

Easy access to snapshot, good reference (landing page, data description, access links) to active database. Good description of snapshot files in Appendix B.

Well-described useful product, very suitable (again) for ESSD.

Small methodological changes (e.g. progress in identifying standardized analytical methods) from prior version accompanied by substantial increase in holdings by approximately 100k additional profiles. Question: do authors consider that outreach by ISRIC or the prior ESSD publication have had positive influence on number of soil profiles? If so, they should give credit?

Not sure what ESSD expects but this reader would have expected complete narrative (e.g. through section 10 Acknowledgements) followed by references followed by Appendices.

Small technical / typographic changes/improvements:

Page 1 line 12 and repeated instances throughout: Please standardize capitalization of elements/nutrients. E.g. here we find: carbon, Nitrogen, Phosphorus. Later (page 7 lines 21,22) we find: carbon, nitrogen, Phosphorus. If soil data community uses a standard capitalization scheme, please apply it. Otherwise, please apply your own scheme consistently.

Page 1 line 15: what does “aggregates” mean in this context? The term does NOT appear anywhere else in the manuscript so this reader does not see justification nor explanation for its use here.

Page 2 line 11: “800 thousand” write in numeric or text format but not both

Page 2 line 17: “soil spectral libraries” What is a ‘spectral’ library? No information provided.

Page 5 line 5: “42 thousand” as above, please change

Page 7 line 10: “duplicates with the least comprehensive component of attribute data” should use the hyphenated phrase ‘least-comprehensive’?

Page 9 lines 7,8: “laboratory-specific measurement uncertainty for a single method, respectively multiple analytical methods, requires several measurement” something missing or awkward here?

Page 14 line 8: “196 thousand” please fix this unacceptable hybrid notation

Page 14 line 10: increase holding by notification, recruitment, outreach? This sentence sounds too passive.

Page 14 line 11: “increasingly consider data derived by soil spectroscopy” here the authors intend to reference IR spectroscopy and related laboratory methods? Some clarification

needed for non-specialists in soil chemistry. Does this also apply back at page 2 (see comment above).

Page 14 lines 11, 12: "long-term time series at defined locations" Some time series stations must exist in the collection to date? How would the authors define minimum time span and suitable data quality? What parameters might users need to find such stations? Does the current database in fact offer sufficient information to allow a user to find a time series station? If not, future addition or identification of these time series stations will require additional database field/parameter?

The Appendices prove very useful. As mentioned above, would rather see them at the end. Distinguish between those Appendices that represent standard on-going features (definitions) used in the database (e.g. Appendix A) and those that will update with future reports / snapshots (e.g. Appendices C, D)?