

# CONTAMINAZIONE DA EPT NEI SISTEMI ACQUA – SUOLO – PIANTA: PROCESSI DI RISANAMENTO

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**Le terre ricostituite: tecnologia e possibili applicazioni nella bonifica dei suoli contaminati**

***The reconstituted soils: the technology and its possible implementation in the remediation of contaminated soils***

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NEW LIFE

Workshop 8-9 June/giugno 2016 - Palazzo Sersanti – Imola



# La ricostituzione dei suoli

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The technology of soil reconstitution has been conceived for restoring degraded land and acts on unproductive and desertification affected soil by modifying its structure through a treatment of soil loosening and subsequent reconstitution





Reconstitution is based on the incorporation of organic matter into the soil mineral fraction: the process takes place along with the simultaneous destructuring of aggregates.

In the final stage a compression of the loosened soil mass referred to as reconstitution takes place.

The treatment is both mechanical and chemical and generates a (final) product which has properties and characteristics different from those of the matrices it originally derived from.

Structure

Organic  
carbon

Organic matter structural ratio in the mineral  
component of the soil

The treatment begins by blending waste materials from different industrial and agro-industrial activities into the soil, then the actual reconstitution process takes place.

Such matrices referred to as non-hazardous waste must meet specific suitability standards in compliance with the law.

Test cessione UNI EN 10802



Analisi sul tal quale D. Lgs. 152/06

Reconstituted soils are produced with waste matrices of special agronomic and environmental interest generated by various industrial activities which don't use environmentally hazardous substances and compounds in their production process. Such activities are:

Paper and wood pulp production

Production of drinking and industrial water

Electricity production

Natural aggregates washing plants

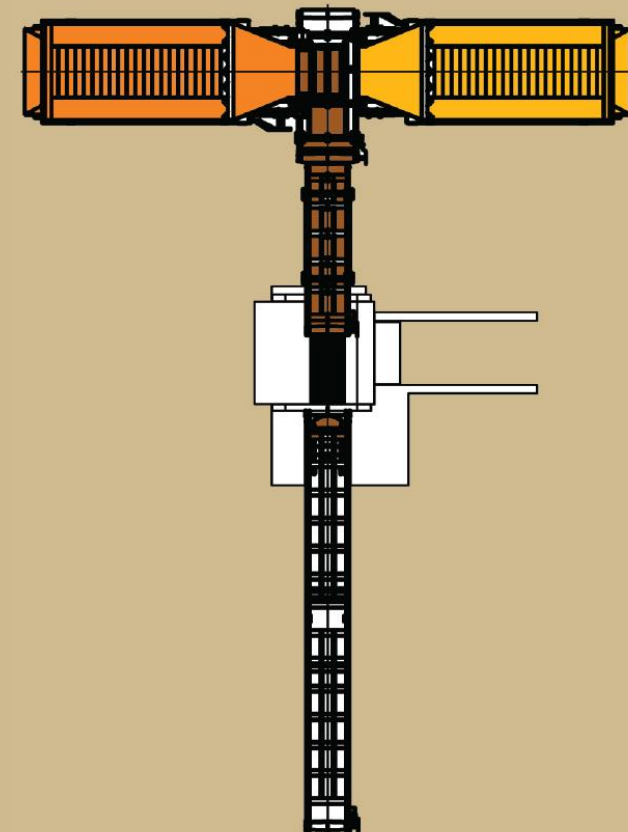
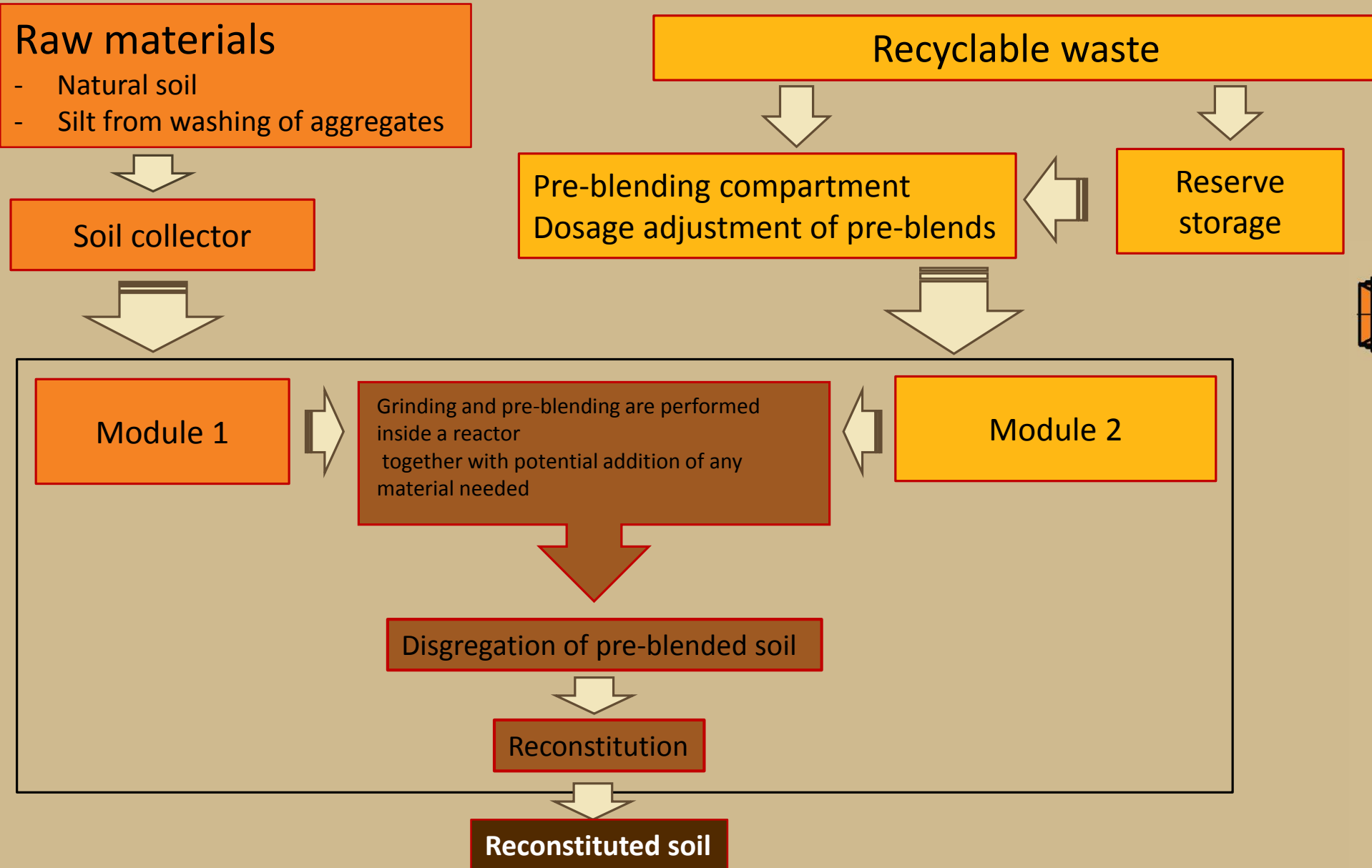
Hydroelectric dams

