

# M. FRANCESCA COTRUFO

## SOIL ECOLOGIST AND BIOGEOCHEMIST

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**EDUCATION:** B.S. in Biology (University of Naples, 1991)  
Ph.D. in Soil Ecology (Lancaster University, 1995)

**FOCUS:** litter decomposition & the dynamics of soil organic matter

### RESEARCH:

- C and N exchange through plant litter, soil, and the atmosphere
- C and N flux response to changes in environment
- proposes practices to manage soil that both combat climate change and improve overall soil health

90 peer reviewed articles,  
cited more than 8,000 times

has mentored over 40 women towards  
success as students, post-doctorates,  
research scientists, faculty, and teachers