Professor Velibor Spalevic, PhD
Institute of Forestry
University of Montenegro

Professor Marx Leandro Naves Silva, Dr.
Departamento de Ciência do Solo
Universidade Federal de Lavras

Subject: Invitation to work as co-supervisors in Graduation Program Projects

Dear Sirs:

I would be much honored to be able to count upon your experiences and have you as co-supervisors of three Master of Science degree researches in the Environmental Sciences Graduate Program at Universidade Federal de Alfenas – UNIFAL-MG, Alfenas, Brazil.

The three researches involve modeling studies of water erosion of tropical soils in the South region of Minas Gerais state.

The projects are described below.

**MSc student: André Silva Tavares**

Admission: August 2015

Exit: July 2017

Research aim: To compare RUSLE (Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation) model with IntErO (Intensity of Erosion and Outflow) model in order to anticipate soil loss due to water erosion in tropical soils at the hydrographic sub-basin of ‘Córrego da Lage’, about 900 hectares, in Alfenas, Minas Gerais state.

Research status: Soil mapping has already been made. It was observed predominance of Latosols (Brazilian Soil Taxonomy) or Oxisols or Ferralsols (American Soil Taxonomy), Argisols (Brazilian Soil Taxonomy) or Ultisols/Alfisols (American Soil Taxonomy), and Cambisols (Brazilian Soil Taxonomy) or Inceptisols/Cambisols (American Soil Taxonomy). The following uses and occupations were characterized: coffee plantations and remnant coastal rainforest (Biome Mata Atlântica). Physical and chemical analyses of the several soils under different uses will be carried out.

**MSc student: Augusto César Ferreira Guiçardi**

Admission: March 2016
Exit: February 2018

Research aim: To compare previously obtained results from RUSLE (Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation) model with IntErO (Intensity of Erosion and Outflow) model in order to evaluate soil loss due to water erosion in Dystrophic Red Latosol at the hydrographic sub-basin of ‘Córrego Pedra Branca’, 2,642 hectares, in Alfenas, Minas Gerais state.

Research status: Writing MSc research project. Soil map was obtained in previous research and Dystrophic Red Latosols (Brazilian Soil Taxonomy) or Oxysols or Ferralsols (American Soil Taxonomy), and indistinct floodplain soils were characterized. Uses and occupations include: remnant of native coastal rainforest (Biome Mata Atlântica), urban area, potato, coffee, sugarcane, eucalyptus, corn, and beans plantations, pasture and bare soil. Physical and chemical analyses are available from previous research.

MSc student: Natanael Rodolfo Ribeiro Sakuno

Admission: March 2016
Exit: February 2018

Research aim: To compare previously obtained results from RUSLE (Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation) model with IntErO (Intensity of Erosion and Outflow) model in order to evaluate spatial and temporal evolution (1986 to 2016) of soil losses due to water erosion in Dystrophic Red Latosol at the hydrographic sub-basin of ‘Ribeirão Caçus’, 2,080 hectares, in Alfenas, Minas Gerais state.

Research status: Writing MSc research project. Soil map was obtained in previous research and Dystrophic Red Latosols (Brazilian Soil Taxonomy) or Oxysols or Ferralsols (American Soil Taxonomy), and indistinct floodplain soils were characterized. Uses and occupations include: remnant of native coastal rainforest (Biome Mata Atlântica), sugarcane, coffee, eucalyptus, and corn plantations, pasture and bare soil. Physical and chemical analyses are available from previous research.

Universidade Federal de Alfenas, the Graduate Program in Environmental Sciences staff, students and I would appreciate these partnerships very much. We believe they would enormously contribute to the research on water erosion of Brazilian tropical soils.

Looking forward to hearing from you, I remain,

Very truly yours

Prof. Ronaldo Luiz Mincato
Instituto de Ciências da Natureza
Universidade Federal de Alfenas – UNIFAL-MG