



Soil water repellency of Antarctic soils (Elephant Point). First results

Paulo Pereira (1), Marc Oliva (2), and Jesus Ruiz Fernández ()

(1) Environmental Management Centre, Mykolas Romeris University , Vilnius, Lithuania (paulo@mruni.eu), (2) University of Lisbon, Institute of Geography Edifício da Faculdade de Letras - Alameda da Universidade 1600-214 Lisboa Lisboa , Portugal

Hydrophobicity it is a natural properties of many soils around the world. Despite the large body of research about soil water hydrophobicity (SWR) in many environments, little information it is available about Antarctic soils and their hydro-geomorphological consequences. According to our knowledge, no previous work was carried out on this environment. Soil samples were collected in the top-soil (0-5 cm) and SWR was analysed according to the water drop penetration test. The preliminary results showed that all the soils collected were hydrophilic, however further research should be carried out in order to understand if SWR changes with soil depth and if have implications on soil infiltration during the summer season.