

# Soil Carbon Sequestration and the Greenhouse Effect

Special Publication 57

**Rattan Lal & Ronald F. Follett, Co-editors**

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SSSA Special Publication 57, second edition

*The Soil Science Society of America* is very pleased to publish the second edition of *Soil Carbon Sequestration and the Greenhouse Effect*. This timely publication, produced by internationally recognized experts, has been totally updated and new and emerging topics addressed in additional chapters. Given the importance of the soil carbon pool's contribution to key ecosystem services that sustain life and the critical role of the soil resource as a source and sink of greenhouse gases, the relevancy and immediacy of this publication cannot be overemphasized. This volume fills a critical need for a comprehensive compilation and evaluation of the key processes controlling soil carbon dynamics in diverse terrestrial ecosystems, as well as approaches for modeling these processes.

Because of the global significance of the soil carbon pool, it is clear that pending policy decisions dealing with carbon emissions and mitigation will necessarily include a consideration of soil carbon sequestration. Through this publication, the SSSA is pleased to provide the platform for guiding the future research agenda on soil carbon sequestration, as well as contributing to the scientific knowledge base required to guide future public policy decisions. Congratulations to Dr. Rattan Lal and Dr. Ronald Follet for producing such an excellent and timely publication and thanks to all of the contributing authors for their efforts in making this comprehensive volume a reality.

**Paul M. Bertsch**, President of the Soil Science Society of America