

Contents

1	Introduction: Soils—The Earth's Skin	1
1.1	Soils as Natural Bodies in Ecosystems.	1
1.2	Functions of the Soils in the Ecosphere	3
1.3	Soils as an Open System Worth Protecting.	5
	References.	6
2	Inorganic Soil Components—Minerals and Rocks	7
2.1	The Rock Cycle	7
2.2	Minerals	7
2.2.1	General	7
2.2.2	Silicate Structure.	9
2.2.3	Primary (Lithogenic, Pyrogenic) Silicates.	10
2.2.4	Clay Minerals.	15
2.2.5	Clay Mineral Formation and Transformation.	21
2.2.6	Oxides and Hydroxides	22
2.2.7	Carbonates, Sulfates, Sulfides and Phosphates.	30
2.3	Rocks	30
2.3.1	Igneous Rocks	31
2.3.2	Sediments and Sedimentary Rocks	32
2.3.3	Metamorphic Rocks	38
2.3.4	Anthropogenic Substrates.	39
2.4	Weathering	40
2.4.1	Physical Weathering	40
2.4.2	Chemical Weathering	41
2.4.3	Role of the Biota	45
2.4.4	Weathering Stability	46
2.5	Mineral Constituents of Soils	49
	References.	52
3	Soil Organic Matter	55
3.1	Origins, Distribution and Dynamics.	55
3.2	Contents and Quantities of Organic Matter in Soils.	56

3.3	Plant Residues and Their Transformation During Decomposition.	60
3.3.1	Composition and Structure of Organic Residues	60
3.3.2	Decomposition and Transformation Reactions in the Soil	63
3.4	Formation of Stable Organic Matter	66
3.4.1	Stabilization by Interactions with the Mineral Phase	67
3.4.2	Stabilization by Spatial Separation	70
3.4.3	Organic Matter in Functional Soil Fractions	71
3.5	Composition and Properties of Soil Organic Matter.	71
3.5.1	Binding Forms of C, N, P and S in Soil Organic Matter.	71
3.5.2	Properties of Soil Organic Matter	73
3.6	Soil Organic Matter Dynamics	74
3.6.1	Turnover Rates and Turnover Time of Organic Matter in Soils	74
3.6.2	Estimation of the Turnover Time	75
3.6.3	C Turnover Modeling	78
3.6.4	Soils as a Carbon Reservoir and Source.	79
	References.	84
4	Soil Organisms and Their Habitat.	87
4.1	Soil Organisms.	87
4.1.1	Microflora and Viruses in Soils	87
4.1.2	Soil Fauna (Micro-, Meso-, Macro- and Megafauna)	92
4.1.3	Numbers and Biomass of Soil Organisms	97
4.1.4	Soil Organisms as a Biocoenosis	100
4.2	Environmental Conditions	104
4.2.1	The Soil as a Source of Nutrients and Energy for Soil Organisms	104
4.2.2	Water and Atmosphere	105
4.2.3	pH Value and Redox Potential	107
4.2.4	Temperature.	107
4.3	Functions of Soil Organisms	108
4.3.1	Function of Soil Organisms in Matter Cycles.	108
4.3.2	Function of Soil Organisms in Redox Reactions.	112
4.3.3	Function of Soil Organisms in Soil Structure Stabilization.	114
4.4	Soil Organisms as Bioindicators	115
4.4.1	Effect of Soil Management on Soil Organisms	115
4.4.2	Environmental Pollution	117
4.4.3	Climate Change	118

