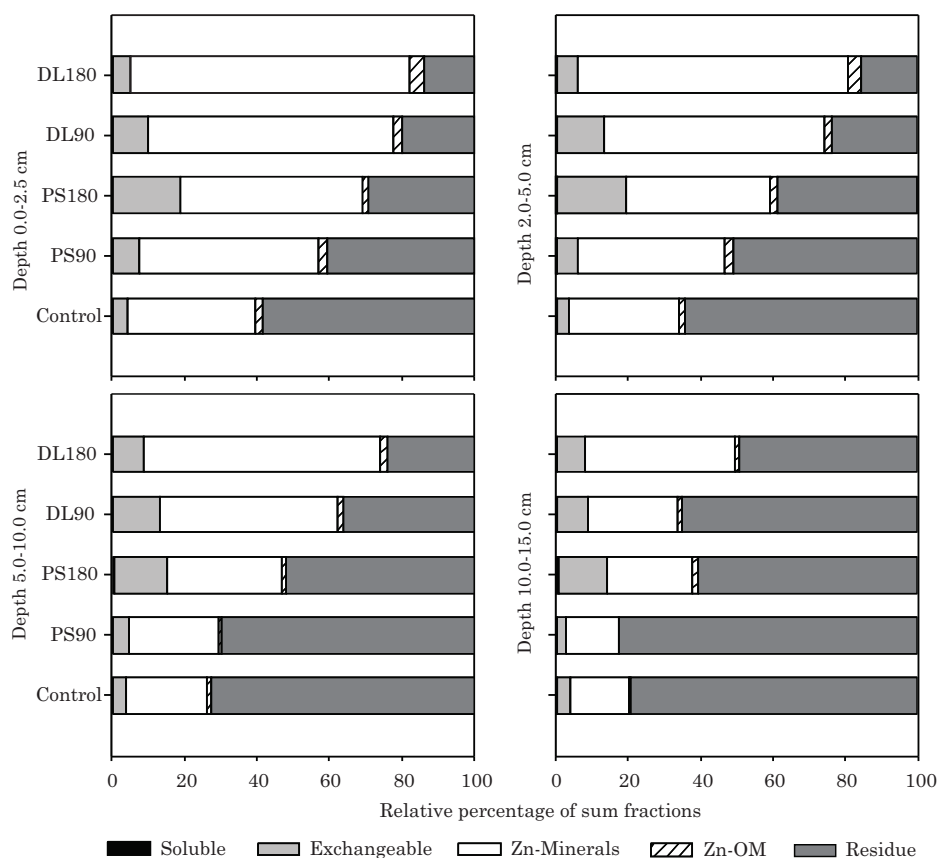


Figure 2. Relative percentage of zinc in each fraction obtained in sequential extraction in relation to the sum of the quantity extracted in soil layers subjected to applications of pig slurry and deep litter for eight years.

molecular weight, increasing mobility in the soil profile (Wang & Mulligan, 2012). The reason could be the formation of metal complexes with organic compounds of low molecular weight changes the balance between the metals in the labile form in the solid phase and in the soil solution and can therefore also increase the release of trace elements from the solid phase and, consequently, increase their mobility in the soil (Giroto et al., 2010). Finally, mobility of Cu and Zn may have been facilitated by the sandy texture, low organic matter contents in the soil profile and the presence of clay mineral of the 1:1 type (kaolinite) in this study (Guardini et al., 2012), reducing the adsorption capacity of the two trace elements. Moreover, a reduction of the water pH in the deepest soil levels (Guardini et al., 2012) may also have contributed to prevent the formation of inner-sphere complexes between Cu and Zn and functional groups of the organic and mineral fractions, increasing their availability and, consequently, their mobility in the soil (Giroto et al., 2010).

Migration of the Cu and Zn in the soil profile may lead to contamination of underground water, especially under continuous applications of pig slurry and deep litter, as in the PS180, DL90 and DL180 treatments. Moreover, the high trace element contents in the soil,

as diagnosed by CuEDTA, may lead to toxicity for plants. For example, Giroto et al. (2010) reported that a content of available Cu above 67.2 mg kg^{-1} extracted by EDTA from a Sandy Typic Hapludalf soil, with chemical properties similar to the soil of this study, caused physiological and biochemical stress in black oat plants 40 days after sowing, as reflected by a lower dry matter production of the above ground part. This must be avoided, since the cycling of nutrients through the cover plant species would be decreased, as well as the quantity of residues deposited on the soil surface, which are responsible for dissipating the kinetic energy of raindrops, especially in conservation systems, such as the no-till system adopted in this study.

The soluble and exchangeable Cu and Zn fractions are considered available in the soil (Tessier et al., 1979). The application of pig slurry and deep litter on the soil surface from 2002 to 2010 increased the Cu and especially the Zn contents in the soluble fractions, but to a greater extent in exchangeable fractions, somewhat more pronounced in the surface soil layers, as in the 0-2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm layers (Tables 4 and 5, Figures 1 and 2). Nevertheless, contents were highest in the soil treated with pig deep litter throughout the years, especially in DL180 (Table 4 and 5). The liquid

