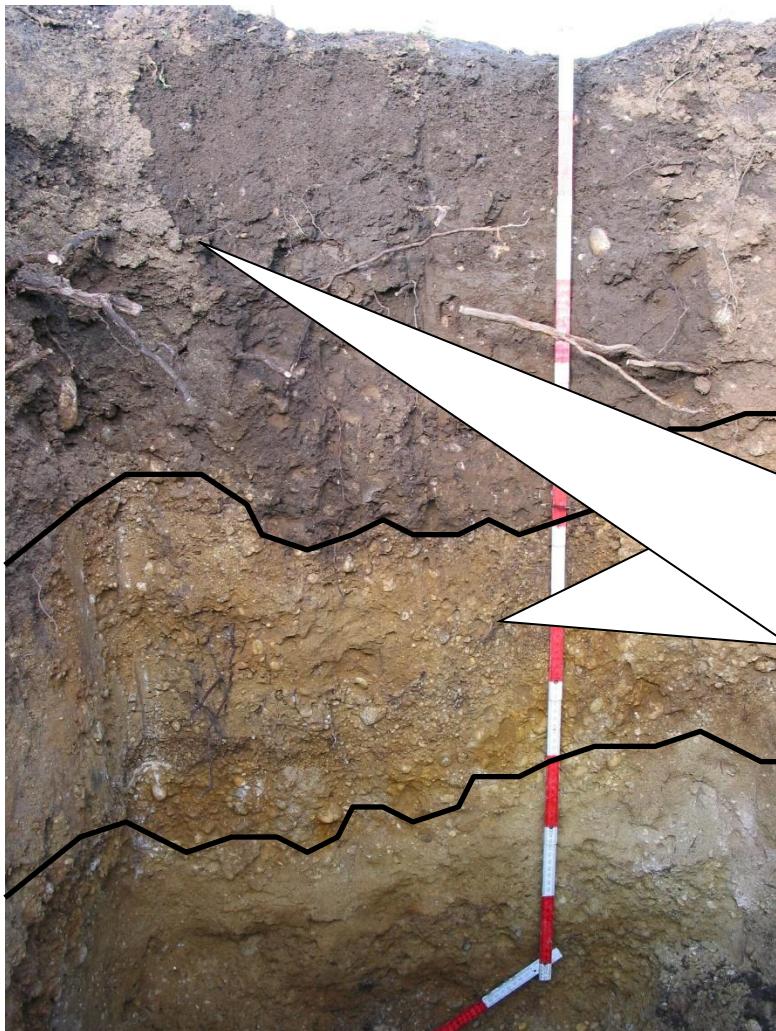


Soil properties and field methods

What can be seen in the field?



