

The Use of Inverse Distance Weighted and Fuzzy Logic to Estimate Land Suitability by Geographic Information System in South of Iraq

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ABSTRACT

As soils considered an open system, adjacent of them are common in some characteristic. The use of inverse distance weighted (IDW) technology in geographic information systems (GIS) is one of the best ways of soil characteristic interpolation depending on the Inverse distance where there is a negative relationship between characteristic and the of the IDW, such as soil salinity and other characteristic. The main objective of this study is to estimate land suitability depending on fuzzy logic. The studied area are located in Thi-Qar province, Iraq in coordinate of 643949.033m X, 3441469.288m Y, 643949.033m X, 3417061.751m Y, 689849.773m X, 3417061.751 Y, 689849.7733m X, 3441469.288 Y, respectively. The results indicated that most of the studied area lands were influenced by salinity, the lowest value of soil salinity was 8.45 ds/m while the highest was 152.56 ds/m. Soil textures are tending to be in the range of silt clay loam, silt clay, silt loam and loam, the dominant drainage class was poorly to moderate, while there were some classes in well and imperfect drainage classes. Gypsum content was less than 2.94%, while lime content ranged from 24.40% to 38.19%. The studied area was classified into five classes, the first was non suitable (red color), second class was few suitable (yellow color), third class was moderate suitable (brown color), fourth class was suitable (green color) and very suitable (chartreuse color) for grain crops. Soil classified two order Entisols and Aridisols in two sub order fluvents and salids great groups in three great group Torrifluvents, Aquisalids and Haplosalids in five subgreat group of typic Torrifluvents, Aquic torrifluent, typic Haplosalids, typic Aquisalids and calcids Aquisalids.

Keyword: Geographic Information System (GIS), Inverse Distance Weighted (IDW), Fuzzy logic, land suitability

INTRODUCTION

Geographic information system (GIS) is a computer-based tool that analyzes, stores, manipulates and visualizes geographic information on a map (Williams, 1987). The GIS is used to analyze, and interpret data to understand relationships, patterns, and trends (ESRI, 2015). The fuzzy representation allows us to apply fuzzy techniques for geographical information processing (Burrough, 1989).

Inverse distance weighted (IDW) is a method of interpolation that estimates cell values by averaging the values of sample data points in the neighborhood of each processing cell. The closer a point is to the center of the cell being estimated, the more influence, or weight; it has in the averaging process. This method assumes that the variable being mapped decreases in influence with distance from its sampled location (ESRI, 2004).

Fuzzy logic (FL) was initiated in 1965 by Lotfi A. Zadeh, professor for computer science at the University of California, Berkeley (Zadeh, 1965). Basically, Fuzzy Logic (FL) is a multivalve logic that allows intermediate values to be defined between conventional evaluations like true/false, yes/no, high/low, etc. Notions like rather tall or very fast can be formulated mathematically and processed by computers, in order to apply a more human-like way of thinking in the programming of computers (Zadeh, 1984). In General, the employment of fuzzy logic might be helpful, for very complex processes, when there is no simple mathematical model (e.g. Inversion problems), for highly nonlinear processes or if the processing of (linguistically formulated) expert knowledge is to be performed. According to literature the employment of fuzzy logic is not recommendable, if the conventional approach yields a satisfying result, an easily solvable and adequate mathematical model already exists, or the problem is not solvable (Hellmann, 2001).

Land evaluation is formally defined as 'the assessment of land performance when used for a specified purpose, involving the execution and interpretation of surveys and studies of land forms, soils, vegetation, climate and other aspects of land in order to identify and make a comparison of promising kinds of land use in terms applicable to the objectives of the evaluation' (FAO, 1976). Using square root method in Tunisia on wheat, barley, sorghum, potato, Breda et al. 2004 found that the most influential limiting factors to the study area were land slope, coarse-grained soil texture of the area, dominant existence of stones and aggregates, alkaline pH and the excessive amount of the soil carbonate calcium.

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The problem of evaluation of agricultural land suitability is considered as a fuzzy modeling task. For assessment of land suitability, it is proposed to use fuzzy indicators. Application of individual fuzzy indicators gives opportunity for assessment of suitability of lands as degree or grade of performance when the lands are used for agricultural purposes. Using composite fuzzy indicator it is possible to obtain weighted average estimation of land suitability (Kurtener, 2008). The main objective of this research is to estimate land suitability depending on fuzzy logic.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Area Description

The studied area is located in the South of Iraq, Thi-Qar province of 643949.033m X, 3441469.288m Y, 643949.033m X, 3417061.751m Y, 689849.773m X, 3417061.751 Y, 689849.7733m X, 3441469.288Y, respectively (fig.1).

Data collection

Soil properties data were collected from Alchabayish project/ ministry of water resources for 2013. Data were georeferenced (43 profiles) and the data base was used in the Arcmap9.3 environment (Table1). The data were converted to a vector data set then to raster by IDW technology (Alhessi, 2014).

$$Z(S_0) = \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i Z(S_i) \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Where:

- Z(S0) is the value we are trying to predict for location S0.

- N is the number of measured sample points surrounding the prediction location that will be used in the prediction.

- λi are the weights assigned to each measured point that we are going to use. These weights will decrease with distance.

- Z(Si) is the observed value at the location Si.

