

THE DILEMMA OF THE UNIQUENESS OF NOTATING ASSOCIATION HORIZONS REGARDING THE DIAGNOSTIC OF SOILS DISTRIBUTED IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA IN CORRELATION WITH THE WORLD REFERENCE BASE FOR SOIL RESOURCES

Cojocaru Olesea¹, Filipov Fiodor², Lipșa Florin²

¹*Technical University of Moldova, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova*

²*„Ion Ionescu de la Brad” University of Life Sciences, Iasi, Romania*

E-mail: olesea.cojocaru@am.utm.md

The World Reference Base (WRB) is the international standard for the soil classification system, endorsed by the International Union of Soil Sciences. As far as possible, the diagnostic criteria match those of existing systems so that correlation with previous national and international systems is as simple as possible. The WRB is not predestined to replace national soil classification systems, but to be a tool for better correlation between national systems. The purpose of this paper is to identify and highlight the divergence of the scoring system of the association horizons of soils with similar properties or attributes spread over the territory of the Republic of Moldova. Some of which, characterized by a combination of attributes that reflect common, large-scale results of soil-forming processes, are thus identified and found in the fourth edition of the WRB that was launched in 2022. The ambiguities noting the horizons of association for the soils of the Republic of Moldova, must be correlated in a more concise way and closer to the WRB, being officially recognized by the public authorities of the country. As diagnostic materials, the factors that significantly influence soil formation processes based on their distinctive characteristics will serve you. This paper provides an overview of the association horizons diagnosed at the national level compared to those of the world, which may be useful to students of agriculture, forestry and engineering. In this case, the appropriate identification and connection of the diagnosis of association horizons to the new World Reference Base, will facilitate the national soil classification system in their naming and description, as well as the creation of legends for soil maps with specific land use. It is hoped that this publication will contribute to the general public and scientific community's awareness and understanding of the role of the universal soil science system.

The official Soviet soil classification was mainly used for soil mapping. According to V.V. Dokucaev, the essential characteristic and diagnosis of a soil is its morphological structure, on a vertical profile consisting of two main horizons and subsoil. The classification of the soils of the Republic of Moldova, was developed, discussed and adopted by the National Society of Soil Science of Moldova and confirmed as an official document by the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, is based on a special principle.

Keywords: *association horizon, divergence, soil diagnostics, Republic of Moldova, World Reference Base.*