PEATLAND USER MANUAL

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1. Running PEATLAND.

PEATLAND can be invoked from the command line at a Unix/Linux shell or DOS command window in Windows by typing

peatland

followed by one or more of the following command line options, separated by spaces:

| option | result | default |
|---------------|--|-------------------------|
| ? | lists the available command line options | |
| V | verbose mode, displays the progress of the model run on the shell window | |
| dir=directory | sets working directory for input and output files | PEATLAND home directory |
| par=filename | name of input parameter file to be used | params |
| out=filename | output file prefix, will be added to the names of the output files | |

The verbose mode can come in handy to check if all parameters for the model have been defined correctly in the parameter files.

Model parameter input is done by entering parameter values in the parameter files. The parameter files consist of ASCII text files which can be edited by any ASCII text editor (do not use word processors). An extensive description is given below.

PEATLAND does not contain sophisticated parameter input windows or output plotting utilities. However, the simple command line mode allows embedding of the program in scripts (e.g. shell scripts or Perl scripts) which modify parameter files automatically and link the output to any plotting software. The author has good experience with XmGrace, which is a verstile plotting utility. Moreover, using scripts multiple model runs can easily be generated.

2. Model output files

The output files comprise a few files that are produced always, and optional output files that can be specified in the run parameter file. The filenames can be prefixed by a file name prefix to be specified on the command line. The files are simple ASCII row and column files that can be read by every plotting or math package.

All files contain the model output for a variable for each time step; the rows represent the data for each time step. In most files, the first column is always the time in days after the start of the model run (midpoint of the time step); however, check with the table below.

| name | contents | optio -nal | columns |
|-------------------|--|---------------|---|
| methanefluxes.dat | CH4 fluxes divided over three pathways - diffusion, ebullition, plant flux and total flux | no | 1 time (days) 2 ebullition flux (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 3 plant flux (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 4 diffusive flux (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 5 total flux (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) |
| CO2reservoirs.dat | CO ₂ fluxes from each soil organic matter reservoir | no | 1 time (days) 2 flux from peat (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 3 flux from liquid manure (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 4 flux from manure solids (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 5 flux from root exudates (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 6 flux from litter and roots (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 7 flux from microbial biomass (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 8 flux from humic matter (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 9 flux from methane oxidation (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 10 flux from surface litter 11 total CO ₂ flux (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) |
| CO21ayers.dat | CO ₂ fluxes from each model soil layer | no | 1 time (days); $2-16$ total CO_2 flux from each layer starting at the top (mg.m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) The topmost layer includes CO_2 from CH_4 oxidation and litter decomposition at the surface |
| biomass.dat | Total plant biomass (excl. microbial biomass), gross primary production, plant respiration, and net total CO ₂ flux | no | 1 time (days) 2 total plant biomass including roots (kg C.m ⁻²) 3 primary production = net photosynthesis or gross photosynthesis – plant respiration (mg CO ₂ .m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 4 plant respiration (mg CO ₂ .m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 5 net CO ₂ flux (soil respiration – primary production = Net Ecosystem Exchange) (mg CO ₂ .m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 6 soil respiration + plant respiration = ecosystem respiration (mg CO ₂ .m ⁻² .hr ⁻¹) 7 litter mass stock (kg C.m ⁻²) 8 biomass removed by harvest and grazing (kg C.m ⁻² per timestep) 9 manure carbon added (kg C.m ⁻² per timestep) 10 LAI (m ² .m ⁻²) 11 GPP (gross primary production) kg C m ⁻² per timestep |
| peatdecmposition. | peat decomposition | no | Total peat decomposition; aerobic peat decomposition (kg C) |

| name | contents | optio -nal | columns |
|-------------------|--|---------------|---|
| carbonbalance.dat | all carbon balance elements in moles C | no | All entries in mol C per timestep 1 gross primary production incl. plant respiration 2 carbon inputs from manure and livestock excretion 3-9 Changes in each soil carbon reservoir (see CO2reservoirs.dat) 10 total CO2-C emission from aerobic decomposition 11 total CO2-C emission from anaerobic decomposition 12 CO2-C from above-ground litter decomposition 13 total CH4-C emission 14 CO2-C from CH4 oxidation 15 CO2-C from plant respiration 16 (not yet implemented) storage change (anaerobic) CO2 in soil water 17 storage change CH4 in soil water 18 (not yet implemented) CO2 - and CH4-change export by groundwater flow 19 harvest + grazing 20 storage change above-ground biomass 21 storage change litter layer 23 total outgoing C (sum of 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19) 24 total incoming C (sum of 1 and 2) 25 total storage change (sum of 3-9, 17, 20, 21, 22) 26: Balance (24 – 23 - 25) |
| temperature.dat | soil temperature at each model soil layer | yes | soil temperature at each model soil layer, starting at the top, °C |
| saturation.dat | relative moistue / air content (saturation) of the pore volume at each model soil layer | yes | soil pore volume saturation with air, for each layer, starting at the top, dimensionless values 0-1 |
| moisture.dat | soil moisture theta values per model layer per time step | yes | volumetric water content, m³/m³ |
| methane.dat | soil methane concentration for each model layer | yes | methane concentration for each model soil layer starting at the top, millimol.m ⁻³ in soil pore volume, including bubbles |
| roots.dat | root mass per layer | yes | root mass for each model soil layer starting at the top, (kg C.m ⁻²) |
| labileSOM.dat | sum of labile organic matter reservoirs per layer | yes | sum of liquid manure, solid manure, root exudates, litter and roots, microbial biomass per layer starting at the top(kg C.m ⁻²) |
| ice.dat | ice mass per soil layer | yes | ice mass per layer starting at the top(kg.m ⁻²) |
| peat.dat | peat carbon per layer | yes | peat carbon per layer starting at the top(kg C.m ⁻²) |

