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**MULTILINGUAL TRANSLATION OF MICROMORPHOLOGICAL  
TERMINOLOGY USED IN  
“Guidelines for Analysis and Description of Soil and Regolith Thin Sections”  
(Stoops, 2003)”**

**INTRODUCTION**

For communication on observations it is very important that a clear, unambiguous terminology is used. This is especially true if one wants to compare observations made by different authors, and certainly when the construction of data bases is considered. Having this in mind, the international group that authored the “Handbook of Soil Thin Section Description” (Bullock et al., 1985), proposed a series of precisely defined concepts with associated terms, as was done before also by Brewer (1964). The advantage of a uniform terminology can easily be lost when the English terms get various translations in another language, e.g. by different authors. In order to overcome this problem G. Stoops published in 1986, with the help of colleagues of different countries, a multilingual translation of the terminology of Bullock et al. (1985). For alteration patterns, a translation was proposed by Stoops et al. (1979).

The publication of a new handbook by Stoops (2003) where the terminology of Bullock et al. (1985) was extended, prompted the need of a new multilingual terminology. A large group of micromorphologists was contacted, leading to more languages covered.

The new list is partly based on former publications, mainly on Jongerius and Rutherford (1979), Stoops (1986.) and Stoops et al. 1979. For some languages other sources have been used and are mentioned on the proper place. Following scientists contributed to this work:

**Arabic** F. Labib, H. Fayez (Egypt)

**Castellano** (Spanish): J. Aguilar, C. Dorronsoro (Spain) and M. Guitierrez Castorena (Mexico) and H. Morrás (Argentina)

**Català**: R. Poch, J. Porta and A. Solé Benet (Catalunia)

**Česky** (Czech): P. Dlapa (Czech Republic), J. Čurlík (Slovakia) and B. Juráni (Slovakia)

**Deutsch** (German): P. Kühn, D. Sauer and E. Eberhardt (Germany)

**Farsi** (Persian) A. Farshad (Ed.), A. Heidari, F. Khormali and S. Mahmoudi (Iran)

**Français** (French): N. Fedoroff (†) and Cl. Mathieu (France)

**Galego**: E. Garcia Rodeja and T. Taboada (Spain)

**Hebrew**: D. Itkin and R. Shahack-Gross (Israel)

**Italiano** (Italian): C. Nicosia and L. Trombino, based on Malucelli, F. & Gardi C. (1999) and Cremaschi M. & Rodolfi G. (1991) (Italy)

**Magyar** (Hungarian): G. Szendrei with the contribution of A. Mindszenty, partly revised by K. Darab, J. Rózsavölgyi and I. Szabolcs (Hungary).

**Nederlands** (Dutch): F. Mees (Belgium), R. Miedema (the Netherlands), H. Múcher (the Netherlands), G. Stoops (Belgium)

**Norks** (Norwegian): T.E. Sveistrup and B.M. Sageidet (Norway)

**Polski** (Polish): A. Budek, D. Kaczorek and P. Mroczek (Poland)

**Português** (Portuguese): V. Marcelino, F.G. Monteiro, J. Pinheiro, (Portugal) and C. Schaefer (Brasil)

**Română**: (Romanian): I. A. Taina (Romania).

**Russian**: M.Gerasimova, I.Kovda, M.Lebedeva-Verba and T.Tursina (Russia).

**Slovenčina** (Slovak): P. Dlapa (Czech Republic), J. Čurlík (Slovakia) and B. Juráni (Slovakia)

**Ukrainian**: V. Nikorych (Ukrainian)

It is evident that in several cases the given translation is a compromise between different tendencies within a same language. Synonyms often reflect differences within languages (e.g. Iberian and South-American Spanish).

This translation work comprises two different types of lists. The first list is the multilingual translation, organised in a systematic thematic order according to the different chapters of the book. The English term is followed by a number between brackets, referring to the page where the definition is given in Stoops (2003), followed by the translation in the different languages. The second part contains series of monolingual alphabetic lists. The number after the term corresponds to the number proceeding the English term in the multilingual list.

### **Important note**

Micromorphologists who want to contribute to this multilingual project are requested to contact the editor, G. Stoops (georges.stoops@UGent.be). This comprises:

- corrections of translations, which will be discussed with the present authors;
- translations into other languages. They should be made by a small group of native speaking specialists. Lists of terms and instructions will be forwarded by the editor on request.

SUGGESTION: add the terms of the respective languages you use to the Word Check of your word processor
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