



Supplement of

Effects of environmental factors on the influence of tillage conversion on saturated soil hydraulic conductivity obtained with different methodologies: a global meta-analysis

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Table S1 Site characteristics from a global meta-analysis of 69 studies.

Reference	Country	Site	Vegetation type	MAT ^a (°C)	MAP ^b (mm)	Elevation (m asl)
Abu and Abubakar (2013)	Nigeria	The experimental field of the Institute for Agricultural Research, Ahmadu Bello University	Soybean		1011 ± 161	686
Afyuni and Wagger (2006)	USA	Lower Coastal Plain Research Station, North Carolina	Corn and Soybean			
Alletto and Coquet (2009)	France	An agricultural field in the large alluvial corridor of the Garonne River	Maize			
Anikwe and Ubochi (2007)	Nigeria	Faculty Research Farm of Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources Management, Enugu State University of Science and Technology	Sweet potato		1700~2010	450
Azooz et al. (1996)	Canada	Dawson Creek site and Rolla site	Barley and canola	0.9	504	
Baumhardt et al. (2012)	USA	The USDA-ARS Conservation and Production Research Laboratory, Bushland, TX	Wheat–sorghum–fallow rotation			
Blanco-Canqui et al. (2017)	USA	The University of Nebraska’s Rogers Memorial Farm	Corn and soybean		693	368
Blanco-Canqui et al. (2004)	USA	Midwest Research Claypan Farm (McCredie), Kingdom City, MO	Corn and soybean			
Busari (2017)	Nigeria	The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta	Maize	30~37	1058	
Cai et al. (2012)	China	An experimental field in the Dingxi County	Wheat and pea	6.4	390.9	2000
Cameira et al. (2003)	Portugal	An Experimental Farm located in the Sorraia River Watershed	Maize			
Cui et al. (2013)	China	A field experiment in Ningxiang County of Hunan Province	Rice	16.8	1360	80

Curtis and Claassen (2009)	USA	Three research sites in northern California	Grass	2.6~6.3	937~1669	583~1601
De Almeida et al. (2018)	Brazil	The study was carried out during the wet season in the municipality of Aquidauana, MS, Brazil	Soybeans	24~26	1300~1600	191
Du et al. (2011)	China	Luancheng Agro-Ecosystem Experimental Station of Chinese Academy of Sciences	Wheat and maize	12.5	536	50.1
Fasinmirin (2011)	Brazil	An experimental site of the Department of Soils, Federal University of Santa Maria		22		
Gao and Zhang (2010)	China	Dry farming experimental station of Gansu Agricultural University	Maize	6.4	390.9	2000
Gómez et al. (1999)	Spain	An experimental olive orchard in Santaella	Olive		606	
Gupta et al. (1997)	Canada	The study was conducted at Kinore Experimental Farm of Agriculture Canada located within the Great Lake region of Ontario (Canada)				
Haruna et al. (2018)	USA	Lincoln University's Freeman Center	Corn			166
Hati et al. (2015)	India	The research farm of Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal	Soybean and wheat		1130	485
He et al. (2009)	China	A long-term tillage experiment located in the village of Chenghuang	Winter wheat	10.7	555	456
Iqbal et al. (2005)	Pakistan	The Research Area of Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad	Wheat			
Jakab et al. (2017)	Hungary	Measurements were carried out at the Szentgyörgyvár soil erosion experimental site	Maize	11.0	628	
Jarecki and Lal (2005)	USA	Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center Western and North Western Branch Research Farm	Corn and soybean	9.9~10.8	845~1043	

Jemai et al. (2012)	Tunisia	Hamrounia region, near the municipality of Mateur	Wheat	18.2	560	153
Johnson-Maynard et al. (2007)	USA	The University of Idaho's Kambitsch Research Farm	Pea, wheat and barley		695	
Kahlon et al. (2013)	USA	The Waterman Farm of the Ohio State University	Wheat	11	1016	
Kahlon and Chawla (2017)	India	The Research Farm of the Department of Soil Science, Punjab Agricultural University	Wheat and maize			247
Kennedy and Schillinger (2006)	USA	A 2-yr field experiment was conducted on three paired farms located between the towns of LaCrosse and Colfax in Whitman County, WA	Wheat			
Khorami et al. (2018)	Iran	The experiment was conducted at the Zarghan Field Station, Agriculture and Natural Resources Research and Education Center of Fars Province	Wheat and maize			1604
Kreiselmeier et al. (2020)	Germany	An experimental field with a Haplic Luvisol in Eastern Germany	Wheat and sugar beet			275
Langhans et al. (2011)	Belgium	The experimental field is located in the Belgian part of the Western and Central European Loess Belt, near Huldenberg	Maize		800	
Liu et al. (2018)	China	Fengqiu County, Henan Province	Wheat and poplar trees	13.9	615	65~73
Lozano et al. (2016)	Argentina	An experimental field in the Pampas region	Wheat and soybean		1000	
Luo et al. (2005)	China	An experimental field in the Dingxi County	Wheat and pea	6.4	390.9	2000
Maulé and Reed (1993)	Canada	The project was carried out on five different fields located 13 km to the south of the town of Indian Head, SK	Wheat	2.0	175	
McGarry et al. (2000)	Australia	The site is located at the Biloela Research Station, Qld	Crop and pasture			173

