Insights into the Agricultural Subsistence of the Ancient Maya as Defined by Various Soil Properties, Aguateca, Guatemala. (S06-terry171611-Poster)

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Abstract:

How the ancient Maya supported large populations on soils of limited productivity is one of the standing mysteries of this civilization. One agricultural method may have taken advantage of the relatively deep and fertile soils of karst depressions (rejolladas). Our objective was to investigate this possibility by examining soil catenas across rejolladas near the archaeological site of Aguateca, Guatemala. Preliminary findings shed light on ancient soil conditions and indicate that depression soils in this area may have been agriculturally important.

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