BioOne COMPLETE

2021: The New Normal and the Air, Soil and Water Research Perspective

Authors: Bandala, Erick R, Rodrigo-Comino, Jesus, and Latif, Mohd Talib

Source: Air, Soil and Water Research, 14(1)

Published By: SAGE Publishing

URL: https://doi.org/10.1177/1178622120988318

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non - commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

Downloaded From: https://complete.bioone.org/journals/Air,-Soil-and-Water-Research on 28 Mar 2024
Terms of Use: https://complete.bioone.org/terms-of-use

2021: The New Normal and the Air, Soil and Water Research Perspective

Erick R Bandala[1], Jesus Rodrigo-Comino[2,3] and Mohd Talib Latif[4]

[1]Division of Hydrologic Sciences, Desert Research Institute, Las Vegas, NV, USA. [2]Soil Erosion and Degradation Research Group, Department of Geography, Valencia University, Valencia, Spain. [3]Department of Physical Geography, University of Trier, Trier, Germany. [4]Department of Earth Science and Environment, Faculty of Science and Technology, University Kebangsaan, Bangi, Malaysia.

Air, Soil and Water Research
Volume 14: 1–2
© The Author(s) 2021
Article reuse guidelines:
sagepub.com/journals-permissions
DOI: 10.1177/1178622120988318

ABSTRACT: With over 64.1 million cases worldwide (by December 1, 2020) and a death toll surpassing 1.48 million the COVID-19 pandemics has filled not only with fear and isolation our day-to-day lives but also with a significant amount of disinformation, the unreliability of data, and lack of trust on the response of governmental officers and authorities that, sadly, can be translated in loss of lives in our closest circles (colleagues, friends, family). At *Air, Soil and Water Research* (ASW), we believe that knowledge is the only way out of this and any other crisis faced by humankind, and our team has been working elbow-to-elbow (but online) to offer the best quality research and scientific knowledge that will certainly assist for better decision making and led towards the best path to get us through this so hard time.

KEYWORDS: Editorial page, ASW, 2021

AIMS AND SCOPE: This is the editorial page for ASW and aims to stating the view of the editors on the role of the journal on knowledgement dissemination.

RECEIVED: December 4, 2020. **ACCEPTED:** December 15, 2020.

TYPE: Editorial

FUNDING: The author(s) received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS: The author(s) declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR: Erick R Bandala, Desert Research Institute, 755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119, USA. Email: Erick.Bandala@dri.edu

In January 2020, the United Nations Foundation (UNF) published their view of the five Global Issues to watch in 2020 including accelerated climate change, timeline remaining to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), inequality and exclusion, conflict, peace, and humanitarian response, and the need for a united world after 75 years of United Nations. At the time, their view was published, none of us could imagine that all these challenges will become overwhelmingly surpassed by an unexpected crisis that has occupied our minds during most of 2020. With over 64.1 million cases worldwide (by December 1, 2020) and a death toll surpassing 1.48 million the COVID-19 pandemics has filled not only with fear and isolation our day-to-day lives but also with a significant amount of disinformation, the unreliability of data, and lack of trust on the response of governmental officers and authorities that, sadly, can be translated in loss of lives in our closest circles (colleagues, friends, family).

At *Air, Soil and Water Research* (ASW), we believe that knowledge is the only way out of this and any other crisis faced by humankind, and our team has been working elbow-to-elbow (but online) to offer the best quality research and scientific knowledge that will certainly assist for better decision making and led towards the best path to get us through this so hard time. During 2020, despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemics, we duplicate the total amount of manuscript submission and our acceptance rate reached almost 50%. We have continued receiving manuscript from diverse regions and, as always, our goal is to continue raising the number of submissions as well as the geographic regions of the authors. Among the wide variety of topics covered by ASW during 2020, most of them have been devoted precisely to deal with some of the Global Issues highlighted by UNF earlier this year by assessing the impact and uptake of heavy metals,[1,2] climate change effects and adaptations,[3,4] the use of novel materials and processes for water treatment,[5-8] social values perception of restoration economy,[9] plastic debris,[10] soil erosion, management practices and human health,[11-13] PM10 concentration,[14] indoor environments,[15] and riparian restoration.[16-20]

Also, we are happy to share with the readers the first collaborative review paper written for twenty editors belonging to the soil section to highlight the challenges that soil scientists have to face in this new era from a transdisciplinary overview of relevant topics.[21] In this review, we also consider the relevance of micro-plastics as an emerging potential pollutant with the potential to negatively affect the world's soils, and now are even more important due to the residues of face masks (produced from polymers) used during the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is almost certain that history will see 2020 as an inflexion point for life before and after COVID-19 pandemic, and that 'new normal' life must go on. We would like to propose using scientific knowledge as the exchange currency for this new normal instead of policy-driven, gut feeling-driven, conspiracy theory-driven decision making. To achieve this goal, the continued support of scientist, researchers, and authors is needed to generate the knowledge as well as expert reviewers working together with editors, associated editors, managing editors, and editorial board members to maintain ASW as the forum where new ideas

Creative Commons Non Commercial CC BY-NC: This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 License (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/) which permits non-commercial use, reproduction and distribution of the work without further permission provided the original work is attributed as specified on the SAGE and Open Access pages (https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/open-access-at-sage).

