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Corrigendum
Seifert and Prosche (2017): Longterm development of ant assemblages of recultivated woodland and free-succession open-land habitats in a former strip mining area. Soil Organisms 89(3): 157-176.

Bernhard Seifert

Section Entomology, Senckenberg Museum für Naturkunde, P.O. Box 300154,
02806 Görlitz, Germany,
E-mail: bernhard.seifert@senckenberg.de

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In an email to Soil Organisms from Feb., 27th 2020 Alexander Prosche retracted an article published with him as co-author. The first author Bernhard Seifert, therefore, herewith declares:

The field work on study plot SP 238 was done by Alexander Prosche with only short-term participation and supervision by Bernhard Seifert. All data on this test plot and any conclusion drawn in this context in Seifert & Prosche (2017) are not credible and must be retracted.

Doubts on the credibility of data provided by Prosche earlier which explain the retraction of parts of the data in the paper this corrigendum refers to have been presented elsewhere (Seifert & Sonnenburg 2019a, b; 2020). Data and conclusions referring to the other five study plots remain valid.

The sentence in the Abstract "*…resulted in 373 ant nests, belonging to 9 genera and 23 species…"* is corrected to *"…resulted in 310 ant nests belonging to 7 genera and 12 species…*".

The last sentence of the Abstract "*The opposite conditions, as found in the strongly sun-exposed erosion area on basaltic tuff, prevented shrub encroachment and the upgrowth of a high and dense herb layer and allowed a development from a very poor ant-assemblage with few pioneer species into a very rich open-land ant community of high value for nature conservation*" is not valid anymore.

Moreover, this change affected several passages in the Results (not valid are: section 3.6. and parts of Table 1, last column "*Erosion area on basaltic tuff*") and the Discussion (not valid is: section 4.6.).

Finally, the last section of the Discussion is not valid anymore: "*The erosion area on basaltic tuff (SP 106/238) contrasted from the other free-succession plots by weak water supply, extreme sun-exposure and low nutrient supply. These conditions prevented both shrub encroachment and the upgrowth of a high and dense herb layer. As a result, the plot developed from a very poor ant-assemblage with few pioneer species into a very rich open-land ant community of high value for nature conservation. To ensure the further development of this plot towards a rich assemblage of endangered insect species with preference for oligotrophic and xerothermous habitats, a number of trees in the strongly growing adjacent woodland should be cut.*".

For all remaining parts of the publication Berhard Seifert has the sole authorship.

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