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Food security and soils: yesterday, today, tomorrow

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Pood security is one of the very important stages of development of mankind. Experience in this field show that many problems are not solved so far. One of the main reasons of that is ignorance of such important factor as soil. This factor usually is being examined formally without basic relation in food production. In this direction now, it is possible to distinguish three stages. First of them is separate investigation of different food products (cultivation and growth). Experience of many countries shows that on this stage relation between agricultural cultures and soils (main properties, changes, etc.) were not considered. In this case in Georgia, important experiences were with such new cultures as tea, citruses, etc. In some places results were negative because soil conditions and peculiarities were fully ignored. Today many lessons are considered, but problems are focused on obstacles. Soil scientists from many countries cannot find common language. In this case it is necessary to support activities of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which supports International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) Working Group with harmonized language between soil scientists - World Reference Base for soil resources – international soil classification system for naming soils and creating legends for soil maps. It is very big pleasure that Georgia was one the first countries where this very important document was translated and published. Georgia is really "Open-Air Museum of Soils" as professor V. V. Dokuchaev, one of the founders of modern soil science was called in the end of the 19th century. At the end – changes in the field of food security and soils are still very important not today, but in near future.

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