4.5	Methods in Soil Biology	119
4.5.1	Microorganisms	119
4.5.2	Soil Fauna	121
	References.	121
5	Chemical Properties and Processes	123
5.1	Soil Solution	123
5.1.1	Composition of Rainwater	123
5.1.2	Composition of the Soil Solution	124
5.2	Gas Equilibria	127
5.3	Speciation and Complex Formation.	127
5.3.1	Ionic Strength, Concentration, and Activity	128
5.3.2	Solution Speciation	129
5.4	Solubility and Dissolution Kinetics	131
5.4.1	Solubility Constant, Ion Activity Product, and Saturation Index	132
5.4.2	Stability Diagrams	132
5.4.3	Dissolution and Precipitation Kinetics	135
5.5	Sorption.	136
5.5.1	Reactive Surfaces and Surface Charge	137
5.5.2	Ion Exchange	142
5.5.3	Surface Complexation of Cations and Anions	144
5.5.4	Sorption of Organic Substances on Mineral Surfaces	147
5.5.5	Sorption Kinetics	148
5.5.6	Sorption Modeling	149
5.6	Soil Reaction and pH Buffering	154
5.6.1	Soil Reaction	154
5.6.2	Soil Acidity and Base Neutralization Capacity (BNC)	156
5.6.3	H ⁺ Sources	157
5.6.4	pH Buffering, Soil Acidification and Acid Neutralization Capacity (ANC)	160
5.6.5	Liming of Acidic Soils	163
5.7	Redox Reactions and Redox Dynamics	165
5.7.1	Redox Reactions and Redox Potential	166
5.7.2	pe-pH Diagrams	167
5.7.3	Redox Reaction Kinetics	169
5.7.4	Redox Processes in Soils	170
5.7.5	Soil Redox Potential	171
	References.	172
6	Physical Properties and Processes	175
6.1	Texture and Packing	175
6.1.1	Particle Formation.	176
6.1.2	Particle Size.	176
6.1.3	Particle Classification	177
6.1.4	Particle Properties	180

6.1.5	Common Particle Distributions	181
6.1.6	Packing of the Primary Particles	182
6.1.7	Temporal Changes	188
6.1.8	Correlation Between the Solid Phase and Other Soil Properties	189
6.2	Interactions Between the Solid and Liquid Phases	189
6.2.1	Flocculation and Peptization	190
6.2.2	Shrinkage and Swelling	195
6.2.3	Wettability	199
6.2.4	Cohesion, Consistency and Hydraulic Pressure Head	200
6.3	Soil Structure	202
6.3.1	Structural Morphology	202
6.3.2	Stresses and Deformations	208
6.3.3	Soil Structural Stability	215
6.3.4	Biological, Climatic and Anthropogenic Effects on Soil Structure	220
6.3.5	Assessment of the Soil Structure for Agricultural Purposes	227
6.4	Soil Water	228
6.4.1	Introduction—Binding Forms	229
6.4.2	Water Binding Intensity	232
6.4.3	Water Movement in the Liquid Phase	239
6.4.4	Water Movement in the Vapor Phase	249
6.4.5	Soil Water Balance	252
6.4.6	Water Balance of Landscapes	257
6.5	Soil Air	261
6.5.1	Composition and Origin of the Constituents	262
6.5.2	Transport Mechanisms	264
6.5.3	Gas Balance	266
6.6	Soil Temperature	267
6.6.1	Significance of Thermal Phenomena	267
6.6.2	Energy Gains and Losses	267
6.6.3	Thermal Properties	268
6.6.4	Heat Movement	269
6.6.5	Heat Balance	271
6.7	Transport Processes and Translocations	273
6.7.1	Transport in Soils in the Liquid Phase	274
6.7.2	Transport in Soils in the Gaseous Phase	276
6.8	Soil Color	277
6.8.1	Color Classification	277
6.8.2	Coloring Components	278
6.8.3	Correlations Between Color and Soil Properties and Processes	279
	References	279
7	Soil Development and Soil Classification	285
7.1	Factors of Soil Formation	286
7.1.1	Parent Rock	286
7.1.2	Climate	288