Moebius-Clune et al. (2008)	USA	A long-term controlled experiment located at Chazy	Maize			
Moebius et al. (2007)	USA	Cornell University research farms in Willsboro, Chazy and Aurora in New York	Maize			
Merwin et al. (1994)	USA	The experiment was established in a former apple orchard at Ithaca, N.Y.	Orchard			
Ndiaye et al. (2005)	Senegal	The experiment was conducted on a sandy loam on the Thyse-Kaymor catchment located in the Senegalese groundnut belt (central part of Senegal)	Groundnut and millet		660	
Nyamadzawo et al. (2007)	Zimbabwe	The experiment site was conducted at the Domboshawa Training Centre and is 30 km north of Harare	Maize		750	1400
Obalum and Obi (2010)	Nigeria	Three experimental plots at Nsukka	Sorghum and soybean		1600	
Osunbitan et al. (2005)	Nigeria	Teaching and Research Farm of the Obafemi Awolowo University			1350	
Pan et al. (2016)	China	Changwu State Key Loess Plateau Agro-Ecological Experimental Station of the Chinese Academy of Sciences	Maize	9.1	578.5	
Park et al. (1992)	Australia	Two experimental sites were established in central western New South Wales, at Cowra and Grenfell	Wheat/pasture rotation and clover/grass pasture			
Park and Smucker (2005)	USA	Wooster and Hoytville research sites of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center	Corn			
Parvin et al. (2014)	Sweden	An experimental site managed by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala	Barley			

Potter et al. (1995)	USA	Studies were conducted on a Houston Black clay soil which had been under continuous management for four years using the wide bed system	wheat-com-grain sorghum			
Ramos et al. (2019)	Spain	The experimental field was located in Agramunt, NE	Maize	13.9	392	330
Sartori et al. (2022)	Italy	The experiment took place at the Lucio Toniolo Experimental Farm, located in Legnaro, PD	Wheat		850	6
Sasal et al. (2006)	Argentina	The Pergamino Experimental Station of the Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria	Soybean		1000	
Schlüter et al. (2020)	Germany	The long-term field in Lüttewitz	Wheat and sugar beet	8.1	643	275
Sharma et al. (2005)	India	A field experiment at Hayathnagar Research Farm	Sorghum and castor	25.7	746	515
Sharma et al. (2009)	India	A field experiment at Hayathnagar Research Farm	Sorghum and mung bean		750	515
Singh et al. (1996)	Canada	The Eilerslie Research Station	Barley		455	694
Smith et al. (2007)	USA	Two adjacent fields near Waterloo, IN	Corn/soybean rotation			
So et al. (2009)	Australia	A field experiment was conducted at a site in Grafton, NSW, which has previously been under pasture for at least 5 years	Soybean and cereal of oats			
Soracco et al. (2010)	Argentina	An experiment site near the town of San Antonio de Areco	Soybean		1100	
Starr and Glotfelty (1990)	USA	The field experiment was conducted at the University of Maryland, Forage Research Farm, Clarksville, MD	Corn			
Steenhuis et al. (1990)	USA	This study was conducted at Cornell University's Experimental Research Farm in the town of Willsboro,	Corn			

		New York					
Stone and Schlegel (2010)	USA	An experimental field near Tribune, Kansas	Wheat and sorghum	11.2	425	1108	
Tan et al. (2002)	Canada	Two 2-ha field sites	Soybean				
TerAvest et al. (2015)	Malawi	This study was carried out in the Central region of Malawi	Cassava, soybean, and maize	21.0~26.6	834~1450	1146	
Villarreal et al. (2017)	Argentina	The experiment was carried out near the town of Chascomús	Soybean		1000		
Wu et al. (2014)	China	Dry farming experimental station of Gansu Agricultural University	Wheat and pea	6.4	390.9	2000	
Xin et al. (2005)	China	An experimental site in Dingxi County	Lucerne and Lucerne-spring wheat rotation	6.4	390.9	2000	
Xu and Mermoud (2001)	China	An experimental site in the Xiongxian area	Summer maize		540		

^a Mean annual temperature; ^b Mean annual precipitation.

