



Figure 7.5. Fields that are part of the Long Term Ecological Research site at the Kellogg Biological Station in Hickory Corners, Michigan. The site, established in 1989, contains a large-scale field experiment established on land that was cultivated for > 50 years. After 9 years, the microbial community structure in the tilled and fertilized agricultural fields (a), fields used as poplar plantations (b), and fields that were abandoned (c) was remarkably similar. Meanwhile, the microbial communities in these historically cultivated fields differed significantly from those in adjacent fields that had never been cultivated (d).