

Dear Editor, Thank you for your positive comments. We have done the requested revisions to the original manuscript. As regard the comment about the use of Soil Taxonomy system, we want to stress that we referred to the soil series concept (it is part of ST approach) and that it is widely accepted international system (it is adopted in several countries, as well as Italy where the work was carried out).

Thanks again

Sincerely yours, Antonello Bonfante, also on behalf of the co-authors.