Soil horizons
Soil skeleton

Roots



Nutrient rich sites



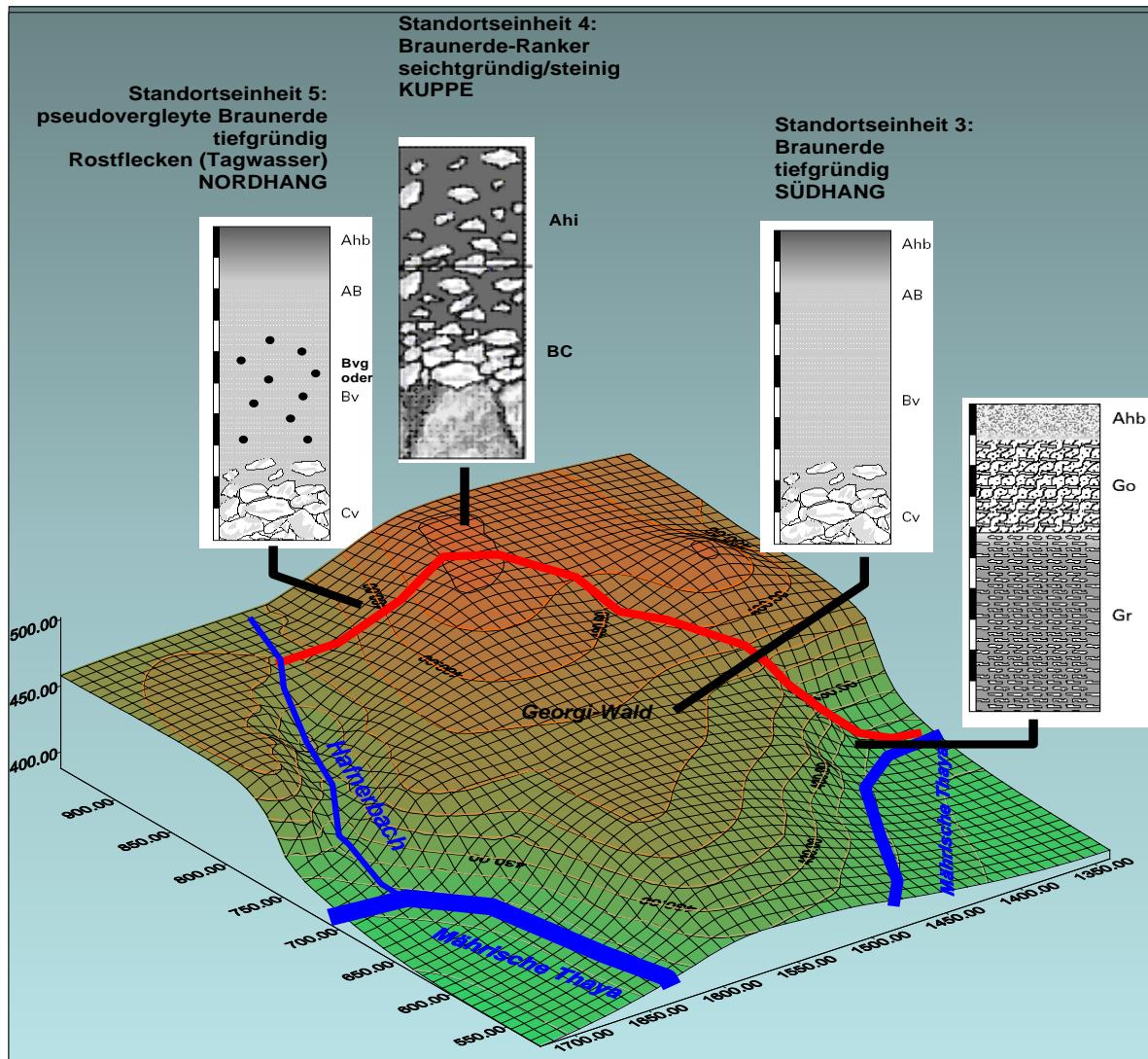
Abundant vegetation, high biological activity