Soil Maps

To produce soil maps of soil texture, salinity, Drainage, ESP, Gypsum and Lime, Maps were reclassified and weights were given for each class depending on the influence of value (Table2). Weight for each character was given from 100 percentages using fuzzy logic to Produce maps for land suitability.

$$\text{Suitability} = \text{Salinity} * 0.25 + \text{Texture} * 0.25 + \text{Drainage} * 0.2 + \text{ESP} * 0.1 + \text{Gypsum} * 0.1 + \text{Lime} * 0.1 \dots (2)$$

Fuzzy Logic (FL)

Fuzzy logic is an alternative logical foundation with several useful implications for spatial data handling. Major advantage of FL theory is that it allows the natural description, in linguistic terms, of problems that should be solved rather than in terms of relationships between precise numerical values. This advantage, dealing with the complex systems in simple way, is the main reason why fuzzy logic theory is widely applied in technique.

Fuzzy set theory is an extension of the classical set theory. A fuzzy set A is defined mathematically as follows:

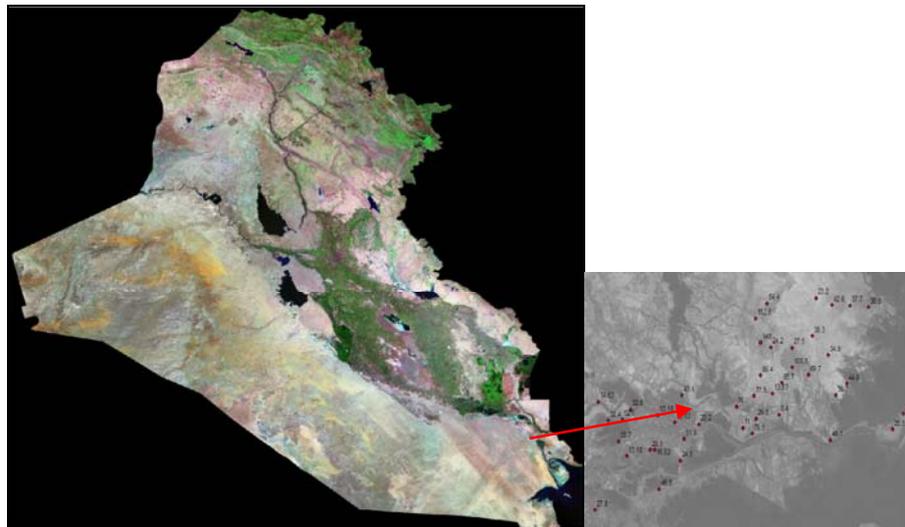


Figure 1. Shows the study area sites

Table 1. Number of samples with some soil characteristic

| X | Y | Depth(cm) | pH | Ecc | Clay | Silt | Sand | Text. | ESP | Gypsum% | Lime% |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|------|-------|------|------|------|----------|------|---------|-------|
| 690022.849979 | 347833.619674 | 0-30 | 7.72 | 2.4 | 40 | 52.8 | 7.2 | Sic-Siel | 26 | 1.2 | 29.4 |
| 688384.661888 | 345637.5236347 | 0-20 | 7.79 | 20.5 | 31 | 55.8 | 13.2 | Siel | 22 | 0.1 | 31.4 |
| 671700.357042 | 344207.2750900 | 0-28 | 7.24 | 8.4 | 24 | 54.2 | 21.8 | Sil | 26 | 0.85 | 33.8 |
| 671394.915686 | 3448120.407546 | 0-15 | 7.9 | 2.2 | 25 | 63.2 | 11.8 | Sil | 6 | 0 | 34.2 |
| 668005.785223 | 3457604.728749 | 0-12 | 7.94 | 29.5 | 43 | 49.8 | 7.2 | Sic | 28.5 | 1.7 | 37.4 |
| 670925.409013 | 3430630.885794 | 0-30 | 7.52 | 13.63 | 23 | 66.2 | 10.8 | Sil | 14 | 0.5 | 36.0 |
| 667643.700212 | 3430370.752094 | 0-22 | 7.23 | 7.63 | 10 | 40.8 | 49.2 | Sil | 30 | 1.1 | 33 |
| 668656.858380 | 3436731.733906 | 0-27 | 7.23 | 14.8 | 10 | 40.8 | 44.6 | Sil | 38 | 1.325 | 37 |
| 667566.292916 | 3458770.270976 | 0-20 | 7.44 | 79.5 | 19 | 48.4 | 29 | Sil | 38 | 13.25 | 32.2 |
| 665036.749916 | 3459097.671050 | 0-26 | 7.09 | 16 | 35 | 52.2 | 12.8 | Sil | 49 | 6.26 | 38.2 |
| 666058.726046 | 3465376.673275 | 0-19 | 7.62 | 20.2 | 29 | 48.6 | 22.4 | Cl | 42 | 2.26 | 28.6 |
| 659443.702791 | 3466979.623508 | 0-15 | 7.66 | 15.03 | 39 | 42.8 | 18.2 | Siel | 22 | 0.7 | 36 |
| 653812.198701 | 3447197.308167 | 0-30 | 7.49 | 9.4 | 35 | 59.2 | 18.2 | Siel | 22 | 2.23 | 34.4 |
| 668639.683713 | 3452819.487110 | 0-20 | 7.45 | 39.4 | 18 | 48.6 | 33.4 | Sil | 21 | 1.25 | 32 |
