



1. Title

The Role of Environment on Soil Formation: Morphological Indicators

2. Type

Commission Symposium: Comm. 1.1-Soil Morphology

3. Convener

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4. Rationale

The paradigm of soil formation (Jenny 1941) has considerably evolved due to new analytical approaches and findings since its formulation, as it is the large influence of humans on soils in many parts of the world. Soil morphology at any scale gives a first clue for the formulation of hypothesis of soil formation processes, either present or past, as well as of the formation factors leading to them. Their recognition is a very powerful tool for assessing future changes in soils, e.g. due to global change, industrial pollution, or evolution of agricultural technologies.

5. Objectives

To show present research on morphological and micromorphological evidences of relationships between soil formation processes and environmental factors including humans, at any time and spatial scales.

6. Description

Morphological changes in soils are driven by the classical formation factors—parent material, living organisms, climate, geomorphology, time— together with the human influence that has strongly affected soils during the so-called anthropocene. Knowing the relationship between morphological changes and environment have implications on soil management, soil classification, prediction of future evolution under climate change, or knowledge of past environments among others. Any contribution dealing with those and related subjects are welcome.

