

Biography for M. Francesca Cotrufo

M. Francesca Cotrufo, PhD, is a professor at the department of Soil and Crop Sciences, and senior scientist at the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, at Colorado State University. She earned B.Sc. from the University of Naples, Italy and Ph.D. from Lancaster University, UK. Prior to join CSU in 2008, she worked as a professor at the Second University of Naples, Italy. Dr. Cotrufo is a soil ecologist and biogeochemist with leading experience in the field of litter decomposition and soil organic matter C and N dynamics, and in the use of isotopic methodologies in these studies. Her main research interest is in the understanding of C and N fluxes from plant litter to soil and the atmosphere, and their response and feedback to global environmental changes and disturbances, such as management and fire. She also pursues applied research to propose soil management practices that increase soil health and mitigate climate change, as for example the study of biochar in soils. Dr. Cotrufo is editor of the journal *Global Change Biology* and faculty director of the [EcoCore Analytical Service](#) facility at Colorado State University. To date she published circa 90 peer reviewed articles and several book chapters.

