

University of Agriculture in Krakow, Poland

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The utilization of bottom sediments to improve soil fertility

Contents of presentation

- Introduction
 - Location/Characteristic of the reservoir
 - Silting
 - Aim of study
 - Material and Methods
 - Results
 - Conclusions
- 

Introduction

Problems



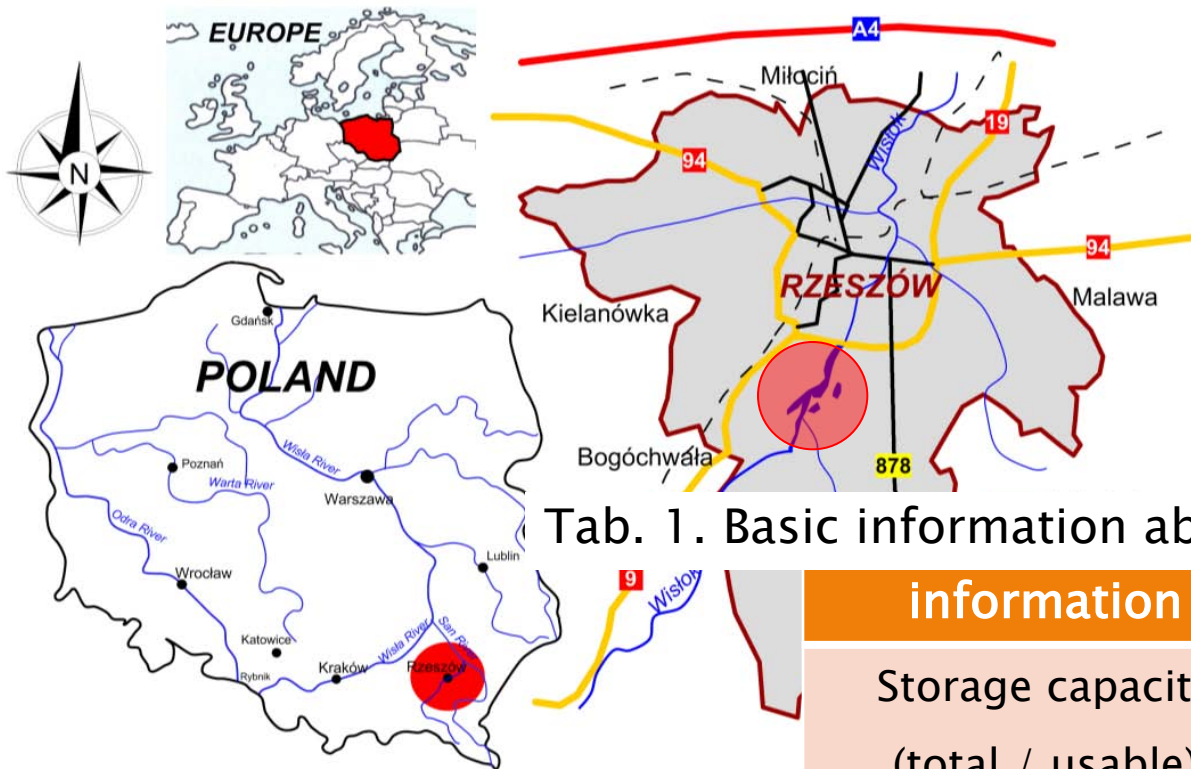
degradation soil
properties

silting of water
reservoirs

The sediment does not pose a hazard for the environment, the environmentally justified method of such sediment management is their use as structure and soil forming material on soilless grounds and wastelands.



Location



Tab. 1. Basic information about the Rzeszów reservoir

information	value
Storage capacity (total / usable)	1.80 / 0.66 mln m ³
Year of completion	1973
Reservoir length	6.74 km
Water table area	68.2 ha
Mean depth	2.64 m
River	the Wisłok , the Strug

Fig. 1. Localization of the Rzeszów

Silting

Tab. 2. Capacity of Rzeszów reservoir over the years

Storage level		1974	1986	1994
Normal Storage 199,50 m n.p.m.	Level	1,79 mln m ³	1,2 mln m ³	1,36 mln m ³
Min Sorage 198,50 m n.p.m.	Level	1,14 mln m ³	no data	0,60 mln m ³

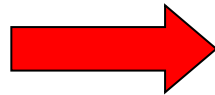


Silting



Aim of study

The aim of the study was to assess the effect of bottom sediments on the selected properties of the light soil and the chemical composition of the plants test.