Table S2 Experimental conditions from a global meta-analysis of 69 studies.

Reference	N^a	Measurement technique ^b	Measurements		OMC ^e (%)	Time interval from tillage conversion to measurement (yr)	General descriptions
			IR^c	K_{sat}^d			
Abu and Abubakar (2013)	6	Constant head		√		2 (2010~2011)	Cores were collected at three depths (0–5, 5–15, and 15–30 cm).
Afyuni and Wagger (2006)	18	Constant head		√	0.91~1.40		Cores were collected at three depths (0–15, 15–30, and 30–45 cm).
Alletto and Coquet (2009)	9	Tension disc (8)	√	√	1.38~2.24	6 (2000~2005)	Infiltrations were done at –1.5, –1.0, –0.6, –0.3 and –0.1 kPa matric potentials.
Anikwe and Ubochi (2007)	3	Not provided		√	2.67	2 (2005~2006)	
Azooz et al. (1996)	8	Guelph		√	1.72~4.31	16 (1978~1993)	The K_{sat} to a depth of 300 mm in 75-mm depth increments was determined. We applied reverse-osmosis water in lieu of rainwater because of its dispersive characteristics at a rate of 78 mm h ⁻¹ with a rotating-disk rain simulator that produced impact energy of 22 J mm ⁻¹ m ⁻² or 80% of natural rain.
Baumhardt et al. (2012)	4	Rainfall simulator	√			3	Two intact soil cores (7.5 cm diam. And 7.5 cm long) per plot were collected using a hammer-driven core sampler for depths of: 0–7.5, 7.5–15, 15–22.5, and 22.5–30 cm.
Blanco-Canqui et al. (2017)	2	Constant head		√		35 (1980~2014)	Cores were collected vertically from 0 to 100 and 100 to 200 mm from trafficked and nontrafficked
Blanco-Canqui et al. (2004)	4	Either constant or falling head		√	1.45~1.63	14 (1982~1995)	

Busari (2017)	2	Constant head	√	2.09	3 (2008~2010)	interrow positions. Undisturbed soil samples using cylindrical cores (5 cm in diameter and 5 cm in height) were taken in duplicate from the soil surface.
Cai et al. (2012)	6	Tension disc	√		7 (2001~2007)	
Cameira et al. (2003)	1	Tension disc (20)	√	0.47~1.26	6 (1998~2003)	An infiltration sequence was performed corresponding to water tensions of 0, 3, 6 and 15 cm. Three replicated cores were randomly collected with a stainless steel cylinder (4 cm long and 6.18 cm in diameter) at the 0- to 5-, 5- to 10-, 10- to 20-, 20- to 40-, 40- to 60-, and 60- to 80-cm depths.
Cui et al. (2013)	6	Constant head	√	3.49	7 (2005~2011)	
Curtis and Claassen (2009)	4	Rainfall simulator	√	0.03~7.00	2 (2003~2004)	
De Almeida et al. (2018)	1	Rainfall simulator	√	2.55~7.28	0.5 (November 2013~May 2014)	We use a portable rainfall simulator calibrated with a constant rain intensity of $60 \pm 1.715 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$, mean drop diameter of 2.0 mm and pressure of 32 kPa. Cores were collected at three depths (0–5, 5–10, and 10–20 cm). Soil samples were collected at depths 0–10, 10–20, 20–30, 30–40 and 40–50 cm.
Du et al. (2011)	3	Constant head	√		7 (2001~2007)	
Fasinmirin (2011)	4	Falling head	√		16	
Gao and Zhang (2010)	2	Tension disc	√	0.36~0.59	5 (2005~2009)	
Gómez et al. (1999)	2	Rainfall simulator	√	1.00~2.50	16 (1982~1997)	The K_{sat} was calculated at four water tensions; -15, -10, -5 and 0 cm of H ₂ O.
Gupta et al. (1997)	1	Rainfall simulator	√	0.00~3.40	2 (1992~1993)	The rainfall was applied by the portable rainfall

