

A comparison of selected soil properties under high and coppice forest in the Vienna Woods. Yan, S., Gerhard, G. (*University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Austria; yanshuai111@gmail.com; gerhard.glatzel@boku.ac.at*), Viktor, B. (*Commission for Interdisciplinary Ecological Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria; viktor.bruckman@oeaw.ac.at*).

In this study soil properties of a high forest and a coppice forest in the Vienna Woods were compared. Fifteen (15) soil samples were randomly collected from each forest patch on an 80-m-interval grid along the plots by means of a soil core with 70 mm diameter to a maximum soil depth of 60 cm. Soil samples were classified using the FAO-WRB classification system. Each soil profile was divided into ectohumus (O-horizon) as well as vertical geometric mineral soil horizons of 0 to 5, 5 to 10, 10 to 20, 20 to 40, and 40+ cm depths. Dry mass of ectohumus, coarse and fine mineral soil, and roots; soil bulk density; soil pH; total nitrogen; and total and organic carbon of each sample were determined. Statistical analysis revealed differences of ectohumus dry mass, root dry mass, soil bulk density, soil pH, total nitrogen, and total and organic carbon at different soil depths under coppice and high forest. As expected, correlation analysis showed that nitrogen and organic carbon are highly positively correlated in high and coppice forest. Possible reasons are discussed.

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