

A New Proposal for the Classification of Anthropogenic Soils. (S05-hartman073850-Poster)

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Abstract:

Anthropogenic soils need a taxonomic classification system for the unique properties of these soils to be readily identified. This classification system was developed as part of a study of anthropogenic soils in Knox County, Tennessee. The new system proposed combines the classification methods of Soil Taxonomy with the anthropogenic soil classification of Fanning and Fanning and the proposed Spolents suborder, with modifications for classification to the family level. A new suborder, Anthrents is added to the Entisols and separated from other suborders by having at least 3 of the 9 criteria common to anthropogenic soils. Twenty anthropogenic soil series/profiles were classified using Soil Taxonomy, the method of Fanning and Fanning, the proposed Spolents amendment to Soil Taxonomy, and the classification system proposed in this study to compare the information given by each method. Using the new system, 16 of the 20 soils were reclassified and the unique soil properties readily identified. Amendments should be made to Soil Taxonomy to separate anthropogenic soils from the other suborders of Entisols, and structured to convey the unique properties associated with these soils.

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