Production of titanium dioxide/gypsum



# Reconstituted soil production

The production process of reconstituted soil is illustrated in the following flow-chart:





Reconstitution can be performed either inside a mobile or stationary plant and has been used so far for the treatment and production of fertile soil from degraded and unproductive soil.





The first implementation was started in 2006 on an unproductive plot ranked between Class IV and V in the Land Capability Classification System(LCC). The already unfavourable soil conditions were aggravated by mining activities which had been conducted on site and followed by an inappropriate remedial action.

The reconstitution process lasted 4 years and significantly boosted productivity.





## High crop yield

«As expected, the restoration project on this site has had a positive impact on soil fertility thus allowing demanding crops such as maize to be grown without using large quantities of fertilizers »

«Crops grown on reconstituted soil increased ear weight by 21% as opposed to those grown on natural soil » **PILOT FARM "VITTORIO TADINI" REGIONE EMILIA**



## Reduction in fertilization requirements

*«Results have evidenced the effectiveness of the treatment and shown that reconstituted soils can increase production while reducing nitrogen fertilization by 50%. »*

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## Improvement in soil workability

*«.... this soil has a better workability than natural soil therefore machinery such as tractors and smaller tools will run on reduced power and irrigation requirements will be cut down »*

**PILOT FARM "VITTORIO TADINI" REGIONE EMILIA ROMAGNA**

## Saving on irrigation costs

*«....reconstituted soil which has preserved high productive levels while reducing water requirements by 45% »*

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# Listed below are the improvements in soil conditions resulting from changes generated by reconstitution:

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**Increase in soil thickness – root depth (from shallow to deep)**

**Reduction of the soil skeleton and surface stoniness (from exceedingly stony to slightly stony )**

**Improvement in aggregate structure – porosity increase**

**Increase in water retention**

**Decrease in soil reaction (from 8,3 to 7,9 pH)**

**Decrease in active lime and total lime**

**Increase of organic matter and C/N ratio**

**Increase of humic fraction**

**Increase in P Olsen phosphorus availability**

**Marked increase of heterotrophic aerobic bacteria and fungal population**







**Increase in soil thickness**

**Increase in root development**

**Lumpy structure**



The fact that the effectiveness of the treatment has succeeded in improving some of the soil properties suggests that further expansion into the field of contaminated soil remediation is to be expected

