

Exercises Soil and soil fertility

1. Explain what pedogenesis means and which five factors influence soil formation.
2. Compare sandy and clay soils in terms of their water-holding capacity and workability. What are the advantages and disadvantages of each soil type?
3. What is soil structure and which four processes lead to its formation? Explain why a loose soil structure is desirable for agriculture.
4. Explain the concept of cation exchange capacity (CEC). Why is a higher soil pH advantageous for nutrient availability?
5. What influence does agricultural management have on COM content? Name at least three measures and explain their effect.