



Soil Carbon Management: Improving Soil Health and Mitigating Climate Change

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Message from the Guest Editors

In 2015 the FAO celebrated the “International Year of Soils”, to increase globally the awareness of soils as a key ecosystem compartment that forms the basis of 95% of the global food production and at the same time is responsible for major ecosystem services.

Soil health and fertility are tightly coupled to high biodiversity in soils, where biotic activity functions as the motor of the element cycles crucial for crop growth. Intensive agricultural management often threatens these microbial functions, thus decreasing long-lasting soil fertility and health. Once functional diversity in soils is lost, crop production and the soils’ contribution to further ecosystem services decrease. Recovery times, at best of several decades, may replenish such losses in soil fertility and health.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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