| 644412.485469 | 3429690.667880 | 0-45 | 7.98 | 14.63 | 35 | 60.8 | 3.6 | Siel | 19.5 | 2.17 | 37.2 |
| 65313.892716 | 3428060.185450 | 0-25 | 7.52 | 13.16 | 40 | 56.4 | 3.6 | Sic-Sil | 16.5 | 0.59 | 27 |
| 679115.126225 | 3425106.225000 | 0-40 | 7.36 | 49.1 | 29 | 54.8 | 16.2 | Siel | 31 | 2.29 | 25.8 |
| 670176.953936 | 3436201.554271 | 0-28 | 7.28 | 24.2 | 36 | 48.8 | 15.2 | Sil | 21 | 0.2 | 32.4 |
| 671337.383386 | 3431916.367178 | 0-18 | 7.33 | 85.7 | 32 | 57.6 | 10.4 | Sil | 47 | 2 | 31.4 |
| 673398.423849 | 3433789.802909 | 0-15 | 7.54 | 105.5 | 14.5 | 67.1 | 18.4 | Sil | 63 | 1.58 | 32.2 |
| 675800.254930 | 3432905.400488 | 0-23 | 7.02 | 69.7 | 22 | 47.6 | 30.4 | L-Sil | 44 | 0.44 | 36.6 |
| 676360.095700 | 3437534.615444 | 0-30 | 7.21 | 38.3 | 33 | 52.8 | 14.2 | Siel | 43 | 5.15 | 32.6 |
| 667948.258837 | 3439615.628377 | 0-22 | 7.3 | 152.6 | 12 | 53 | 3.5 | Sil | 54 | 1.6 | 29.8 |
| 669647.621710 | 3441428.980896 | 0-27 | 7.31 | 54.4 | 23 | 61 | 26.2 | Sil | 26 | 2.7 | 36 |
| 657225.392650 | 3435222.922690 | 0-40 | 7.32 | 51.9 | 30 | 52.5 | 17.5 | CL | 33 | 2.5 | 25.5 |
| 656912.428190 | 3430440.535321 | 0-22 | 7.94 | 43.1 | 39 | 53.6 | 7.4 | Siel | 35 | 3.85 | 35.4 |
| 649228.055802 | 3428771.776965 | 0-40 | 7 | 32.6 | 33 | 51.1 | 15.9 | Sic | 45 | 4.5 | 27 |
| 648025.856875 | 3427523.384036 | 0-40 | 7.15 | 52.6 | 33 | 54.5 | 12.5 | Sic | 43 | 3.37 | 26.6 |
| 652836.962300 | 3423916.787256 | 0-31 | 7.38 | 16.52 | 40 | 57.4 | 2.6 | Sic-Siel | 19 | 2.9 | 30.2 |
| 652162.529838 | 3433912.168000 | 0-25 | 7.24 | 20.1 | 45 | 52.4 | 2.6 | Sic | 22.5 | 2.56 | 25.8 |
| 656614.476871 | 342926.819774 | 0-23 | 7.13 | 24.5 | 32 | 53.5 | 14.5 | Siel | 23 | 0.09 | 26.4 |
| 653305.620434 | 3419225.786258 | 0-20 | 7.56 | 46.5 | 35 | 60.6 | 4.4 | Siel | 30 | 0.92 | 28.4 |
| 678732.165478 | 3435264.344078 | 0-42 | 7.27 | 34.9 | 43 | 52 | 5 | Sic | 23 | 1.3 | 31.2 |
| 682052.359439 | 3441173.411904 | 0-40 | 7.9 | 37.7 | 30 | 53 | 1.7 | Sic | 33 | 3.77 | 28.4 |
| 679374.262119 | 3440448.619272 | 0-30 | 7.5 | 42.6 | 37 | 55.1 | 12.4 | Sic | 35 | 4.34 | 32.8 |
| 679928.590154 | 3421219.905907 | 0-36 | 7.34 | 30.7 | 32 | 54.6 | 8.4 | Sic | 32 | 2.4 | 37 |
| 648670.263216 | 3423190.386560 | 0-20 | 7.71 | 13.18 | 45 | 65.6 | 2.4 | Sic | 18 | 2.59 | 25.4 |
| 647451.896389 | 3424978.433921 | 0-18 | 7.43 | 33.7 | 42 | 52.2 | 2.8 | Sic | 37 | 4.7 | 24.4 |
| 645877.835738 | 3427430.996030 | 0-30 | 7.12 | 35.4 | 17 | 67.4 | 15.6 | Sil | 32 | 0.54 | 25 |
| 643924.984264 | 3416719.761599 | 0-34 | 7.15 | 27.9 | 47 | 67.4 | 5.8 | Sic | 32 | 2.9 | 29.8 |
| 684812.451117 | 3440975.071692 | 0-40 | 7.81 | 36.6 | 34 | 51.2 | 14.6 | Sic | 24 | 2.42 | 37.6 |
| 681538.451117 | 3431837.903910 | 0-23 | 7.56 | 44.6 | 32 | 46.3 | 21.7 | CL | 29 | 3.28 | 33 |

