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Effects of Agricultural Management Practices on Soil Fertility and Microbiome Structure

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear colleagues,

Soil is of fundamental importance for food production since it provides resources enabling crop cultivation. Soil is a non-renewable resource, since the process of soil formation is extremely slow. The formation of soil, the mineralization of nutrients, and the turnover of soil organic matter are all closely regulated by soil microbes. Intense agrochemical use, short crop rotations, and ploughing led to a deep intensification of agricultural practises that result in erosion, loss of soil fertility, and a build-up of soil-borne plant diseases. Crop production and health are closely related to soil microbial communities, which are important participants in ecosystem processes.

The impact of farming practises, including tillage methods and fertiliser intensities, on soil microbiomes is currently poorly understood. For agricultural farming practises to be more effective and for planned sustainability to be achieved, a deeper comprehension of these interrelationships is required.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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