Haruna et al. (2018)	6	Constant head	√	1.65~1.68	5 (2010~2014)	simulator. The infiltration data was analyzed for the saturated hydraulic conductivity determinations.	
Hati et al. (2015)	4	Falling head	√	0.86~1.79	8 (2000~2007)	Cores were collected at four depths of 10-cm increments from the soil surface to a depth of 40 cm.	
He et al. (2009)	2	Constant head	√		17 (1991~2007)	Undisturbed core samples of 5 cm height and 5 cm diameter were collected from the 0 to 15 cm soil layer at 7.5 cm intervals.	
Iqbal et al. (2005)	2	Guelph	√			Soil samples were collected at depths 0–5, 5–10, 10–20 and 20–30 cm.	
Jakab et al. (2017)	3	Rainfall simulator	√		15	Rainfall simulation was carried out three times in 2016.	
Jarecki and Lal (2005)	2	Constant head	√	0.67~10.67	17 (1987~2003)	Soil cores from the 0 to 5-cm layer were used to determine K_{sat} .	
Jemai et al. (2012)	10	Constant head	√	1.55~3.10	8 (2000~2007)	Soil samples were collected at depths 0–10, 10–20, 20–30, 30–40 and 40–50 cm.	
Johnson-Maynard et al. (2007)	2	Constant head	√	3.07	4 (2000~2003)	cores were sampled in 10-cm increments to a depth of 50 cm.	
Kahlon et al. (2013)	2	Constant head	√	√	1.64~2.59	22 (1989~2010)	Soil cores were collected at depths 0–10 and 10–20 cm.
Kahlon and Chawla (2017)	4	Constant head	√			2 (2014~2015)	Soil cores were collected at depths 0–7.5 and 7.5–15 cm.
Kennedy and Schillinger (2006)	9	Single ring (76)	√	1.28~2.88	20	A 76-cm-diameter single-ring infiltrometer was pushed into the soil to a depth of 5 cm.	
Khorami et al. (2018)	1	Double ring (50~70)	√	1.48~1.98	3 (2014~2016)	The double-ring infiltrometer test procedure involved inserting two rings into the 5-cm depth of the	

Kreiselmeier et al. (2020)	2	Hood	√	1.95~3.19	26 (1992~2017)	soil. The aim was to set between three to four h in descending order from close to saturation down to the bubbling pressure (BP) of the soil. The BP marks the h-limit until which hood measurements can be done.
Langhans et al. (2011)	1	Rainfall simulator	√	1.09~1.38		Prior to each experiment, 45 mm h ⁻¹ of rainfall from 3.25 m height from a nozzle-type simulator was applied to the plot until steady state runoff occurred.
Liu et al. (2018)	1	Constant head	√	11.35~15.8 3	6 (2006~2011)	Soil cores were collected at depth 0–10 cm.
Lozano et al. (2016)	1	Tension disc (12.5)	√	√	4.00~5.60	> 5 Infiltration runs were performed at three values of soil water pressure head, h (namely, -0.06, -0.03, and 0.0 m).
Luo et al. (2005)	4	Tension disc	√		4 (2001~2004)	
Maulé and Reed (1993)	3	Rainfall simulator	√		13	The rainfall occurred over a 1.6 m x 2.3 m area on the ground, but infiltration was determined from a 1.5 m ² area directly under the simulator.
McGarry et al. (2000)	1	Rainfall simulator	√		8	Water infiltration parameters were measured with an oscillating nozzle rainfall simulator.
Moebius-Clune et al. (2008)	1	Constant head	√		32 (1973~2004)	Soil cores were collected at depth 5–66 mm.
Moebius et al. (2007)	2	Constant head	√		13 (1992~2004)	Soil cores were collected at depth 5–66 mm.
Merwin et al. (1994)	3	Single ring (70)	√	5.30	8	A 70-cm-diameter single-ring infiltrometer was pushed into the soil to a depth of 8 cm.
Ndiaye et al. (2005)	6	Rainfall simulator	√	< 0.5		The rainfall simulator was a 4 m high tower

