

M.Sc. Thesis Flyer/
M.Sc. Arbeit Ausschreibung



Chair of
Soil Ecology

SOM in Protected and Harvested Stands/ OBS in Bann- und Betriebswälder

Soil organic matter (SOM; OBS auf Deutsch) is a crucial component of soil ecosystems in terms of both *quality* and *quantity*. Yet forest management can have a large impact on SOM concentrations as seen in comparisons between strictly protected and harvested stands. Unknown is how much harvesting impacts the *quality* of SOM, namely the number and variety of organic compounds. For example, SOM quality can be influenced by deadwood, a crucial forest ecosystem component that is present in protected stands yet absent in harvested ones.



This thesis would involve sampling and analysing soil from adjacent protected, harvested, and naturally disturbed stands in the National Park Schwarzwald. Lignin and its decomposed byproducts will be a major indicator of SOM quality. Potential candidates ought to be interested in forest and soil disturbance ecology as well as corresponding implications for forest management. Field work for sample collection and extensive lab work are necessary. *Abschlussarbeiten auf Deutsch sind auch möglich.*

Projected start date: Fall 2016 (2017 possible)

If interested, please contact:

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