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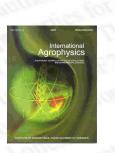
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previous paper back to paper's list next paper Changes in the hydrophysical properties of peat soils under anthropo evolution

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abstract The changes in the water characteristics of peat soils under ar evolution was investigated. It was stated that the transformation of or as a result of drainage and agricultural utilization leads to changes in th perties, i.e., it causes the increase of bulk density and ash content and total porosity as well as the quantity of macro- and micropores. Water r drained peat soils which have reached a more advanced stage of decon and the loss of water with the increase of the water potential is smaller evolution does not cause significant changes of effective useful retentio