

A Comparison of Russian and U.S. Soil Classification on Selected Chernozems of the Kursk Oblast, Russia. (S05-noble114804-Poster)

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Abstract:

With the modern globalization of the world the need for a better understanding of soil classification in other countries is becoming increasingly important. Three soil profiles in the Kursk Oblast, Russia were investigated for a classification comparison using the modern Russian and U.S. soil classification systems. The objective of this study was to fully classify three chernozem soils (Mollisols) using both systems and to assess the strengths and weaknesses of each. The information will be used to propose guides for future amendments to each classification regime. Using the U.S. system, site 1 and 2 were classified as Pachic Paleudolls, while site 3 was a Cumulic Hapludoll. Using the Russian system the sites 1, 2, and 3 were classified as leached segregatory Chernozems. Major differences were reflected at the more detailed levels of classification. The key diagnostic feature for both systems was organic matter. Russian classification described the accumulation of non-visible carbonates, while the U.S. system reflected clay accumulation more accurately. The Russian taxonomic system did not appear to indicate temperature, moisture, or mineralogy of the soils studied.

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