Downloaded From: https://complete.bioone.org/journals/Air,-Soil-and-Water-Research on 28 Mar 2024
Terms of Use: https://complete.bioone.org/terms-of-use

are discussed and spread. Our team is ready, set, and just waiting for your go! signal to re-start our efforts for this 2021, and we invite you to join us as an author, or guest editor to make it possible. As always, we look forward to working with you in making your research available to the broadest possible audience.

ORCID iDs

Erick R Bandala https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9553-1581
Jesus Rodrigo-Comino https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4823-0871

REFERENCES

1. Ebong GA, Ettesam ES, Dan EU. Impact of abattoir wastes on trace metal accumulation, speciation, and human health–related problems in soils within Southern Nigeria. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-14. doi:10.1177/1178622119898430.
2. Yazdanbakhsh A, Alavi SN, Valadabadi SA, Karimi F, Karimi Z. Heavy metals uptake of salty soils by ornamental sunflower, using cow manure and biosolids: a case study in Alborz city, Iran. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-13. doi:10.1177/1178622119898460.
3. van der Bank M, Karsten J. Climate change and South Africa: a critical analysis of the earthlife Africa Johannesburg and another v Minister of Energy and Others 65662/16 (2017) case and the drive for concrete climate practices. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-11. doi:10.1177/1178622119885372.
4. Vargas-Pineda OI, Trujillo-Gonzalez JM, Torres-Mora M. Supply–demand of water resource of a basin with high anthropic pressure: case study Quenane-Quenanito Basin in Colombia. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-10. doi:10.1177/1178622120917725.
5. Belachew N, Fekadu R, Abebe AA. RSM-BBD optimization of Fenton-like degradation of 4-nitrophenol using magnetite impregnated kaolin. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-10. doi:10.1177/1178622120932124.
6. Karam A, Zaher K, Mahmoud AS. Comparative studies of using nano zerovalent iron, activated carbon, and green synthesized nano zerovalent iron for textile wastewater color removal using artificial intelligence, regression analysis, adsorption isotherm, and kinetic studies. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-19. doi:10.1177/1178622120908273.
7. Kim H, Yeo I, Park C. Study of algal organic matter removal efficiency using a newly developed removal system. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-6. doi:10.1177/1178622119898422.
8. Morsy KM, Mostafa MK, Abdalla KZ, Galal MM. Life cycle assessment of upgrading primary wastewater treatment plants to secondary treatment including a circular economy approach. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-13. doi:10.1177/1178622120935857.
9. Petrakis RE, Norman LM, Lysaght O, et al. Mapping perceived social values to support a respondent-defined restoration economy: case study in southeastern Arizona, USA. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-16. doi:10.1177/1178622120913318.
10. de Borrero DD, Duque JF, Olmos J, et al. Distribution of plastic debris in the Pacific and Caribbean beaches of Panama. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-8. doi:10.1177/1178622120920268.
11. Bogunovic I, Telak LJ, Pereira P. Experimental comparison of runoff generation and initial soil erosion between vineyards and croplands of Eastern Croatia: a case study. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-9. doi:10.1177/1178622120928323.
12. Brevik EC, Slaughter L, Singh BR, et al. Soil and human health: current status and future needs. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-23. doi:10.1177/1178622120934441.
13. Ferreira CSS, Veiga A, Caetano A, et al. Assessment of the impact of distinct vineyard management practices on soil physico-chemical properties. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-13. doi:10.1177/1178622120944847.
14. Prueksasit T, Chanthahong S, Kanghae Y. Appraisement of PM10 concentrations at residential areas influenced by informal E-waste dismantling activity, Buriram Province, Thailand. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-8. doi:10.1177/1178622120931081.
15. Andualem Z, Ayenew Y, Ababu T, Hailu B. Assessment of airborne culturable fungal load in an indoor environment of dormitory rooms: the case of university of Gondar student's dormitory rooms, Northwest Ethiopia. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-7. doi:10.1177/1178622120933553.
16. Campbell C. An approach for creating site-specific planting palettes to support pollinators in the Sky Islands. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-6. doi:10.1177/1178622120950269.
17. Dhali MK, Mukhopadhyay S. Formation, migration, and morphodynamic alteration of 50 channel bars in Darjeeling Himalayan Piedmont Zone, India. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-17. doi:10.1177/1178622120941436.
18. Flesch AD, Esquer A. Impacts of riparian restoration on vegetation and avifauna on private and communal lands in Northwest Mexico and implications for future efforts. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-13. doi:10.1177/1178622120938060.
19. Mfarrej MFB, Wafiesheh NA, Bahloul MM. Investigation of indoor air quality inside houses from UAE. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-10. doi:10.1177/1178622120928912.
20. Norman LM. Ecosystem services of riparian restoration: a review of rock detention structures in the Madrean Archipelago Ecoregion. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1-13. doi:10.1177/1178622120946337.
21. Rodrigo-Comino J, López-Vicente M, Kumar V, et al. Soil science challenges in a new era: a transdisciplinary overview of relevant topics. *Air Soil Water Res*. 2020;13:1–17. doi:10.1177/1178622120977491.

Downloaded From: https://complete.bioone.org/journals/Air,-Soil-and-Water-Research on 28 Mar 2024
Terms of Use: https://complete.bioone.org/terms-of-use