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# Land Productivity and Fertility Nexus Study in Dakahlia Governorate Using Gis and Remote Sensing

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Degradation of crop productivity and soil fertility and fails to meet the demands of it is growing population in the study area. The image was enhanced using ENVI 5.1 software from Landsat ETM+ soil fertility and productivity assessment using remote sensing and GIS. Soil productivity and fertility assessment are important for to a sustainable ecosystem. Soil fertility and productivity indicators according to Riquier *et al.*, (1970). The landscape area includes High river terrace (HRT), low river terraces (LRT), Overflow basin (OB), Overflow mantle (OM), Decantation basin (DB), Sand sheet (SS), Hammock area (H), Costal sand bar (CSB) ,Relatively low clay flats (RLC) Wet Sabkha (WS), Gypsiferrous flats (GF), Swamps (S) and Water bodies (WB). About 63.68% of the area is highly fertile, (class I), Soils in this area have been categorized into five mapping units: HRT, LRT, OB, OM and RLC. Approximately 6.86% of the area, is of Good fertility (class II), the soils of SS mapping unit, Class III, VI, and V soils not available. The Land Productivity index classification, outcome, about 29.13% of the total area are classified as excellent productivity class (I). It is made up of units LRT and RLC. Approximately 12.53% of the total area, falls under the good productivity category class (II). It consists of unit HRT. Approximately 22.02% of the total area fall under average class (III), it consists of unit SB.

Keywords: Soil Fertility Index (SFI), Land Productivity Index (LPI) and Dakahlia Governorate

#### INTRODUCTION

The land stands as our most fundamental source of natural wealth, nourishing the lives of millions. It is abundantly clear just how vital it is to nurture. This precious resource and, continues to grow day by day (Dumanski et al., 2010; Mohana et al., 2009). Soil plays a crucial role in ecosystems as it hosts numerous pivotal ecological processes (Liang et al., 2022). Human population expansion, farm division, and improper farm service management in developing countries lower agricultural yields. Soil productivity is the capacity of soil to support plant growth under specific environmental and management conditions. Soil productivity analysis has been a significant area of study in soil science (Agber and Ali, 2012). In Egypt, agriculture transcends the simple notion of a job it is a vital force, nourishing the existence of roughly 26% of population (IFAD, 2021). This lively sector is stitched into the Egypt economic tapestry, teeming with a dynamism which is hard to miss. Its significance echoes throughout the nation, pivotal in driving the hopes and dreams for what lies ahead. Indeed, agriculture takes center stage in the grand narrative of Vision 2030 plan, serving as a crucial pillar in the quest for enhanced food security (Kassim et al., 2018).

Human activity can either enhance Soil's ability to produce crops is based on factors like fertility, allowing it to efficiently use production inputs effectively and sustainably and the ability to yield crops is based on its physical, chemical, and biological make-up (Mueller, *et al.*, 2010; Sokolowski, *et al.* 2020 and Abd El-Kawy et. al 2024). Human actions can either enhance or depress soil productivity (Rashed *et al.* 2021). Decision-making relies heavily on a precise assessment tool

that uses detailed quantitative analysis to examine soil composition and properties (Samaei *et al.*, 2022).

Capacity for productivity relies heavily on key factors such as soil texture and its water-holding ability, alongside varying local climates. This makes direct soil or land comparison challenging due to its diverse nature and land productivity capacity is a complex yet precise concept which equates to lands ability to carry out specific functions (Devi and Kumar, 2008). Determining soil productivity is crucial for effectively managing land, increasing crop yields, and safeguarding long-term natural resource availability in high-risk areas (Yu *et al.*, 2018 and Maleki *et al.*, 2021).

A site's potential for agricultural production is measured by its ability to support crop growth or other vegetation under optimal conditions. Land productivity, however, is ultimately influenced by factors such as climate, parent material topography, and various soil characteristics. Evaluating land productivity can inform enhanced agricultural practices to maintain soil fertility and accommodate diversified crop yields (Field, 2017). Soil fertility and ability to provide plants with the right amount of necessary nutrients for healthy growth (Jin et al., 2011).

