

ASSESSING POTENTIAL SOIL DEGRADATION OF HAU GIANG PROVINCE

Tran Xuan Mien, Duong Dang Khoi, Le Xuan Loc

Summary

Soil degradation has been declining soil quality and environmental impacts in many countries over the world as well as Vietnam; therefore, soil degradation assessment is extremely essential for minimizing this issue. The purpose of research is to conduct land degradation assessment in Hau Giang province. Soil degradation assessment methods of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Decree 14/2012/TT-BTNMT) are employed to conduct the assessment. The results show that only 3.3% of the total agricultural area is not degraded. The areas with low, average and high soil degradation levels cover 33.57%, 40.77% and 22.23% of the total agricultural survey area, respectively. Major soil degradation types in Hau Giang province are soil fertility decline, salinity, acid sulfate affected soils. These soil degradation types are driven by both natural factors and human activity, but human activity is extremely serious.

Keywords: *Soil fertility decline, salinization, acid sulfate soil, soil degradation, Hau Giang province.*