

Hands in the mud

Organiser: Toos van Noordwijk

Institution: Earthwatch Europe

Co-organisers: Fraukje Steffen

Description:

Earthwatch has developed a soil health toolkit that enables farmers and other non-scientists to measure soil health in an easy and intuitive way. The tool covers soil texture, colour, infiltration rate, earthworm count and vegetation cover and can be extended with further parameters. The tool inspires users to get hands-on and observe their soil close-up, which leads to new insights on what soil health means, how healthy local soils are and how soil health could be improved. The tool is used in inspiration projects and as a simple monitoring tool e.g. for regenerative agriculture projects. In this masterclass you will get your hands dirty and try the tool and accompanying app in the field. While playing in the mud, we will also be discussing how this tool can support soil health research and restoration projects, how it complements existing tools and how it could be further developed and improved.

Theme: Soils for society

Keywords: citizen science, soil health, app, insight, regenerative agriculture

Type of masterclass: Tutorial

