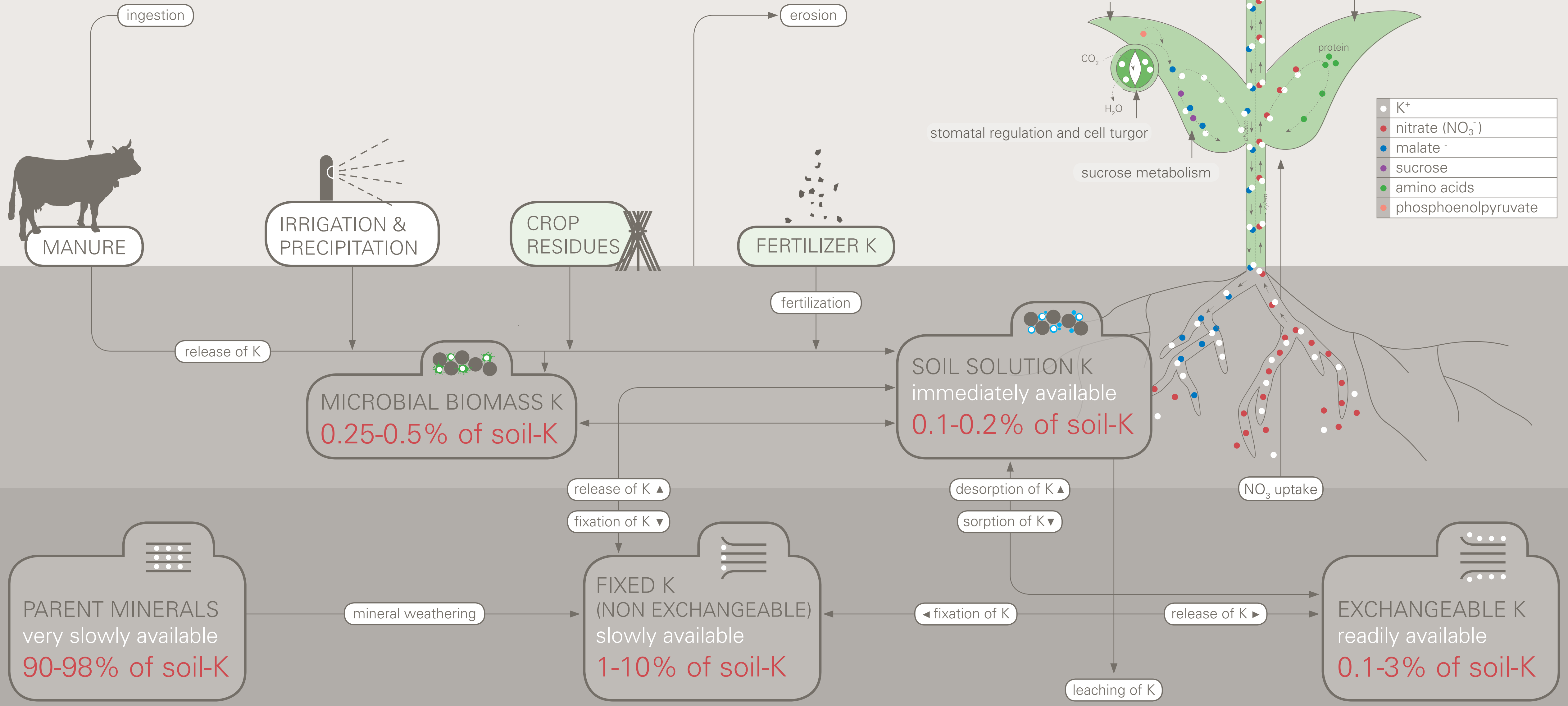


# Potassium in soil and plant systems

Potassium (K) is one of the key elements for life on earth. It is required in large quantities by all plants and animals. The harvesting of plant materials removes potassium from the soil. As the global population and food production has grown, potassium has to be replaced to maintain the fertility and productive capacity of the soil. This replenishment plays a vital role in supporting sustainable global food security.



Sources: Syers, 1998; Krauss, 2003; Pettigrew, 2008; Roemheld and Kirkby, 2010; IPI, 2013; Kirkby, 2013.