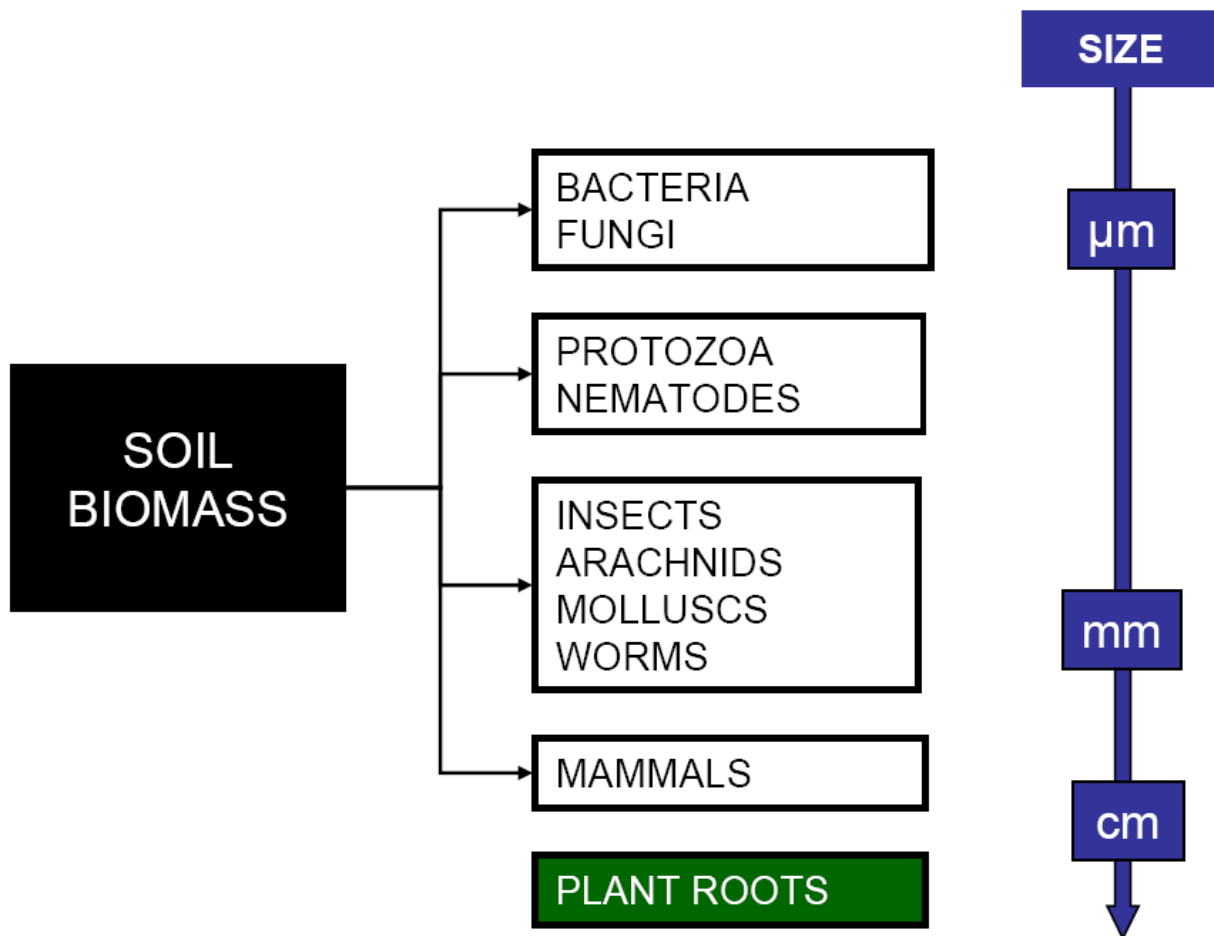




### WHAT DO WE MEAN BY SOIL BIODIVERSITY?

The range of organisms present in soil.

The variety and variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they occur.



Karl Ritz

Soil is the medium for a large variety of organisms and interacts closely with the wider biosphere; the maintenance of fertile soil is one of the most vital ecological services the biological world performs as the mineral and organic contents of soil must be replenished constantly as plants consume soil elements and pass them up the food chain.