Results of the Focus Group on soil salinisation

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EIP-AGRI Seminar 'Healthy soils for Europe: sustainable management through knowledge and practice'

FG Soil Salinisation

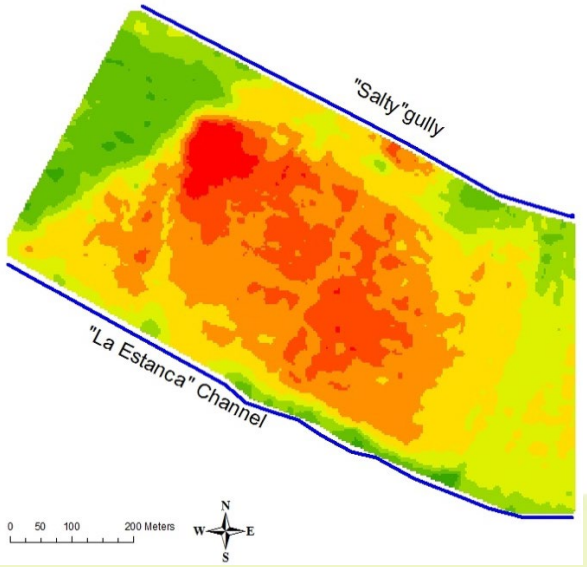
- **How to deal with the salinisation or salinisation risk in agricultural soils?**

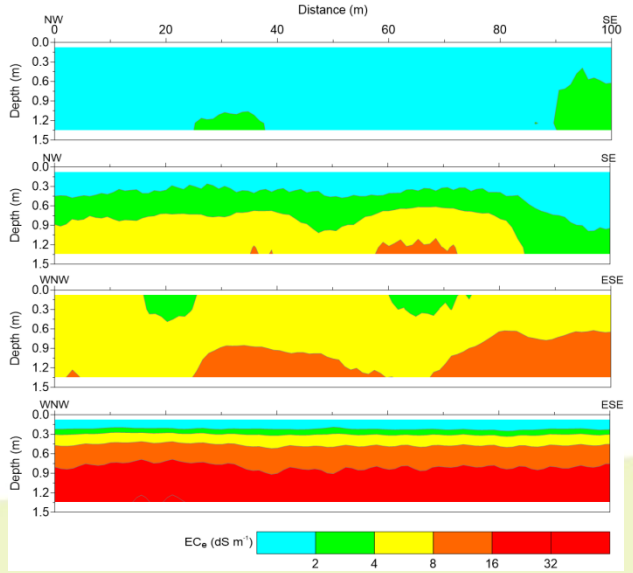
- 20 experts from different backgrounds worked during 2019.
- The results are published in a Final Report and a Factsheet.

Permanent pasture at risk of salinisation due to saline water table, close to the estuary of river Tagus in Portugal. Photo by the author.

Identification of key issues

- Measuring, monitoring and mapping of salt-affected soils
- Prevention, mitigation and adaptation strategies at farm level
- Ecosystem services and salinisation
- Decision Support Systems for management of salt-affected or at-risk areas
- Valuable plant quality in response to soil or water salinity
- Salt tolerant crops as an alternative for farmers in salt-affected areas





Key issues	Measuring, monitoring and mapping	Prevention, mitigation and adaptation strategies at farm level	Ecosystem services and salinisation	Decision Support Systems for management of salt-affected or risk areas	Valuable plant quality aspects in response to salinity	Salt tolerant crops as an alternative for farmers in salt-affected areas
Needs from practice		Fine tune management practices with the monitoring techniques	Analyses of on-site and off-site relations between ecosystem services and salinisation	Increase the accuracy of decision support models by collect long-term field data		Test salt-tolerant crops' in specific regions and explore market opportunities
Research for innovation	New methods to map salt-affected soils using remote and proximal sensors	Identify soil biota that increase plant resistance to salinity			Identify environmental and plant genetic factors that can confer valuable qualities	Profile genetic traits for breeding salt-tolerant crop varieties

Recommendations

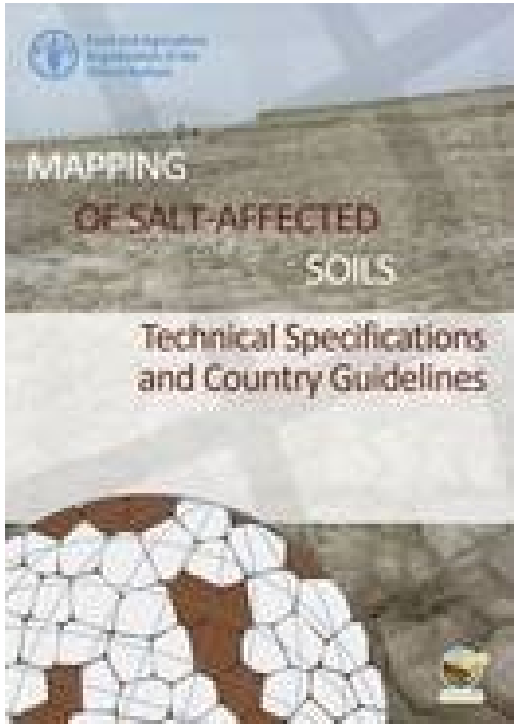
Technical

- Harmonization of methodologies, monitoring standards, and data sharing schemes.
- Explore market opportunities for halophytes or for crops that develop special properties when grown under saline conditions.

Societal

- Enlarge collaborations: farmers and researchers involved in monitoring
- Improving advisory services and knowledge transfer
- Awareness raising on salt-affected soils

Recent developments



- FAO's Global Soil Salinity Map (process launched in 2020)
- New EU Soil Strategy - healthy soil for a healthy life – publication of a roadmap (2020) and public consultation until 27/04/2021
- Proposed EU Mission Caring for Soil is Caring for Life under Horizon Europe

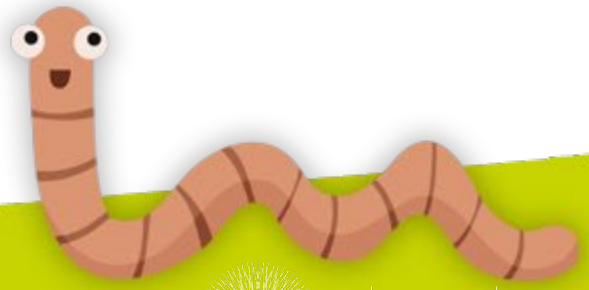
Thank you for your attention!

I am looking forward further discussions during the breakouts!

EIP-AGRI seminar
Healthy soils for Europe: sustainable management through knowledge and practice
Online – 13-14 April 2021

All information of the seminar is available on
www.eip-agri.eu

On the event webpage
https://ec.europa.eu/eip/agriculture/en/event/eip-agri-seminar-healthy-soils-europe-sustainable



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