7.1.3	Gravity and Relief	289
7.1.4	Water	290
7.1.5	Fauna and Flora	291
7.1.6	Human Activities	292
7.1.7	Time	293
7.2	Processes of Soil Development	294
7.2.1	Transformations and Depletions of the Mineral Body	294
7.2.2	Humus Accumulation—Development of Humus Forms	297
7.2.3	Structure Formation	300
7.2.4	Translocations	301
7.2.5	Redoximorphosis	306
7.2.6	Turbations	308
7.2.7	Soil Landscape Processes	311
7.2.8	Profile Differentiation	313
7.3	Diagnostic Criteria of Soils	316
7.3.1	Soil Horizon Designation	316
7.3.2	Diagnostic Horizons, Properties and Materials	322
7.4	Soil Classification	322
7.4.1	Soil Classification According to the WRB	323
7.4.2	Soil Classification According to the US Soil Taxonomy	325
7.4.3	Soil Classification in Germany	327
7.5	Representative Soil Units	332
7.5.1	Leptosols (LP)	333
7.5.2	Arenosols (AR)	337
7.5.3	Regosols (RG)	339
7.5.4	Cambisols (CM) and Umbrisols (UM)	339
7.5.5	Chernozems (CH), Phaeozems (PH) and Kastanozems (KS)	345
7.5.6	Soils with Clay Migration	348
7.5.7	Podzols (PZ)	351
7.5.8	Stagnosols (ST) and Planosols (PL)	353
7.5.9	“Reductosols” and Reductic Technosols (TC) . . .	356
7.5.10	Vertisols (VR)	357
7.5.11	Andosols (AN)	359
7.5.12	Ferralsols (FR) and Plinthosols (PT)	359
7.5.13	Calcisols (CL) and Gypsisols (GY)	361
7.5.14	Durisols (DU)	362
7.5.15	Solonchaks (SC)	362
7.5.16	Solonetz (SN)	364
7.5.17	Desert Soils—Soils with a Yermic Horizon and Aridic Properties	365
7.5.18	Gleysols (GL)	367
7.5.19	Fluvisols (FL)	370
7.5.20	Peat Soils—Histosols (HS)	376
7.5.21	Cryosols (CR) and Other Soils with Permafrost	379

7.5.22	Anthrosols (AT)	380
7.5.23	"Zoosols" (ZO).	382
7.6	Paleosols on Earth, and Soils on Mars and Titan	384
7.6.1	Paleosols on Earth	384
7.6.2	Soils on Mars and Titan	385
	References.	387
8	Soil Geography.	391
8.1	The Pedosphere	391
8.2	Paradigms of Soil Landscapes and Soil Genesis	392
8.2.1	Basic Principles of Soil Associations.	392
8.3	Soil Association Systematics and Soil Regions of Central Europe	397
8.3.1	Soil Regions of Central Europe (Fig. 8.4)	397
8.3.2	Soil Regions in Urban Industrial Areas	398
8.4	Soil Zones of the World	399
8.4.1	Ferralsols-Gleysols-Fluvisols Soil Zones in the Inner (Humid) Tropics (Rain Forest)	399
8.4.2	Acrisols-(Luvisols-Plinthosols)-Nitisols-Vertisols Soil Zones in the Outer (Seasonal) Tropics (Savannah)	401
8.4.3	Regosols-Calciisol-Solonchak Soil Zones in Semi-deserts	402
8.4.4	Arenosol-(Leptosol)-Gypsisol-Solonchak Soil Zones in (Extreme) Deserts (Fig. 8.1)	403
8.4.5	Planosol-Luvisol-(Acrisol)-Cambisol Zones in the Mediterranean Region	403
8.4.6	Chernozem-Kastanozem-Solonetz Zones of the Grasslands (Steppe, Prairie, Pampa, Veld) (Fig. 8.2)	404
8.4.7	Cambisol-Luvisol-Gleysol Zone of Temperate Zones (Mixed Forest and Forest Steppe)	405
8.4.8	Podzol-Cambisol-Histosol Zone of Boreal Forests (Taiga)	405
8.4.9	Leptosol-Regosol-Gleysol-Histosol Zone of the Tundra (Polar Steppe)	406
8.4.10	Leptosol-Gelic-Regosol-Cryosol Zone of Cold Deserts	406
	References.	407
9	Soil-Plant Relations.	409
9.1	Rootability and Rooting Zone.	409
9.1.1	Root System of Plants and Rootability.	409
9.1.2	Potential Rooting Zone	410
9.2	Water Supply to Plants	410
9.2.1	Plant-Available Water	411
9.2.2	Water Transport in the Soil-Plant-Atmosphere Continuum.	414
9.2.3	Water Consumption and Plant Yields	417