Nutrient poor sites

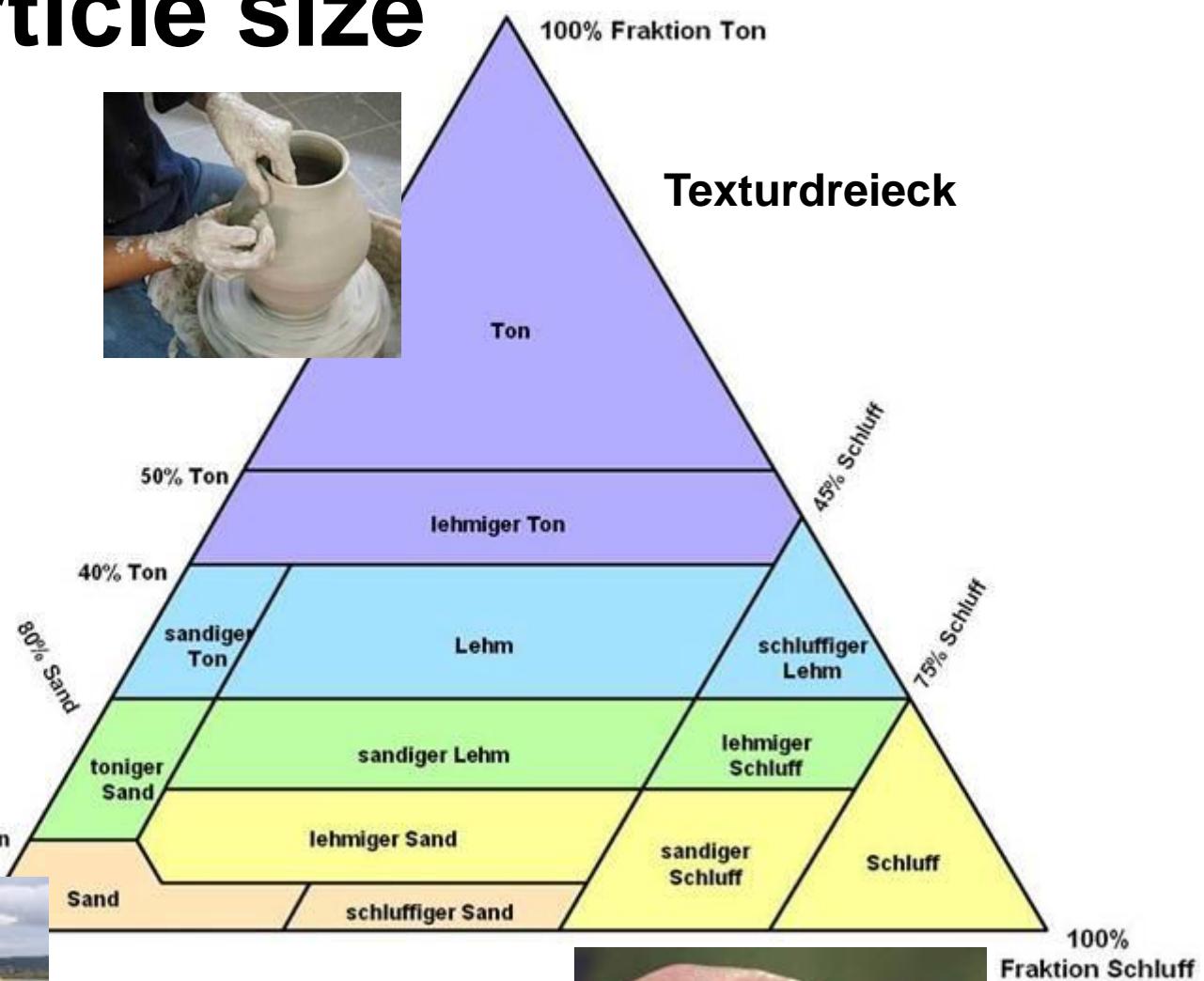


Rare vegetation, slow nutrient turnover, raw humus

Topography



Soil particle size



Soil colour

Influenced by

- Geology
- Humus content

Indicates

- Humus
- Soil water regime
- Soil aeration
- Compaction
- Soil forming processes