Table 2. Index value for soil texture

| SOIL TEXTURE | INDEX VALUE FOR GRAIN |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Silt Clay Loam | 105 |
| Silt Clay or Clay | 100 |
| Loam or Silt Loam | 95 |
| Loam or Loam Clay | 85 |
| Sandy Clay or Sand Clay Loam | 75 |
| Loam Sandy | 85 |
| Loamy Sand | 55 |
| Sandy | 45 |

IF $X = \{x\}$ denotes a space of objects, THEN the fuzzy set A in X is the set of ordered pairs:

$$A = \{x, \mu A(x)\}, x \in X,$$

Where the membership function $\mu A(x)$ is known as the “degree of membership (d.o.m.) of x in A ”. Usually, $\mu A(x)$ is a real number in the range $[0, 1]$, where 0 indicates no-membership and 1 indicates full membership. Here $\mu A(x)$ of x in A specifies the extent to which x can be regarded as belonging to set A (Sui1992).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results referred that most of the studied area Lands were influenced by salinity, the lowest value of soil salinity was 8.45 ds/m while the highest was 152.56 ds/m (fig (2)).

The dominant drainage class was poorly to moderate, while there were some classes in well and imperfect drainage classes (Fig.3). Lime content ranged from 24.40% to 38.19% as shown in Fig.4, while Gypsum content was less than 2.94 %(Fig.5).

Most of Exchange Sodium Percentage (ESP) values in the study area were more 18.76, while the smaller values of 18.76 were found in very small area (Fig.6). Soil textures were in the range of silt clay loam, silt clay, silt loam and loam (Fig.7).

The studied area was classified into five classes, the first was non suitable (red color), second class was few suitable (yellow color), third class was moderate suitable(brown color), fourth class was suitable (green color) and very suitable (chartreuse color) for grain crops (Fig.8).

Soil classification

According to USDA (2004), Soil classified two order Entisols and Aridisols in two sub order fluvents and salids subgroup in three great group Torrifuvents, Aquisalids and Haplosalids in five subgreat group of typic Torrifuvents, Aquic torrifuvent, typic Haplosalids, typic Aquisalids and calcids Aquisalids (Table 2 & Fig.9).