9.3	Soil Air and Oxygen Supply to Plant Roots	419
9.3.1	Soil Air Budget	419
9.3.2	Oxygen Supply to Plant Roots	420
9.4	Soil Thermal Budget, Soil Temperature and Plant Growth	421
9.5	Plant Nutrient Supply	422
9.5.1	Nutrient Contents, Binding Forms and Budgets	423
9.5.2	Nutrient Availability and Nutrient Supply in Soils	426
9.5.3	Nutrient Fertilization	431
9.6	Essential Nutrient Elements	433
9.6.1	Nitrogen	433
9.6.2	Phosphorus	444
9.6.3	Sulfur	454
9.6.4	Potassium	457
9.6.5	Calcium	461
9.6.6	Magnesium	462
9.6.7	Sodium	464
9.7	Micronutrient Elements	464
9.7.1	Manganese	465
9.7.2	Iron	468
9.7.3	Copper	470
9.7.4	Zinc	472
9.7.5	Boron	474
9.7.6	Molybdenum	476
9.7.7	Chlorine	477
9.8	Beneficial Elements	478
9.8.1	Silicium	478
9.8.2	Cobalt	479
9.8.3	Selenium	480
	References	481
10	Threats to the Soil Functions	485
10.1	Threats to the Soil Functions Through Chemical Contaminations	486
10.1.1	Entry Paths of Pollutants in Soils	487
10.2	Inorganic Substances	488
10.2.1	Sulfur Dioxide and Nitrogen Compounds—Forest Decline	488
10.2.2	Fluorine	493
10.2.3	Cyanides	494
10.2.4	Heavy Metals	496
10.2.5	Salts	509
10.2.6	Radionuclides	510
10.3	Organic Pollutants	517
10.3.1	Classification, Use, Inputs and Contents in Soils	517
10.3.2	Processes at the Soil Surface	523

10.3.3	Fixation in the Soil	524
10.3.4	Decomposition and Translocation	528
10.3.5	Uptake by and Effects on Organisms.	530
10.4	Farmyard and Secondary Raw Material Fertilizers, Dredged Material	533
10.5	Toxicological/Ecotoxicological Evaluation of Chemical Soil Pollution	536
10.5.1	Values for the Soil—Human Path	538
10.5.2	Values for the Soil—Crop Plant Path	540
10.5.3	Soil Values for the Soil—Groundwater Path. . .	541
10.5.4	Biological Evaluation of Soil and Soil Material	542
10.6	Remediation of Chemical Contaminations	543
10.7	Threats to Soil Functions Through Non-chemical Contaminations	546
10.7.1	Soil Erosion	546
10.7.2	Mechanical Soil Deformation	553
	References.	558
11	Land Evaluation and Soil Protection	561
11.1	Principles of Soil Evaluation/Assessment	562
11.2	Evaluation for Taxing and Agricultural Use	564
11.2.1	Soil Evaluation—German Soil Taxation Framework.	565
11.2.2	Soil Evaluation—Grassland Taxation Framework.	567
11.2.3	Assessment for Special Crops.	567
11.3	Assessment for Forest Use.	568
11.4	Evaluation for Societal Requirements Without Use of the Primary Production	573
11.5	Common International Soil Evaluation Methods	575
11.5.1	Storie Index Rating (SIR)	575
11.5.2	Fertility Capability Classification (FCC)	575
11.5.3	Land Capability Classification (LCC)	576
11.5.4	Land Suitability Classification (LSC).	577
11.5.5	Agro-Ecological Zones	578
11.5.6	Soil Quality Assessment	578
11.6	Soil Information Systems	579
11.7	Soil Protection	581
11.7.1	Reasons for Soil Protection	581
11.7.2	Protection of the Natural Body.	581
11.7.3	Soil Functions and Potentials	582
11.7.4	German Federal Soil Protection Act	582
	References.	584
	Appendix	587
	Index	593