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NON-AGRICULTURAL SOURCES OF AMMONIA EMISSIONS

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Summary

Ammonia emissions to the atmosphere are a factor of environment disintegration, since after their return on earth they contribute to eutrophication and acidification. Less than 80% of emitted ammonia originates from agriculture. The remainder part is from non-agricultural sources that include natural ecosystems, human food chain, combustion of biomass or fossil fuels, industrial processes and automotive activities. Large emissions could be expected from human activity, though only the presence of ammonia in human sweat and breath, baby nappies and from cigarette smoking is considered while the emissions from wastewater and sewage sludge treatment are usually neglected. Noteworthy, emissions are observed from transport after the introduction of ammonia additives to fuel in order to improve the catalyst activity in reducing nitric oxide in exhaust gases. Nevertheless, proposals to reduce ammonia emissions from non-agricultural sources are scarce.