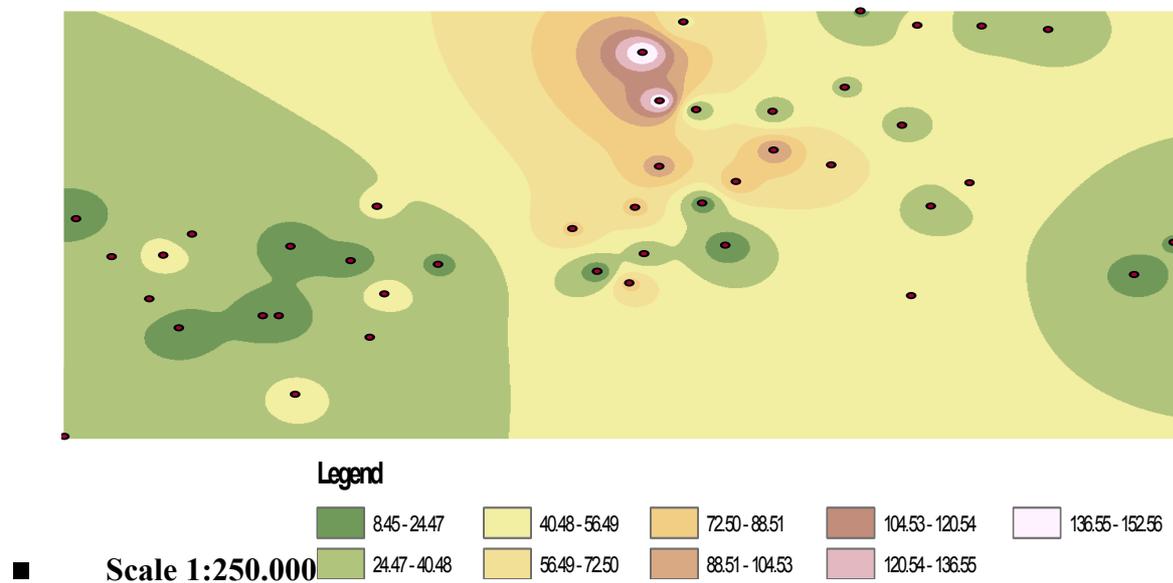


Figure 2. The prediction map by IDW of salinity

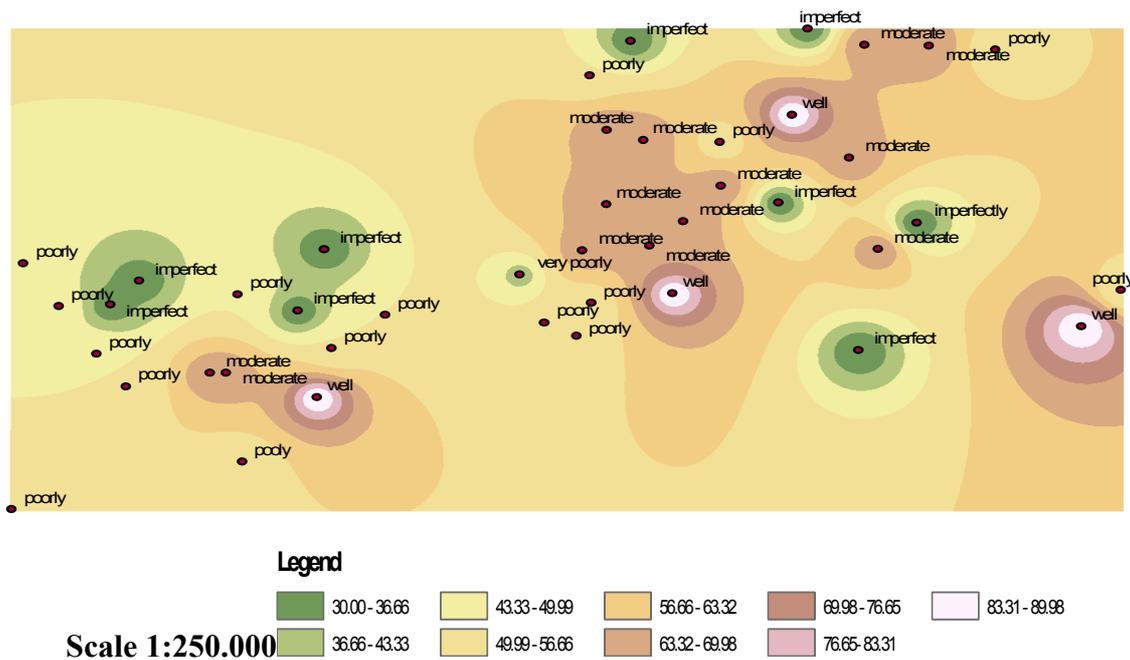


Figure 3. The prediction map by IDW of drainage

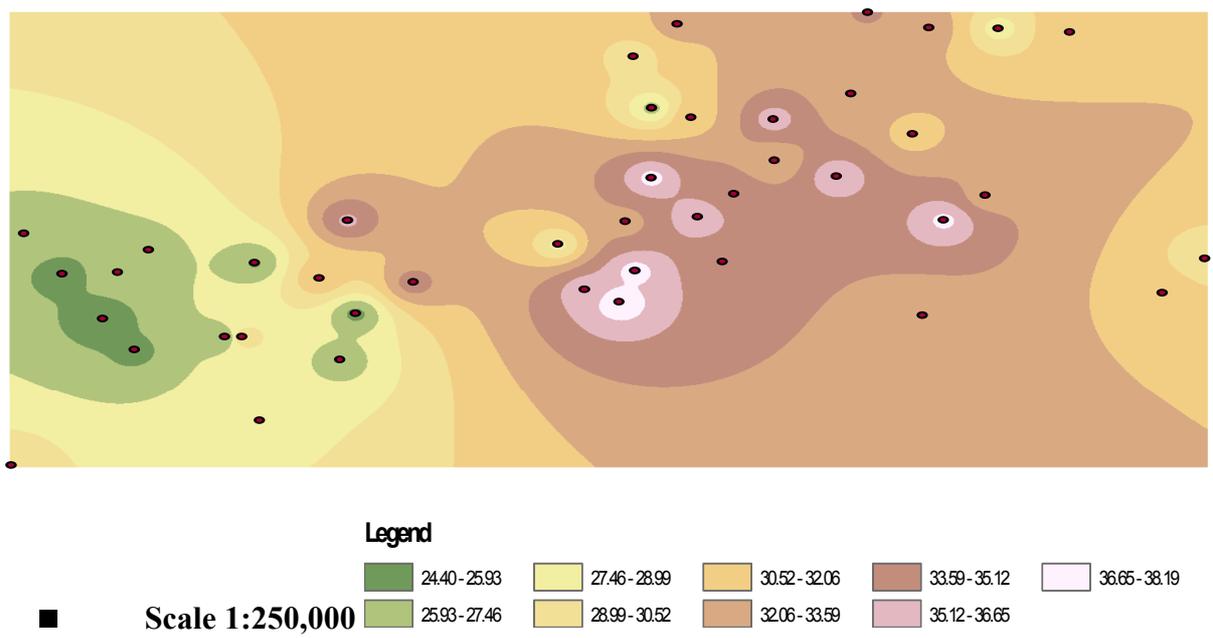


