



# Soil Health Guards: The Perspective of a PhD Student and Participant

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## Monitoring Soil Health Indicators

Engage farmers and youth in Serbia to track soil health indicators during 2024-2025.



## Public Engagement and Education

Involve citizens in scientific research to raise awareness and understanding of soil health and sustainable agriculture practices

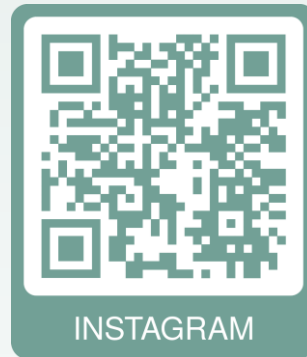


## Data-Driven Decision Making

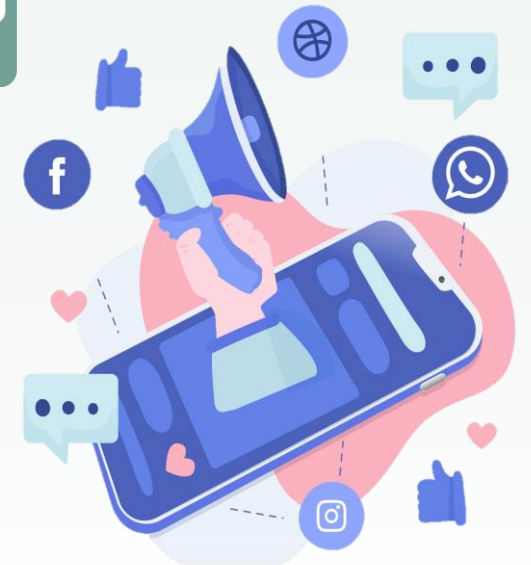
Provide data from citizen science research to inform decision-making at local/national levels (policy development, community programs, agricultural strategies, funding allocation etc.)

## Discovering the Soil Health Guards Project

Main source of information → Social media



Other source of information



Official Website following simple steps:

1. Visiting website
2. Filling in informations (name, phone number, e-mail)
3. Sending application
4. Getting confirmation mail

# The First Educational Workshop

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- Educational lectures about soil health
- Practical demonstration of methods for soil analysis
- Interaction and exchange of experiences
- Distribution of materials and instructions



The research team provided participants with all the information they needed to sample and analyze soil.

1

Soil Organic Matter

- Decomposition Capacity
  - a) Cotton Cloth Experiment
  - b) Tea Bag Experiment
- Earthworm Count and Type

2

Soil pH/NPK status

3

Soil Structure and  
Texture

4

Soil Bulk Density



Materials for soil sampling and analysis were provided: tea bags, cotton cloth, shovel, reagents for chemical analyses, pipettes, test tubes, etc.

Instruction manual with all analyses described step-by-step

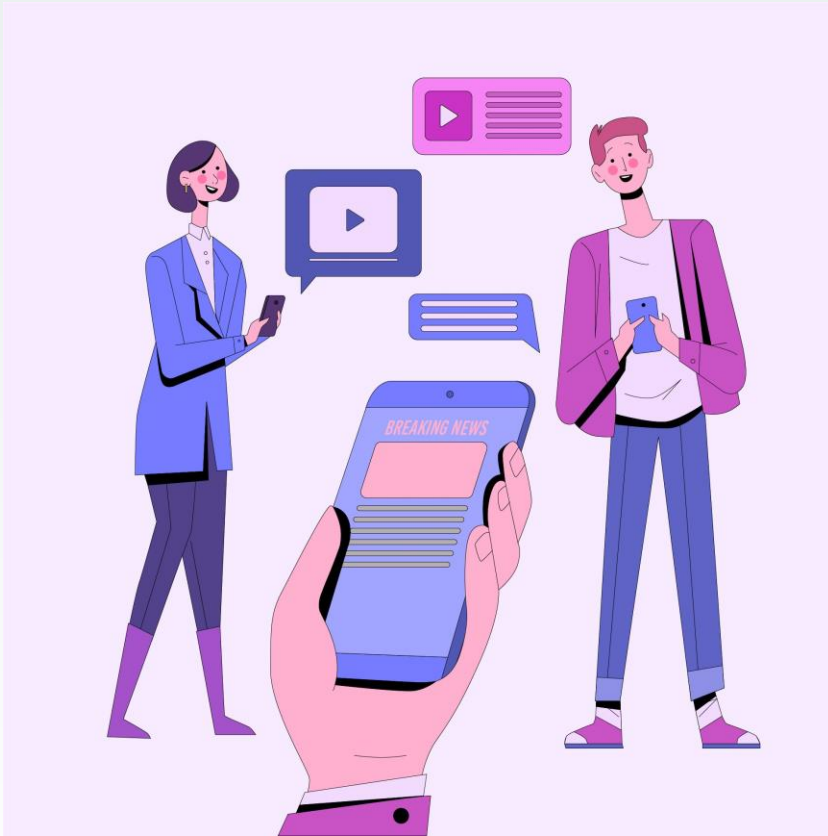


YouTube channel with step-by-step tutorials is available for all analyses





Main communication channel → Viber community



- Updates
- Notifications
- Reminders
- Open for questions and discussion
- Sharing experiences with other participants

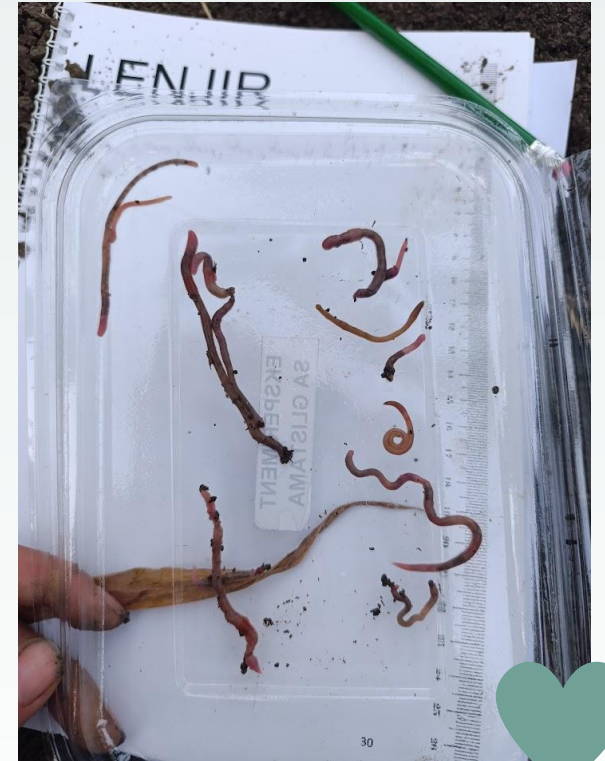
Experiment with tea bags



Experiment with cotton cloth



Experiment with earthworms



Location: Serbia



Crop: Corn



Date: June





## Conclusion

- Soil Guards promotes **sustainable agriculture** by engaging farmers and youth in Serbia and builds a **collaborative spirit** between citizens and researchers.
- Through **hands-on experiments, workshops, and constant support** from the research team via the Viber community, we have developed a **deeper understanding of soil health**.
- I am excited to continue this adventure and see positive changes in our **community, the environment, and the soil health**.



THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION!



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