

#### X-ray CT assessment of soil structure: a tool for monitoring soil biota driven ecosystem services in agricultural soils

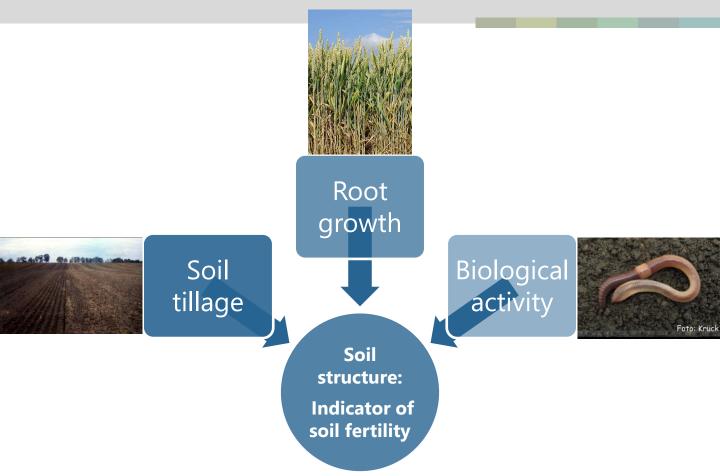
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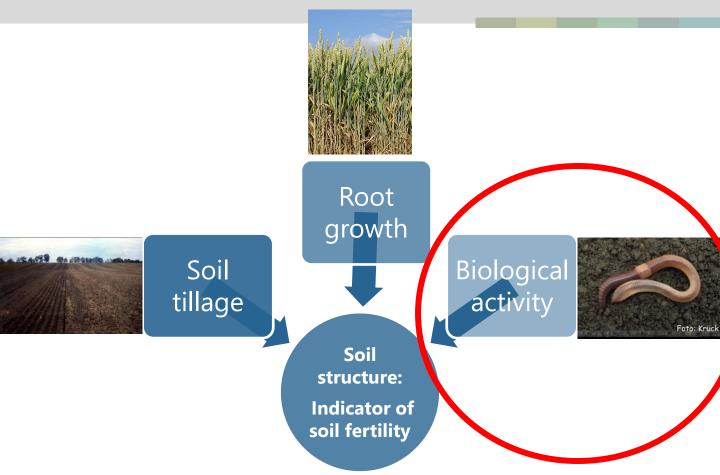
### Rationale





### Rationale





### What is known ?

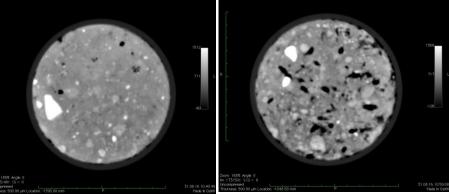




Sampling undisturbed soil cores



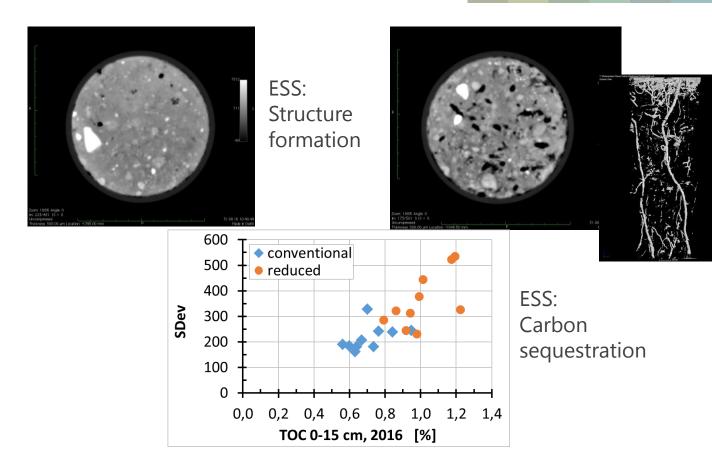
Soil structure (medical X-ray **computed tomography**, 12 cm diameter topsoil samples) (IZW Berlin) indicates earthworm abundance and activity



8 earthworms/ m<sup>2</sup> Conventional tillage 276 earthworms / m<sup>2</sup> Reduced tillage

# CT assessed soil structure indicates soil biota induced ESS





How to incorporate this knowledge about biodiversity and ESS into the agricultural practice ?



### Smart Simplification !

#### COST Action ES 1406 KEYSOM





#### 36 top soil samples from 16 countries

grassland and forest

Smart simplification 1: Sampling and shipment of undisturbed soil samples





### Medical X-ray computed tomography





resolution: 0.3 mm

**IZW Berlin** 

#### Morphometrics of selected soil cores (Elles, TU Berlin)



	# Pores 2 mm	Vol mm3	Surf. mm2	Euler #	# Pores 5 mm	Vol mm3	Surf. mm2	Euler #	Med. CT
Cos 10 Cro		3924	7126	95	62	3780	6567	48.5	
Cos 15 UK	t 152	14137	22609	-32	94	13949	21860	-89.5	10
Cos 16 UK	t 412	6255	15407	367.5	302	6108	14714	258.5	
Cos 23 Ro	t 137	4937	9441	103.3	79	4759	8780	52.3	
Cos 24 Ro	t 178	8347	17512	133.3	102	8098	16550	61.8	

