



Periglacial cover beds – an overview

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Surficial ground in subdued mountains of Germany and far beyond is essentially ubiquitously covered by periglacial depsoits, mainly formed by gelifluction, some of which also contain admixed eolian matter. The presentation addresses some common misunderstandings regarding cover beds, such as their distribution, genesis, and their chrono-stratigraphic relevance, but also some prominent research gaps. Another focus is on the environmental importance of cover bed research regarding their role in pedogenesis, contamination, and in the hydrologic system.