Soil fertility is characterized by the soil's capacity to supply necessary plant nutrients which significantly impacts plant development and yields (Zhang and Xu, 2005 and Jin at el., 2011 and FAO, 2019). Soil fertility and nutrient management play a significant role in contemporary agriculture, reflected in fertilizer use and crop productivity (Bagherzadeh *et al.*, 2018). Assessing soil fertility is crucial for making informed decisions and developing effective strategies to promote more environmentally friendly agricultural

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practices (El-Seedy 2015). Most soil fertility assessments are conducted through soil analysis and serve as a key tool for devising effective soil management strategies (Nafiu *et al.*, 2012 and Nariyanti *et al.*, 2022). Soil fertility is often defined as a balance between organic matter, nutrient ions, and moisture levels in the soil. The properties and composition of the soil's mineral components also influence its overall fertility (Sushanth *et al.*, 2019). Soil fertility is an all-encompassing concept that can't be directly measured by certain soil characteristics like macronutrient levels (Du and Zhou, 2009).

Using soil fertility assessments provides a scientific basis for managing soil effectively to achieve high crop yields while minimizing environmental harm (Andrews *et al.*, 2004 and Munnaf and Mouazen, 2021). Egypt's Nile Delta region and newly reclaimed areas are facing a critical issue due to the decline in soil fertility, primarily caused by increased high-yield farming and decreased Nile sediment deposits since the construction of the high dam (Elnaggar *et. al* 2017).

Research in soil fertility index has increased significantly worldwide (Nariyanti *et al.* 2022). Few recent studies in Egypt have focused on soil fertility index research (Mohamed *et al.*, 2019; Elseedy, 2019; El-Seedy and Saeed, 2019). Agriculture is the dominant economic activity in the Nile Delta, producing field crops for the population. However, soil quality issues including fertility and degradation severely impact agricultural productivity. To optimize plant growth and improve productivity, it is essential to assess the land's state and constantly monitor its changing properties (Aboelsoud *et al.*, 2022 and AbdelRahman *et al.*, 2022).

GIS technology has experienced rapid growth, leading to its widespread use in various research applications, particularly in assessment, mapping ecological capabilities, and land management plans (Maleknia *et al.*, 2017).

Geographical data can be enhanced by incorporating expert opinions. Researchers have applied an integrated approach in various studies involving geographical data to make multi-criteria judgments (Guarini *et al.*, 2018). Land evaluation methods are being refined to combine soil data and site characteristics with geographical information for better soil agricultural planning and management (FAO, 1991 and FAO, 2007). Researchers use geographic information to analyze land productivity and soil fertility, combining soil and climate factors which boost agricultural yields. GIS and remote sensing technology enable data collection across multiple platforms and linking it through a shared spatial connection (Eswaran, *et al.* 2003)

The purpose of the current research was to locate and assess land resources within Dakahlia Governorate, Create and generate soil productivity and fertility maps by analyzing physical and chemical properties using the Riquier Land Productivity Index (RLPI), evaluating soil potential productivity considering its physical and chemical properties, and evaluate how soil properties influence soil productivity by analyzing remote sensing data and utilizing geographic information systems (GIS).

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### Location of the study area

The Dakahlia Governorate is situated in the northeastern corner of the Nile Delta near the Damietta branch. The governorate is bordered by Sharqia to the east and

Gharbia to the west, bounded to the north by the Mediterranean Sea, and to the northeast by the Damietta Governorate, located to the northwest by Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate and to the south by Qalyubia Governorate. It covers a section of the Earth between the latitudes of 30° to 31.5° N and the longitudes of 31.25° to 32° E (Figure 1), the area to be studied covers 3843.9944 km², equivalent to (384399.44 ha).

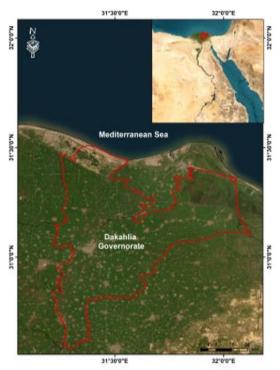


Fig. 1. Location of the study area

#### **Climate conditions:**

Climate data from Dakahlia Governorate's climate station indicate relevant information for this study. The study area experiences extremely hot summers and cold winters with moderate rainfall, the area features a spring with sand storm waves, Figure 2 shows that data accompanied by a temperature range of 14 to 29 degrees Celsius. Temperature varies in July with highs of 36°C and January with lows of 8.6°C. The months with the most rainfall are January and February. Relative humidity averages peak in winter months between 59% and trough in May at 47%. average period from 2017 to 2023.

