The mobility of aluminium, iron and organic matter in acidic

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TRANSLATION OF ‘STELLINGEN’ (STATEMENTS)

1. The fact that Model V and VI can describe the interactions of Al, Fe and DOM well in different soil solutions, indicates that these interactions are sufficiently based on generic properties to allow for generalization of the results of case-studies (this thesis).

2. To further elucidate the process of podzolisation, research of the rates and reversibility of the interactions between Al, Fe and organic matter is necessary (this thesis).

3. The subdivision of organic matter into humines, humic acids and fulvic acids is arbitrary and wrongly suggests that they represent three entirely different classes of substances (this thesis).

4. At first glance it seems surprising that a clear mobilization of organic matter takes place after the addition of Al and Fe solutions to eluvial horizons (this thesis).

5. The acronyms that are used to describe organic matter are like Jim and Jamai: extremely popular for a short while, but before you know it there is a new idol.

6. “Measuring is sweating and still not knowing anything” and “modeling is suffering and still learning nothing”; as soon as these prejudices are overcome research in soil chemistry will gain significant momentum (based on a discussion with dr. M.T. van Wijk).

7. If scientists really believed in the philosophy of Popper, the job of scientist would be quite boring; but of course this can never be proven.

8. Atheism is a religion like all others, with its own prophets and extremists.

9. Those who scream the loudest that one should not judge other people by their appearance, are often surprisingly intolerant towards people wearing a suit (based on a letter to the redaction of the newspaper ‘het Parool’ where a member of the Dutch left-winged political party GroenLinks criticizes the conservative clothing worn by party-leader Femke Halsema).

10. The fact that in Dutch we use the words “hoe duur is dat?” (i.e. “how expensive is that?”) to ask for the price of a product, is a sign on the wall for our miserliness.

(Statements accompanying the thesis ‘The mobility of aluminium, iron and organic matter in acidic sandy soils’ by Boris Jansen)