Biopile

Landfarming

Phytostabilization

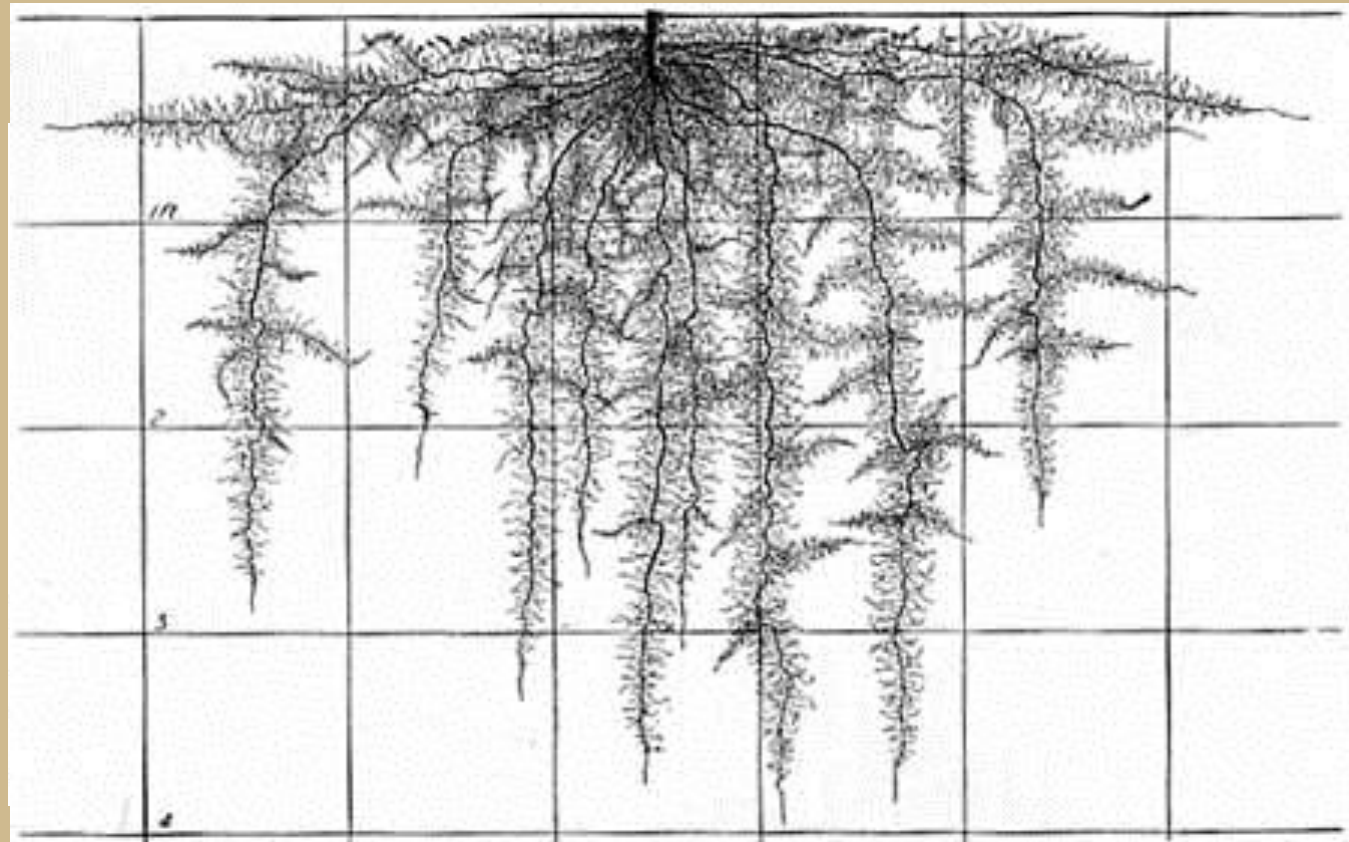
Phytoaccumulation

Phytodegradation

Phytovolatilization

Rhizodegradation

Phytoremediation



# Properties of reconstituted soil in relation to different remediation techniques

## Biopile

Soil characteristics for assessing the effectiveness of biopile are

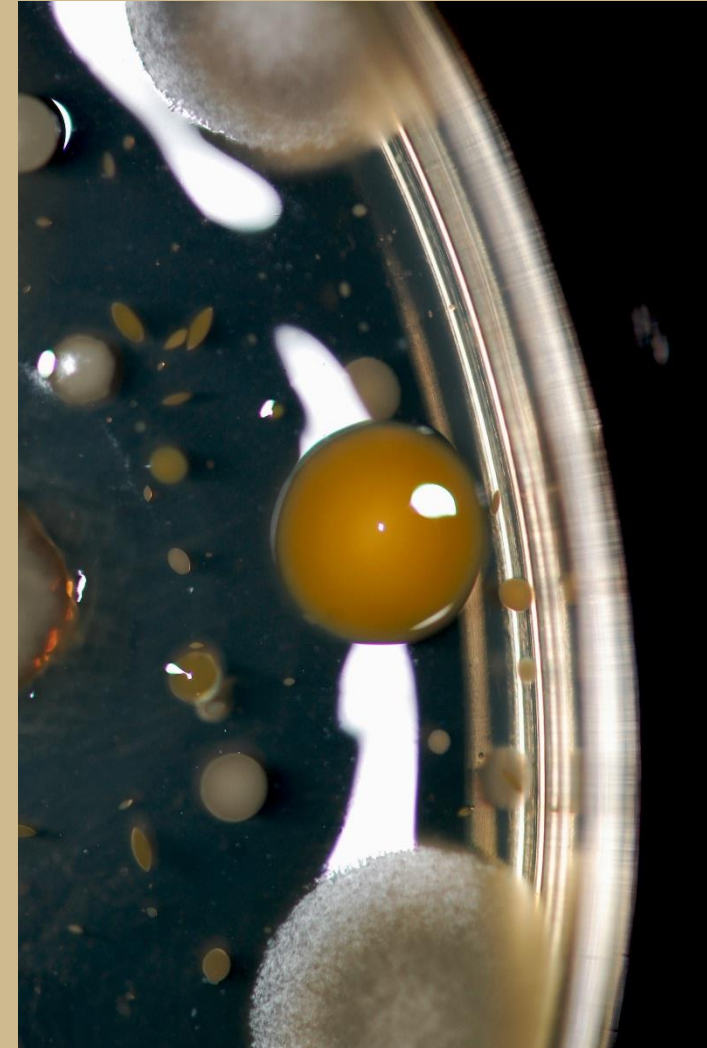
- *Microbial population density*
- *Soil pH*
- *Moisture*
- *Soil temperature*
- *Nutrients concentrations*
- *Type of soil at the site and surrounding area (sandy, silt and clayey) and its structure*



## ***Microbial population density***

### **Total heterotrophic bacteria in relation to biopile effectiveness**

Total heterotrophic bacteria	Biopile effectiveness
> 1.000 CFU/g ss	Effective treatment
< 1.000 CFU/g ss	May be effective only if either organic matter or bacterial cultures are added



