Updates from North America

Rich Ferguson, USDA-NRCS Kellogg Soil Survey Laboratory
• The KSSL provided soil spectroscopy training to FAO-GSP GLOSOLAN personnel.

• The KSSL participated in the GLOSOLAN proficiency testing program. Compiled results were featured during a talk by Christian Hartmann at the 17th Symposium on Soil and Plant Analysis (ISSPA), held in Concepción, Chile in March, 2023.

• The KSSL participated in two GLOSOLAN presentations at the ISSPA: “The Standard Operating Procedures of the Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN): a trigger to face emerging challenges on sustainable soil management worldwide” and “The Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN): bringing soil laboratories to the forefront worldwide.” These well-received talks were presented by GLOSOLAN Filippo Benedetti.

• The KSSL participated in a GLOSOLAN-mediated soil sample exchange and analysis project with the Soil and Water Research Institute (SWRI) of Iran. The purpose: to compare methods for measuring soil inorganic and organic carbon, towards identification of optimal standards for measuring both soil properties. The SWRI / KSSL collaboration has been a fruitful example of progressive, organized science; two papers in progress.

• The KSSL contributed to GLOSOLAN method harmonization surveys for water retention, particle density, and loss on ignition.

• The KSSL served as a technical consultant on soil analysis, based on referrals by GLOSOLAN.