



# APPLIED SOIL ECOLOGY

A companion journal of Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment

## AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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### DESCRIPTION

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*Applied Soil Ecology* addresses the role of **soil organisms** and their interactions in relation to: agricultural productivity, nutrient cycling and other **soil processes**, the maintenance of **soil structure** and **fertility**, the impact of human activities and xenobiotics on **soil ecosystems** and bio(techno)logical control of soil-inhabiting pests, diseases and weeds.

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### AUDIENCE

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Researchers in Soil Science, Agronomy, Crop Science, Ecology, Forestry, Entomology.

### IMPACT FACTOR

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### ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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### INTRODUCTION

*Applied Soil Ecology* addresses the role of soil organisms and their interactions in relation to: agricultural productivity, nutrient cycling and other soil processes, the maintenance of soil structure and fertility, the impact of human activities and xenobiotics on soil ecosystems and bio(techno)logical control of soil-inhabiting pests, diseases and weeds. Such issues are the basis of sustainable agricultural and forestry systems and the long-term conservation of soils in both the temperate and tropical regions.

The disciplines covered include the following, and preference will be given to articles which are interdisciplinary and integrate two or more of these disciplines:

- soil microbiology and microbial ecology
- soil invertebrate zoology and ecology
- root and rhizosphere ecology
- soil science
- soil biotechnology
- ecotoxicology
- nematology
- entomology
- plant pathology
- agronomy and sustainable agriculture • nutrient cycling • ecosystem modelling and food webs

### *Types of paper*

1. Original research papers (Regular Papers)
2. Review articles
3. Short Communications
4. Applied Field Research Article
5. Viewpoints
6. Letters to the Editor
7. Editorials
8. Book Reviews
9. Announcements

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An *Applied Field Research* article is a paper presenting field work. Soil research needs to begin with an important phase of field work, meaning opening a soil profile and collecting information directly in the field. It is generally given as well-established and known. However, this is frequently not the case. In addition, this particular and often mandatory phase of soil research knows a recent technical development. The large use of photographs and new field tools (chemical, physical, biological field analyses) allow a better description of soil profiles and biogenic structures. Applied Field Research articles allow sharing classical and new field techniques of investigation, necessary for the standardization of collected data at planetary level. Applied Field Research articles clearly illustrate old and new field processes of data record, or data collection in particular unusual but interesting circumstances. The aim of the articles is to help people in soil data collection and classification. Applied Field Research articles accompany the development of the field investigation phases of soil applied research. A series of Applied Field Research articles can be diffused in a Special Applied Field Research issue dealing with a given aspect of field work.

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## Article structure

### *Subdivision - numbered sections*

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This section should give enough detail to allow a competent scientist to repeat the experiments. This should be presented in a paragraph and full sentence format - typically not in an outline or numbered format. The arrangement of Materials and Methods section can proceed chronologically, but normally starts with site description, followed by statistical experimental design (including number of replications) and layout, treatments, analytical methods and statistical/data analysis. For the experimental design statement please make a clear statement on the design and the number of replications which for example could start this way - "The experiment had a completely randomized block design with four replications that had the following treatments....." Then go on and describe the treatments in detail.

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For the USDA system, as an example in the text of the Materials and Methods, the text can read as follows - "The soil was a Malabon silty clay loam (Pachic Ultic Argixerolls) (Soil Survey Staff, 2010). Then cited in the Reference Section as follows:  
Soil Survey Staff, 2010. Keys to Soil Taxonomy, 11th ed. USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Washington, DC.

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### *Conclusions*

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.



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\*Significant at the 0.05 probability level.

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<sup>†</sup>Footnote description of column heading 1

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<sup>§</sup>Values with the same lower case letters in a row within the Subspanner heading are not significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

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