

Phase I

- Method: free survey;
- Focal goal: test hypotheses of soil-landscape relationships;
- Area on interest: problem areas;
- Features: inadequate planning of field campaigns, unawareness of the effects of spatial enclosure and access issues, and slow decrease of motivation;
- Outcome: coverage of the geographic space in a similar way to that of a spatially random sample.

Phase II

- Method: free survey with approximately regularly spaced observation locations specified beforehand, and convenience sampling in difficult to access areas;
- Focal goal: obtain a "satisfactory" geographic coverage;
- Area on interest: were the spatial soil pattern can be predicted more easily;
- Operational issues: limited physiological, psychological and economical resources, new planning of field campaigns, detachment from initial standards;
- Outcome: coverage of the geographic space in a similar way to that of a spatially regular sample.

Phase III

- Method: free survey;
- Focal goal: test hypotheses of soil-landscape relationships;
- Area on interest: problem areas;
- Features: fast motivation recovery;
- Outcome: coverage of the geographic space in a similar way to that of a spatially random sample.

Nearest neighbor distance

Means-focused motivation

Progress of the observation process