



WHY IS SOIL BIODIVERSITY IMPORTANT?

Soil organisms are responsible for supplying the environment with a number of critically important ecosystem goods and services:

- Food
- Decomposition of organic matter to minerals and nutrients
- Transformations of pollutants
- Cycles of essential elements such as nitrogen and carbon



Soil organisms have a positive effects on soil fertility and plant growth. However, the effect of changes to soil biota on ecosystem processes are mostly unknown!



Soil is under threat from increased human population, poor land management and pollution. The EU Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection sets out to safeguard soil across Europe.