

Supplement of Web Ecol., 19, 39–51, 2019
<https://doi.org/10.5194/we-19-39-2019-supplement>
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Supplement of

Unassisted establishment of biological soil crusts on dryland road slopes

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Supplementary material associated with the article: Concostrina-Zubiri et al. “UNASSISTED ESTABLISHMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SOIL CRUSTS ON ROADSLOPES: HINTS FOR ALTERNATIVE RESTORATION IN DRYLANDS”.

The laboratory techniques used to determine each soil property:

- 5 β -glucosidase and acid phosphatase activities were estimated by determination of the amount of p-nitrophenol released from 0.5 g soil after incubation at 37 C for 1 h, with the substrate p-nitrophenyl phosphate in MUB buffer (pH 6.5) for phosphatase activity (Tabatabai & Bremner 1969), and with the substrate 4-nitrophenyl- β -D- glucopyranoside in MUB buffer (pH 6.5) for glucosidase activity (Eivazi & Tabatabai 1988). Total organic carbon was determined by colorimetric techniques after oxidation
- 10 with a mixture of potassium dichromate and sulfuric acid (Yeomans & Bremner 1988), and total phosphorus and available total nitrogen on a 19 SKALAR SAN++ Analyzer (Skalar, Breda, The Netherlands) after digestion with sulfuric acid and Kjeldahl’s catalyst (Anderson & Ingram 1989). Potassium was measured with the same analyser after the soil samples had been shaken with distilled water (1:5 ratio) for 1 h. All of these analyses were performed in the NUTRILAB laboratory of Rey
- 15 Juan Carlos University (Madrid, Spain).