



Soil Microbe Map Project 2015

Quick Facts

- ◆ This project is a collaboration of Oregon State University's (OSU) Crop and Soil Science Department, the Oregon Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and the NRCS Soil Survey Regional Office 01 based out of Portland, Oregon. The project is sponsored by the NRCS Kellogg Soil Survey Lab in Lincoln, Nebraska. Dr. David Myrold from OSU and Ron Raney from Oregon NRCS are the project leads.
- ◆ The objective of the project is to link soil microbial populations with soil series, climate zone, landforms, parent materials, and land use and management. Understanding the different microbes that exist in soils helps us to better understand the soil food web, which is a driving force in healthy soils.
- ◆ The final statewide map will provide insight into Oregon's microbial diversity and density. We will also explore how this sort of data may be captured in our national soils database.
- ◆ Sites have been selected across Oregon of representative soils that have existing information such as laboratory data or are the recorded locations of official series descriptions.
- ◆ Sites selected will be visited one time by a team of local soil scientists who will dig small excavations by hand with a shovel and bucket auger to confirm the soil type. Once the site is confirmed they will note information about the soil profile, landscape, and land use. Scientists will take approximately 500 grams of soil from the top six inches of the soil profile. They will take five samples in a cluster around each site. These samples will be shipped to OSU for lab analysis.
- ◆ Location information including latitude, longitude and a location description will be recorded by the soil scientists. Landowner name will not be associated with the samples in any way. These samples will be used exclusively for research and stored at OSU.
- ◆ For more information please contact:

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