| name | contents | optio -nal | columns |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| liquid_manure.dat | liquid manure carbon per layer | yes | liquid manure carbon per layer starting at the top (kg C.m ⁻²) |
| solid_manure.dat | solid manure carbon per layer | yes | solid manure carbon per layer starting at the top (kg C.m ⁻²) |
| exudate.dat | root exudates carbon per layer | yes | root exudates carbon per layer starting at the top (kg C.m ⁻²) |
| litter_roots.dat | litter and roots carbon per layer | yes | litter and roots carbon per layer starting at the top (kg C.m ⁻²) |
| microbes.dat | microbial biomass carbon per layer | yes | microbial biomass carbon per layer starting at the top (kg C.m ⁻²) |
| humus.dat | humus carbon per layer | yes | humus carbon per layer starting at the top (kg C.m ⁻²) |

3. Model parameter input.

The parameter files are ASCII text files and can be edited with any text editor. Eventually the parameter files can be modified using shell or Perl scripts, allowing the generation of a large number of model runs in batch mode.

The input parameters of the model consist of three main files, which are mandatory - the model cannot run without these. The default parameter file **defaults** contains all the parameters the model minimally needs to run, together with their default values. Parameters for a specific run must be specified in an extra run parameter file, with the default name **params**. Parameters specified in this file, always override the default values specified in defaults - that means that the model will use the value specified in **params** instead of that in **defaults**. A different name for this parameter file can be specified on the command line. The third file is a file with a soil profile description. The name of this file must be specified in the run parameter file.

Furthermore there are a number of input files for soil physical parameters which depend on the way in which certain soil physical aspects are used - either specified externally in a file or calculated from a simple model. E.g. the soil surface temperature can be specified for each time step, or calculated by the soil temperature module of Peatland.

Tip: Supplying water table and soil moisture with a file (see parameters GwFile and SoilMoistureFile) speeds up the model runs considerably. This has two advantages:

- 1. If measurement data is available on groundwater table and soil moisture, or data from a soil moisture model, this is likely to be more accurate than the rather simple algorithm in Peatland for calculating soil moisture.
- 2. If a large number repeated model runs need to be done, for instance for model calibration, it saves time. If soil moisture and water table need no calibration you could do a model run with calculated water table and soil moisture first, and then for the next runs supply the water table output and soil moisture output as input.

| file | function | man- | f | ilename |
|------|----------|--------|---------|---------|
| | | datory | default | remarks |

| file | function | man- | f | ilename |
|------------------------------|---|--------|----------|---|
| default parameter file | contains all the parameters for the model and their default values. User modification is generally not necessary | datory | defaults | do not change the name of this file |
| run parameter file | contains the parameters for the specific model run, paramater values defined here override the default values, be sure that everything that has be changed for a specific model run is included here! | yes | params | alternative names can be specified on the command line |
| soil file | contains the soil profile parameters. | yes | | has to be specified in parameter file |
| groundwater table data | contains grondwater table for each time step | no | | has to be specified in parameter file |
| soil moisture data | contains soil moisture data (theta) for each depth step and time step | no | | has to be specified in parameter file |
| soil surface temperatures | contains the soil surface temperature for each time step | no | | has to be specified in parameter file |
| soil temperatures | contains the soil temperature for each depth and time step | no | | has to be specified in parameter file |
| harvest | harvest dates and fraction of biomass harvested | no | | has to be specified in parameter file |
| snow depth | contains the thickness of the snow layer at each time step | no | | has to be specified in parameter file |

3.1. Structure of the parameter files.

The definition of a parameter value in the parameter files is done by specifying the name of the parameter, followed by an = sign, the value of the parameter, and a semicolon, e.g:

```
NrOfSteps = 100;
```

This line defines the number of time steps the model has to run as 100 steps.

Comments can be added, and are preceded by a % sign:

```
% Definition of the number of model time steps
NrOfSteps = 100; number of time steps
```

Everything after a sign up to the next end of line will be ignored by the program.

Parameters can be defined more than once, but only the first definition will be effective. So

```
.
(lots of other stuff)
.
NrOfSteps = 150; number of time steps
```

will set the number of time steps to 100.

Different types of parameters may be entered:

```
NrOfSteps = 100; number of time steps
```

This is a single value parameter.

```
% SOM decomposition constants for each reservoir
Kdecay = [0.02 100 4 365 4 365 0.005];
```

This is an array parameter, consisting of 7 values. Note the rectangular parenthesis.