Figure 4. The prediction map by IDW of Lime

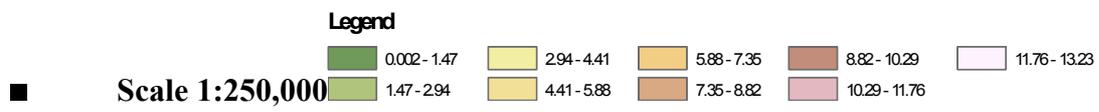
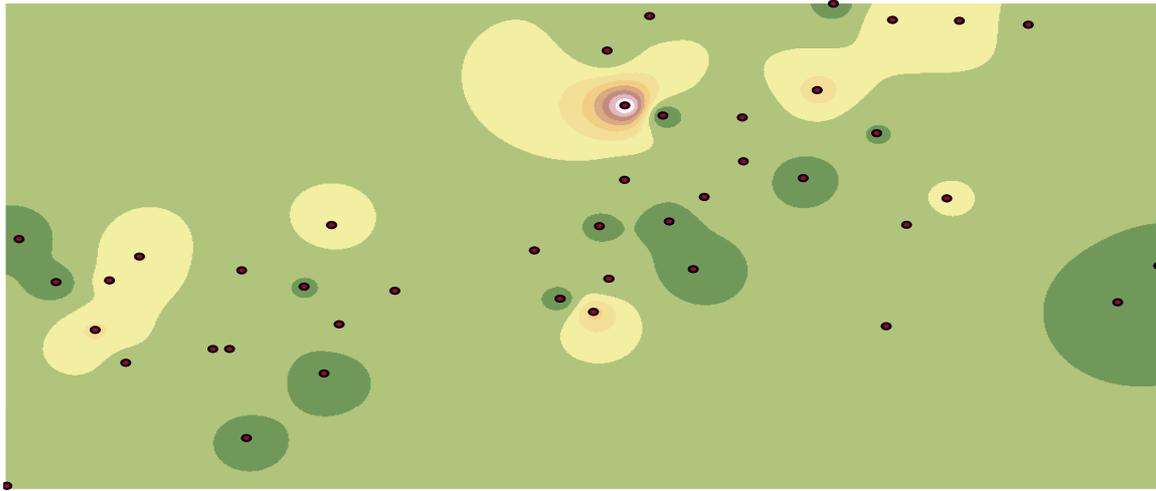


Figure 5. The prediction map by IDW of gypsum

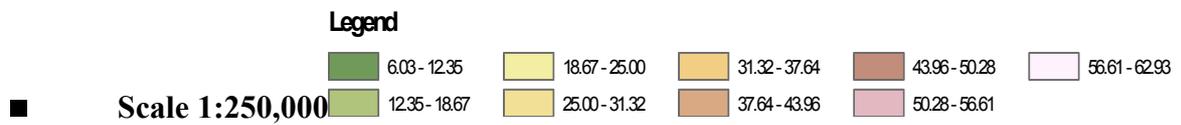
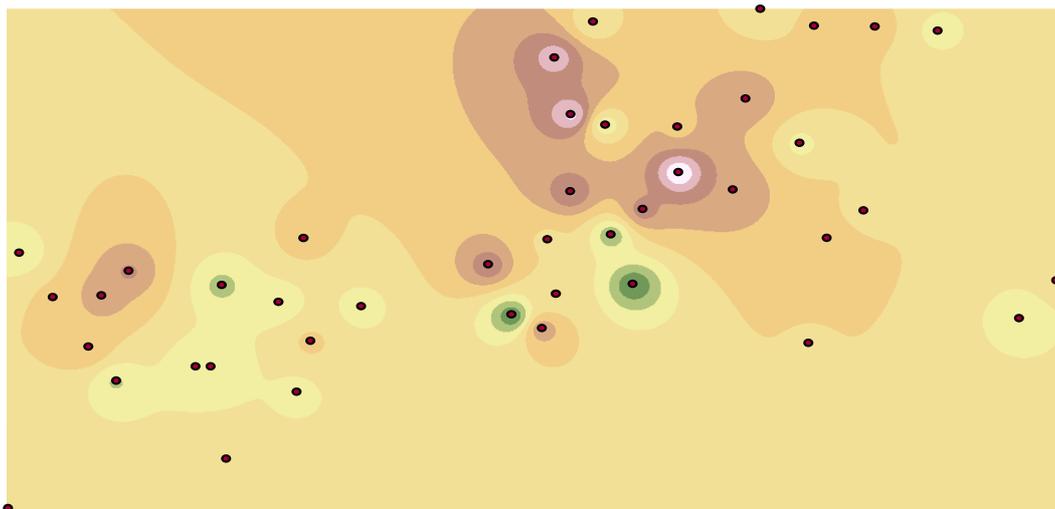


