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Knowledge transfer to society: soil education and evidence syntheses in agro-environmental science | Posters only

Soil Education

Analyses of interest and recognition of necessity on soil by elementary school pupils and junior high school students based on a questionnaire survey on soil in Japan

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Aim

- We make a brief report of the results on the questionnaire survey on soil in Japan.
- We hope some comments on the recognition of necessity and interest on soil of pupils in elementary school and students in junior high school in Japan.

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Introduction

Under progress of urbanization and decrease in opportunities to learn soil at school, it would be important to analyze recognition of necessity and interest on soil of elementary school pupils and junior high school students in Japan.

Soil education committee of Japanese Society of Soil Science and Plant Nutrition conducted a questionnaire survey on soil across Japan in 2015.

The questionnaire was answered by 5,396 pupils in the elementary schools, while 3,472 students in the junior high schools. Some results are reported in the following.

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Results (1st grader of elementary school is expressed as blue, 6th grader of elementary school green, 3rd grader of junior high school red)

Q2. Would you like to have places with soil around where you live?

1. I would like to have as many as possible. → 48.3, 36.5, 27.5 (%)

Q5. In what situations have you touched soil?

7. When working with flower pots. → 71.0, 36.6, 23.1 (%)

8. When taking a class at school. → 69.6, 43.9, 27.1 (%)

Q7. Would you like to know more about soil?

1. I would like to know as much as possible. → 65.5, 27.8, 14.5 (%)

3. I'm not interested in knowing any more. → 9.6, 20.8, 36.0 (%)



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Concluding remark and future development of soil education

- Based on the results obtained, it would become easier what kinds of educational materials should be produced to facilitate understanding soil for pupils and students in harmony with the curriculum guidelines established by Japanese government.
- If you would like to use the questionnaire form, please tell us. We have already produced English version for distribution.
- If a questionnaire survey on soil utilizing the same form would be conducted in other countries, then we might compare the results with those in Japan. Such a trial would be useful for future development of soil education in the world.

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**Thank you very much for your
Interest**

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