Material and methods

Tab. 3. Characteristics of selected sediments and soil properties

Materials	Granulometric composition	pH	C	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O
		KCl	g • kg ⁻¹		mg • kg ⁻¹	
Sediment	clay	7.1 ±0.2	23.5 ±5.3	2.3 ±0.5	144 ± 25	212 ±12
Soil	loamy sand	5.0	16	1.2	70.4	112

Tab. 4. Concentration of heavy metals in bottom sediment and soil

Materials	Zn	Cu	Ni	Cr	Pb	Cd
	mg • kg ⁻¹					
Sediment	107 ±18	21 ±4	33 ±6	35 ±5	19 ±2	4.5 ±0.3
Soil	50	31	13	15	10	0.44

Tab. 5. Concentration of elements in bottom sediment

Bottom sediment	K	Ca	Mg	Na	P	Fe
	g • kg ⁻¹ s.m.					
Mean	3.8 ±0.7	19.5 ±3	5.4 ±0.6	0.74 ±0.03	0.86 ±0.1	18.5 ±2

Material and methods

Tab. 6. Pot experiment scheme

Soil	sediement
% share	
100	0
95	5
90	10
70	30
50	50



Vegetation period – 86 days



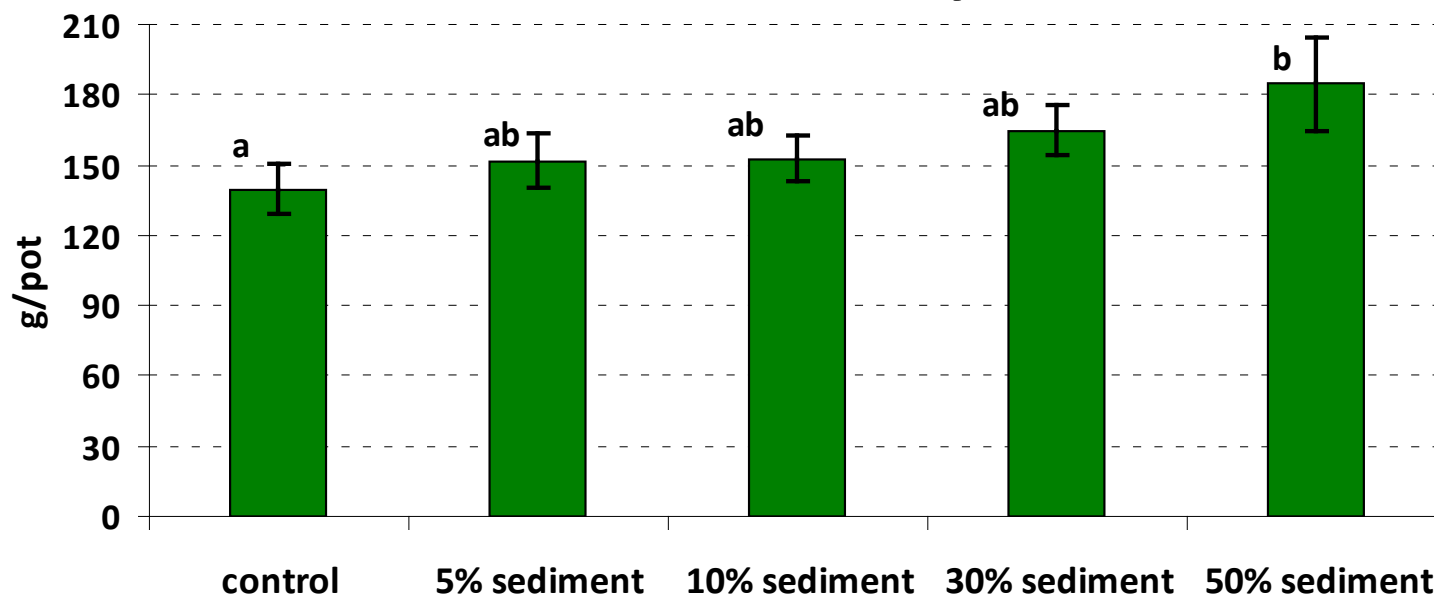
The obtained results were verified statistically using the one-way ANOVA at significance level $\alpha=0.05$, by means of Statistica 10 programme.