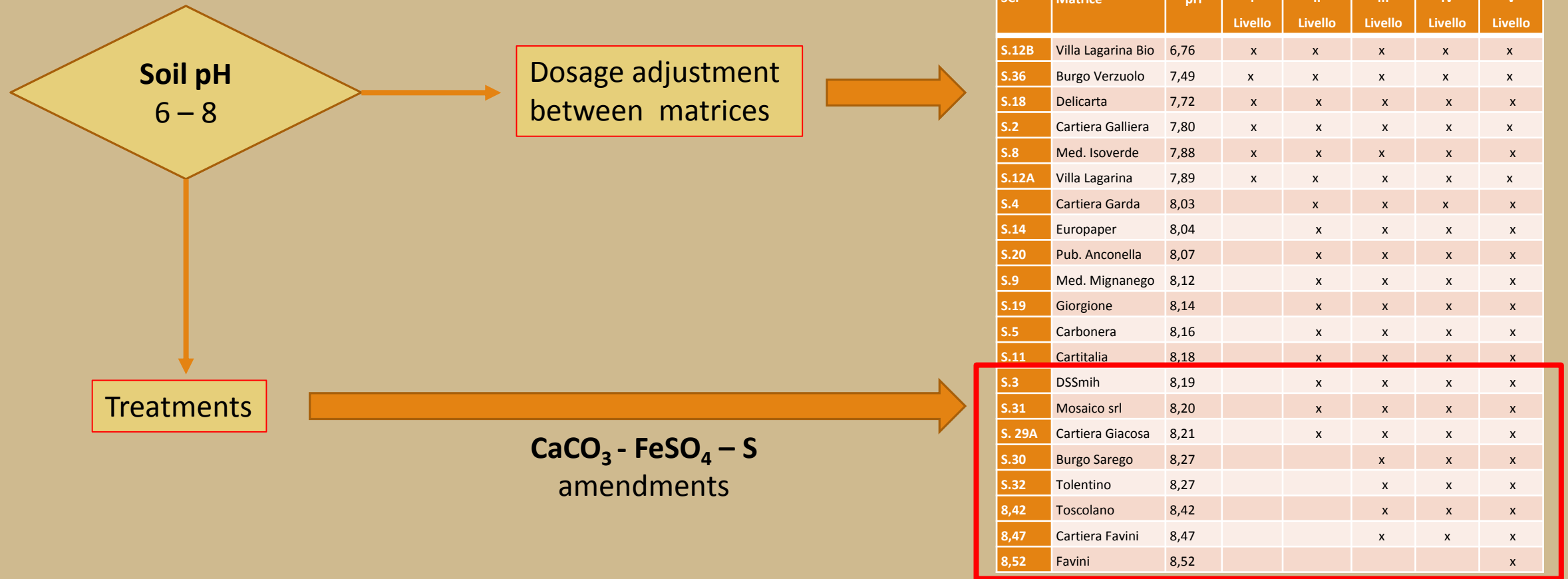
## ***Reaction***

### **Soil reaction in relation to biopile effectiveness**

<b>Soil pH</b>	<b>Biopile effectiveness</b>
[6 – 8]	Optimal range for bio-remediation
[<6 - >8]	Unsuitable range; will require amendments



## Reaction

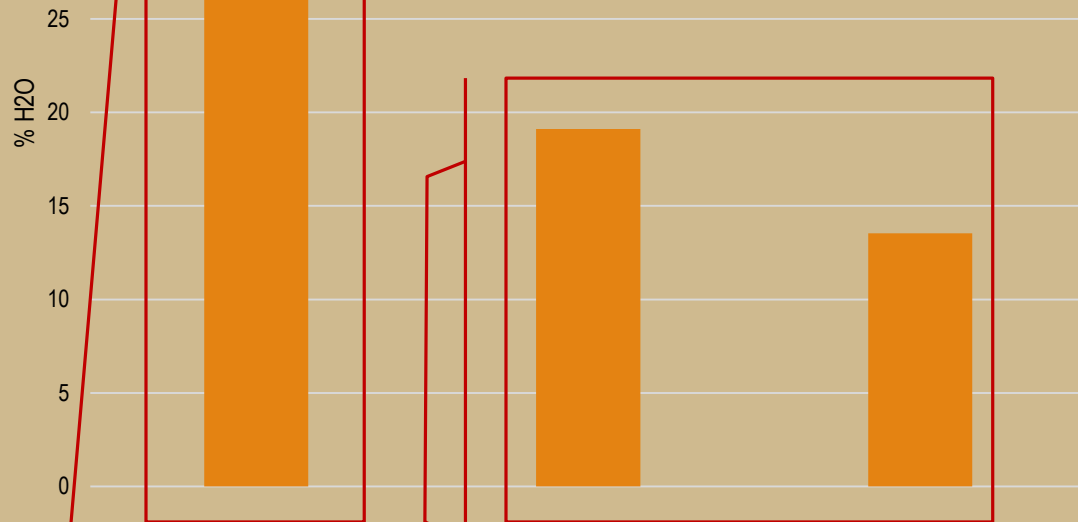


# Soil moisture in relation to biopile effectiveness

Soil moisture	Biopile effectiveness
$40\% \leq \text{Field capacity} \leq 85\%$	Optimal range for bioremediation
Field capacity < 40%	Unsuitable values; moisture addition is needed to maintain bacterial growth
Field capacity > 85%	Unsuitable values; a special water drainage system should be designed

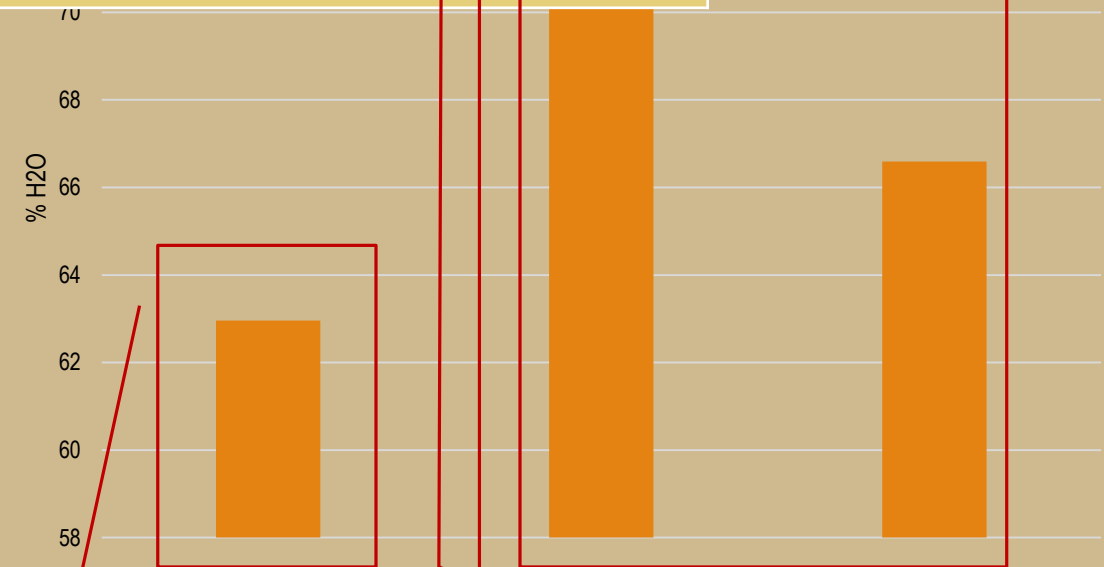
water

biosi naturali -



Natural soil (sand)

Natural soil (sand) reconstituted



Natural soil (sand)