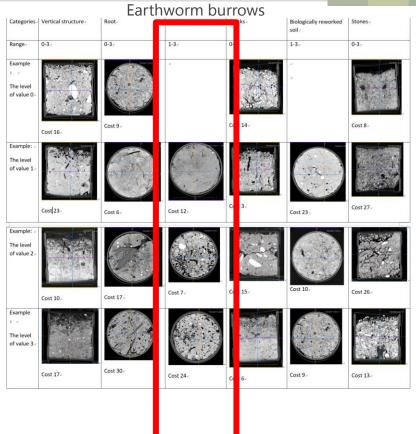


## Smart simplification 2: Design of simple categories with 4 levels

Categories	Vertical structure -	Root	Earthworms burrows -	Cracks /	Biologically reworked soil-	Stones-
Range-	0-3-	0-3-	1-3-	0-3-	1-3-	0-3 -
Example : . The level of value 0 -	Cost 16-	Cost 9-	Υ.	Cost 14-	*	Cost 8-
Example: - The level of value 1 -	Cost 23	Cost 6-	Cost 12-	Cost 3-	Cost 23-	Cost 27-
Example: - The level of value 2 -	Cost 10-	Cost 17-	Cost 7-	Cost 15-	Cost 10.	Cost 25-
Example : The level of value 3	Cost 17-	Cost 30-	Cost 24-	Cost 6-	Cost 9-	Cost 13-

### Smart simplification 2: Simple categories with 4 levels





### Simple categories suitable for distinction of system states! (based on COST ES1406)





How to incorporate this knowledge about biodiversity and ESS into the agricultural practice ?



Proof of concept: Long-term tillage experiment Lietzen (since 1996)





#### Example: Long-term Field Experiment Lietzen

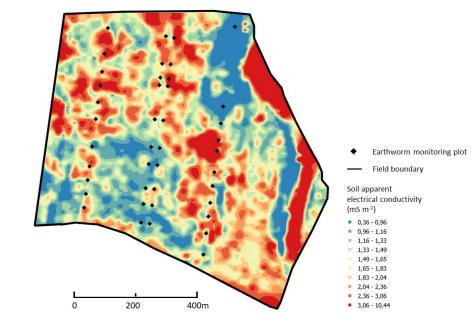




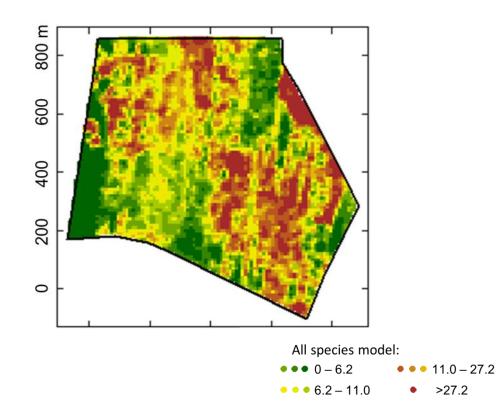
Abundances, assessed by hand sorting, strongly related to soil properties (fine particles) Proximal soil sensing for Eca, pH, Corg (ATB)

### Soil map based on proximal soil sensing





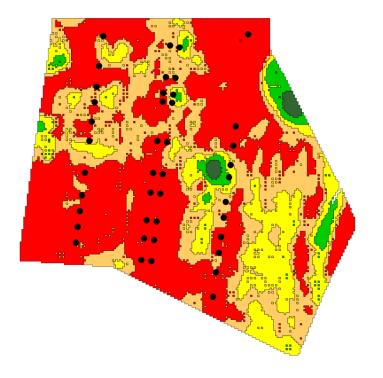
Earthworm distribution map based on long-term study of earthworm abundances at 42 plots and proximal soil sensing





Usage of earthworm abundances for the delineation of management zones !

## Application map for site-specific fertilization with organic manure





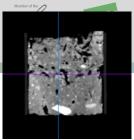
Applikationskarte (in t/ha)						
Mittel:	Kompost_Li_2_A4					
Wert	Fläche					
15 t/ha	0,4800 ha					
20 t/ha	1,8425 ha					
25 t/ha	10,3350 ha					
30 t/ha	18,8825 ha					
35 t/ha	31,5175 ha					
Gesamtfläche: 63,0575 ha						
Gesamtmenge: 1.972,01 t						
Durchschnitt: 31,27 t/ha						

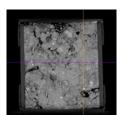
Applikationskarte

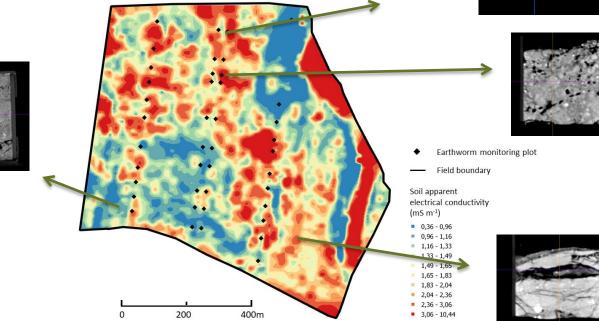
Budras, Komturei Lietzen



### Next step 2020: CT assessed soil structure for the delineation of management zones!





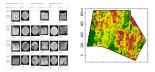


Application maps based on soil maps, CT scans, smart analysis and AI-based decision trees

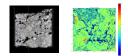




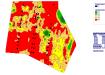




- Step 1: Soils maps of the desired area
- Step 2: Smart sampling of soil samples
- Step 3: X-ray CT scanning and analysis of soil fertility status



 Step 4: Derivation of local application maps based on AI decision algorithms



 Step 5: Usage of application maps in agricultural technology

### Thank you!

#### Willkommen!

axisversuch Lietzey

Weg in die Zukunie

1. 1.