Example: colour indicating deoxidisation



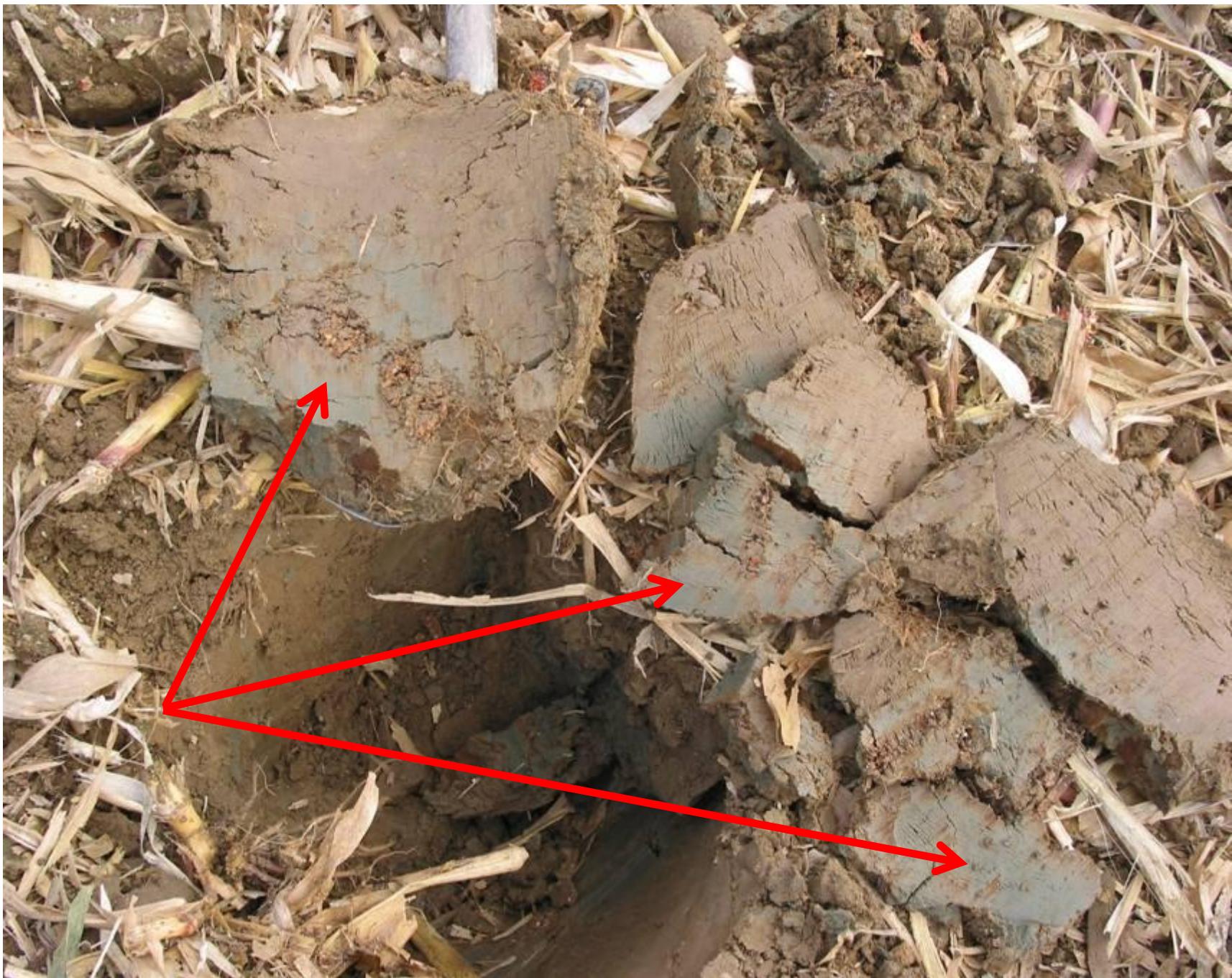
Soil structure

crumbly structure (aggregates)



bulky





Carbonate content

Hydrochloric acid (diluted)





Implications for forest management

Choice of tree species



Heavy clayish soil; waterlogged , shallow rooting

Timber harvest



(Lüscher et al., 2010)

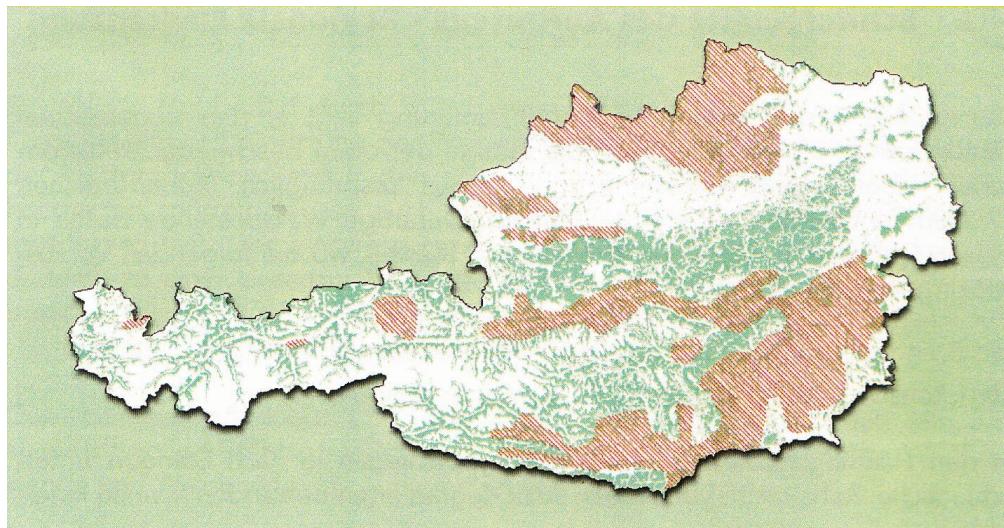
Soils remember...



