



#### SOIL ANALYSIS FOR SOIL MAPPING



### 8th EUREGEO

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#### **Key points**



- 1.- Soil knowledge and soil mapping
- 2.- The soil laboratory
- 3.- Soil survey procedures and soil analysis
- 4.- Use of soil analysis in soil mapping
- 5.- Soil analysis mostly used in soil mapping
- 6.- New methods of soil data generation
- 7.- Additional notes and conclusions

### 1.- Soil knowledge and soil mapping



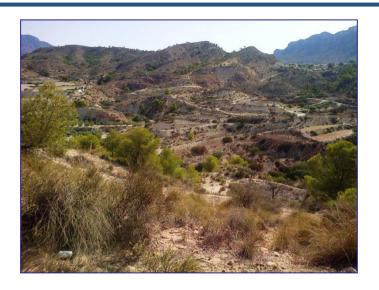




#### 1.- Soil mapping: a wide range of utilities











#### 2.- Soil laboratory and soil data



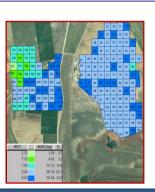




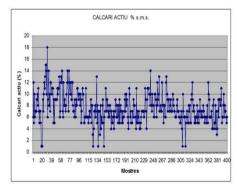


## Soil analysis: a compulsory task for soil mapping









#### 2.- Soil laboratory

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Almost 25 years providing soil analytical data for a wide number of users. Soil mapping is as a relevant consumer of soil analytical data.







Laboratory data: 40.000 samples/year. 25000 of them soil samples

- National projects
- International projects
- Classical soil survey and soil mapping projects
- Data base generation often associated with map production

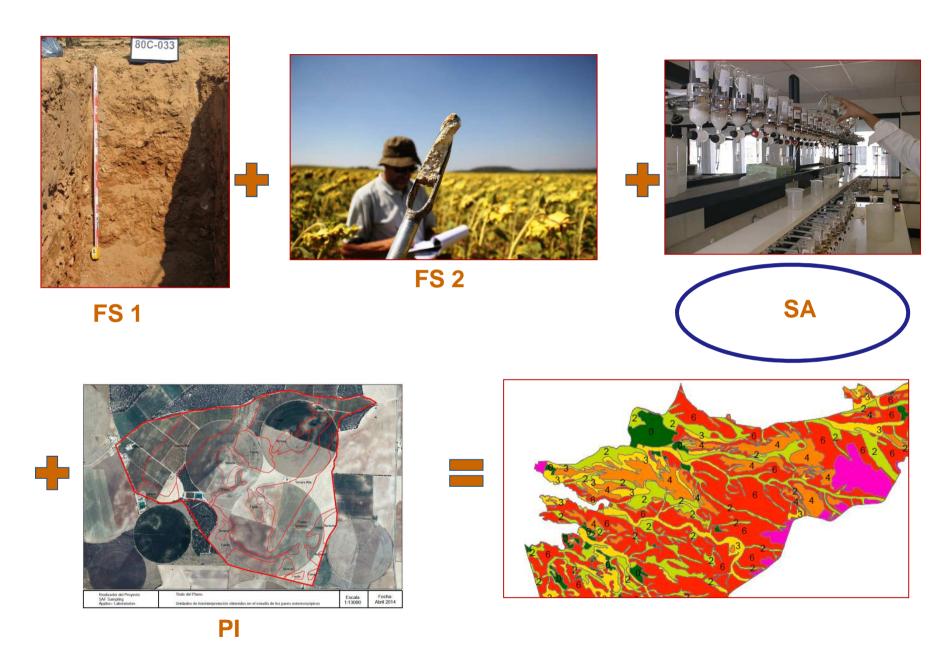
#### 3.- Soil survey procedure and soil analysis



#### **Steps in soil survey procedures:**

- 1.- Area reconnaissance
- 2.- Soil, geology, climate...data gathering, compilation
- 3.- Photointerpretation (PI), pre- delineation
- 4.- Soil description in the field (field survey, FS)
- 5.- Soil analysis (SA)
- 6.- Mapping units delineation (FS + PI)
- 7.- Final rapport and map

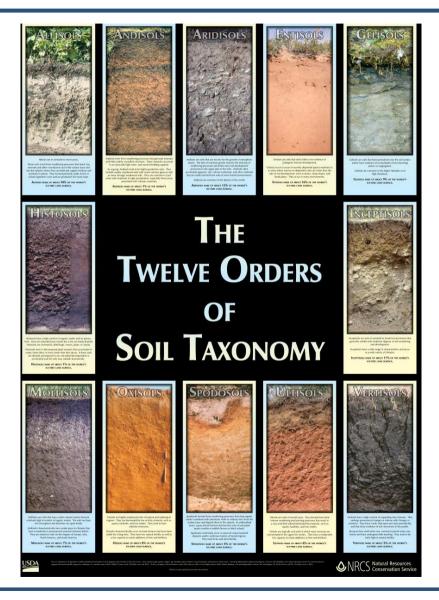
#### 3.- Soil survey procedure and soil analysis



