# Soil invertebrate imaging call – Soil Bon Foodweb Team

Soil BON Foodweb is a voluntary initiative established in 2021 to assess drivers and functions of soil animal biodiversity and interactions in soil food webs on a global scale. The Soil BON Foodweb Team (SBF Team) is an extension of the Soil Biodiversity Observation Network (Soil BON). focussed on soil invertebrates. More information is provided on our web page: https://soilbonfoodweb.org.

In order to streamline global monitoring of soil invertebrates we are developing an automatic image analysis tool. We will open this tool for community use to facilitate data collection across soil biodiversity projects. At present we are building a training library of images for different taxonomic groups of soil invertebrates across size classes. **This is an open call for soil animal ecologists and taxonomists around the world with an invitation to image their personal collections of soil invertebrates and send these images to us.** No prior knowledge on imaging is required to participate. Together, we will be able to build a diverse training library as a methodological basis for the future soil zoology. Contributors are invited to join the first paper which will be published to report results of our test analysis.

What we need:

- Provide 50+ images with mixed soil invertebrate specimens, representing 500+ individuals across images
- Images are done from standard ethanol-stored animal collections in Petri dishes
- Images must be reasonably clean (soil particles should not overlap with animals)
- Each image must represent a single taxonomic group at order/family taxonomic resolution, or finer = sorted samples (list of possible taxa is provided)
- We accept all animal groups including micro, meso, and macrofauna
- Images must be taken with a flatbed scanner Epson Perfection V600, or similar at the minimum resolution of 2400 dpi following a standard protocol (is provided)

*Note: Routine scanning takes ca. 5-7 minutes per sample/image*

*Note: Scanner should be purchased by the contributor (c. 300$). We can provide a scanner in exceptional cases (high contributions from developing countries)*

What you get:

- You do important visionary community service
- You are offered a co-authorship in the first publication
- You are included in the global network with potential future projects

How to participate:

To participate, you need to **register using the online form below by 22.02.2023**.

https://forms.gle/xqUuG1XAidVYqxJ96