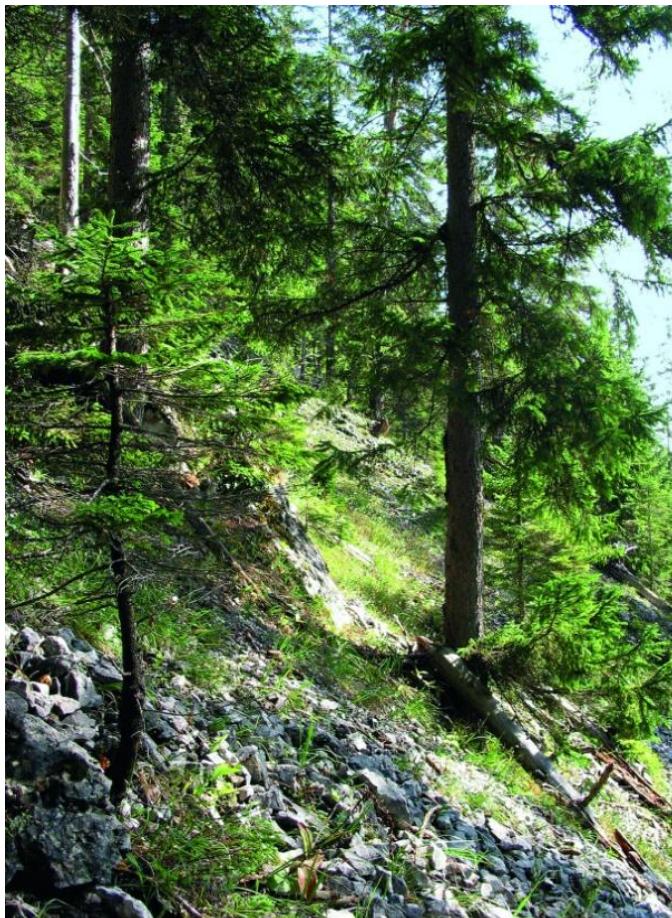
Foto: Marco Walser, WSL

Fertilisation – amelioration local hot spots in Austria

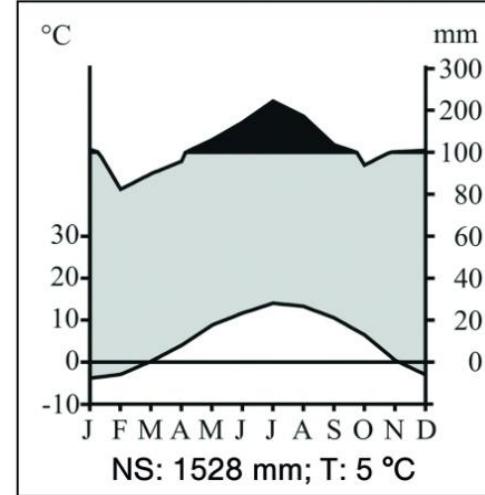
- Acid spruce / pine forests on broadleaf tree stands