This is a matrix parameter; note the rectangular parenthesis and the semicolons separating the rows of the matrix.

```
SoilProfile = "guisveld"
% Definition of the soil profile parameter file to be used
```

This is a string parameter, used mainly for output and input file specifications

3.2. Description of the parameters

Not all parameters need revision for each model run. Many parameters, in particular physical constants, are not specific to a site or model run. These parameters are defined in the **defaults** file and can be left alone. Run-specific parameters, e.g. a soil profile descrition and decay constants, need to be specified in either the run specific parameter file or the soil profile description file. A few parameters may function as tuning parameters, which may be used to optimize the model performance with respect to a specific site. These will be entered also in the run specific parameter file.

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|----------------|-------------|-------|--|---------------------|
| SoilProfile | "ilperveld" | | Filename containing soil data (see next table) | model configuration |
| NrLayers | 15 | | number of model layers of soil profile | model configuration |
| LayerThickness | 0.1 | m | layer thickness | model configuration |
| TStepHeat | 0.01 | day | time step temperature model | model configuration |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| DStepHeat | 0.1 | m | minimum depth step temperature model | model configuration |
| MaxDepthHeat | 5 | m | maximum depth temperature model, range 5-15 m | model configuration |
| Timestep | 1 | day | timestep model input and output; this is also the timestep of anerobic decomposition model; value 1-10 | model configuration |
| NrOfSteps | 5000 | | number of timesteps; unlimited; add at least 10 years model spinup | model configuration |
| StartDay | 1 | | Julian day number (day of the year) of starting day | model configuration |
| StartYear | 2000 | | Starting year, to calculate leap years | model configuration |
| StartDate | "01/01/2000" | date | Date string with format DD/MM/YYYY, indicating the start date of the model run. It has to be defined if harvest is specified in a harvest file with harvest dates. Its definition overrides StartYear and StartDay. | model configuration |
| EndDate | "01/01/2020" | date | Date string with format DD/MM/YYYY, indicating the start date of the model run. It has to be defined if harvest is specified in a harvest file with harvest dates. Its definition overrides StartYear, StartDay andNrOfSteps. | |
| ThermModel | 0 | | Sets the type of thermal model: 0 for complete numerical simulation of thermal diffusivity including permafrost and soil freezing and observed temperatures at the soil surface 1 for analytical solution of heat diffusion using uniform diffusivity with depth and sinusoidal surface temperature 2 for constant temperature | model configuration |
| DensOrg | 1200 | kg.m ⁻³ | density organic matter in peat kg | soil physical constant |
| DensMin | 2650 | kg.m ⁻³ | density of mineral matter | soil physical constant |
| Dens Water | 1000 | kg.m ⁻³ | density of water at 0° C | soil physical constant |
| DensIce | 917 | kg.m ⁻³ | density of ice at 0° C | soil physical constant |
| Rgas | 8.31446 | J.K ⁻¹ .mol ⁻¹ | Gas constant | soil physical constant |
| MethaneDiff | | m ² .day ⁻¹ | diffusivity of methane in air | soil physical constant |
| MethaneDiffWater | | 1.7280E-4 | diffusivity of methane in water | soil physical constant |
| DissimAssimRatio | 2.3 | | Dissimilation/Assimilation ratio aerobic decomposition; range 1.0 - 2.3 (dissimilation = decomposition in mol C, assimilation = newly formed microbial biomass) | aerobic decomposition |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|----------------|--|--|--|---|
| ResistFrac | 0.1 | | Fraction of decomposed organic material that is transferred to resistant humus fraction | aerobic decomposition |
| Cfrac | [0.55, 0.38 0.38 0.38 0.38 0.38 0.55] | | Carbon fraction (kg/kg) each SOM reservoir | aerobic decomposition |
| Kdecay | [0.02 100 4 365 4 365 0.005] | Kg C year-1 | SOM decomposition constants for each reservoir | aerobic decomposition |
| KPeatCN | [10.0 0.00021] | | Constants for correction of decomposition rate for peat (first element in <i>Kdecay</i>) for C/N ratio. It results in a a linear decrease of k _{peat} at higher C/N ratios. The first value is a reference C/N ratio for which the base k is defined, the second is the slope of the decrease. The value suggested here is based on an empirical linear relation of decomposition rate k _{peat} with C/N ratio for Dutch peats by Vermeulen, J., & Hendriks, R. F. A. (1996). Bepaling van afbraaksnelheden van organische stof in laagveen; ademhalingsmetingen aan ongestoorde veenmonsters in het laboratorium (No. 288). DLO-Staring Centrum. Check if negative values of k can occur given the k _{peat} value in Kdecay, this parameter and the maximum CN ratio in the soil description file. | aerobic decomposition |
| AerobicQ10 | [3.5 2.0 2.0 2.0 3.0 2.0 4.0] (Q10) [1.0e6 1.0e5 1.0e5 1.0e5 1.0e5 1.0e5 1.0e6] (Arrhenius) | Q10 relation: dimensionless Arrhenius eq: molecular activation energy in J.mol ⁻¹ | Q10 values of aerobic decomposition separately for each reservoir. The range of values is determined by the selection of the temperature correction equation, (Q10 relation or Arrhenius equation), as determined by the Q10orArrhenius parameter (see below) | aerobic decomposition |
