

Interactive comment on “Knowledge needs, available actions and future challenges in agricultural soils” by G. Key et al.

G. Key et al.

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Received and published: 4 July 2016

Dear John,

Thank you for your comment and for highlighting the importance of region-specific studies for our analysis, which we did not include. We appreciate that this is a limitation of our study, as you highlight, but we inevitably had to limit the number of journals we included in our analysis, given that we wanted to ensure that we carried out a comprehensive review of all papers, which takes a considerable amount of time. However, these journals included a wide range of soil related studies done in different regions and from different perspectives; as such, we believe that they are a representative sample of research done on enhancing and maintaining soil health. On top of this, we also used specific searches in Web of Science database, which identified a final 542

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papers of relevance to soil health from a much wider range of journals. Given this, and the broad range of soil related studies from different regions of the world that our search identified, we feel that we managed to capture a representative range of relevant literature. Also, as we indicate in our discussion (line 6, page 10), there is scope to include a wider range of literature in the future, including from non-peer reviewed journals as you suggest.

Interactive comment on SOIL Discuss., doi:10.5194/soil-2016-17, 2016.

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