



ČESKÁ PEDOLOGICKÁ SPOLEČNOST

CZECH SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCE

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To whom it may concern

December 2, 2020

Dear Sir / Madam,

We have received the Roadmap towards the new Soil Thematic Strategy. This initiative, entitled “New Soil Strategy – healthy soil for a healthy life,” sets the aim of improving soil conservation at a European level. After reading through the strategy, we would like to recommend, on behalf of the Czech Society of Soil Science (CSSS), the inclusion of the following points:

- In part A of the document – Problem the initiative aims to tackle, we recommend:
 - a) in relation to organic carbon stocks and the influence on soil diversity, the extent of these problems should be described, as is the case with other types of degradation.
 - b) the description of types of soil degradation does not include soil compaction, which is also a serious problem on agricultural land.
- In the first point in part B, Step up efforts to protect soil fertility and reduce soil erosion, we recommend the inclusion of other types of soil degradation.
- Part B also specifies how the stated aims can be achieved. In this respect, we consider it essential that the common agricultural policy looks towards upholding the principles of sustainable management of soil, which should be based on scientific research. This combination of sustainable agricultural management and soil conservation should be a fundamental condition for obtaining any subsidies whatsoever.

We are sure that the proposed initiative will help to protect the soil as the essential element of the environment it certainly is.

With best regards

Prof. Bořivoj Šarapatka
President of CSSS

Dr. Milan Sánka
CSSS Secretary