



Soil Carbon Sequestration Update

September/October 2020

Positive Developments

Nature based solutions are on the rise through regenerative agriculture, forestry and ecological restoration. <https://ecohealthglobal.org/network-sites/green-belt/>

Governments pledge to protect Nature.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#inbox/QgrcJHsTkxKQfQWGzxthGgQmjQfFRVMcqXB?project=1>

Award winning film builds hope and promotes regenerative agriculture

<https://kissthegroundmovie.com/>

Ambitious grasslands restoration project underway in southeastern USA

<https://www.segrasslands.org/>

Research on Soil Carbon Sequestration

New report by Arizona State University and the U.S. The National Science Foundation makes a strong case for soil as a driver of carbon sequestration.

https://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=301294

Nine Latin American countries plan to use silvopastoral practices—incorporating trees into grazing lands—to mitigate climate change. Work is underway to better quantify results.

<https://wle.cgiar.org/carbon-storage-potential-silvopastoral-systems-colombia>

The potential of agroecology to build climate-resilient livelihoods and food systems

<http://www.fao.org/3/cb0438en/CB0438EN.pdf>

New Zealand study shows potential for net zero emissions on sheep and beef farms.

An Auckland University of Technology project has concluded that farms can have 63-118% of their on-farm agricultural emissions offset when accounting for carbon sequestration.

<https://www.fwi.co.uk/livestock/grassland-management/new-zealand-sheep-and-beef-farms-close-to-carbon-neutral>

The Natural Resources Institute of Finland is demonstrating that a move from monocultures to diversified systems will enhance soil health and sequestration.

<https://phys.org/news/2020-10-diversified-field-higher-yield.html>

Dr. Ashish Malik at University of Aberdeen focuses on microbial communities, peatlands, and soil carbon sequestration. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xb4L00urBDQ>

Leading with Soil - Scaling Soil Carbon Storage in Agriculture (Carbon 180)

https://cdrlaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/LeadingWithSoil_FinalText.pdf

Global study seeks to quantify carbon sequestration benefits of seaweed and ocean agriculture. https://www.csrwire.com/press_releases/707601-oceans-2050-leads-global-effort-quantify-seaweed-carbon-sequestration

Recent study by the Chinese Academy of Sciences says that China's forests helped the country capture nearly half of its overall CO2 emissions between 2010 and 2016.

<https://www.earth.com/news/china-captures-nearly-half-of-its-annual-co2-emissions/>

World Food Prize Winner Dr. Rattan Lal pushes recarbonization of soil for food security.

<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/news/article/2020/10/13/world-food-prize-laureate-advocates>

Conferences and Online Programs

ReScape and PG&E are partnering to offer eight Speaker Series webinars about landscaping practices that address climate change, with a focus on carbon sequestration.

https://rescape.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=icalrepeat.detail&evid=261&Itemid=149&year=2020&month=10&day=19&title=carbon-sequestration-in-the-landscape-series-1-nurture-soil-to-sequester-carbon&uid=6e66edb51f84730f7d117c3de3cfd634

The Climate-Soil Community of Practice offers opportunities for learning and collaboration.

<https://wiki.afris.org/display/4COP2/Registration+for+the+Climate-Soil+Community+of+Practice>

Connecting People and Soil - Gathering of soil scientists in 2021

<https://eurosoil-congress.com/>

Policy Developments

The relevance of soil management within the European Green New Deal.

<https://cdrlaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/1-s2.0-S0264837720304257-main.pdf>

Columbia Law School and Center on Global Energy Policy launches new database on carbon removal policies and developments. <https://cdrlaw.org/technical-pathway/soil-carbon-sequestration/>

California Bill proposes a new approach to land based sequestration. <https://ehsdailyadvisor.blr.com/2020/09/california-bill-proposes-unique-regulation-of-land-based-ghg-emissions/>

Florida bill proposed to provide incentives for carbon farming. <https://cdrlaw.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/PDF.pdf>

Europe focuses on carbon farming without access to carbon markets. <https://www.euractiv.com/section/agriculture-food/news/europe-revives-carbon-farming-but-without-access-to-carbon-markets/>

Maine Congressional leader pushes for soil carbon sequestration through federal legislation. H.R. 5861, the Agriculture Resilience Act, is designed as a roadmap to sequester more carbon in the soil and reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions by supporting farmers. <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5861/text?r=1&s=2>

Programs and Resources for Farmers

Online program - improving soil health in arable systems. <https://farmcarbontoolkit.org.uk/events-calendar/month/2020-11>

Farm carbon calculator from the UK-based Farm Carbon Toolkit <https://calculator.farmcarbontoolkit.org.uk/>

Saskatchewan farmers want support for sequestering carbon <https://www.producer.com/2020/10/farmers-want-recognition-for-continued-carbon-work/>

New Resources and Recent Media Coverage

Can Agroecology Feed the World? <https://www.globalissues.org/news/2020/10/23/26963>

Soil Carbon Co, based in Australia is working to develop microbiological seed treatments composed of microbial fungi and bacteria designed to enhance soil health and soil carbon sequestration. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidrvetter/2020/10/14/the-amazing-secret-to-cutting-25-of-carbon-could-be-under-your-feet/#4ad427ed41ea>

Foresters can help with carbon drawdown in Pacific Northwest of USA <https://www.sightline.org/2020/08/05/foresters-could-lead-on-carbon-drawdown/>

How carbon-smart farming can feed us and fight climate change at the same time.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/08/how-carbon-smart-farming-tackles-climate-change/>

Former US Vice President Al Gore promotes soil carbon sequestration

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2020/10/12/al-gore-proposes-rewarding-farmers-practices-sequester-carbon-soil/5970302002/>

The Grassroots Agro-ecological movements are changing farming in India

<https://human-wrongs-watch.net/2020/10/16/the-agro-ecological-grassroots-movement-revolutionising-indian-farms/>

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