Clear cut / soil erosion



Fichten-Bestand mit Kiefer



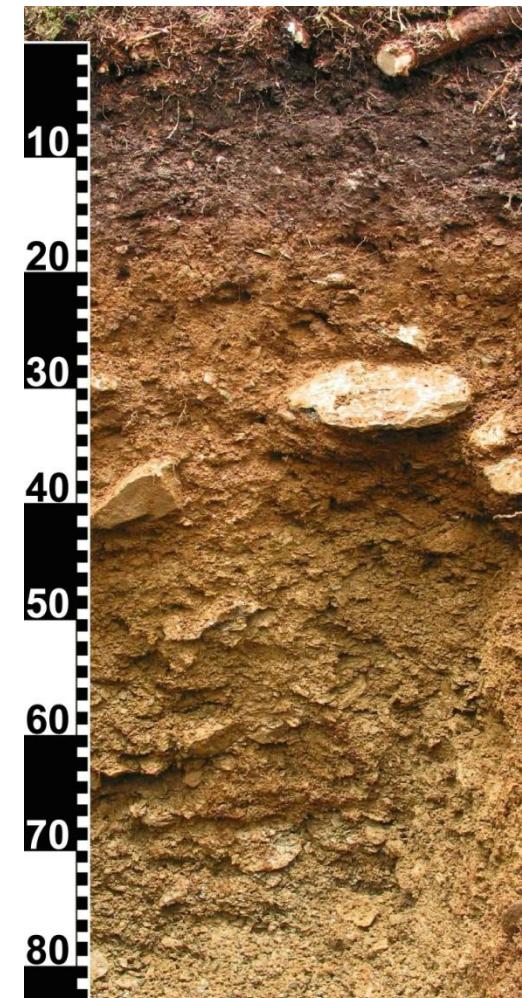
N 47,525 / E 11,818



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Biomass removal

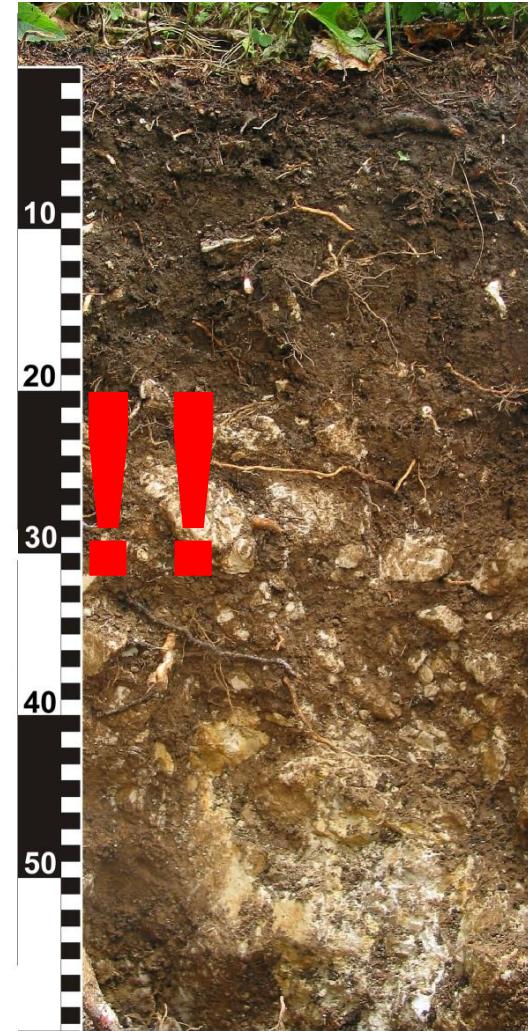
- Problematic:
 - Soils: soil types, geology,
 - Topography: dome
 - Others: climate, historical land use



Clear cut?

