Abstract:

Soil translocation is a method used in restoration ecology to either salvage habitats threatened by human activity or to restore disturbed habitats. There are various factors affecting the success rate of translocation operations which include the proper selection of a receptor site, method of soil manipulation, soil stockpiling and adequate aftercare. Different methods of soil stripping distinct in their success rates and application for use in habitat restoration, mainly in regards to their effect on the resultant community composition and financial costs. Translocations can result in decrease of biodiversity, but may be a viable option for locations of high conservation value where conservation in situ is not possible, allowing for quick restoration of mature ecosystems. Thorough surveys prior to and after the operation and sufficient allocation of resources are a key factor for successful translocation of soils and the associated biota. Additional research in the fields of invasions, comparison of methods and data analysis of translocation projects may improve the utilization of this technique in the future.