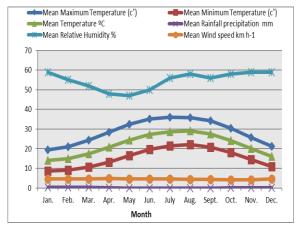


Fig. 2. Climate of Dakahlia Governorate.

#### Digital image processing and physiographic mapping

The image was enhanced using ENVI 5.1 software from Landsat ETM+ data (path 176, rows 38 and 39), enhance the contrast and sharpen the edges as described by (Lillesand and Kiefer 2007). Noise was reduced and image distortion was corrected using radiometric and geometric adjustments. A digital elevation model (DEM) of the study area was obtained from large-scale topographic maps scale 1:25000. Combining a digital elevation model with land sat image ETM+ enhances the landscape's three-dimensional representation. It can be used to provide various forms of data that aid in mapping landforms and soil types. Data generated from a digital elevation model provide elevation details, Satellite images can enhance the capabilities for soil mapping when utilized with them (Lee et al., 1988). Physiographic units were identified and a soil database was created using ENVI 5.1 software with Landsat ETM+ data and a digital elevation model (Dobos et al., 2002).

#### Field work and Laboratory analysis:

Soil profile sampling areas were selected to pass through distinct mapping units based on a pedagogical classification (Zink, 1997). Nineteen soil profiles were dug for detailed study. They were described morphologically and analyzed according to (FAO, 1990 and FAO, 2006). Previous studies on soil classification were referenced to conduct a semi-detailed assessment of soil patterns (Schoeneberger *et al.*, 2002; FAO, 2006 and USDA, 2014). Laboratory analysis was conducted on samples taken from the different soil layers, research was conducted on-site using a map of the land's physical features, a hand GPS device was used to pinpoint exact locations in the field.

Soil samples were analyzed for physical and chemical properties. Particle size distribution was determined using the international pipette method. Chemical properties such as soil pH, organic matter content and cation exchange capacity (CEC), electric conductivity (EC) of soil paste extract, soluble cations and anions, were under taken according to the USDA guidelines according to (USDA, 2004).

#### Method of Land Evaluation:-Soil fertility and productivity index assessment:-

Soil fertility and productivity indicators were assessed based on the work by Sanchez *et al.*, (1982), and quantified using an equation adapted from Riquier *et al.*, (1970), and further revised by Raji, (2000). according to Table 1

Table 1. Land productivity and fertility and classes and rating defined by Riquier *et al.*, (1970) and Sanchez *et al.*, (1982), modified by Raji (2000)

| Productivity     | Fertility        | Fertility and Land   |
|------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Class            | Class            | Productivity Index % |
| Excellent PI     | Excellent FI     | 65-100               |
| Good PII         | Good FII         | 35-64                |
| Average PIII     | Average FIII     | 20-34                |
| Low PIV          | Low FIV          | 8-19                 |
| Extremely low PV | Extremely low FV | 0-7                  |

#### **Fertility Index (FI):**

The Fertility Index is calculated using a specified mathematical formula:

$$\begin{split} FI &= N/100 \times O/100 \times C/100 \times M/100 \times A/100\ldots..\times 100 \; Eq. \; (1) \\ N &= soil \; reaction \; (pH), \; O = organic \; matter, \; C = nature \; of \; clay \; taken \; as \\ CEC/cmol_c/ \; kg, \; M = mineral \; reserve \; and \; A = soil \; salinity \; in \; EC \; as \; dS \; m^{-1}. \; Each \; factor \; is \; assigned \; a \; score \; ranging \; from \; zero \; to \; one \; hundred. \end{split}$$

#### Productivity Index (PI):-

The Productivity Index formula is based on an equation that calculates productivity:

 $PI=H/100 \times D/100 \times P/100 \times T/100 \times FI/100 ... \times 100 Eq. (2)$ 

Where, H signifies available moisture, D represents drainage, P stands for effective depth, T is for texture/structure, and FI denotes fertility index. Each factor receives a score from 0 to 100. The overall result is an index of productivity, scored from 0 to 100.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Geomorphologic features

