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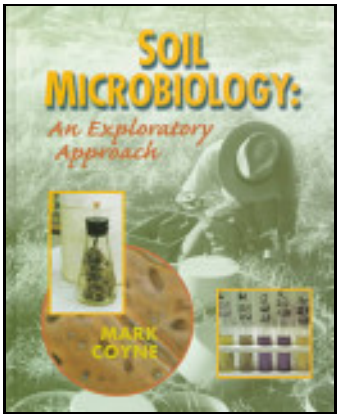
Soil Microbiology: An Exploratory Approach



Mark S. Coyne
Delmar, 1999 - Technology & Engineering - 462 pages
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Soil Microbiology is a user-friendly introduction to the incredible world of soil microbiology. The microscopic life in soil influences virtually everything in our lives from the water we drink, the food we eat, to the air we breathe. Understanding something about the life in soil, appreciating the things that these life forms do, and seeing how these activities influence our world is the goal of this textbook. This is a book you can actually read and comprehend with a minimum exposure to soil science or microbiology. It's appropriate for advanced high school students and college students just embarking on the study of environmental science. The textbook describes the life in soil in numerous short chapters that explain the basic concepts of soil microbiology in simple terms. Soil

Microbiology is full of pictures that illustrate each chapter's content, and it takes the reader through graphs and figures that a soil microbiologist would be interpreting every day. For almost every topic, the textbook provides a brief description of the procedures by which that information was obtained. The questions at the end of each chapter not only test the reader's general knowledge, but also stimulate them to think in broader, more abstract terms. Each chapter also has questions that help the reader use the math skills a typical soil microbiologist might use. Three large appendixes provide the reader with a glossary of common soil microbiology terms, a complete list and pronunciation guide of all the microorganisms listed in the textbook, and a time line that puts some of the events in soil microbiology into historical perspective.

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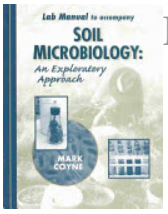

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Common terms and phrases

actinomycetes aerobic aggregates algae amino acids anaerobic antibiotics Bacillus bacteria biological biomass bioremediation C:N ratio carbon cell wall cellulose chemical clay compost compounds concentration cycle decompose decomposition degradation denitrification earthworms ecology effect electron acceptor energy environment environmental enzymes example Fe2+ Fe3+ fertilizer Figure Frankia fungal fungi glucose grow growth heavy metals heterotrophic hyphae immobilization important increases infection inoculation inorganic legumes lignin M. S. Coyne macrofauna material membrane metabolism microbial microbial populations microorganisms mineralization Mn2+ mycorrhizae N2 fixation nematodes NH4+ nitrate nitrification nitrogen nitrogenase nodules nutrients occurs oxidation oxygen pathogens Photograph courtesy plant roots polymers polysaccharides production prokaryotes proteins protozoa Pseudomonas reaction redox reduced reductase respiration rhizobia rhizosphere Society of America soil microbiology soil microorganisms soil organic matter Soil Science Soil Science Society species spores structure studied this chapter substrate sulfur surface symbioses Table temperature Thiobacillus tillage tion toxic viruses water potential

About the author (1999)

Susan Coyne is an actor who has played leading roles at theatres across Canada and overseas. She is a founding member of Toronto's Soulpepper Theatre, for whom she co-adapted Anton Chekhov's "Platonov (with Laszlo Marton). Kingfisher Days is soon to become a play, produced by the Tarragon Theatre, where she is a playwright-in-residence. She is also developing and writing a new TV series about life in the theatre. She and her husband, actor and director Albert Schultz, live in Toronto with their two children.

Bibliographic information

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