Natural soil (sand)  
reconstituted



## Soil temperature

### Soil temperature in relation to biopile effectiveness

and enzymatic

#### Soil temperature

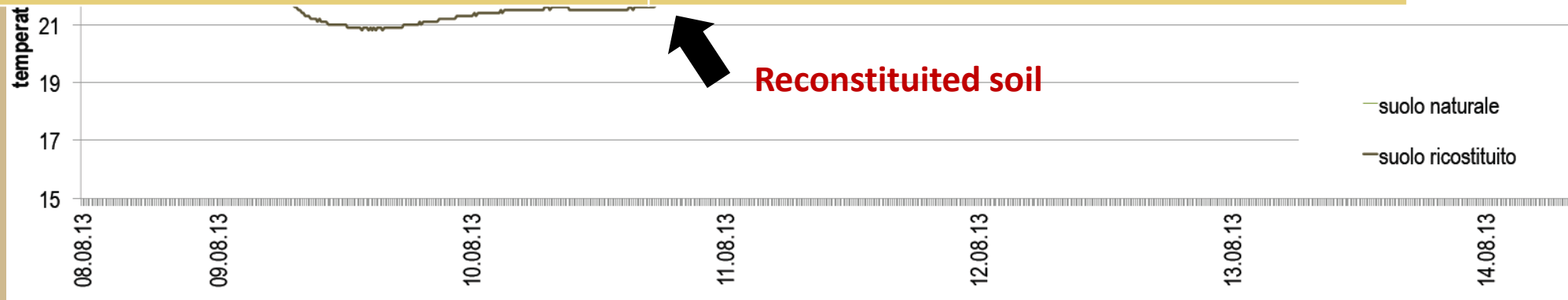
#### Biopile effectiveness

$10^{\circ}\text{C} \leq \text{soil temperature} \leq 45^{\circ}\text{C}$

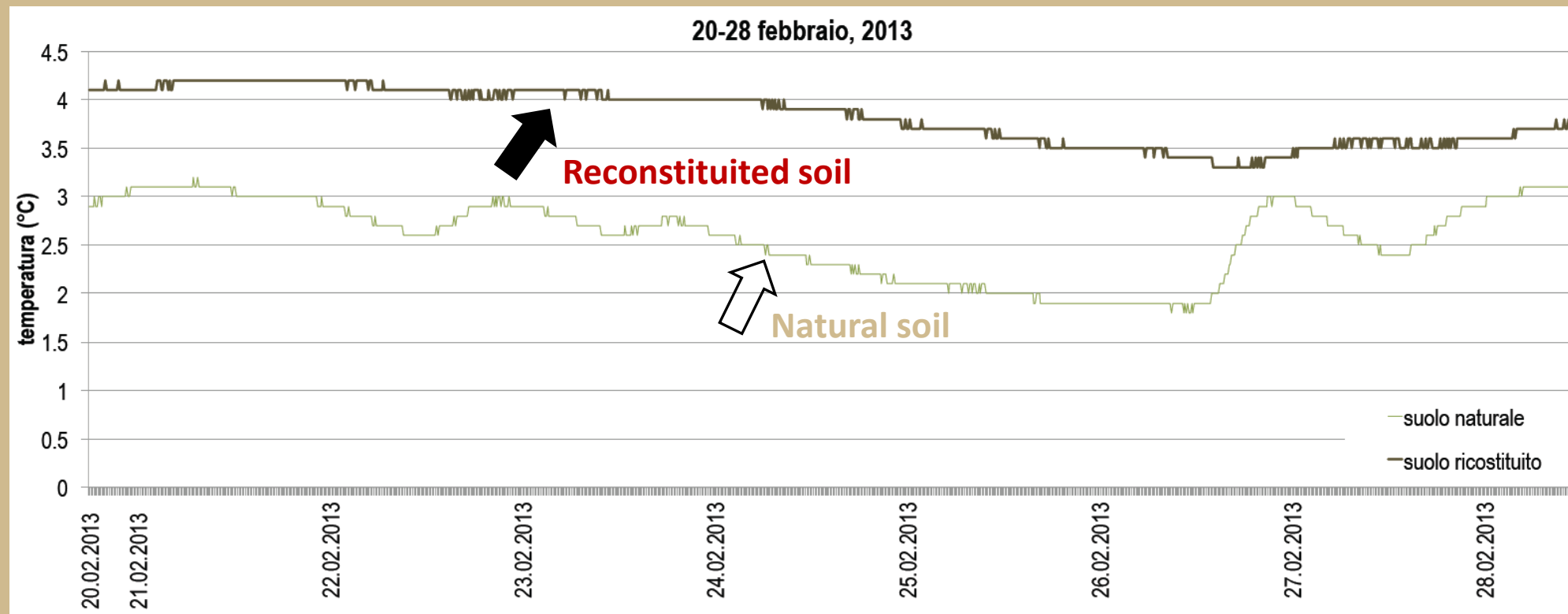
Optimal range for bio-remediation

$10^{\circ}\text{C} > \text{soil temperature} > 45^{\circ}\text{C}$

Unsuitable values; measures should be adopted such as: mitigating climate in the surrounding area, injecting heated air into the biopile or introducing special bacteria populations active within non-optimum temperature ranges.

