Evaluation of soil physical quality using simple Indicators

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Since the characteristics of the indicators used to evaluate soil quality should be sensibility to changes in management, but also stability to modifications not related to management, robustness, relevance, analytic validity and cost effectiveness, we tried to evaluate soil physical state using simple parameters that comply with the requirements (indices related mainly to texture, and also pedotransfer functions related to soil compaction, crusting, porosity). In the study area, the results showed that most of the soils are sandy loams and loams, weakly light - weakly compacted. This aspect is a hopeful one, since it indicates a poor soil compaction. In the case of total porosity, the largest part of the soils has medium and large values of this parameter. In the analysis of structure degradation has been used the crusting index, the largest part of the analyzed profiles being characterized by low values. Most of the soils have high or very high water capacities, due to their sand content and large porosity.