The most prominent landscape types in the study region are characterized by floodplains, lacustrine deposit, and Aeolian deposit deposits according to Table 2 and Figure 3. The landscape area includes High river terrace (HRT), landform covering 12.53% of its total 48198.41 hectares area, Area of low river terraces covers almost (LRT) 45336.23 ha 11.79%, of the landscape, Overflow basin (OB) 56239.38 ha 14.63%, Overflow mantle (OM) 28433.12 ha 7.39%, Decantation basin (DB) 61560.17 ha 16.01%, Sand sheet (SS) 26385.26 ha 6.86%, Hammock area (H) 3966.31 ha 1.03%, Costal sand bar (CSB) 12.26 ha 0.07%, Relatively low clay flats (RLC) 66671.12 ha 17.34%, Wet sabkha (WS) 5602.51 1.45%, Gypsiferrous flats (GF) 1060.73 ha 0.27%, Swamps (S) 16642.31 ha 4.32% and Water bodies (WB) 23016.13 ha 5.98% of the total area of all geomorphological units.

Table 2. Geomorphic units and landforms of the study areas

|                    | Geomorphic unit                 | Landform                  | Mapping unit | Area (ha)  | of total area(%) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|
|                    | River terrace                   | High river terrace        | HRT          | 48198.41   | 12.53            |
| Flood plain        | (RT)                            | Low river terrace         | LRT          | 45336.23   | 11.79            |
|                    | Overflow basin (OB)             | Overflow basin            | OB           | 56239.38   | 14.63            |
|                    | Overflow mantle (OM)            | Overflow mantle           | OM           | 28433.1207 | 7.39             |
|                    | Decantation basin (DB)          | Decantation basin         | DB           | 61560.17   | 16.01            |
|                    | Sand sheet (SS)                 | Sand sheet                | SS           | 26385.26   | 6.86             |
| Aeolian deposit    | Hammock area (H)                | Hammocks area             | Н            | 3966.31    | 1.03             |
| _                  | Costal sand bar (CSB)           | Costal sand bar           | CSB          | 12.26      | 0.07             |
|                    | Relatively low clay flats (RLC) | Relatively low clay flats | RLC          | 66671.12   | 17.34            |
| Lacustrine deposit | Wet sabkha (WS)                 | Wet sabkha                | WS           | 5602.51    | 1.45             |
| Lacustrine deposit | Gypsiferrous flats (GF)         | Gypsiferrous flat         | GF           | 1060.73    | 0.27             |
|                    | Swamps (S)                      | Swamps                    | S            | 16642.31   | 4.32             |
| Others             | Water bodies (WB)               | Water bodies              | WB           | 23016.13   | 5.98             |
|                    | Fish Ponds (FP)                 | Fish Ponds                | FP           | 1275.49    | 0.33             |
| Total area         |                                 |                           |              | 384399.44  | 100              |

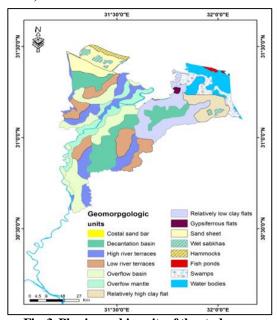


Fig. 3. Physiographic units of the study area

#### Fertility and productivity Index Model and rating

The soil fertility and productivity index model was developed based on Requier *et al.*, 1970's design according to Figure 4. It considers several key factors for soil fertility, including pH for acidity levels, organic matter content, clay composition, mineral reserves, and salinity levels. For soil productivity, key determinants include available moisture,

drainage, effective depth, texture and structure, and fertility index

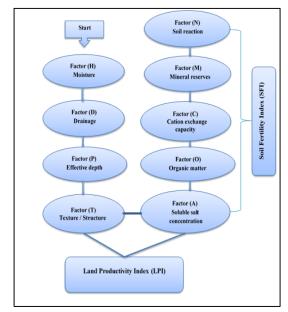


Figure 4. Flow chart Requier of the soil fertility and Productivity Index

#### Soil Fertility index of the study area:-

The Riquier fertility index evaluation is presented in Tables 3 through 6, with its corresponding map visualized using GIS as shown in Figure 5.

