Special Issue

Effects of Earthworms on Soil Systems

Message from the Guest Editor

Earthworms are ecosystem engineers that manipulate the biological, chemical, and physical attributes of the soil system with cascading ecosystem-wide effects. These effects are commonly regarded as having positive effects on the provisioning of ecosystem services. However, in cases where earthworms are introduced into earthworm-free ecosystems, their activities can negatively impact the soil system and the associated ecosystem commonly assessed by measures like intensity of erosion, soil biodiversity, and retention of carbon. In this Special Issue, I aim to curate papers that report on how earthworms affect soil properties or the ensuing ecological processes. Papers are invited on the effect of earthworms on the soil system from regions where earthworms are endemic or exotic. Manuscripts that report on original research, literature surveys, and meta-analyses are welcome. However, works that shed light on how soil properties influence the assembly of earthworm communities or indeed the presence and absence of earthworms are also of interest.

Guest Editor

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