| Q10orArrhenius | 0 or 1 | | Switch between the calculation of temperature correction of (an)aerobic decomposition as Q10 relation (Q10orArrhenius = 0) or Arrhenius equation (Q10orArrhenius = 1). Note that: 1. This does not affect the methane module; for methane formation, always a Q10 value is used 2. This affects aerobic decomposition and anaerobic non-methane decomposition, as specified by the AnaerobicCO2 parameter. For the Q10 relation, the values in the AerobicQ10 and Q10Anaerobic parameters should be below 20, for the Arrhenius equation considerably more. If this is not the case, a warning is given. | aerobic and anaerobic decomposition |
| T_ref | 10 | °C | Reference temperature for Q10 calculation | aerobic decomposition |
| KLitter | 0.5 | Kg C year-1 | Decomposition constant for standing dead biomass and above-ground litter | aerobic decomposition |
| pFpoints | [2.7 4.2; 1.0 0.2] | Above row: matric potential (m³/m³, water volume per soil volume) | Determines environmental correction factor for dryness. Defines a linear decrease of the aerobic decomposition constant (Kdecay) between the pF values in the upper row of pFpoints. The range of the correction factor is given in the lower row of pFpoints. | aerobic decomposition |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------|
| HalfSatPoint | 0.1 | | Environmental correction factor of the aerobic decomposition constant for poor aeration of the soil by high water saturation. The correction depends linearly on water filled pore space. The factor equals 0.0 at completely water filled pore space, 0.5 at the value given by HalfSatPoint, and 1.0 at 2 x HalfSatPoint. | aerobic decomposition |
| RootAeration | 0.0 – 1.0 | | Root mass dependent correction of the poor aeration factor, for improved aeration by root growth. If 0, this is switched off. | aerobic decomposition |
| PrimingCorrection | 0.0 or > 0.0 | | Environmental factor for the priming effect exerted by root exudates on the decomposition rate of slow C reservoirs; value > 0; if 0, this is switched off. The priming effect increases Kdecay. The actual value in the model depends on the root mass in each layer, the growth rate of vegetation and given minimal and maximum primary production, and eventually time of the year (see SpringCorrection) | aerobic decomposition |
| AnaerobicCO2 | 1 or 0 | | Switch for allowing anaerobic decomposition (nitrate, Fe, sulfate reduction etc) resulting in anaerobic CO ₂ production, if 0 not accounted for | anaerobic CO2 |
| KAnaerobic | [0.005 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.0001] | Kg C . year-1 | Anaerobic decomposition constants, for all SOM reservoirs | anaerobic CO2 |
| Q10Anaerobic | 3.5 (Q10) 1.0e5 (Arrhenius) | Q10 relation: dimensionless Arrhenius eq: molecular activation energy in J.mol ⁻¹ | Q10 of anaerobic decomposition (not reservoir dependent, so one value; reference temperature is equal to reference temperature for CH ₄ production). Q10 values of aerobic decomposition separately for each reservoir. The range of values is determined by the selection of the temperature correction equation, (Q10 relation or Arrhenius equation), as determined by the <i>Q10orArrhenius</i> parameter (see above). As yet, the Q10/molecular activation energy for anaerobic decomposition cannot be specified per reservoir. | anaerobic CO2 |
| AnaerobicDARatio | 30.0 | | Anaerobic Dissimilation/Assimililation ratio; typical range 19 - 49 | anaerobic CO2 |
| ProductionModel | 4 | | Production model: 0 for simple sinusoidal function over the year; 1 for production dependent on temperature of upper soil layer 2 for production data read from file, variable NPPFile has to be defined (in kgC.m ⁻² .day ⁻¹) 3 for photosynthesis model based on Haxeltine & Prentice, global radiation data supplied in PARFile (in Joule.cm ⁻² .day ⁻¹), which is recalculated to PAR (Photosynthetic Active Radiation) by the model 4 for photosynthesis model, cloud cover data supplied in PARFile (fractions 0 - 1), PAR calculated, based on Latitude (should be defined) 5 for photosynthesis model for tundra, Shaver et al, J. Ecology 2007 (not depending on CO2 concentration) PAR data supplied in PARFile (as with Productionmodel 3) 6 for photosynthesis model for tundra, Shaver et al, J. Ecology 2007 (cloud cover data supplied in PARFile) | Organic production |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------|
| RADunits | 0 | PAR in umol m ⁻² s ⁻¹ , or shortwave radiation Joule.cm ⁻² .day -1 or cloud cover fraction | Units in which PAR (Photosynthetic Active Radiation) is given in RADFile (see below) for ProductionModel 3 or 4. 0: PAR in umol m ⁻² s ⁻¹ 1: Shortwave radiation energy as often given by weather stations - Joule.cm ⁻² .day ⁻¹ ; is be converted to PAR 2: cloud cover fraction, from which PAR is estimated | |
| NPPFile | "filename" (str ing) | Kg C m ⁻² per timestep | external file with gross photosynthesis for production model 2 | Organic production |
| RADFile | "filename" | See RADunits | Photosynthetic Active Radiation or Global shortwave radiation per day, or cloudcover fraxtion per day – see RADunits | Organic production |
| Latitude | 52.0 | degrees | site latitude for calculation of incoming radiatin from cloud cover data (ProductionModel model 4 and 6). | Organic production |
| Phenology | [1 10.0 150 2.0 1 0.9 30 240] | | Phenology parameters for production model 3 to 6; 1 type of phenology (0 for evergreen, 1 for summergreen) 2 the base for calculating the heat sum (growing degree days) 3 the heat sum when maximum LAI (leaf area index) is reached 4 the maximum LAI 5 C3 or C4 photosynthesis (1 or 2) 6 the fraction of leafy biomass that is littered in autumn, and at the same time determines the minimum winter LAI by multiplication with the maximum LAI 7 the day number of the earliest start of the growing season 8 the day of the year that autumn / leaf senescence starts | Organic production |