#### 3.- Soil survey procedure and soil analysis



Analytical data are essential for soil classification procedures



#### 3.- ...the soil report and the soil map



A3g, Complex FONGUERA-ABELLER; arenosa 15-30% de pendent, no pedregosa, poc gravenca

#### Soil mapping unit



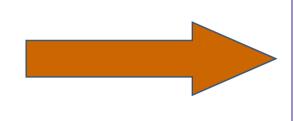
#### Soil serie

#### **Analytical data**

| Hori              | tzó I       | Profunditat |              | рН  |           | Matèria<br>orgànica (%) |  | Carbonat càlcid<br>equivalent<br>(%) | CE<br>(dS/m a 25 °C<br>1:5                   |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|---|-----------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| 0                 |             | -1          |              |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |
| Α                 | ı           | 0-10/22     |              | 7,0   |           | 1,7                     |  | 0                                    | 0,1  |
| B <sub>w</sub>    | /R          | >10/22      |              | 8,1   |           | 1,1                     |  | 0                                    |  |
|                   |             |             | Textura USDA |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |
| Horitzó           | Profunditat | ArG<br>(%)  | ArF<br>(%)   | Ar <sub>total</sub><br>(%)                  | LG<br>(%) | LF<br>(%)               | (%)                                      | a<br>(%)                             | Textura (USDA)                               |
| 0                 | -1          |             |              |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |
| Α                 | 0-10/22     | 75          | 16           | 91  | 2         | 2                       | 4  | 5                                    | Arenosa                                      |
| B <sub>w</sub> /R | >10/22      | 69          | 19           | 88  | 2         | 3                       | 5  | 7                                    | Arenofranca                                  |
|                   |             |             |              |   |           | Cati                    | ons de c                                 | anvi                                 |  |
| Horitz            | ó Prof      | Profunditat |              | Ca 2+<br>cmol <sub>c</sub> Kg <sup>-1</sup> |           | -1 C                    | Mg <sup>2+</sup><br>cmol <sub>c</sub> Kg | Na+<br>cmol <sub>o</sub> Kg          | CIC<br>I <sup>-1</sup> cmol <sub>a</sub> Kg∹ |
| 0                 |             | -1          |              |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |
| Α                 | 0-1         | 0-10/22     |              | 2,2   |           |                         | 0,2                                      | 0,1                                  | 4,3  |
| B <sub>w</sub> /F | R >1        | 0/22        |              |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |
|                   |             |             |              |   |           |                         | Fertili                                  | tat                                  |  |
| Hori              | tzo i       | Profunditat |              | N-NO <sub>3</sub> mg Kg <sup>-1</sup>       |           | Nkj (%)                 |  | P mg Kg-1                            | K mg Kg-1                                    |
| 0                 | 1           | -1          |              |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |
| Α                 |             | 0-10/22     |              | 1   |           | 0,04                    |  | 2                                    | 24   |
| B <sub>w</sub>    | /D          | >10/22      |              |   |           |                         |  |                                      |  |



- Soil recognition
- Soil horizon definition
- Soil classification
- Soil mapping delineation
- Soil data base
- Soil evolution/ monitoring



 Soil Mapping for "static" or "dinamic" output products

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#### Some examples:

Soil recognition. eg ...How much carbonates?

Soil horizon definition.- eg...Which % of organic carbon?

• Soil classification.- eg...% how much clay in two consecutive horizons

Soil mapping delineation.- eg...specific soil sample chemical properties for supporting map unit delineation

Soil data base.- eg... heavy metal geological background

Soil evolution/monitoring eg...soil nutrient evolution (P, Zn...), OC

#### **Reliability:**



- Strong points of soil data originated in an expert soil laboratory
  - Use of specific methodologies (recognized methodology of soil analysis)
  - Internal quality control
  - Intercomparaison studies
  - Accreditation of specific procedures
  - Systematic in soil analysis procedure
  - Specialized personnel

#### The need of precise data







From the soil sample to the soil analytical sheet

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#### **Challenges:**

- Speed or turn around time (soil sampling- soil analytical data)
- Cost of the analytical process in relation to the overall cost in Soil Mapping Projects
- A better interaction between Soil Map producers and Soil Analyst concerning soil data characteristics
- The introduction of new analytical data in the standard soil analysis procedure. E.g.: NIR data in soil laboratory samples
- The change of analytical methodologies when new methods could allow for a better soil data information

#### 5.- Soil analysis mostly used in soil mapping



#### **About analytical methods:**

- Some notes about analytical methods
  - "Most of them" are internationally applied. "Most of them" remain local or regional.
  - Soil analysis methodologies are difficult to change
  - Some analytical methods are country-adapted; they have a tradition for specificity soil local characteristics
  - International methods are submitted to intercomparison exercises and they allow a better transfer of data between soil specialist teams

