BIOTURBATION

Bioturbation is the biogenic transport of sediment particles and pore water which destroys sediment stratigraphy, alters chemical profiles, changes rates of chemical reactions and sediment-water exchange, and modifies sediment physical properties such as grain size, porosity, and permeability. Put otherwise, bioturbation is defined as the reworking of soils and sediments by animals or plants. These include burrowing, ingestion, and defecation of sediment grains.

BIOIRRIGATION

Bioirrigation refers to the enhanced transport of solutes across the sediment-water interface induced by the activities of bottom-dwelling organisms. Bioirrigation refers to the process of benthic organisms flushing their burrows with overlying water. The exchange of dissolved substances between the porewater and overlying seawater that results is an important process in the context of the biogeochemistry of the oceans.

EXAMPLES OF ORGANISIMS INVOLVED IN BIOLIGICAL DIAGENETIC PROCESSES INCLUDE

. Earthworm

. Tapeworms

. Crabs

. Lobsters

. Moles