| GreenBiomassRatio | 0.5 – 1.0 | | Ratio of photosyntesizing biomass to total biomass for ProductionModel 3, high for grasslands, lower for woody vegetation | |
| KBeer | 0.5 | | Beer's law constant for light extinction in the vegetation canopy for photosynthesis models, values around 0.5 | Organic production |
| LAICarbonFraction | 0.1 | kg C.m ⁻² | relates LAI to kg C.m ⁻² of vegetation (kg C.m ⁻² per unit of LAI) | Organic production |
| PhotoPar | [0.5 0.05 16.0 0.03] | See description | Parameters for photosynthesis model 5 and 6 for tundra, Shaver et al, J. Ecology 2007 1 Plant respiration at zero degrees per m ⁻² leaf area (μmol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹), range 0.4-1.5 2 Temperature sensitivity factor plant respiration range 0.03 – 0.07 (°C ⁻¹) 3 light-saturated photosynthetic rate per unit leaf area (μmol.m ⁻² .s ⁻¹) range 6-20 4 initial slope of the light response curve (μmol CO ₂ μmol ⁻¹ photons) range 0.05 - 0.12 | Organic production |
| AmbientCO2 | 415 | ppmv | Ambient CO ₂ concentration (ProductionModel 3,4) | Organic production |
| CO2File | "" or "filename" | | File with variable CO ₂ values, for each simulation year one value + 1 extra value, for ProductionModel 34; if an empty string, a constant value defined by AmbientCO ₂ is used. | Organic production |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|-------------------|--------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| ShootsFactor | 0.5 | | mass fraction of primary production that is allocated to shoots; the remainder (1.0 – ShootsFactor) is allocated to roots. For agricultural crops ShootsFactor is generally >0.5, for natural vegetation <0.5. | Organic production |
| RespFac | [0.015 0.01] | | fraction of primary production that is respired by plants (plant respiration); first value is growth respiration, second maintenance respiration. Production model 1 and 2: used to calculate plant respiration Production model 3 - 6 do not use RespFac. | Organic production |
| ProdTFunc | [5 25] | °C | temperature dependent production for production model 1 1st number is minimum temperature, 2nd optimum temperature | Organic production |
| SatCorr | 0.0 | | correction of production for saturation of topsoil, depresses production at high saturation, switched off when 0 | Organic production |
| SpringCorrection | 0.0 | | Correction (0-1) for stronger exudation in spring; influences priming and exudate production, if 0, spring correction is disabled. The correction is a factor of 1+SpringCorrection. | Organic production |
| MaxProd | 0.01 | kgC.m ⁻² .day ⁻¹ | Maximum primary productivity for Production model 0 and 1 | Organic production |
| MinProd | 0.0 | kgC.m ⁻² .day ⁻¹ | Minimum primary productivity for Production model 0 and 1 | Organic production |
| MaxRootDepth | 0.5 | m | Maximum root depth | Organic production |
| NoRootsBelowGWT | 0 or 1 | | Set presence or absence of root growth below the water table (presence or absence of telmatophytes). If 1, no roots will grow below groundwater table; for wetlands, set this always to 0. | Organic production |
| RootLambda | 5.0 | | Parameter for exponential root distribution function; larger values result in steeper decrease of root mass with depth | Organic production |
| RootSenescence | 0.003 | | Root senescence factor = proportion of root mass that dies and is transferred to the litter/roots soil carbon reservoir during each time step | Organic production |
| InitRoots | 0.5 | kg C.m ⁻² | Initial root mass in all layers | Organic production |
| ExudateFactor | 0.1 | kg C.m ⁻² | Mass fraction of of below-ground production that is allocated to root exudates | Organic production |
| BioMass | 0.5 | kg C.m ⁻² | Initial above ground biomass. NB: this is excluding the root mass, which is specified in InitRoots | Organic production |
| LitterLayer | 0.2 | kg C.m ⁻² | Organic matter stored in above ground litter layer and dead biomass | Organic production |
| LitterConversion | 0.001 | | Conversion factor of daily conversion of above ground to below ground litter in the top layer at reference temperature T_ref; the factor is temperature adjusted such that at 0 degrees the conversion factor is also 0 | Organic production |
| BioMassSenescence | 0.001 | day ⁻¹ | Proportion of biomass that dies off at each day as fraction of above-ground biomass. This is regardless of season. | Organic production |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|-------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------|
| Harvest | [180 0.75; 240 0.75] | See description | Harvest dates as day of the year (1st column) and fraction of biomass harvested (2nd column, kg C.m ⁻²). This represents harvest on fixed dates each year; if harvest dates vary per year, these need to be specified with a <i>HarvestFile</i> | Organic production |
| HarvestFile | "Harvest.txt" | See description | Ascii textfile with harvest data: year, month, day, fraction harvested. Separated by spaces, for each date a new line. If defined, harvest dates may vary from year to year. The variable Harvest, which assumes the same harvest dates every year, is ignored. | |
| HarvestLitter | 0.05 | fraction | Fraction of harvest that remains as litter on the soil and is added to the litter carbon pool | |
| Manure | [80 0.01; 200 0.01] | See description | Manure application dates (column 1) and quantity (column 2) in kg C.m ⁻² per model time step | Organic production |
| ManureFluidFrac | 0.75 | | Fluid fraction of manure | Organic production |
