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Carbon Cycle in the Changing Arid Land of China

Yanqi Basin and Bosten Lake

Springer

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Foreword

This book, "Carbon cycle in the changing arid land: Yanqi Basin and Bosten Lake," comes at a time when countries are seriously looking for ways to offset CO_2 emissions. Arid and semiarid regions make up about one-third of the Earth's land surface, yet these drylands are generally overlooked as places for carbon sequestration because (1) soil organic carbon is low compared to more humid soils and (2) soil inorganic carbon is widely considered to be an inert carbon reservoir rather than an active pool that can be manipulated by land management techniques.

This book provides examples suggesting that soil inorganic carbon is more dynamic and complicated than traditionally thought. In addition, readers of this book will learn about carbon in the interesting geological and climatic setting of northwest China. Perhaps its most important contribution, this book can stimulate carbon research in rangeland and irrigated agricultural settings in other arid land regions of the world.

Las Cruces, USA

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