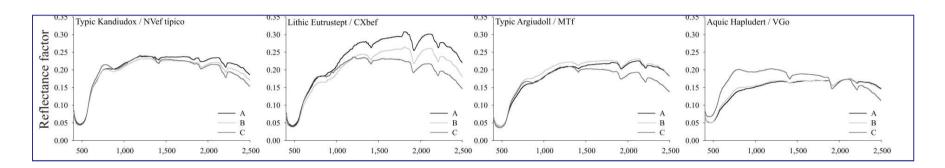
## 4.- Most frequently requested analytical data



| SOIL ANALYTICAL PARAMETER    | OBSERVATION   |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| рН                           | Certain variability in the method if not strictly applied                   |  |  |  |  |
| Clockwicel conductivity      | Essential for soil salinity evaluation                                      |  |  |  |  |
| Electrical conductivity      | Additional analysis pHe, CEe, anions and cations for salinity diagnostic    |  |  |  |  |
| Organic carbon               | Two main methods of work  |  |  |  |  |
| Calcium carbonate equivalent | Two main methods of work  |  |  |  |  |
| soil granulometry            | Different methods (Robinson, Bouyoucos), different limits between fractions |  |  |  |  |
| Cation exchange capacity     | Different methods with several limitations                                  |  |  |  |  |
| Soil water availability      | Difficult soil analysis test  |  |  |  |  |
| Soil nutrients               | amonium acetate predominant for cations. P different extractants            |  |  |  |  |
| Soil micronutrients          | Dominant methods  |  |  |  |  |
| Heavy metal                  | Different methods   |  |  |  |  |
| Saliniyty parameters         | Extract of saturated paste  |  |  |  |  |

# 6.- New methods of soil data generation eurofins

#### 1.- NIR Analysis (in lab. with treated soil sample

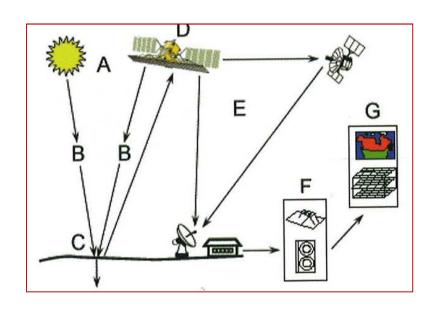


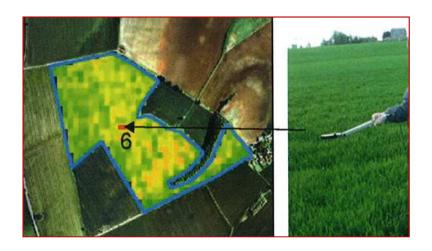
#### 2.- Multi- extracting methods. Objectives:

- To optimize the analytical work
- To reduce time, cost

**Problem: results interpretation** 

## 6.- New methods of soil data generation eurofins





Remote or proximal spectral sensing data (without soil sampling)
Constraints:

- They mostly concern with vegetation spectral response
- Concerning soil they concern with soil surface reflectance
- Validation, robustness of the method

#### 7.- Additional notes and conclusions



- Soil survey and soil mapping rely in objective, precise, soil analytical data
- Basics components of soil map (i.e. mapping units and soil description) are based upon reliable soil analytical data
- International, well known analytical methods are the reference. However "local" methods and historical data imply the use of local methods which are often oriented to local conditions

#### 7.- Additional notes and conclusions



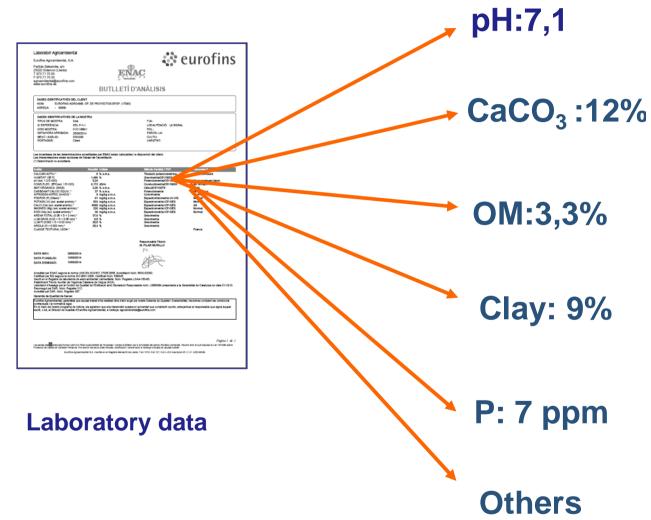
- NIR methods could accelerate the soil analytical data production. They could amplify the number of samples to be analyzed in routine surveys
- Remote or proximal sensing methods obtaining spectral responses directly from the field are being incorporated to soil mapping. They are less related with soil analysis
- Soil surveyors and soil analyst should cooperate strongly in order to optimize the soil data generation and usefulness

## From the soil observation to the soil analytical data





Field data



#### Soil analysis for soil mapping



23

## "Soil analysis: a tool for learning" (Blackmer, 2003)

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