| ManureLayers | [0.7 1.0; 0.3 0] | See description | Partitioning fractions of manure among layers; first column: fluids; second column: solids; first row is top layer, 2 nd row 2 nd layer etc.; the colums have to sum to 1 | Organic production |
| Grazing | [0 130 0.0001 0.00005; 250 365 0.0001 0.00005] | | Parts of the year in which grazing occurs, each row is a range of days (day of the year) followed by the amount of biomass removed (kg C.m ⁻² .day ⁻¹) and the amount of excretion (kg C.m ⁻² .day ⁻¹) | Organic production |
| GrowFuncConst | 1.0 | | Proportionality constant for use of different production models for plant transport in methane model (plant transport depends partly on plant growth rate) | Methane model |
| MethaneReservoirs | [0.0001 1.0 1.0 1.0 0.5 0.0 0.0] | | This parameter excludes or (partly) includes which reservoirs are being used for calculation of methane production. A 1.0 includes a reservoir, 0.0 excludes it. Included reservoirs should be generally labile reservoirs (manure, exudates), although a fraction of less labile reservoirs (e.g. peat) can be included by a fraction. | Methane model |
| MethaneR0 | 0.4 | µMol CH ₄ - C.milliMol C ⁻¹ .hr ⁻¹ | Methane production rate factor for fresh organic C in micromol CH_4 -C per millimol labile carbon reservoir C per hour hour. Note that this definition differs from the original Walter & Heimann (2000) model description, which is in μ Mol/L/hr. Values are in the order of $0.005-0.02~\mu$ Mol CH_4 -C.milliMol $C^{-1}.hr^{-1}$. | Methane model |
| CO2CH4ratio | 0.5 | | Molar ratio between CH ₄ and CO ₂ production, based on mode of methane formation; for acetate splitting this is 0.5, for CO ₂ reduction 0.0, may also be a number between 0.0 and 0.5 if both modes occur; the smaller the value, the larger amount of CH ₄ is produced over CO ₂ | Methane model |
| MethanepHCorr | 0.05 | | Correction factor of methane production for pH. For every pH unit lower or higher than neutral, MethanepHCorr*R0 is substracted from / added to R0 | Methane model |
| MethaneQ10 | 5.0 | | Q10 value for temperature sensitivity of methane production; range 1.7 - 16 ref (Walther & Heimann 2000) | Methane model |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|-------------------|---|--|--|---------------|
| MethaneOxQ10 | 1.4 | | Q10 value for temperature correction of methane oxidation; range 1.4 - 2.1, ref. in Walther & Heimann 2000 | Methane model |
| MethaneTRef | 10.0 | °C | Reference temperature for temperature sensitivity methane production and oxidation; if negative, the average of the input temperature time series is used. | Methane model |
| MethaneVmax | 50.0 | μMol.hr ⁻¹ | V_{max} of Michaelis-Menten equation for methane oxidation, range 5-50 | Methane model |
| MethaneKm = 5 | 5.0 | μMol | K _m in Michaelis-Menten equation for methane oxidation; range 1-5 | Methane model |
| MethaneMaxConc | 500.0 | MilliMol.m ⁻³ | Maximum methane concentration in pore water (millimol/m3 in soil pore volume); above this value bubbles are formed | Methane model |
| MethaneERateC | 1.0 | hr-1 | Ebullition rate constant; a value of 1.0 means all methane above the ebullition treshold is added to ebullition | Methane model |
| MethanePRateC | 0.01 | hr ⁻¹ | Rate constant for plant transport of methane; value should not be higher than 0.1! | Methane model |
| MethanePlantOx | 0.9 | | Fraction of methane that is oxidized during transport in plants | Methane model |
| MethanePType | 15 | | Vegetation type factor for gas transport by plants range: 0-15 | Methane model |
| MethaneAir | 1.8 | ppmv | Methane concentration in the air above the soil | Methane model |
| PartialAnaerobe | 0.0 | | This allows methane production in anaerobic microsites above the water table, depending on soil saturation. This may occur in dense clayey soils (e.g. Wagner et al 2017 nature Scientific Reports) It determines the slope of the relation of partial anaerobe soil fraction above the water table to soil saturation, value >1; if ≤1, no partial anarobe fraction is assumed to be present and no methane pruduction above the water table is modelled. The relation between saturation and anaerobic fraction is linear; the value of PartialAnaerobe determines the steepness of the relation: anarobic fraction = 1 − PartialAnarobe * saturated fraction. | Methane model |
| AnaerobeLagFactor | 0.0 | days | The time lag for development of sufficiently anaerobic conditions for methanogenesis after rapid saturation of a layer by rapid water table rise. | Methane model |
| InitMethane | [1 1 40 80 100 150 300 400 450 500 500 500 500 500 500] | millimol.m-3 | Initial methane concentration profile (in soil pore volume, including bubbles) | Methane model |
| GwFile | "" or "filename" | m below surface (negative values are below surface) | If this is not an empty string, a water table time series will be read from the file indicated by the string. If an empty string, the water table will be modelled, either as a simple sinusoidal variation over the year, or a model based on input of times series of evaporation and precipitation. The choice of modelled watertable based on precipitation/evaporation is based on the definition of <i>PrecipFile</i> (see below) | Water / ice |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|------------------|---------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| SoilMoistureFile | "" or "filename" | Volumetric water content m³/m³ (theta) per timestep and layer | File of size number of time time steps X number of model layers (usually 15 unless defined otherwise with NrLayers), with soil moisture data. If the string is empty, the soil moisture will becalculated, if it contans a valid file name, soil moisture data will be read from file. NB: for application of a soil moisture file, also the water table data need to be supplied via GwFile | |