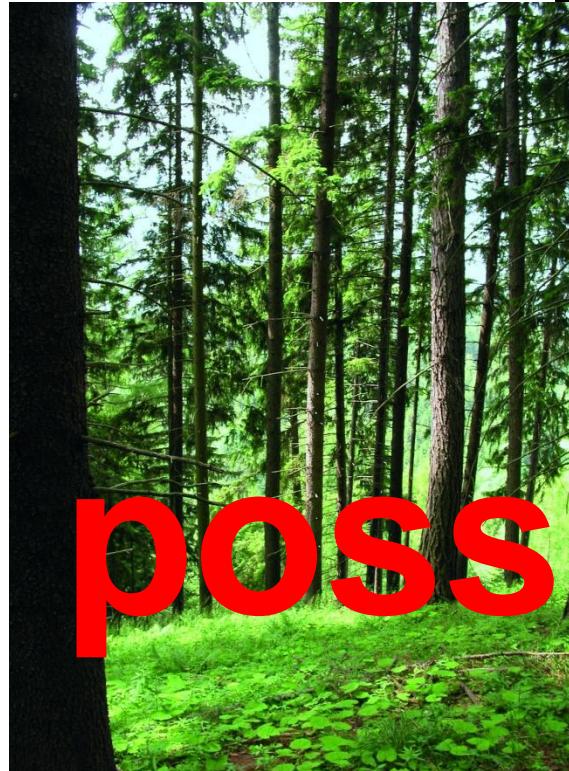


Fichten-Bestand mit Tanne und Esche

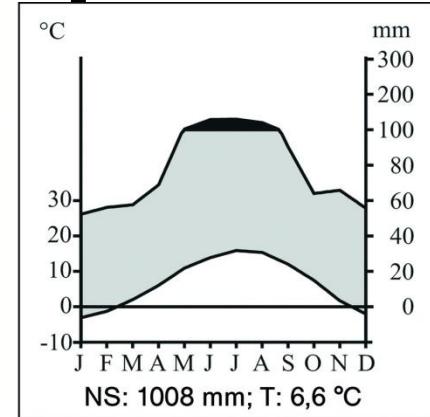


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High amount of Norway spruce?

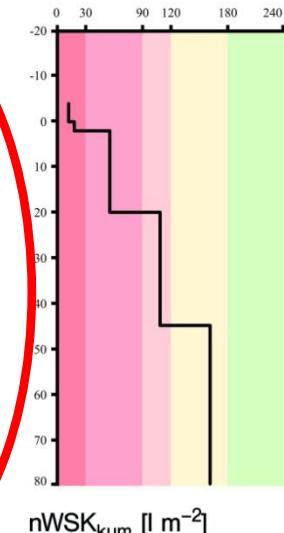
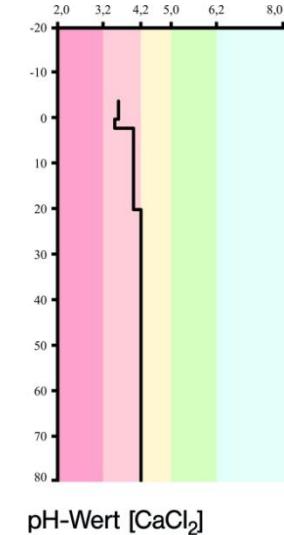
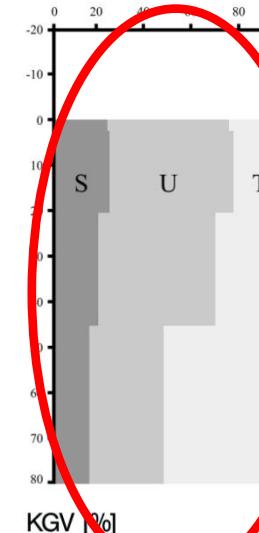
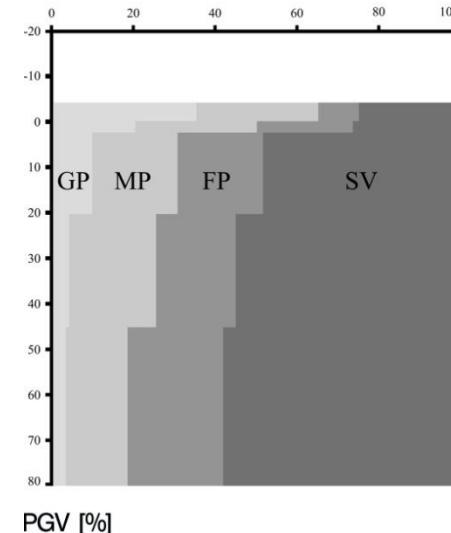


