LBA

Experimento de Grande Escala da Biosfera-Atmosfera na Amazônia

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Soil-Atmosphere Flux of Carbon Dioxide in Undisturbed Forest at the FLONA Tapajos, Brazil

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In forests, the respiration of roots and soil dwelling organisms accounts for a large part of ecosystem respiration. We installed an automated chamber system for measurement of the soil-atmosphere flux of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the Tapajos National Forest, Para, Brazil in April 2001. This is a mature forest site that is relatively undisturbed. Soils are clay textured oxisols. Mean annual temperature is 25°C and mean annual precipitation is 2000 mm of rain per year. A set of 18 aluminum chambers were installed in a 0.5 ha area close to the flux tower at the km 67 LBA site. Green surface was excluded. Eight of these chambers are closed individually and sampled for approximately 21 minutes about 5 times per day (closed 7% of the day). The other 10 chambers are sampled individually approximately once per day (closed 1.5% of the day). We measured CO₂ concentration with an IRGA (Campbell 6262). The IRGA response for zero and span gases was measured at 5 hour intervals. We found that during the late wet season (April - June 2001) CO₂ fluxes for the 8 frequently sampled chambers averaged about 3.2 umol CO₂ m⁻² s⁻¹. Fluxes decreased slowly from the end of the wet season in June through the end of the dry season (November-December) when CO₂ flux averaged only about 1.8 μ mol CO₂ m⁻² s⁻¹. With the onset of the rain in January 2002, fluxes increased rapidly to approximately 3.0 μ mol CO₂ m⁻² s⁻¹