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Assembly of soil microbial communities in lowland tropical forests

LE JEUDI 20 octobre 2022 À 12 H 30

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Abstract:

Today's tropical landscapes are typically mosaics of remnant patches of mature forests, regrowing secondary forests of different ages, plantations, crop land, and pastures. In many tropical regions, secondary forests now cover more area than mature forests and are often an integral part of agricultural land use systems. The process of forest succession has been widely studied from the perspective of the vegetation, but much less is known about belowground processes and the role that individual microbes play in enhancing or arresting plant succession and conserving ecosystem services and biodiversity. I will discuss ongoing projects looking at large scale patterns in belowground microbial diversity across various land uses in Panama. These results can form a baseline for future work looking at plant-soil interactions, microbial responses to landscape change, and the sustainable conservation of ecosystem services and biodiversity.

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