

CALL FOR PAPERS

EJP SOIL Special Issue – Climate-smart sustainable agricultural soil management for the future - II

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Context

Soils are the basis of life on the Earth. Ninety-five percent of the food we eat comes from our soil, which also supply wide range ecosystem services such as water regulation, nutrient recycling, resilience to climate change and harbors more than half of life, making it the most biodiverse habitat on Earth. Climate change and anthropogenic pressures accelerate the loss of biodiversity and up to 70% of soil ecosystem services. A total of 60–70% EU soil is considered unhealthy and therefore, maintain or enhancing soil health through sustainable soil management is a critical task to safeguard food security for future generations. Improved knowledge on climate smart agricultural soil management practices is fundamental to address anthropogenic pressures and to support EU Mission Soil targets.

The European Joint programme EJP SOIL' goal and the framework of this Special Issue are to improve the understanding of agricultural soil management by targeting climate change adaptation and mitigation, food security and ecosystem services as well as soil education and capacity building in Europe. EJP SOIL focuses on understanding how soil management and soil-carbon sequestration can contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation, assessing and monitoring soil health and communication of these knowledge to different stakeholders from science, policy and practice. Within EJP SOIL, over 1100 researchers are working on 44 research projects and 10 framework work packages that together focus on developing new insights into climate-smart agricultural soil management, quantifying trade-offs and synergies between sustainable agricultural production, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, soil degradation, biodiversity, soil quality, and other ecosystem services like erosion control.

The goal of this Special Issue is to bring together the current state-of-the-art knowledge and existing knowledge gaps, and to stimulate discussion on climate-smart soil management practices. Within the remit of EJP SOIL and this special issue, we are soliciting papers that comprehensively summarize and synthesize the cutting-edge science on sustainable climate-smart soil management in agroecosystems, advancing one or more of the following impact areas:

1. **Fostering understanding of soil management and its influence on climate mitigation and adaptation, sustainable agricultural production and environment**
2. **Understanding how soil carbon sequestration can contribute to climate change mitigation**
3. **Strengthening scientific capacities and cooperation**
4. **Supporting harmonized European soil information including for international reporting**
5. **Fostering the uptake of climate-smart sustainable soil management**
6. **Develop region and context specific fertilization practices**

What to submit?

We invite **original research articles, reviews, short communications, opinion papers, method papers and data articles** that collate, summarize and set future potential research priorities for carbon sequestration and soil health across Europe. We seek to develop a comprehensive and wide-ranging assessment of the various strategies and methods for achieving sustainable and climate smart soil management.

The ***European Journal of Soil Science*** (EJSS) is an international journal that publishes outstanding papers in soil science that advance the theoretical and mechanistic understanding of physical, chemical and biological processes and their interactions in soils acting from molecular to continental scales in natural and managed environments, as well as descriptions of data sets that contribute to these goals.

How to submit?

We would greatly value your contribution and hope you will be able to respond to our invitation by submitting your manuscript to with the reference “*EJP SOIL special issue*”
<https://bsssjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/hub/journal/13652389/forauthors.html> .

Publication process and open source:

All papers must follow author guidelines of EJSS on article preparation. All articles will go through a standard peer-review process and will stay available open access for at least 50 days after the publication. Full open access articles are promoted through institutional agreement with the publisher. In case the corresponding author does not have such an institutional agreement, the publication costs can be paid by “any other costs” within your institution’s EJP SOIL budget (44% refund) or to opt for “Green Open Access” (webinar see <https://ejpsoil.eu/knowledge-sharing-platform/webinar-recordings>) Accepted articles will be actively promoted inside and outside the EJP SOIL network, via press releases, social media, meetings and the webpage.

Submission open date: January 1, 2024

Submission deadline: June 30, 2024

Method paper - An Article is a report describing a novel method or tool. Articles should fully describe the new method or tool, including strong validation data demonstrating performance, reproducibility, general applicability, and potential for efficient soil assessment and monitoring.