Tab. 7. Analysis after harvesting the plants

Soil Properties	Plants
pH _{KCl} , C organic	Yield
Cation exchange capacity	Macroelements,
Zn, Cu, Ni, Pb, Cd	Zn, Cu, Ni, Pb, Cd

Results

Yield of maize dry mass



Treatment	Shoots	Roots
	g • pot ⁻¹	
Control	118.5 a	21.0 a
5% sediement	128.0 ab	23.7 a
10% sediement	125.5 ab	27.0 a
30% sediement	133.5 b	31.2 ab
50% sediement	144.8 c	39.8 b

*homogenous groups according to Tukey test, $\alpha < 0,05$, n.i. – statistically insignificant

Results

Tab. 8 and 9. Content of macroelements and trace elements in maize (shoots)

Treatment	K	P	Ca	Mg	N
	g • kg ⁻¹				
Control	17.4 b	1.9 b	2.5 a	1.5 a	10.7 ab
5% sediement	16.8 ab	1.6 ab	2.8 a	1.9 ab	11.5 b
10% sediement	16.9 ab	1.4 a	3.6 b	2.1 b	11.9 b
30% sediement	14.6 a	1.3 a	3.8 b	2.6 c	4.4 a
50% sediement	15.0 a	1.1 a	3.8 b	3.0 d	4.7 a

Treatment	Zn	Cu	Ni	Pb	Cd
	mg • kg ⁻¹				
Control	48.6c	1.67a	0.96	0.52b	0.31c
5% sediement	36.8b	1.87a	0.89	0.56b	0.13b
10% sediement	32.3ab	1.91a	0.95	0.53b	0.09ab
30% sediement	29.9ab	2.91b	0.75	0.29a	0.08ab
50% sediement	25.8a	3.01b	1.02	0.33a	0.07a

*homogenous groups according to Tukey test, $\alpha < 0,05$, n.i. – statistically insignificant

Results

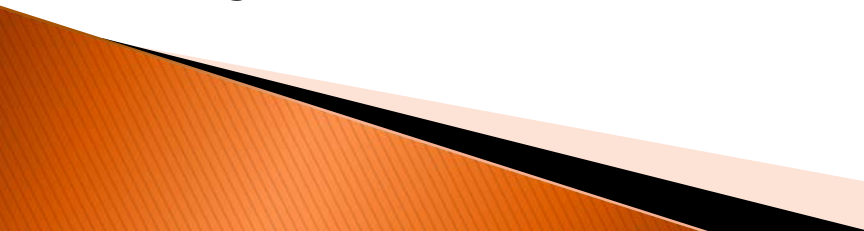
Tab. 10 and 11. Soil properties after pot experiment

Treatment	pH KCl	H mmol (+)/kg	C org. g/kg	N g/kg
Control	4,72 a	22.5 b	8.88	0.72
5% sediement	6.42 b	11.2 ab	9.29	0.83
10% sediement	7.02 c	10.3 ab	10.86	0.92
30% sediement	7,18 cd	6.5 a	14.12	1.08
50% sediement	7,31 d	6.7 a	10.89	0.93

Treatment	Zn	Cu	Ni	Pb	Cd
	mg • kg ⁻¹ (1 mol HCl • dm ⁻¹)				
Control	13.9 a	1.42 a	0.89 a	14.3 b	1.33 b
5% sediement	14.7 ab	1.32 a	1.29 ab	13.1 ab	0.62 a
10% sediement	16.6 b	1.75 a	1.18 ab	12.9 ab	0.55 a
30% sediement	19.8 c	3.78 b	2.30 bc	12.3 a	0.50 a
50% sediement	24.5 d	6.58 c	3.62 c	12.2 a	0.48 a

*homogenous groups according to Tukey test, $\alpha < 0,05$, n.i. – statistically insignificant

Conclusions

1. Bottom sediment added to light soil had a positive effect on maize biomass yield.
 2. Plant biomass did not meet the criteria for fodder with respect to quality because of too small contents of macrolelements. While using bottom sediment for plant cultivation one should apply supplementary mineral fertilization because of the sediment low concentrations of phosphorus and potassium.
 3. The experiment demonstrated that the applied bottom deposit supplement positively affected improvement of the analyzed soil (pH, content of C – org. and N) and decreased available content of elements toxic for plants, i.e. lead and cadmium.
 4. An applied bottom deposit revealed in its composition a considerable share of clay fractions, alkaline reaction and low total heavy metal content, therefore it may be applied as an admixture to light soils to improve their productivity.
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