WHAT IS soil compaction

WHEN YOU APPLY TOO MUCH PRESSURE TO YOUR SOIL....

HEALTHY SOIL

EAST TO DIG

healthy plant growth

GOOD GROWTH

IMPROVED NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

• larger community of soil organisms
• better accessibility of nutrients for the roots

IMPROVED WATER MANAGEMENT

• more water infiltration
• adequate ground water recharge

DIFFICULTIES

• plant’s growth is hampered
• shallow and deformed roots
• suffer from water stress
• lower quantity
• lower quality
• lower market value

SHALLOW AND/OR DEFORMED ROOTS

• soil particles represent the mineral part of the soil

LOW RISK

• soil particles represent the mineral part of the soil

for compaction

HIGH RISK

• soil particles represent the mineral part of the soil

for compaction

COMPACTED SOIL

LONG AND/OR WELL FORMED

• the space between soil particles is reduced
• plant roots cannot grow well

DIFFICULTIES ON NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

• decreased amount of soil organism’s communities
• impact on nutrient cycling
• need for more fertilizers

GOOD GROWTH OF PLANT ROOTS

• efficient use of nutrients
• higher yield
• higher crop quality
• higher value of the crops on the market

EASY TO DIG

• improved plant growth

DIFFICULTIES

• the risk for compaction depends on the soil particles type (soil texture), soil structure and aggregation, and mechanical stress

YOUR SOIL IS COMPACTED

THE DEEPER HORIZONS OF YOUR SOIL ARE COMPACTED

LOW RISK

STEP 1

Does the soil smell mouldy?

YES

NO

YES

NO

STEP 2

Can you dig a hole in your soil?

STEP 3

Is it easy to dig a hole? (approx. a 30cm depth)

YES

NO

YES

NO

STEP 4

Check how your crop/tree roots look

SHALLOW AND/OR DEFORMED

LONG AND/OR WELL FORMED

DIFFICULT, THE SOIL FEELS TOO HARD TO PUSH ANY FURTHER

EASY

WELL DONE!

YOUR SOIL IS COMPACTED

THE DEEPER HORIZONS OF YOUR SOIL ARE COMPACTED

Thank you for the financial support of