

# Raising earthworms under photovoltaic panels

Do invasive earthworms change nutrient availability & uptake by forest understory plants?

Invasive earthworms change nutrient availability and uptake by forest understory plants. *Plant and Soil*, 421, 175-190. Edwards, C. A., & Bohlen, P. J. (1996). *Earthworm ecology and biology*. Chapman and Hall.

Do earthworms increase plant production?

Earthworms increase plant production: A meta-analysis. *Scientific Reports*, 4 (1), 6365. Van Groenigen, J. W., van Groenigen, K. J., Koopmans, G. F., Stokkermans, L., Vos, H. M. J., & Lubbers, I. M. (2019). How fertile are earthworm casts? A meta-analysis. *Geoderma*, 338, 525-535. Varma, D., Meena, R. S., & Kumar, S. (2017).

How do earthworms improve soil drainage and porosity?

Earthworms play a crucial role in enhancing soil drainage and porosity through their burrowing activities. By creating extensive tunnel networks and increasing the overall porosity of the soil, earthworms significantly improve water infiltration and reduce the risk of soil erosion (Murchie & Justine, 2021).

How do earthworms improve soil aeration & water infiltration?

Earthworms are known as ecosystem engineers. Their burrowing activities create channels in the soil, which improves aeration and water infiltration. This enhanced soil structure helps retain moisture during dry periods and reduces runoff during heavy rains, making soils more resilient to climate extremes (Fonte et al., 2023).

How do earthworms affect soil C storage?

The overall impact of earthworms on soil C storage depends on the balance between these opposing processes (Lubbers et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2013). Earthworms help to move plant residues and other organic materials from the soil surface to the soil carbon (Martin, 1991).

Can earthworms enhance decaying of biodegradable plastics?

Potential use of earthworms to enhance decaying of biodegradable plastics. *ACS Sustainable Chemistry and Engineering*, 8 (11), 4292-4316. Santos, R. M., & Bakhshoodeh, R. (2021). Climate change/global warming/climate emergency versus general climate research: Comparative bibliometric trends of publications.

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