

Interactive
Comment

Interactive comment on “The past, present, and future of soils and human health studies” by E. C. Brevik and T. J. Sauer

M. Helmke (Referee)

mhelmke@wcupa.edu

Received and published: 7 June 2014

The manuscript "The past, present, and future of soils and human health studies" by Brevik and Sauer provides a comprehensive look at the multidisciplinary and evolving field of soils and human health. The authors provide a strong case for linking classical soil science with health disciplines, and challenge the scientific community and funding agencies to support cross-disciplinary studies to move this important field forward.

The manuscript is well-written, though quite dense. Count them—there are 169(!) references. Clearly this serves as a very compact annotated bibliography of soils and human health research. Well done.

I concur with the comments provided by the two previous reviewers and see that these

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper



have already been adopted by the authors. I would also recommend that "contaminate" be changed to "contaminant" on p. 64, l. 22. Alas, this is my sole editorial suggestion for improvement—the rest of the paper is fine.

I find the topic of soils and human health to be enigmatic. Both fields are well-understood and have received intense scientific scrutiny centuries. However, there is a stark paucity of studies that have formally linked soils and human health. I applaud the authors for making this connection in such a rigorous way and for promoting global, multidisciplinary research so crucial to the well-being of humanity.

Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., 1, 51, 2014.

SOIL

1, C12–C13, 2014

Interactive
Comment

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper

