Soil cracking induced by overgrazing triggers the severe degradation or initiates the natural recovery of overgrazed alpine meadows on the Tibetan plateau?

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The degradation of alpine grasslands on Tibetan plateau

Degraded alpine rangeland landscape forms with isolated turf patches



Over the past 30 years, the large increase in **livestock numbers** has been considered by many authors to be the major cause of alpine rangeland degradation of the alpine rangelands on the Tibetan Plateau, regardless of the grazing regime, vegetation type, or the kind of livestock.

number of studies have addressed the degradation issue from a vegetation or soil perspective. More common, however, are patterns showing rangeland degradation phenomena of uncertain origin, turning point, dynamics, and driving factors.

Soil cracking on alpine rangelands of Tibetan plateau has rarely been reported previously, but has great impacts on plant and soil





METHODS