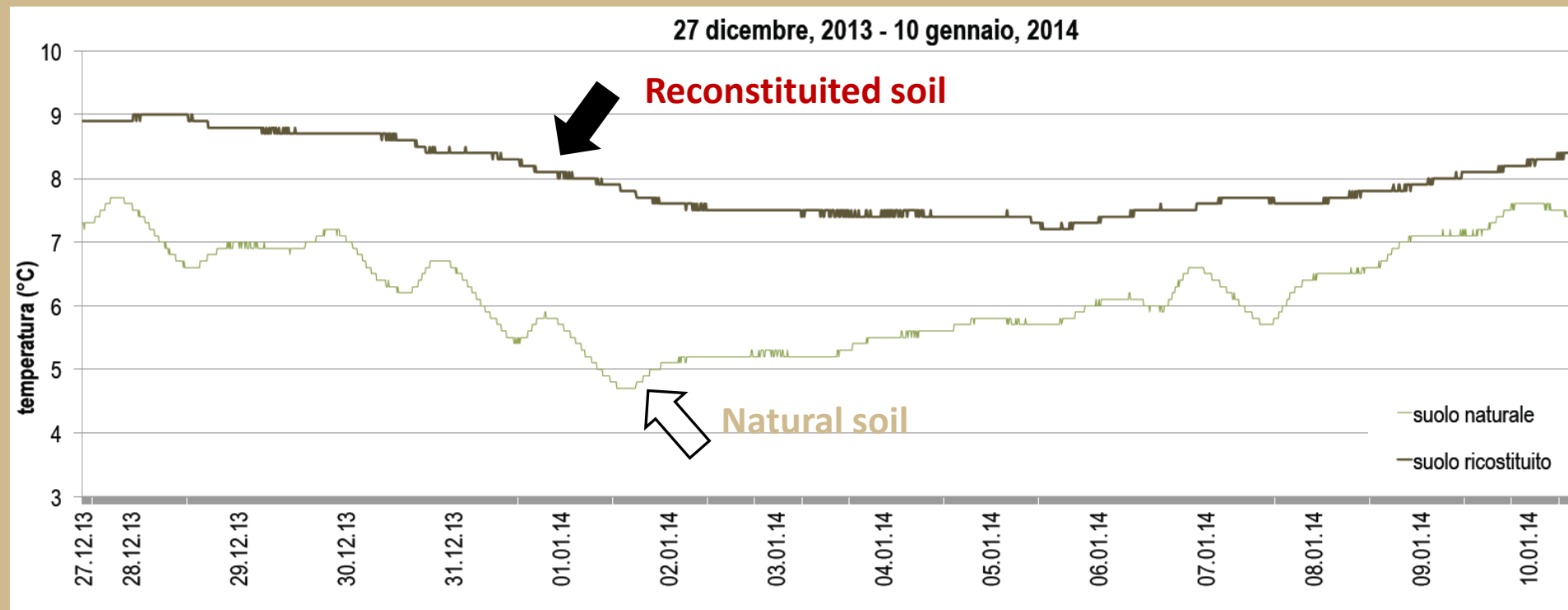


## Soil temperature





## Temperatura del suolo



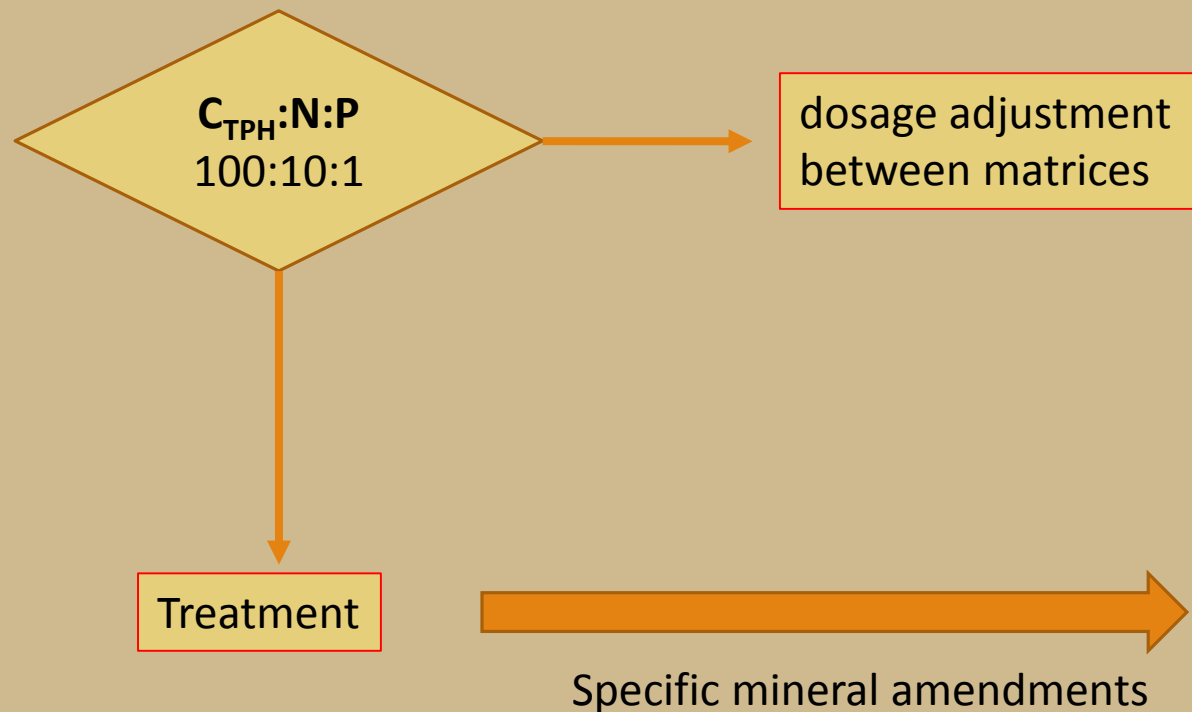
## ***Nutrient concentrations***

Nutrient concentrations are adjusted to suit the conditions of the soil that needs bioremediation treatment

