

## **EFFECT OF WILD BOAR ROOTING ON SOIL CHARACTERISTICS IN VÖRÖSKÖVÁR, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY**

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Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) changes the physical and chemical parameters of the soil by trampling and rooting in search for food, particularly during the colder months of the year. These effects have been identified both in its native and invasive ranges, but there is still few knowledge in the literature related to the specific impact of the rooting behaviour on soil attributes in relation to different areas of a rooting (i.e., rooting, its ring, control). In this study, 5 deep rootings were sampled in Vöröskővár, Budapest, Hungary, in January of 2023, and analysed with a Near Infrared Spectrometer (NIR) to compare differences in the soil characteristics. The results demonstrate an evident decrease in the Soil Organic Matter (SOM) in the rooted area in comparison with the control area. Significant correlation was identified between Phosphorus, Nitrogen, Magnesium, and Potassium contents in the soil, but there were no significant differences between the ring and the middle of the rooting, or these and the control sample. Further analyses over an entire year are planned to identify the long-term impact of this feeding behaviour on the soil in the framework of project funded by the National Research, Development and Innovation Office in Hungary (RRF-2.3.1-21-2022-00006).