

Figure 4. Changes in C:N of cover crop root residues during spring decomposition. FP = field pea; DR = daikon radish; OT = oat; MX = mixed cover crop. *, **, *** Significant at the 0.05, 0.01 and 0.001 probability levels, respectively; ns = non-significant. The red horizontal line represents the immobilization / mineralization threshold level C:N (24:1) established by Trinsoutrot et al. (2000); C:N values above this line encourage net soil N immobilization while values below this line tend towards net soil N mineralization. Litter bags were placed in the field on November 15, 2020 and November 6, 2021 and collected every two weeks from April 1 – June 10 the following spring.