1. Record Nr. UNINA9910138858403321 Titolo Soils and food security / / editors, R.E. Hester and R.M. Harrison Cambridge,: Royal Society of Chemistry, c2012 Pubbl/distr/stampa Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (250 p.) Descrizione fisica Issues in environmental science and technology, , 1350-7583;; 35 Collana Altri autori (Persone) HesterR. E (Ronald E.) HarrisonR. M 631.4 Disciplina Soggetti Soils - Quality

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Food security

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index.

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Sommario/riassunto

Soil is essential to agriculture and a resource that cannot be replaced easily. Nevertheless, its importance to food production and the threats to its sustainability are often overlooked. This book, the 35th volume of Issues in Environmental Science and Technology, examines the current status of soils across the globe and their potential for food production to meet the needs of the World's population in the 21st Century. Threats, such as the degradation, pollution and erosion of soil are discussed, along with the possible consequences of climate change for soil and food production. As an ecosystem