



Long-term Field Experiments as Important Source of Knowledge – Aims of the BonaRes Data Centre

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BonaRes is short for “soil as a sustainable resource for the bioeconomy”. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) under the umbrella of the National Research Strategy BioEconomy 2030. BonaRes consists of ten interdisciplinary research project consortia and the ‘BonaRes – Centre for Soil Research’ (see also Wollschläger et al 2016).

It is one task of the BonaRes Data Centre as part of the ‘BonaRes – Centre for Soil Research’, to collect data and meta-data of agricultural long-term field experiments (LTFE) in Germany. The definition of LTFE in the context of BonaRes is a minimum duration of twenty years and a static design. LTFE are essential research infrastructures for agricultural sciences and soil sciences amongst other disciplines. Some LTFE run since a very long time; the start of the oldest one in Germany was 1878. Therefore, in many cases valuable time series exist.

Data sets of LTFE shall be compiled and made publicly available by the BonaRes Data Centre. The public availability together with an easy access will lead to an enhanced usability of the data. This probably makes the LTFE itself more valuable through an improved visibility and may also help to maintain the LTFE. Beyond the data compilation there is the possibility for every data owner to make a data publication, which offers an additional value for the data owner after his first right of use.

A first step towards a joint database is a compilation of all existing LTFE in Germany with meta information to each trial. This information is shown in an interactive web map, what is completely new in that context. Besides the exact position of the LTFE the following metadata are shown: name of the LTFE, website (if available), institution, land use category, participation in existing networks, research theme, start (and maybe end) of the trial, and research parameters. Details on the meta information will be presented in the speech.

Literature

Wollschläger, U.; Helming, K.; Heinrich, U.; Bartke, S.; Kögel-Knabner, I.; Russell, D.; Eberhardt, E. & Vogel, H.-J. (2016): The BonaRes Centre – A virtual institute for soil research in the context of a sustainable bio-economy. Geophysical Research Abstracts Vol. 18, EGU2016-9087, <http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2016/EGU2016-9087.pdf>.