



Expression of Interest

Soil Biology Workshop

Course description

This course is designed to provide participants with an introduction to the contribution of soil organisms to soil health, land management strategies to maintain and increase soil biological health and some methods to monitor changes in the activities of soil organisms. Participants may then apply this knowledge in their field of work, be it local government, agricultural production, environmental management or education.

Course objectives

This course provides participants with an opportunity to understand how soil organisms contribute to soil health and how to measure their activities. Land management practices that increase soil organic matter/soil organic carbon content are also described as the underlying processes to maintain and increase soil biological health. Practical aspects of monitoring soil organisms focus on farm based measurements.

The objectives of this course are to:

- recognise a healthy soil ecosystem identify land management practices that support activities of soil organisms
- understand the importance and practices of building soil organic carbon/soil organic matter levels for soil biological health
- understand the diversity and benefits of soil organisms for sustainable production and ecosystem health
- monitor soil organisms in the field.

Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to:

- describe a biologically healthy soil
- distinguish key groups of soil organisms in practice
- describe benefits contributed by soil organisms to ecosystem functions
- identify appropriate management strategies for maintaining and increasing soil biological health
- develop and use a monitoring plan to measure presence of soil organisms

Expression of Interest (EOI) closes Thursday 31 May 2012.

For further information and to submit an EOI please contact:

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