Soil • Plant • Water BlogEochemistry

The BIOGRIP Node for Soil and Water Analysis as well as the ICP-MS & XRF Unit at Stellenbosch University are equipped with state-of-the-art instruments to measure the elemental components important in soil and water quality research, as well as the nutrients and toxic elements transferred to crops and livestock after suitable sample preparation. The units are managed by staff scientists to advise on the best analytical approach, and form part of the Central Analytical Facilities (CAF).

Soil Quality & Plant Analysis

Macro- & micronutrients

K, Ca, Mg, P, Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, Al, B by ICP-AES C, H, N, S, TOC, TIC, Non-purgeable organic C (NPOC) & total bound N (TNb) by TOC- & Elemental Analyser

Trace & toxic elements

 V, Cr, Co, Ni, As, Se, Sn, Sb, Mo, Cd, Pb, Hg and more by ICP-MS

Anions in extracts

CI, F, NO₂, NO₃, PO₄, SO₄, Br
 by Ion Chromatography or
 Discrete Analyzer

Water Analysis

Major, Trace & toxic elements

K, Ca, Mg, P, Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, Al, B, V, Cr, Co, Ni, As, Se, Sn, Sb, Mo, Cd, Pb, Hg and more by ICP-AES & ICP-MS

Stable elements & isotopes

- TC, TOC, TIC, N, S by TOC- & Elemental Analyser
- δ¹⁸O, δ¹⁷O and δ²H stable isotopes
 by Isotope Analyzer

Anions

CI, F, NO₂, NO₃, PO₄, SO₄, Br by Ion
 Chromatography or Discrete Analyzer

ICP-MS & XRF Laboratory

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