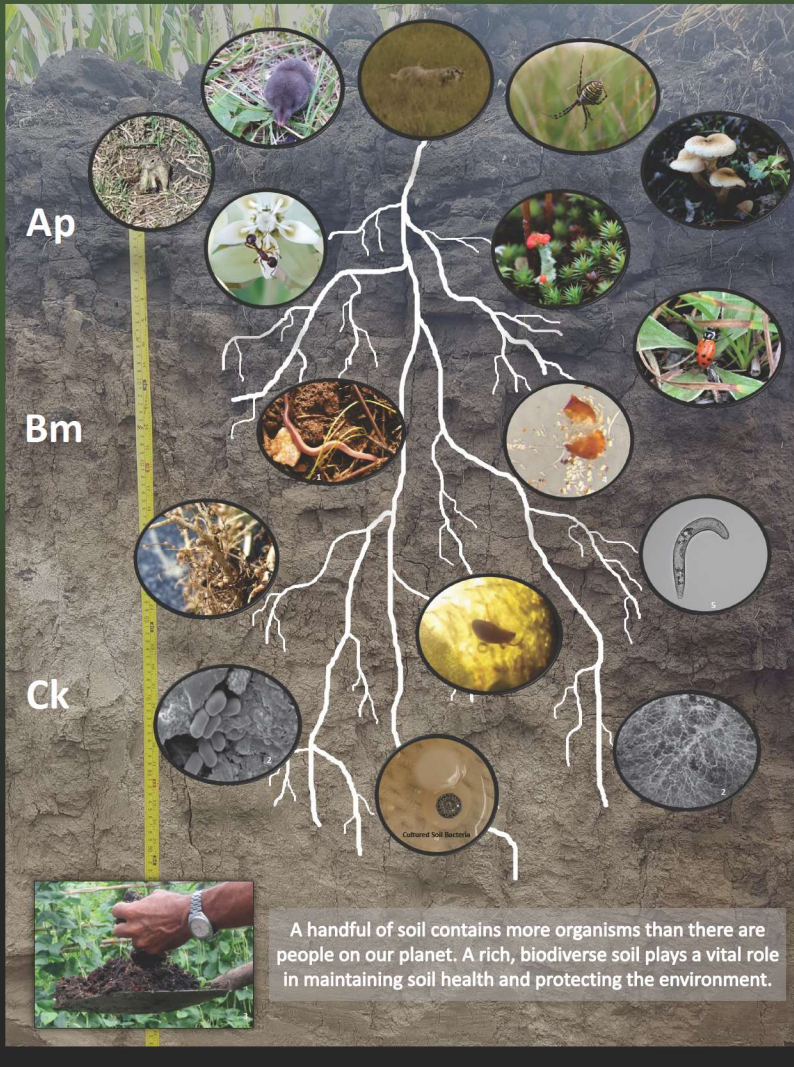


Protect Soil Biodiversity: Protect Our Planet



A handful of soil contains more organisms than there are people on our planet. A rich, biodiverse soil plays a vital role in maintaining soil health and protecting the environment.

Soils are recognized as the most biodiverse habitat on our beautiful planet. Their extremely complex physiochemical nature makes soil a home to a wide variety of biota ranging from microscopic unicellular bacteria to warm blooded burrowing animals such as prairie dogs, badgers and foxes.

Scientists have characterized soil biota into five main categories based on their relative size; microorganisms and microfauna (bacteria, algae, nematodes and fungi), mesofauna (tardigrades, collembolans, mites), macrofauna (earthworms, millipedes, and ants) and megafauna (ground squirrels and badgers).

Ground squirrels and badgers aid in soil turnover and mixing. Earthworms and ants create pores and aid in soil drainage. Mites, collembolans and insects help regulate decomposition. Nematodes, fungi and bacteria are the smallest and most abundant organisms in the soil and contribute to many biogeochemical processes including decomposition.

Some of the benefits of having rich soil biodiversity are:

- Recycling of plant, animal and human waste.
- Cycling of soil nutrients.
- Improving soil structure, soil quality and organic matter.
- Increasing food production.
- Removing air, water and soil contaminants.

MSSS 2022 calendar recognizes Manitoba's soil biodiversity by highlighting some of the major species of soil biota native to our province.

References:
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²European Atlas on Soil Biodiversity (EAB) ³Manitoba Soil Science Society
⁴Nazanin Ghavami (U of M) ⁵Raf Orlowski & Vicky Coffey (U of W)



2022 **Nutrien** **Agrologists** **KOCH** **Manitoba Canola Growers**
 MANITOBA AGRONOMIC SERVICES

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
²³ / ₃₀	²⁴ / ₃₁	²⁵ / ₃₁	²⁶ / ₃₁	²⁷ / ₃₁	²⁸ / ₃₁	²⁹ / ₃₁	27	28	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31	²⁴ / ₃₁	25	26	27	28	29	30		
Soil Fertility Refresher Course * Northharvest Bean Growers Association Bean Day (Fargo, ND)							* Manitoba Oil Growers Association AGM * Part of Crop Connect Conference * MFSG AGM							Getting it Right Crop Production Meeting (Location: Portage) Royal Manitoba Winter Fair													
MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4			1	2						1	2	3	4	5	6		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	²⁴ / ₃₁	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31									
CSGS Meetings, joint meeting w/ AB Soil Sci Workshop														Crop Diagnostic School Crop Diagnostic School													
SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	²³ / ₃₁	²⁴ / ₃₁	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
														ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meetings													
														World Soil Day													
														Prairie Oil Growers Association AGM (Location: Bantul, AB)													
														Manitoba Agromet Conference													

Manitoba Soil Science Society www.mbsoils.ca