

A Soil Fauna Index For Assessing Soil Quality

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Soil faunal quality index based on taxonomic diversity and functional trait. According to Karlen et al. (1997), soil quality describes the capacity of a soil to sustain plant and animal productivity, to maintain or enhance water and air quality, and to support human health.

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To overcome the limitation, we designed a novel index using the diversity of the soil faunal community along with its functional traits, and the abundance of its members (Abundance-based Fauna Index, referred as FAI). The FAI method supports both the presence/absence data and its abundance.

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a measure of how well the soil fauna adapt to the particular soil. When applied to stable agricultural fi elds, such as maize fertilized by sewage sludge and farm yard manure, the QBS index generated

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A soil fauna index for assessing soil quality Shaokui Yan a, b, A.N. Singh c, Shenglei Fu d, Chonghui Liao e, Silong Wang a, b, *, Yuanliang Li a, b, Yang Cui a, b, Lile Hu f a

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Another index that could be applied to soil fauna communities is the V index , which expresses the magnitude of the response to tillage. The V index was calculated as: $V = 2 M C T M C T + M N T - 1 E 2$

~~Soil Fauna Diversity - Function, Soil Degradation ...~~

Soil Fauna Diversity – Function, Soil Degradation, Biological Indices, Soil Restoration 63 that prevent survival outside of the soil environment due to their lacking protection from desiccation and temperature fluctuations, as well as the sensory organs necessary to survive above ground by finding food and avoiding predators.

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Wanting to be an accessible primer, Soil Fauna Assemblages is a high level overview of current knowledge rather than a detailed tome of all existing information, with emphasis being placed on key findings and general patterns.

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Role of Fauna in Soil Ecosystem Structure and Function. Soil fauna plays a central role in three key ecological functions of soil ecosystems, specifically: (1) organic matter mineralization and dynamics; (2) support and regulation of primary production; and (3) development and maintenance of soil structure (Verhoef, 2004).

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Soil biology is the study of microbial and faunal activity and ecology in soil. Soil life, soil biota, soil fauna, or edaphon is a collective term that encompasses all organisms that spend a significant portion of their life cycle within a soil profile, or at the soil-litter interface. These organisms include earthworms, nematodes, protozoa, fungi, bacteria, different arthropods, as well as some reptiles, and species of burrowing mammals like gophers, moles and prairie dogs. Soil biology plays a

~~Soil biology - Wikipedia~~

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For simplicity, a general index of biological activity can be measured using soil fauna feeding activity alone (rather than attempting to

measure decomposition by all the component organisms in the system). To measure soil fauna activity as a function of decomposition, the bait lamina assay was developed by Von Törne.

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Departamento de Ecología y Biología Animal, Universidad de Vigo, Vigo, Spain. Soil fauna is crucial to soil formation, litter decomposition, nutrient cycling, biotic regulation, and for promoting plant growth. Yet soil organisms remain underrepresented in soil processes and in existing modeling exercises. This is a consequence of assuming that much of the below-ground diversity is just ecologically “ redundant ” and that soil food webs exhibit a higher degree of omnivory.

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Earthworms often form a major part of the soil fauna biomass and can represent up to 50% of the soil fauna biomass in some temperate grasslands, and up to 60% in some temperate forests. High levels of biodiversity, particularly at the microbial scale accompany the huge numbers of soil organisms. 104 bacterial species g⁻¹ soil is not an extreme ...

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Soil mesofauna feed on a wide range of materials including other soil animals, microorganisms, animal material, live or decaying plant material, fungi, algae, lichen, spores, and pollen. Species that feed on decaying plant material open drainage and aeration channels in the soil by removing roots.

~~Soil mesofauna - Wikipedia~~

Comparison of observed abundance (individuals (ind.) per gram dry litter), richness (orders per gram dry litter), and the Shannon-Wiener diversity index of soil fauna in litter mixture treatments...

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The resident soil micro- and mesoorganisms could be classified in the flora and the fauna. Soil flora includes bacteria, fungi and algae and tends to be more static. The fauna on the other hand tend to move about once the food source is exhausted. Fauna includes protozoa, nematodes, Collembola and acarids.

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