Table 3. Values of the factors of soil fertility of the studied soils of the investigated area

| I doic 5 | Tuble 5. Values of the factors of son fertility of the seddled sons of the investigated area |                        |                              |  |                          |  |  |  |  |
|----------|--|------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Mapping  | g Soil pH  | Organic Matter         | Cation Exchange Capacity     | Mineral reserve in   | Salinity" as EC          |  |  |  |  |
| unit     | (N)  | (O)(gkg <sup>-1)</sup> | (C)(cmolc kg <sup>-1</sup> ) | B horizon (M)  | (A)(dS m <sup>-1</sup> ) |  |  |  |  |
| HRT      | 7.44   | 17.55                  | 36.70                        | Minerals derived from basic or calcareous rocks            | 1.72                     |  |  |  |  |
| LRT      | 6.79   | 26.20                  | 42.51                        | Minerals derived from basic or calcareous rocks            | 0.97                     |  |  |  |  |
| OB       | 7.29   | 15.35                  | 27.22                        | Basic or calcareous rocks                                  | 1.86                     |  |  |  |  |
| OM       | 7.33   | 23.90                  | 41.30                        | Minerals derived from basic or calcareous rocks            | 2.67                     |  |  |  |  |
| SS       | 6.86   | 4.55                   | 9.36                         | Minerals derived from sands, sandy materials or ironstones | 1.24                     |  |  |  |  |
| RLC      | 6.73   | 27.70                  | 43.50                        | Basic or calcareous rocks                                  | 3.07                     |  |  |  |  |

Table 4. Soil characteristics of the investigated area.

| Mapping | Soil pH | Organic Matter          | Cation Exchange Capacity      | Mineral reserve in | Salinity "as EC   |
|---------|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| unit    | (N)     | (O) (gkg <sup>-1)</sup> | (C) (cmolc kg <sup>-1</sup> ) | B horizon (M)      | $(A) (dS m^{-1})$ |
| HRT     | N5      | O2                      | C2                            | M2c                | A1                |
| LRT     | N4      | O3                      | C3                            | M2c                | A1                |
| OB      | N5      | O2                      | C2                            | М3с                | A1                |
| OM      | N5      | O3                      | C3                            | M2c                | A1                |
| SS      | N4      | O1                      | C1                            | M2a                | A1                |
| RLC     | N4      | O3                      | C3                            | М3с                | A1                |

Table 5 .Score assessment of soil fertility index of the study area

| Mapping | Soil pH | Organic matter                  | Cation exchange           | Mineral reserve in B | Salinity "as EC          | Require Fertility | Crada |
|---------|---------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|
| unit    | (N)     | content (O) (gkg <sup>-1)</sup> | capacity (C) (cmolc kg-1) | horizon (M)          | (A)(dS m <sup>-1</sup> ) | Index (RFI)       | Grade |
| HRT     | 100     | 90                              | 95                        | 95                   | 100                      | 81.22             | I     |
| LRT     | 90      | 100                             | 100                       | 95                   | 100                      | 85.50             | I     |
| OB      | 100     | 90                              | 95                        | 100                  | 100                      | 85.50             | I     |
| OM      | 100     | 100                             | 100                       | 95                   | 100                      | 95.00             | I     |
| SS      | 90      | 85                              | 90                        | 85                   | 100                      | 58.52             | II    |
| RLC:    | 90      | 100                             | 100                       | 100                  | 100                      | 90.00             | Ī     |

Table 6. Soil Fertility Index of the study area

| Tuble of Boll I crully linder of the | bear and |               |                          |             |        |
|--------------------------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------|
| Requier Fertility Index RFI (%)      | Grade    | Class         | Mapping unit             | Area (ha)   | Area % |
| 65-100                               | I        | Excellent     | HRT, LRT, OB, OM and RLC | 244878.2607 | 63.68  |
| 35-64                                | II       | Good          | SS                       | 26385.26    | 6.86   |
| 20-34                                | Ш        | Average       |                          |             |        |
| 8-19                                 | IV       | Low           |                          |             |        |
| 0-7                                  | V        | Extremely Low | <del></del>              |             |        |

