

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL 2

Table S2. Soil quality standards for semiarid regions, according to Lorenz 2016 (CE and BD) and Bono et al. (2012) (OM, NT and pH).

Tabla S2. Estándares de calidad del suelo para regiones semiáridas, según Lorenz 2016 (CE and BD) y Bono et al. (2012) (OM, NT and pH).

Soil variable	Standard	Interpretation
CE (dS/m)		
0-2	Not saline	
2-4	Slightly saline	
4-8	Moderately saline	
8-15	Strongly saline	
>15	Very strongly saline	
		As CE increase, the restriction on herbaceous plant growth increase. The optimal rank is Not saline.
BD (kg/dm ³)		
<1.2	Very low	
1.2-1.4	Low	
1.4-1.6	Medium	
1.6-1.8	High	
≥1.8	Very high	
		High values of BD are associated to restrictions in soil water and air balance and root growth. The optimal rank is between Very low and Low.
OM (%)		
<1.0	Low	
1.0-1.5	Medium	
1.5-2.0	Medium-high	
>2.0	High	
		The increase of OM is associated to the improvement of physical, chemical and biological soil properties. The optimal rank is High.
NT (%)		
0.04-0.07	Low	
0.08-0.1	Medium	
0.11-0.12	Medium-high	
>0.13	High	
		The nitrogen (N) is an essential nutrient for herbaceous plant growth. The optimal rank of TN is High.
pH		
6.2-7.5	Optimal	
		High and low values of pH are associated to restrictions for herbaceous plant growth by soil alkalinity and acidity respectively. The specified optimal rank is between very slightly alkaline and very slightly acid pH values.

REFERENCES

Bono, A., A. Quiroga, P. Azcarate, and N. Kloster. 2012. Muestreo e interpretación de análisis de suelos. Page in A. Bono and A. Quiroga, editors. Manual de fertilidad y análisis de suelos. Ediciones INTA, Anguil, La Pampa, Argentina.

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