

PROJECT TITLE

How does root systems adapt to pore networks in compacted soils? – Impacts on root system architecture and energy cost of barley

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SUMMARY OF THE REPORT

The non-destructive MRI method in Jülich provided the state-of-the-art platform to image root system, and highlighted the differences in root development and growth in compacted soil with and without pores. The great adaptation capacity of barley root at this early growth stage implies the importance of soil physical structure (e.g., bio-pores, old root channels) in regulating root growth in natural field conditions.