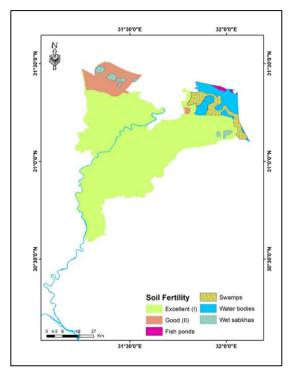


Fig. 5. Soil Fertility index map of Dakahlia Governorate

About 63.68% of the area is highly fertile, (class I), totaling approximately 244878.2607 ha, the soils in this area have been categorized into five mapping units: HRT, LRT, OB, OM, and RLC. Approximately 6.86% of the area, which is 26385.26 hectares, is of Good fertility (class II), the soil are of SS mapping unit, Class III, VI, and V soils not available. Fertility index was fit into 2 classes, which are Good and Fair according to Thomas *et al.* (2006).

#### Land Productivity index of the study area:-

The results of the Land Productivity index classification according to parametric evaluation system of Requier index are shown in tables 7 to 10, and their map is shown in Figure 6 using GIS. Results indicate that, the most geomorphologic units of the studied area fall under the highly and moderately classes I & III.

The Land Productivity index classification results, as presented in Table 11 and Figure 6; they indicate a classification outcome, of about 29.13% of the

112007 ha total area units are classified as excellent productivity class (I).

It is made up of units LRT and RLC. Approximately 12.53% of the total area, around 48198.41 ha falls under the good productivity category class (II), it consists of unit HRT. Approximately 22.02% of the total area units fall under average class (III), with 84,672.5 ha, it consists of units OB and OM. Approximately 26385.26 ha account for 6.86% of the area, classified as Low Productivity class (IV), it consists of unit SS. Galbiatti *et al.* (2004) concluded that yield of corn and its attributes were gradually increased as a result of increasing in the availability of soil moisture content.

# Comparison between Requier fertility and productivity index:

Variations in the Require index (RI) and soil productivity are shown in Table 11 and Figure 7. Require index (RI) for Land Productivity Index (LPI) and soil fertility Index (SFI) varied by LRT and RLC mapping units, showing differences in (class I) fertility and productivity. The HRT and SS mapping units exhibited varied levels of productivity and fertility. Soil fertility index ranked high in unit HRT the mapping unit within class I fertility. The soil productivity index was below average for the OB and OM mapping units ranked (class III) in terms of productivity, and These units exhibited soil fertility with a (class I) rating, this SS mapping unit had the lowest productivity ranking within for (class IV), soil fertility in this unit measured at a moderate level (class II) in fertility. The decline is attributed to reduced soil fertility caused by decreased effective depth, drainage and soil texture most influential respectively in OM mapping unit. Decrease in soil productivity in this mapping unit OB is primarily linked to effective depth and soil texture. Decreased moisture availability and soil texture primarily cause a decrease in soil productivity in this mapping unit SS. The study shows that the Requier Index is significantly influenced by soil depth, moisture levels, drainage quality, and soil texture. These changes adversely affect root respiration and nutrient uptake, thus reducing crop yield potential (Rashed 2015, Minhas et al., 2020, Zein et al., 2020 and Dhaouadi et al., 2021).

Table 7. Values of the factors of land productivity index of the studied soils of the investigated area

| Mapping | Moisture   | Duoimaga         | Effective | Texture / |
|---------|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| unit    | availability   | Drainage         | depth(cm) | structure |
| HRT     | Rooting zone below wilting point for 3 months of the year                      | Good drained     | 110       | Clay      |
| LRT     | Rooting zone below wilting point for 3 months of the year                      | Well drained     | 130       | Clay      |
| OB      | Rooting zone below wilting point for 3 months of the year                      | Moderate drained | 110       | Clay      |
| OM      | Rooting zone below wilting point for 3 months of the year                      | Moderate drained | 90        | Clay loam |
| SS      | Rooting zone below wilting point for 9 months of the year                      | Well drained     | 150       | Sand      |
| RLC     | Rooting zone above wilting point and below field capacity for most of the year | Well drained     | 130       | Clay loam |

