

M5: Soil Biological Quality Index (QBS-ar), a different way to look at soil

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Soil functions essentially depend on the high and still partially unknown biodiversity. The capability of soil to perform its functions is often referred to soil quality. The QBS-ar index, based on soil microarthropod community, was developed combining two important aspects: 1) soil microarthropods biodiversity; 2) soil microarthropod adaptation to soil conditions. This index, to date applied at international scale, allows to evaluate the suffering state of soils. It is an expeditious tool to evaluate soil biological quality in degraded lands and recovery areas.

