



Soil and Water-Related Ecosystem Services

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Message from the Guest Editors

Soil is a key component of terrestrial ecosystems; the regulations of water storage, filtration, and fluxes are ecosystem functions performed by soil. Soil protection and restoration are relevant issues to guarantee water conservation, in quantity and quality. Climatic aggressiveness and inappropriate soil management systems are drivers of soil physical degradation. The soil structure degradation, depth modification and natural organization of soil profile, can induce an upsetting of the hydrologic equilibrium and an increase of the vulnerability of soil to water erosion.

This SI deals with the quantitative characterization of soil hydrological properties and processes, as well as the evaluation of strategies aimed at preserving and restoring functionality in soils. Topics include i) interactions between soil physical/chemical/biological, hydrological features; ii) soil degradation and water conservation; iii) interactions between soil management and water availability; iv) soil management in arid climates; v) amendants used to improve soil physical-hydrological properties; vi) spatial variability of soil physical-hydrological features and site-specific management.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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