Figure 6. The prediction map by IDW for ESP

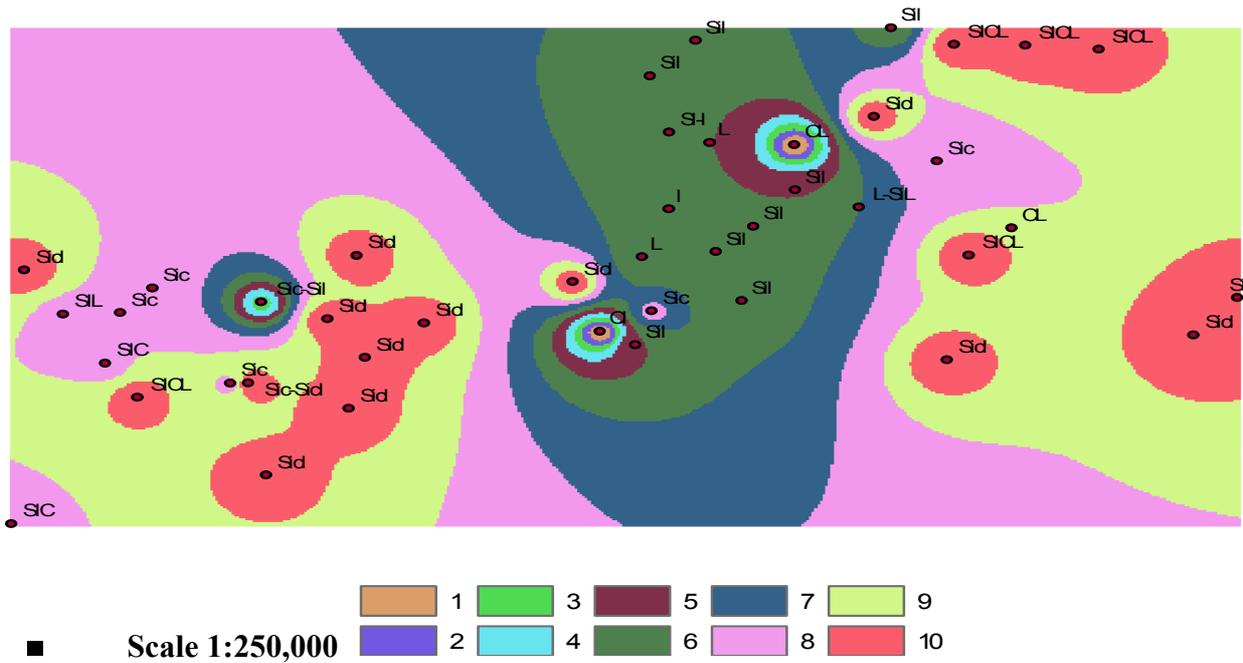


Figure 7. The prediction map by IDW soil texture for grain

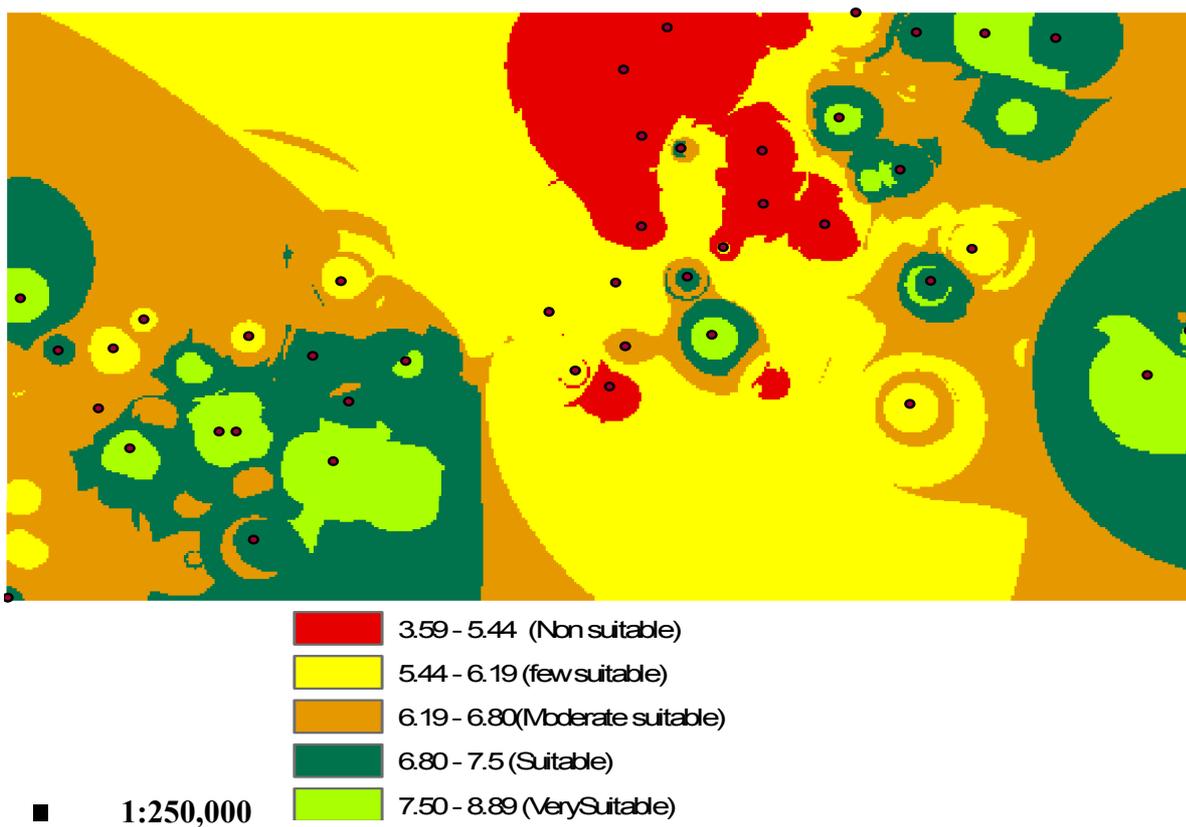


Figure 8. The land suitability map for grain

Table 2. Soil classification and soil units

| Area | | Symbol | Subgreat group | Great group | Sub order | Order |
|------|--------|--------|------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| % | Donum | | | | | |
| 3.3 | 8500 | E1 | Typic Torrifluvents | Torrifluvents | Fluvents | Entisols |
| 4.3 | 10929 | E2 | Aquic | | | |
| 12.8 | 32950 | E3 | Torrifluvents | | | |
| 4.7 | 12300 | E4 | | | | |
| 18.2 | 46642 | A1 | | | | |
| 8.1 | 20825 | A2 | | | | |
| 17.6 | 45500 | A3 | Typic | Aquisalids | | |
| 8.6 | 22190 | A4 | Aquisalids | | Salids | Aridisols |
| 0.3 | 800 | A5 | Calcids | Haposalids | | |
| 1.6 | 4200 | A6 | Haposalids | | | |
| 9.1 | 23620 | A7 | Typic | | | |
| 1.5 | 3870 | A8 | Haposalids | | | |
| 9.9 | 25610 | A9 | | | | |
| 100 | 257936 | | | | | |