Nyamadzawo et al. (2007)	5	Rainfall simulator	√	~1.72	2 (2001~2002)	equipped with a Laechler nozzle (# 461.008.30) mounted at 3.86 m above the soil surface. Rainfall simulations were done at the centre of the plots at a rainfall intensity of 35 mm h ⁻¹ on 1 m ² experimental plots surrounded by a 50 cm buffer zone.
Obalum and Obi (2010)	3	Constant head	√	1.06~1.48	2 (2006~2007)	Soil cores were collected at depth 0–10 cm.
Osunbitan et al. (2005)	2	Constant head	√	0.30~1.60		Soil cores were collected at depth 0–5 cm.
Pan et al. (2016)	3	Constant head	√	1.34~1.59	13 (2002~2014)	Soil cores were collected at depth 0–10 cm.
Park et al. (1992)	4	Rainfall simulator	√		7 (1981~1987)	Rainfall simulation studies were conducted on each tillage treatment using a rotating disk simulator.
Park and Smucker (2005)	6	Constant head	√	3.29~7.07		Soil cores were collected at depth 0–5 cm.
Parvin et al. (2014)	3	Constant head	√	3.29~4.48	38 (1974~2011)	Soil samples were collected at depths 15–20, 25–30 and 35–40 cm.
Potter et al. (1995)	3	Rainfall simulator	√		8	A rainfall simulator was used to determine water infiltration characteristics of a Houston Black clay. The susceptibility to sealing of each soil and the steady infiltration rates were evaluated in the laboratory subjecting the soils to rainfall simulation applied at an intensity of 25 mm h ⁻¹ .
Ramos et al. (2019)	6	Rainfall simulator	√	0.57~4.31	3	An inner ring of 60 cm in diameter was used to measure both the row and inter-row areas in the tillage radish plots.
Sartori et al. (2022)	1	Double ring (an inner ring of 60 cm in diameter)	√	1.41	3	
Sasal et al. (2006)	1	Tension disc	√	2.30~4.40	20	Tension disc measurements were performed on the

Schlüter et al. (2020)	2	Hood (24.8) and tension disc (8)	√	2.09~2.21	27 (1992~2018)	surface at 0.10 m depth for 60 min to reach steady-state conditions.
Sharma et al. (2005)	1	Constant head	√	0.64	7 (1995~2001)	For hood, at least half a reservoir had to be infiltrated or 10 min had to pass to move to the next pressure head. Readings were done every 30 s and steady state was assumed after water level decline in the reservoir did not differ by more than 2 mm for three consecutive steps.
Sharma et al. (2009)	1	Constant head	√	0.97~1.21	8 (1998~2005)	Soil cores were collected at depth 0–15 cm.
Singh et al. (1996)	4	Constant head	√	9.80	10 (1979~1988)	Soil cores were collected at depth 0–20 cm.
Smith et al. (2007)	1	Double ring (50~90)	√		1	Soil samples were collected at depths 0–7.5 and 7.5–15 cm.
So et al. (2009)	1	Rainfall simulator	√	2.88	14	A double-ring infiltrometer with two concentric metal rings were co-located with tensiometers placed at depths of 15, 30 and 60 cm in the soil profile located just outside the inner ring.
Soracco et al. (2010)	6	Constant head	√		7	A rainfall simulator with an intensity of 80 mm h ⁻¹ was used to determine the infiltration characteristics of the bare soil using plots of 2 m x 1.5 m
Starr and Glotfelty (1990)	4	Double ring (75~150)	√	2.40~3.00	13 (1974~1986)	Soil samples were collected at depths 0–15 and 15–30 cm.
Steenhuis et al. (1990)	1	Single ring (70)	√		3	Each microplot was instrumented with a double-ring infiltrometer that was pushed into the soil to a depth of about 10 cm.
						A 70-cm-diameter single-ring infiltrometer was pushed into the soil to a depth of 5 cm.

Stone and Schlegel (2010)	2	Double ring	√	1.90	12 (1989~2000)	Rings were positioned to avoid vehicle traffic paths, driven 13 cm deep, and filled twice with water. At sunup 2 d later, water was added to the infiltrometers, and ponding was maintained at a depth of ~3 to 10 cm.
Tan et al. (2002)	2	Constant head	√		5 (1995~1999)	Soil cores were collected at depth 0–30 cm.
TerAvest et al. (2015)	2	Rainfall simulator	√	0.29~2.79	3	Rainfall simulations were conducted 6–7 weeks after planting, between crop rows, when soils were at or near field capacity.
Villarreal et al. (2017)	1	Tension disc (12.5)	√	√	16 (2000~2015)	Infiltration runs were performed at three values of soil water pressure head, h (namely, -6, -3 and 0 cm, applied in this order and at the same place).
Wu et al. (2014)	6	Tension disc	√		12	
Xin et al. (2005)	4	Rainfall simulator	√		4 (2001~2004)	The swing sprinkler rainfall simulator produced by Queensland Department of primary industries is adopted. The sprinkler model of rainfall simulator (RFs) is Veeject 80100, with a total of 3 nozzles.
Xu and Mermoud (2001)	3	Guelph	√	0.34~1.10	1	Measurements were performed in holes of diameter 6 cm and of depths 15 or 35 cm.

^a Number of paired observation for K_{sat} ; ^b The numbers in parentheses indicate the diameter (cm) of the device. For double ring method, the diameters of inner and outer rings are provided; ^c Infiltration rate; ^d Saturated hydraulic conductivity; ^e Organic matter content. If the literature only provided the organic carbon content, the organic matter content was estimated using the 1.724 conversion factor.

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