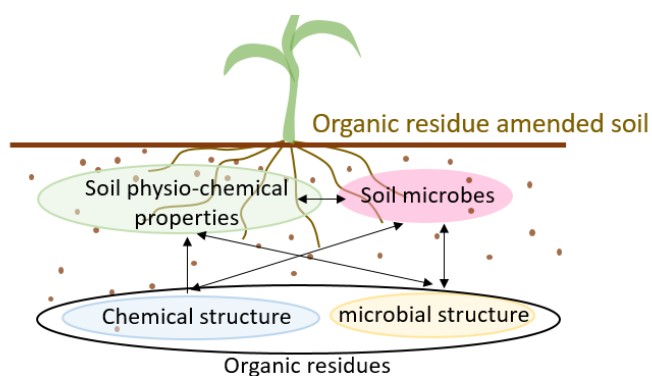


Master Thesis / Internship Project

Improving Agricultural Soils with Organic Residues: mechanistic investigation

Research Background

Though the application of organic residues as soil amendments to improve soil organic matter (SOM), soil fertility and functionality has very long history, it is still not clear what is happening in soil after the application of organic residues. The effect of organic residues with different chemical and microbial compositions on soil matrix is very complex and surrounded by riddles, especially the relationship with soil microbial characteristics and crop growth. In this project, environmental technology specialists from Wageningen University and soil ecologists from NIOO-KNAW (Netherlands Institute of Ecology) are going to cooperate and shed light on this complex context.



The objective of this research is to disentangle the relationship between organic waste, soil microbial communities and crop growth (mechanistic understanding).

Requirements

- Background in Environmental Science/Environmental Engineering/Microbiology/Plant Science or equivalent;
- Great interests in soil microbiology, organic residues and plant;
- Good analytical and experimental skills;
- Experiences in DNA extraction and downstream analysis (i.e. qPCR or Sequencing) are appreciated (but no worry if you don't have the experiences);
- Fluent in English and good English writing skills.

Duration, salary and location

- 4-6 months at Wetsus, Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Water Technology in Leeuwarden, The Netherlands (www.wetsus.nl).
- Salary: 350 € per month

Contact

Please contact Yujia Luo (yujia.luo@wur.nl) for more information or directly apply by sending your CV and motivation letter.