| EvapFile | "" or "filename" | mm per timestep | Evaporation data file, evaporation in millimeter, for water table model | Water / ice |
| PrecipFile | "" or "filename" | mm/timestep | Precipitation data file, precipitation in mm, for water table model. If this variable is an non-empty string, the water table is modelled based on precipitation/evaporation. | Water / ice |
| DrainageFile | "" or "filename" | m below surface | File with water level data of ditch or or other drainage channel at some distance of modelled site; water level with respect to site level (optional, empty string if not present). Alternative is fixed drainage level defined by <i>DrainLevel</i> | Water / ice |
| DrainLevel | -1.0 | m | Fixed reference level of water in the drains/river channel with respect to top of soil surface (m) | Water / ice |
| RunOnFile | "" or "filename" | mm/timestep | File with run-on / runoff data for water table calculation (optional, empty string if not present) | Water / ice |
| DayMinGW | 220 | Day of the year | Day of lowest groundwater table for simple sinusoidal water table | Water / ice |
| AmplitudeGW | 0.2 | m | Amplitude of water table for simple sinusoidal water table | Water / ice |
| MinGW | -0.5 | m | Lowest water table level at this day (m below surface). For modelled water table using the water table model this is the minimum watertable for the entire simulation period. Negative values indicate water table below surface | Water / ice |
| EvapCorrection | 0.02 | | Correction factor to reduce evaporation if water table is below surface, for water table model | Water / ice |
| RunoffThreshold | 0.1 | m | Threshold above which a ponded water layer produces runoff; for modelled water table | Water / ice |
| OpenWaterFactor | 1.0 | | Evaporation correction factor for open water evaporation for water table model | Water / ice |
| CropFactor | 1.0 | | Makkink Crop factor to correct evaporation for vegetation properties for water table model | Water / ice |
| DrainageDist | 10 | m | Distance to nearest drainage channel (m) for calculation of groundwater flow | Water / ice |
| Ksat | 0.01 | m.day ⁻¹ | Saturated hydraulic conductivity for subsoil | Water / ice |
| Tdata | "" or "filename" | °C | Data file with surface temperature time series; if an empty string, a sinusoidal temperature time series will be used. Otherwise a numerically solved heat transport model will be used based on the the heat diffusion equation and soil properties. | Temperature model |
| T_average | 10.5 | °C | Average yearly temperature for simple sinusoidal temperature model | Temperature model |
| T_amplitude | 12.0 | °C | Amplitude of soil surface temperature for sinosoidal temperare model | Temperature model |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|-------------------|---|---|---|----------------------|
| ThermDiff | 0.0136 | m ² .s ⁻¹ | Fixed thermal diffusivity for sinosoidal temperare model. For the numerically solved model, the diffusivity is estimated from soil parameters and actual water/ice content. | Temperature model |
| T_init | [0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5; 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 | m,°C | Intitial temperature of each layer; 2 row vector, top layer is depth below surface; second row is temperature | Temperature model |
| MaxSnowdepth | 0.0 | m | Maximum snow depth (meters) | Temperature model |
| DayMaxSnowdepth | 60 | Day of the year | Day number of maximum snow depth - NB: is supposed to lie in the first half of the year, so < 182 | Temperature model |
| SnowMeltrate | 0.01 | m/°C | Rate of snowmelt, meter per °C above zero per day | Temperature model |
| VegTScalingFactor | 0.7 | | Scaling factor for air to soil surface temperature; equal to one if actual soil surface temperature is input; outherwise a value between 0.6 and 1.0 | Temperature model |
| HCOrg | 2.496E+06 | J.m ⁻³ .K ⁻¹ | volumetric heat capacity organic matter | Temperature model |
| HCMiner | 2.385E+06 | J.m ⁻³ .K ⁻¹ | volumetric heat capacity mineral matter | Temperature model |
| HCAir | 1.212E+03 | J.m ⁻³ .K ⁻¹ | volumetric heat capacity air (saturated with water vapour) | Temperature model |
| HCWater | 0.000E+00 | J.m ⁻³ .K ⁻¹ | volumetric heat capacity water | Temperature model |
| HCIce | 1.926E+06 | J.m ⁻³ .K ⁻¹ | volumetric heat capacity ice | Temperature model |
| CondOrg | 0.25 | J.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹ .K ⁻¹ | thermal conductivity organic matter | Temperature model |
| CondMiner | 2.5 | | thermal conductivity mineral matter (range 2.5 – 8.0; 2.5 is for clay, 8.8 for pure sand which is the conductivity for quartz) | Temperature model |
| CondQuartz | 8 | J.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹ .K ⁻¹ | thermal conductivity quartz (for sand fraction) | Temperature model |
| CondAir | 0.025 | J.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹ .K ⁻¹ | thermal conductivity air | Temperature model |
| CondWater | 0.56 | J.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹ .K ⁻¹ | thermal conductivity water | Temperature model |
| CondIce | 2.21 | J.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹ .K ⁻¹ | thermal conductivity ice | Temperature model |
| CondSnow | 0.35 | J.m ⁻¹ .s ⁻¹ .K ⁻¹ | thermal conductivity snowpack (density ~ 350 kg m ⁻³ , see Williams & Smith 1991, p. 110) – varies strongly with density and stucture | Temperature model |
| LatentHeat | [-0.0125, 1.955, 333.5] | J kg ⁻¹ | parameters for approximation of temperature- dependent latent heat of fusion of ice (334000 J kg ⁻¹ at 0°C) | Temperature model |

