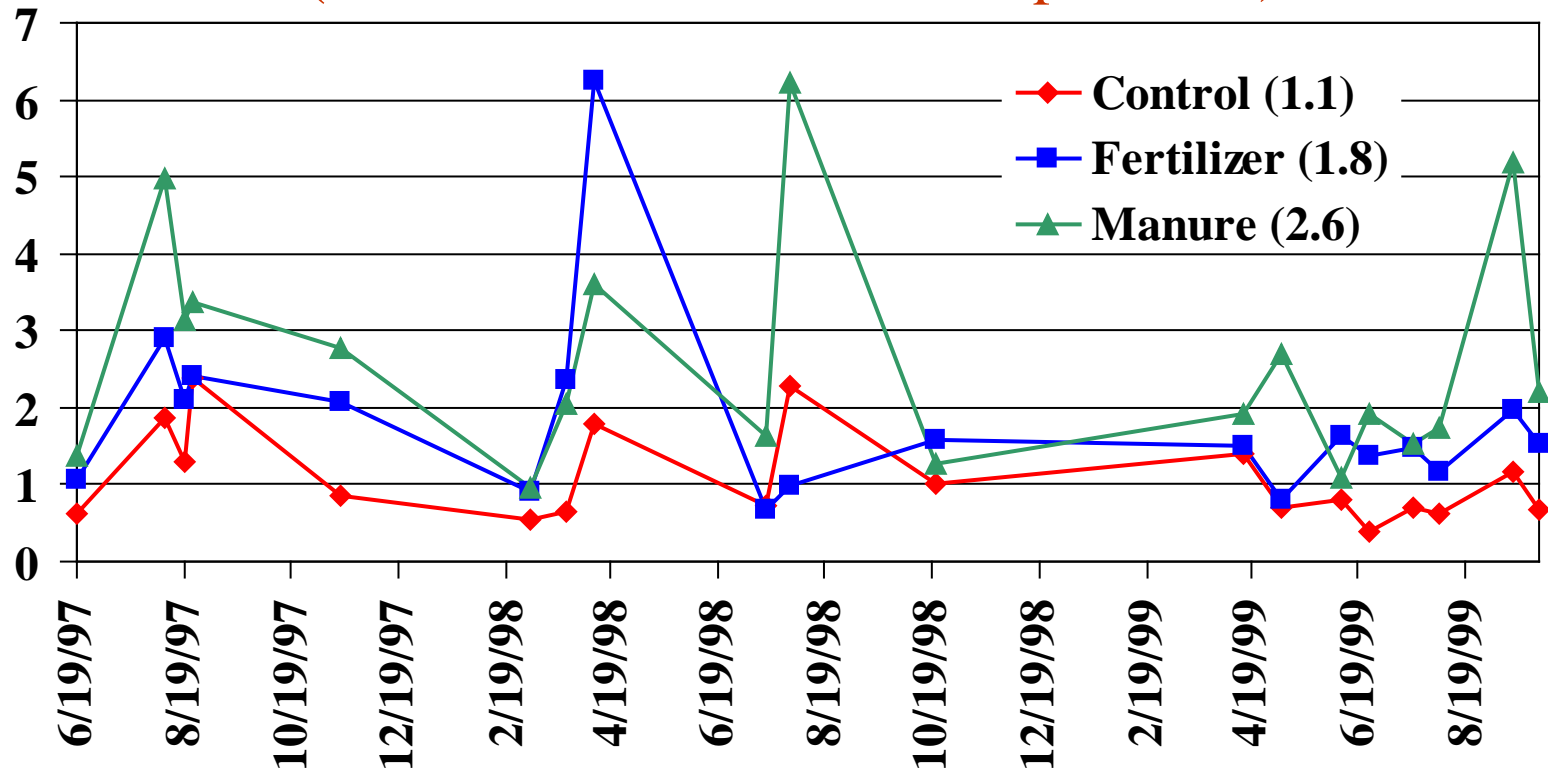


Fungal Ratios

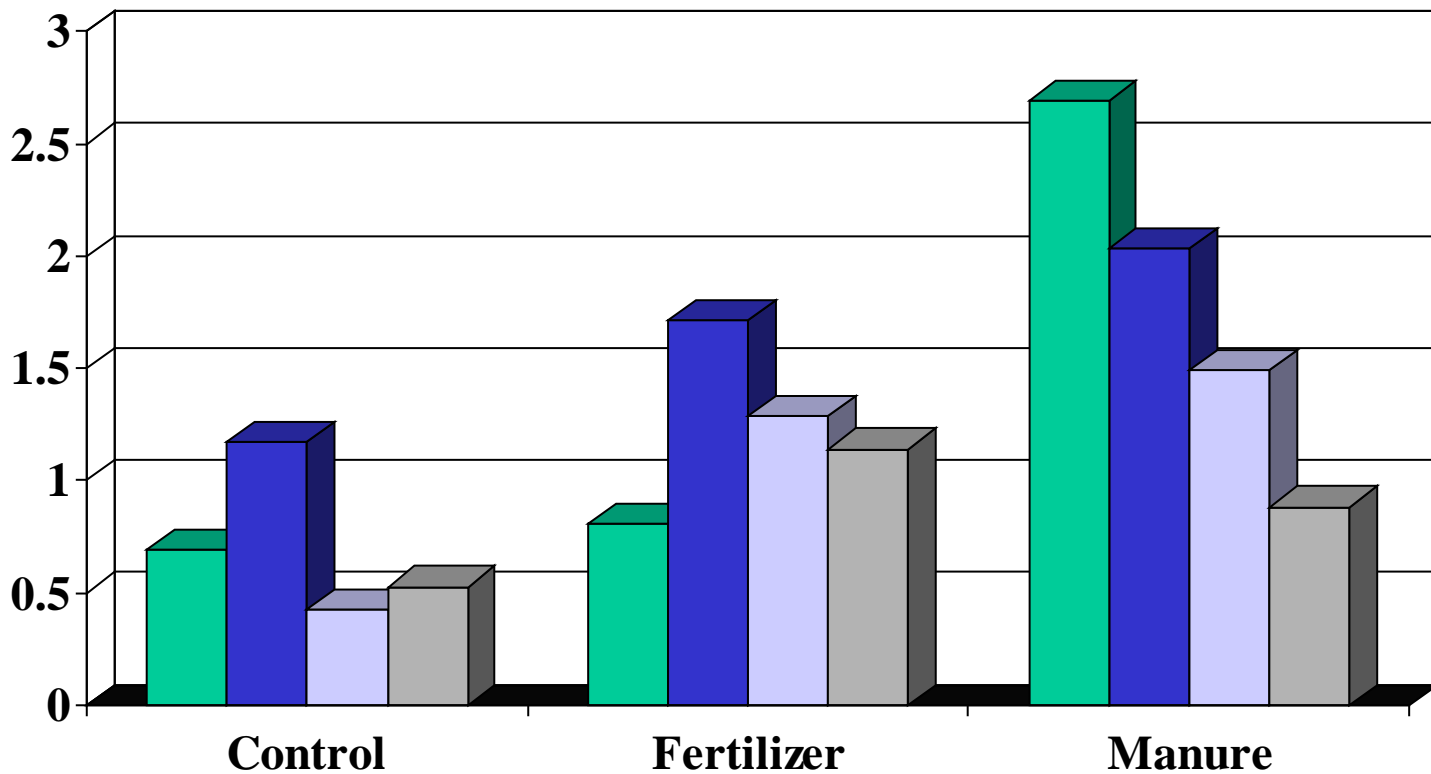
Tom Forge
Agriculture Canada,
Agassiz

Bacterial:Fungal biomass ratio: temporal variation of individual plots

(Order was correct 9/19 sample dates)



Bacterial:Fungal biomass ratio variation among replicates (spatial), May 6, 1999



Utility of soil food web analyses for assessing soil quality/health or crop growth

- Useful for studying microbial turnover and mineralization
 - other ecosystem-level processes?
- Trophic group/biomass data are irrelevant to functions performed by specific organisms
- Spatio-temporal variation + non-universal definitions & analytical procedures:
 - = sensible data only in context of replicated experiments (i.e. not useful for routine testing)