

Soil Health Analysis

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Abstract

India is an incredibly diverse country from the religions practiced to the food eaten. Mysore, Karnataka is a city about the size of Dayton, Ohio and located in a slightly more rural environment. This summer, partnered with the Organisation for the Development of People (ODP), a document to aid in the soil management practices of farmers was created. The document is currently only written in English and will need to be translated to the local language, Kannada, before being fully utilized by the farmers. Once translated, ODP can evaluate how helpful the information is and if anything needs to be altered.

Results & Discussion

- On-site laboratory is equipped to expand tests to include micronutrients
- Document will be beneficial to farmers once translated into the local language
- Limited time and language barriers prevented the document from being more applicable
- File corruption of the document caused many hours of work to be lost and the project had to be restarted from scratch

Introduction

- ODP aims to make individuals self-reliant through education and empowerment
- Farmers in India will benefit from additional information to increase their crop yield
- Online resources are available, but farmers have limited access to internet

Recommendations

- Always back your files
- Expand the information included in this document to include field-tested results
- Create a more efficient soil sampling method
- Immerse yourself completely in Indian culture

Project Description

Soil Health Analysis

- Initial research was conducted to understand soil health and all its related aspects including common nutrient experiments and soil management methods
- Analyzed the capabilities of ODP's on-site laboratory and the current tests being used to measure soil health
- Created a document to aid farmers with soil management
 - Description of nutrients and their purpose
 - Explanation of soil pH and methods to alter it
 - Methods to measure soil health at home including,
 - Visual analysis
 - Small scale tests
 - Purpose of fertilizers and application methods



Figure 1: Site Visit

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