Hydromorphology of Anomalous Bright Loamy Soils (ABLS) of the Mid Atlantic Coastal Plain. (S10-zurheide154347-Poster)

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Abstract:

In the identification and delineation of wetlands, soil morphology is commonly used to evaluate whether or not hydric soils are present. The morphology of some soils in the Mid-Atlantic coastal region, however, does not seem to accurately represent their hydrological status and hydric condition. These are generally loamy in texture and are found at low-lying elevations near by to coastal waters or brackish marshes. The objectives of this study are 1) to demonstrate whether or not these soils in question are in fact hydric soils, 2) to understand why these soils do not reflect more typical hydromorphological features, 3) to evaluate the adequacy of present Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in identifying these soils, and 4) if necessary to propose alternate morphological indicators or methods to be able to accurately identify these as hydric soils. Four study sites on the Delmarva Peninsula have been identified. At each site, hydrology will be monitored using automated recording wells and redox potential will be measured using Pt electrodes. The relationship between soil morphology and hydro-geochemical conditions will be reported.

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