pig manure is rapidly decomposed and the released Cu and Zn increase the exchangeable fractions, quickly reaching equilibrium with the soil solution (Sposito, 1989). But the increase of the fractions of the elements in the soil is proportional to the quantity applied through manure (Giroto et al., 2010), which may be one of the explanations for the greater quantity of Cu and Zn in the solution and in the exchangeable fraction in DL180. It is worth noting that the Cu and the Zn in solution move as result of and in the direction of water flow, and may, for example, be transported to the root surface of plants where they can be absorbed (Marschner, 1995). When the concentrations of trace elements in the solution are considered adequate, they supply the plant requirements for the elements, but when the concentrations are high or even increasing over time, (for example, not only, but especially in DL180), and if the deep litter applications are continued, the trace elements, in this case Cu and Zn, may reach toxic levels for plants as well as microorganisms (Ferreira et al., 2012). In addition, Cu and Zn in the solution may be transported by the soil surface runoff solution since management is a no-tillage system, which may raise the concentration of the two trace elements in surface waters adjacent to the area of application of organic residue sources, which can even make them inappropriate for consumption after some years (Ceretta et al., 2010). Furthermore, the Cu and the Zn in the solution may migrate in the soil profile, as shown by the CuEDTA and ZnEDTA data (Table 3).

The Cu contents in the solution increased, especially in the soil surface, down to the 2.5-5.0 cm layer in the treatments PS180 and DL90 and, especially, in DL180. The Zn contents in the solution increased most markedly in the 0-2.5 cm layer in the PS90 and DL90 treatments, as well as down to the 2.5-5.0 cm layer of DL180; the contents were lower than in the other fractions (fraction bonded to the clay minerals, organic matter and to the residual and total fractions). In addition, these contents in the soil solution, both for Cu and Zn, are similar to those found by Giroto et al. (2010) in the upper layers (0-4 cm) of a Sandy Typic Hapludalf soil treated with 17 successive applications of 80 m³ of pig slurry in six years. The same authors report similar exchangeable Cu and Zn contents, in the same surface layers, near those obtained in this study.

Copper, especially in the surface layers (0-2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm) of soil treated with pig slurry and deep litter and also in slightly deeper layers (5.0-10 cm), especially in the DL180, DL90 and PS180 treatments, was more accumulated in the organic fraction of the soil (Table 5 and Figure 1), but also in the fraction linked to clay minerals, reducing its accumulation in the residual fraction. The reason was the electron configuration [Ar]3d¹⁰4s¹ of Cu and its high reactivity with the functional groups containing S and N, in addition to the carboxylic and phenolic acids of soil organic matter (Croué et al., 2003; Casali et al., 2008).

Thus, the phenomenon of Cu adsorption to the functional groups of organic matter appears to be predominant (Giroto et al., 2010) over the fraction linked to clay minerals, especially because in the pig slurry (PS90 and PS180) and deep litter treatments (DL90 and DL180), there was an increase in total organic carbon content in the surface soil layers through the years, but particularly in DL180 (Guardini et al., 2012). Nevertheless, even with the increase of total organic carbon contents over the years, one expects saturation of the organic matter functional groups (Croué et al., 2003) and thus part of the Cu may be accumulated in the clay minerals. This could be an explanation for the increase in Cu content in the fraction linked to clay minerals also. However, the 1:1 type clay mineral (kaolinite) was predominant in the soil of this study (Guardini et al., 2012), translating to a low capacity for adsorption of trace elements (McBride, 1994) and so the distribution of Cu can be expected in other more available forms. In contrast to the Cu contents found in this study, but similar to contents in Cu-poor soils (Giroto et al., 2010), the Zn, in the control originally accumulated in the residual fraction, when treated with pig slurry and deep litter, increased its percentage in the fraction linked to clay minerals and exchangeable fraction, particularly in the 0-2.5, 2.5-5.0 and 5.0-10 cm layers of DL180, DL90 and PS180. This result is consistent with the electron configuration of this trace element, which is different from Cu and is distributed preferentially in the mineral and exchangeable fractions in the soil (Giroto et al., 2010). These results are similar to those obtained by Giroto et al. (2010), who obtained a percentage of 70 % of the sum of the Zn fractions linked to clay minerals in the surface layer (0-6 cm) in a Sandy Typic Hapludalf soil after 18 long-term applications of the pig slurry rate of 80 m³ ha⁻¹. Regardless of the fractionation arrangement used, the residual fraction represents the most stable or non-available fractions of Cu and Zn (Tessier et al., 1979). In the surface layers (0-2.5 and 2.5-5.0 cm) of pig slurry (PS90 and PS180) as well as deep litter treatments (DL90 and DL180), the residual Cu fractions were similar to the fractions found in the soil organic matter (Table 4 and Figure 1). However, in the deeper layers (5.0-10 and 10-15 cm), the level of Cu in the residual fraction was greater than in the organic fraction (Figure 1). The capacity of inactivating Cu in the residual fraction, especially in the surface soil layers, may be attributed to the higher levels of recalcitrant organic carbon, whereas in the deeper layers, to the greater clay content, amorphous inorganic materials and clay minerals, as well as reaction time (Tessier et al., 1979; Fernández-Calviño et al., 2009). On the other hand, highest Zn contents in the residual fraction were found in the deeper layers (5.0-10.0 and 10.0-15 cm) and especially in the pig slurry treatments (PS90 and PS180), which may be attributed to higher contents of clay, amorphous inorganic materials and clay minerals (Fernández-Calviño et al., 2009).

CONCLUSIONS

1. The applications of pig deep litter and slurry at doses equivalent to 90 kg ha⁻¹ N increased the contents of available Cu and Zn in the surface soil layer, if the double of this dose was applied in pig deep litter or double this dose in pig slurry, Cu and Zn migrated to a depth of 15 cm.

2. Copper is accumulated mainly in the organic and residual fractions, and zinc preferentially in the clay mineral fraction, especially in the surface soil layers.

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