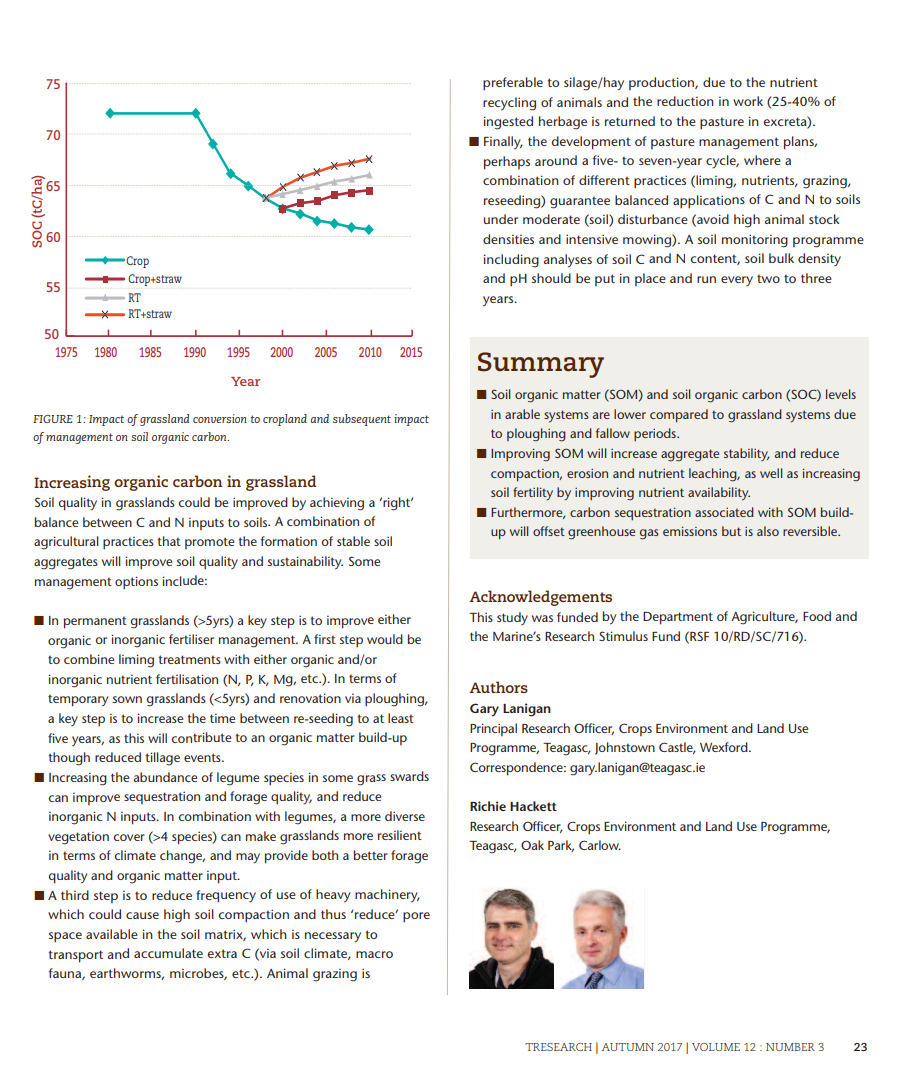
Soil Organic Carbon



**Task:**

Read the above article by Lanigan & Hackett, Teagasc (2017) on how to improve the soil’s organic carbon component.

1. How is soil organic matter (SOM) formed?
2. What is meant by the sequestration of carbon? What is its role in the soil?
3. How much carbon do global soils contain?
4. Why has SOM been positively related to soil fertility?
5. Explain the role of SOM in plant productivity (biological, chemical & physical)
6. Explain 3 ways of increasing organic C in croplands.
7. Describe 4 ways to increase organic carbon in grassland using good agricultural practices.
8. After reading the article, in your opinion, does improving soil organic carbon maintain a healthy environment for plants & soil micro – organisms? Explain your answer.

**Curriculum link:**

* Soils & reducing greenhouse gas emissions - Geography