| Name | Example | Units | Description | Module |
|---------------|--|-------|--|--------|
| ProfileOutput | [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 16 17] | | Generates output files for vertical profiles of state variables 1: temperature profile | Output |
| | | | 2: aeration 3: methane profile 4: root mass | |
| | | | 5: labile SOM reservoirs (2-6) summed 6: ice in kg.m3 soil 7: water table | |
| | | | 8: npp 9: totalSOM all SOM reservoirs (1-7) summed 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17: SOM reservoir 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; peat; dissolved organic matter manure; | |
| | | | manure solids; root exudates; litter and roots; microbial biomass; humus | |

3.3. Description of the parameters in the soil description parameter file (SoilProfile).

| Name | Example | Units | Description |
|--------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| NrHorizons | 3 | | Number of soil horizons in the profile description |
| Horizons | [0.1 0.4 1.5] | m | Horizon base depths with respect to surface for each horizon |
| CNRatio | [14.5 15.8 25.0] | | C/N ratios for each horizon; the decomposition of peat can be made dependent on these. Currently not used in the model; will be used later for environmental correction of organic matter decomposition |
| DBD | [465.3 482.0 330.5] | kg.m ⁻³ | Dry bulk density for each horizon |
| PercOrg | [45.09 35.26 47.91] | | Weight percentage of organic matter for each horizon |
| Layer_pH | [5.82 5.35 5.93] | pН | pH for each horizon |
| SandFraction | [0.05 0.05 0.05] | | Weight fraction of mineral fraction consisting of sand for each horizon; this is used for thermal conuctivity calculation |
| ClayFraction | [0.5 0.5 0.5] | | Weight fraction of clay in mineral fraction; will be used for calculating organic matter stabilization of humic fraction (not yet implemented) |
| Layer_pF | [0.772 0.766 0.757 0.744 0.729 0.714 0.320; 0.835 0.831 0.830 0.830 0.797 0.770 0.320; 0.835 0.831 0.830 0.830 0.797 0.770 0.320] | m ³ .m ⁻³ | pF Curves for each layer; each row represents the soil moisture at the matric potentials indicated in pFVal . Alternatively the pF curves can be defined using the parameters of the Van Genuchten equation. In that case the rows of Layer_pF contain the Van genuchten parameters θ_r , θ_s , α , l and n . |
| pFVal | [0.0 0.4 1.0 1.5 1.8 2.0 4.2] | log cm H ₂ O | Soil moisture potentials at which the moisture values in Layer_pF are defined if the curves are not defined by Van Genuchten parameters. |

| Name | Example | Units | Description |
|---------------|--|-------|---|
| InitRes | [0.69 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.01 0.0 0.3; 0.92 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.08; 0.93 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.07] | | Initial fractions of soil organic stored in each horizon and SOM reservoir; rows correspond to horizons, columns to to reservoirs. All rows should sum to 1.0 |
| FreezingCurve | [1.5 1.5 1.5] | | Unfrozen water content curve at below-zero temperatures, for calculating soil freezing in conditions of deep seasonal frost or permafrost. Relation: $f = f_{inf} + 1/(b-T)^a$, where a is a constant given in FreezingCurve for each horizon. b is determined by $theta_{sat}$ (water content at saturation and $theta_{wilt}$ (water content at wilting point) a has values between 1.5 and 2 (the larger values for sand, the smaller for clay and organics) |