C:N:P

100:10:1

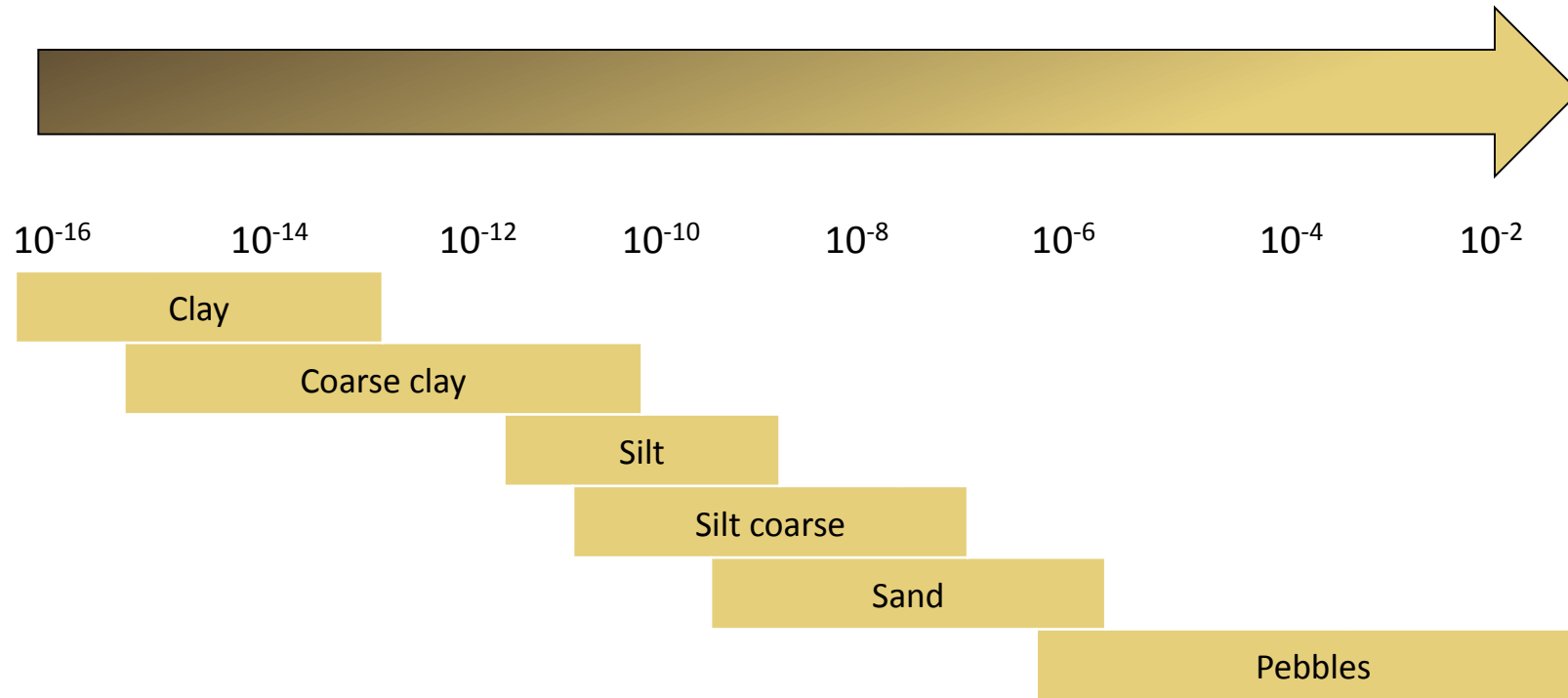




		SC.	Matrice	C org g/kg
		SC.	Matrice	Ntot g/kg (%)
SC	Matrice	P Olsen mg/kg	< 0,1	
S. 33	Cartiera Favini	11,0	1,50 (0,15%)	
S. 12A	Villa Lagarina	4,59	2,30 (0,23%)	
S.22	Lucart	5,05	2,40. (0,24%)	
S.1	Pescia	18,5	2,80 (0,28%)	
S.11	Cartitalia	28,7	2,85 (0,28%)	
S.3	DSSmih	18,2	2,90 (0,29%)	
S.4	Cartiera Garda	14,1	3,10 (0,31%)	
S.	Mosaico srl	0,08	3,30 (0,33%)	
S.5	Carbonera	74,8	3,90 (0,39%)	
S.6	Champaper Carmignano	7,21	4,50 (0,45%)	
S.13	Cordenons	14,5	4,50 (0,45%)	
S.7A	Fedrigoni (Arco)	6,23	4,55 (0,45%)	
S.29B	Cartiera Giacosa	0,00	4,60 (0,46%)	
S.33	Favini s.r.l.	7,40	4,90 (0,49%)	
S.29°	Cartiera Giorgione	5,67	4,90 (0,49%)	
S.14	Europaper	29,9	5,15 (0,51%)	
S.18	Delicarta	78,1	5,40 (0,54%)	
S.30	Borgo group Sarego	21,0	5,40 (0,54%)	
S.34	Toscolano	11,3	6,20 (0,62%)	
S.7C	Fedrigoni Verona	10,1	6,80 (0,68%)	
S.9	Mediterranea Mign.	2,24	8,10 (0,81%)	
S.2	Cartiera Galliera	38,0	8,40 (0,84%)	
S.32	Cartiera di Tolentino Srl	18,9	10,4 (1,04%)	
S.8	Mediterranea - Isoverde	0,73	10,7 (1,07%)	
S.12B	Cartiere Villa Lagarina	408	11,4 (1,14%)	
S.20	Publiacqua Anconella	15,3	14,8 (1,48%)	
S.36	Burgo Gruon Verzuolo	117	43,4 (4,34%)	
			55,1 (5,51%)	