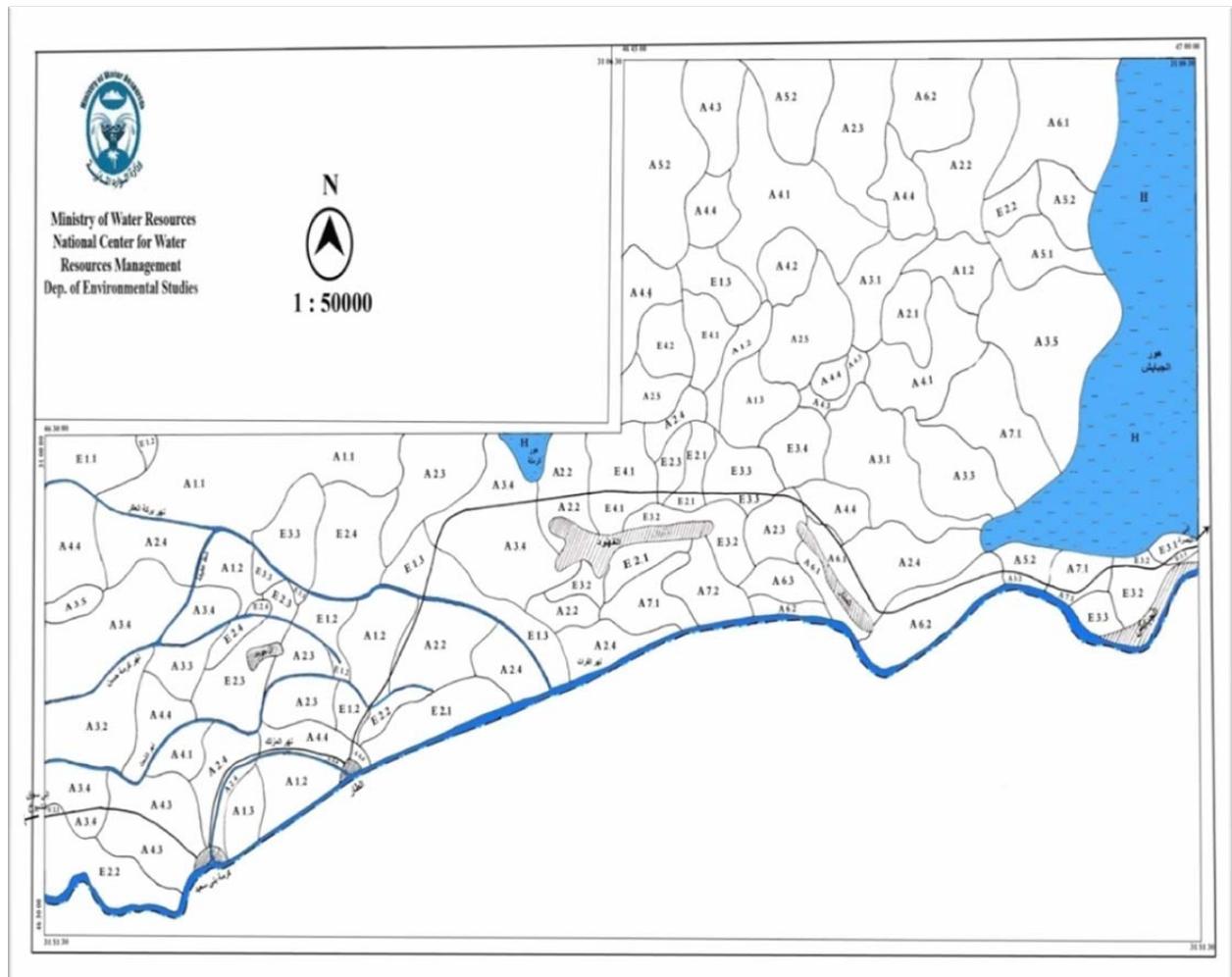


Figure 9. soil map

CONCLUSION

The use of Inverse Distance Weighted (IDW) technology in geographic information systems (GIS) is one of the best ways of soil characteristic interpolation depending on the Inverse distance where there is a negative relationship between characteristic and the of the IDW. In general that most of the studied area Lands were influenced by salinity. The few suitable class for the cultivation of grain covered most of the studied area. Fuzzy logic technology under geographic information systems helps in finding the suitability of land and the accuracy depends on the weight given to the specific factor for agriculture the. orders in study area were Entisols and Aridisols, The Entisols contains sub orders Fluvents while great group were Typic Torrifluvents and Aquic Torrifluvents, The Aridisol order contain one sub orders salids while great group were Haplosalids, Aquisalids.

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| | | | | (GIS) | (IDW) |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Aridisols Entisols | | | | | |
| salids fluents | | | | 643949.033 | 3441469.288 |
| Haplosalids Aquisalids Torrifuents | | | | 689849.7733 | 689849.773 |
| Torrifuents | | | | | 288 3441469 |
| Aquisalids | Haplosalids | Aquic | torrifuvent | | |
| | | calcids Aquisalids | | / | , |
| | | : | | / | , |