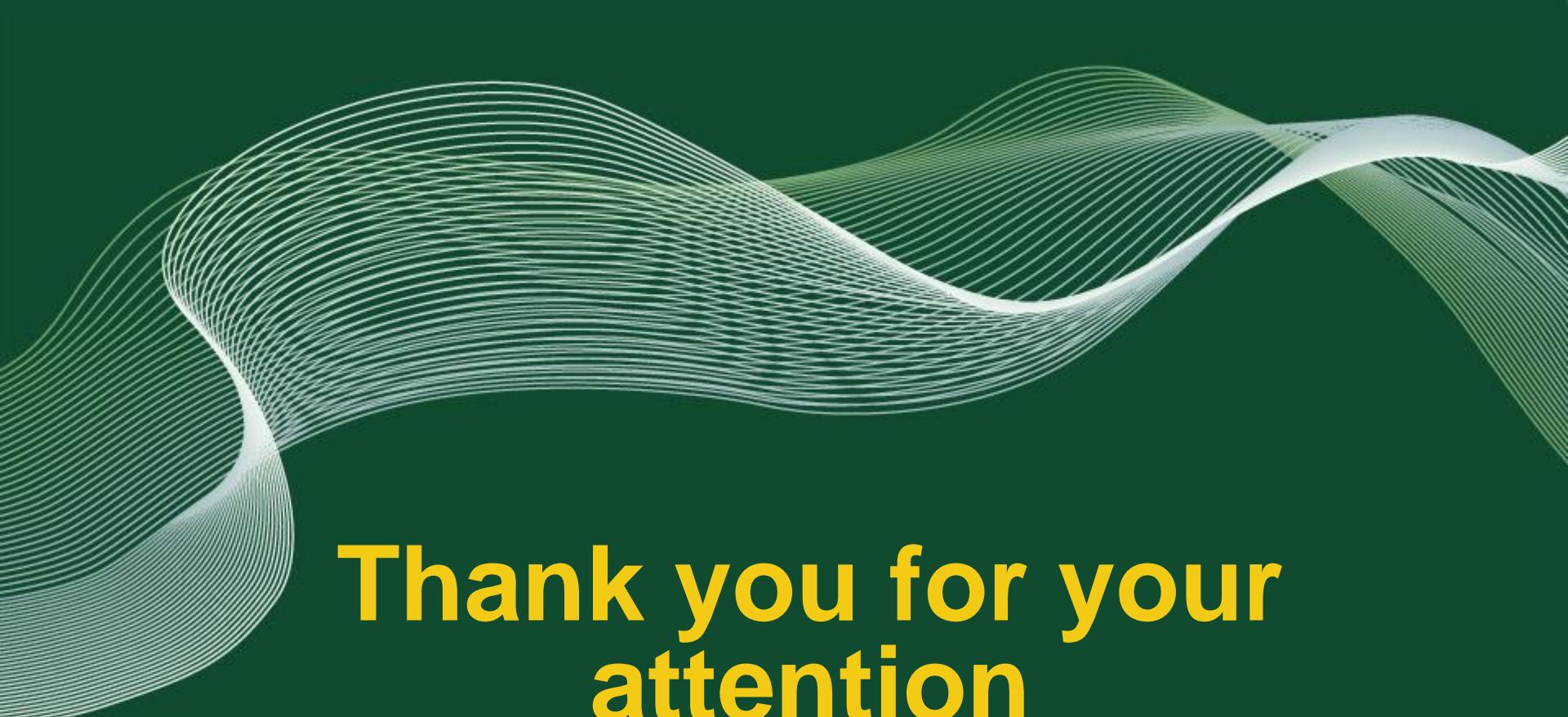
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High amount of Norway spruce?





**Thank you for your
attention**