## ***Texture - Structure***

### **Permeability in relation to effectiveness**





## Texture - Structure



**NATURAL SAND**



1PSC2



2PSC2

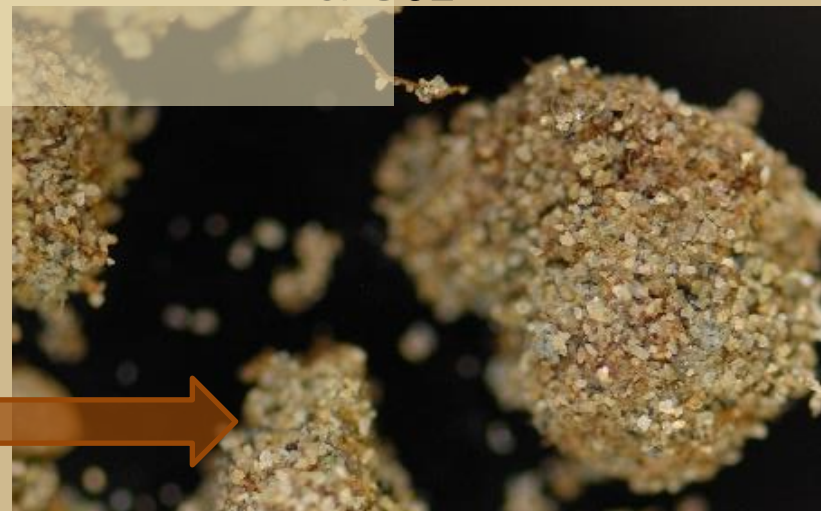


6PSC2

**RECONSTITUITE SAND**



2PSC2



6PSC2



## Texture - Structure



**NATURAL CLAY**



8PSC2



**RECONSTITUITE CLAY**

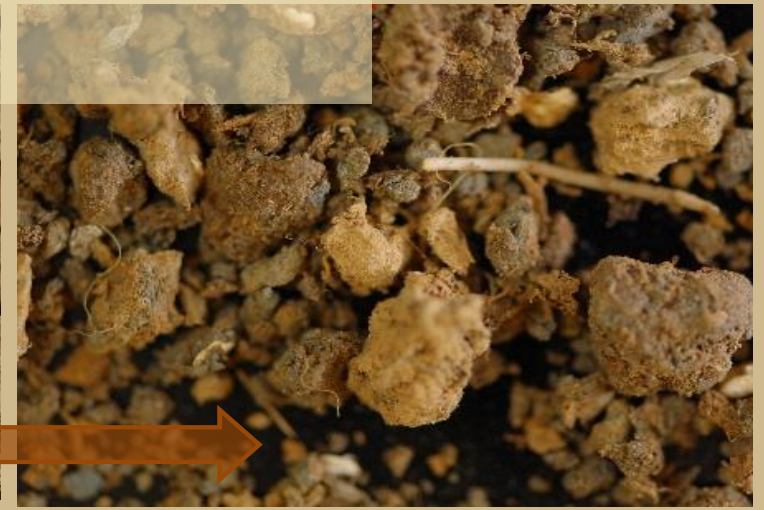
9PSC2



7PSC2



8PSC2



9PSC2



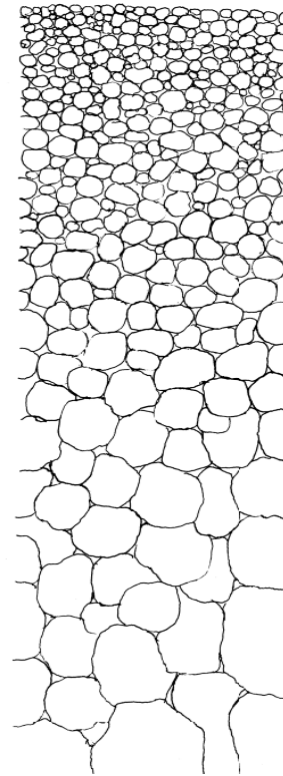
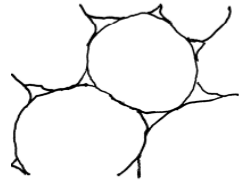
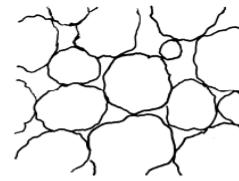
# Fitorimediazione - Landfarming

Soil characteristics for evaluating the efficiency of phytoremediation and landfarming treatments are

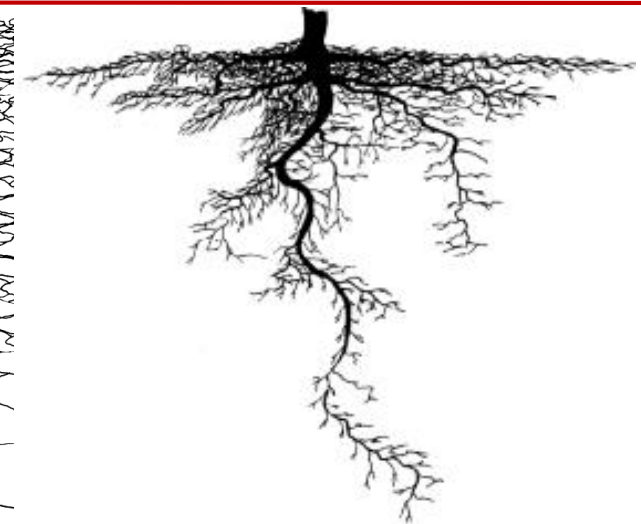
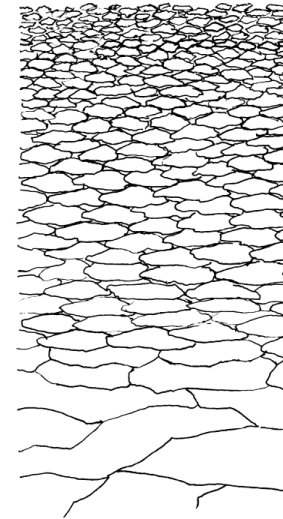
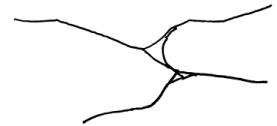
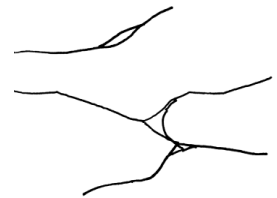
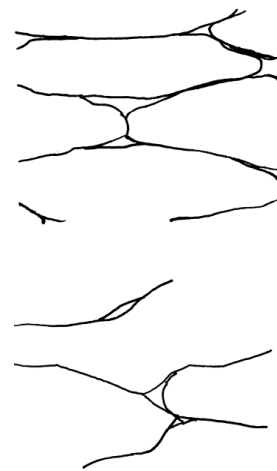
- *microbial population density*
- *soil pH*
- *moisture content*
- *soil temperature*
- *nutrient concentrations*
- *type of soil at the site and surrounding area (texture) and its structure*
- *development of root system*

# Root system architecture

Reconstituite soil



Natural soil deg.





## ***Root system architecture***

The wider the root system the greater the effectiveness of phytoremediation treatments

Mechanism Process	Typical Contaminants	Plant Types
<b>Phytostabilization</b>	As, Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, Zn	Herbaceous species, grasses, trees, wetland species
<b>Rhizodegradation</b>	Organic compounds (TPH, PAHs, BTEX, pesticides, chlorinated solvents, PCBs)	Herbaceous species, grasses, trees, wetland species
<b>Phytoaccumulation</b>	Ag, Au, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Hg, Mn, Mo, Ni, Pb, Zn; Radionuclides: 90Sr, 137Cs, 239Pu, 234, 238U	Herbaceous species, grasses, trees, wetland species
<b>Phytodegradation</b>	Organics compounds, chlorinated solvents, phenols, pesticides, munitions	Algae, herbaceous species, trees, wetland species

The technology of reconstitution used for the remediation of contaminated soil may represent a valuable innovation worth considering when conducting feasibility studies in the field of bioremediation, and for enhancing natural attenuation processes in polluted soil.





**Grazie per l'attenzione**