Table 8. Soil characteristics of the investigated area

| Table 0. Son chara | cut isucs of the investigated area |              |                     |                         |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Mapping unit       | Moisture availability (H)          | Drainage (D) | Effective depth (P) | Texture / structure (T) |
| HRT                | H4c                                | D3           | P5                  | T5b                     |
| LRT                | H4c                                | D4           | P6                  | T5b                     |
| OB                 | H4c                                | D2           | P5                  | T5b                     |
| OM                 | H4c                                | D2           | P4                  | T5b                     |
| SS                 | H2c                                | D4           | P6                  | T4b                     |
| RLC                | H5                                 | D4           | P6                  | T5b                     |

Table 9. Score assessment of Requier productivity index of the investigated area

| Mapping<br>unit | Moisture<br>availability (H) | Drainage<br>(D) | Effective depth (P) | Texture / structure (T) | Fertility<br>Index (PI) | Grade | Productivity<br>Index (PI) | Grade |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|
| HRT             | 100                          | 80              | 100                 | 80                      | 81.22                   | I     | 51.84                      | II    |
| LRT             | 100                          | 100             | 100                 | 80                      | 85.50                   | I     | 68.00                      | I     |
| OB              | 100                          | 40              | 100                 | 80                      | 85.50                   | I     | 27.20                      | III   |
| OM              | 100                          | 40              | 80                  | 80                      | 95.00                   | I     | 24.32                      | Ш     |
| SS              | 40                           | 100             | 100                 | 50                      | 58.52                   | II    | 11.60                      | IV    |
| RLC             | 100                          | 100             | 100                 | 80                      | 90.00                   | I     | 72.00                      | I     |

Table 10. Land Productivity Index of the study area

| Requier Land Productivity Index RLPI (%) | Grade | Class         | Mapping unit | Area (ha) | Area % |
|--|-------|---------------|--------------|-----------|--------|
| 65 -100                                  | I     | Excellent     | LRT and RLC  | 112007    | 29.13  |
| 35 - 64                                  | II    | Good          | HRT          | 48198.41  | 12.53  |
| 20 - 34                                  | III   | Average       | OB and OM    | 84672.50  | 22.02  |
| 8-19                                     | IV    | Low           | SS           | 26385.26  | 6.86   |
| 0-7                                      | V     | Extremely Low |              |           |        |

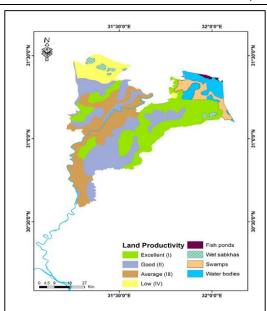


Fig. 6. Productivity Index map of Dakahlia Governorate

Table 11. Change in the value Requier Index, of land productivity index and Soil fertility index

| Mapping unit | Requier Fertility<br>Index (RFI) | Requier Productivity<br>Index (RPI) | Changes     |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| HRT          | 81.22                            | 51.84                               | ±29.38      |
| LRT          | 85.50                            | 68.00                               | $\pm 17.50$ |
| OB           | 85.50                            | 27.20                               | ±58.30      |
| OM           | 95.00                            | 24.32                               | $\pm 70.68$ |
| SS           | 58.52                            | 11.60                               | ±46.92      |
| RLC          | 90.00                            | 72.00                               | $\pm 18.00$ |

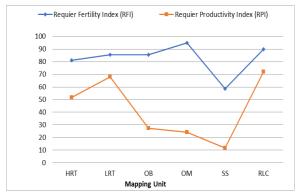


Fig. 7. Requier Fertility and Productivity index in the study area.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Soil in (class I) with high fertility scores highly within mapping unit HRT, the soil productivity index was below average for the OB and OM mapping units ranked (class III) in terms of productivity, and these units exhibited soil fertility with a (class I) rating, this SS mapping unit had the lowest productivity ranking within for (class IV), soil fertility in this unit measured at a moderate level (class II) in fertility. The decline is attributed to reduced soil fertility caused by decreased effective depth, drainage and soil texture most influential respectively in OM mapping unit. Decrease in soil productivity in this mapping unit OB is primarily linked to effective depth and soil texture. Decreased moisture availability and soil texture primarily cause a decrease in soil productivity in this mapping unit SS. The study shows that the Requier Index in the study area is significantly influenced by soil depth, moisture levels, drainage quality and soil texture.

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## دراسة العلاقة بين إنتاجية الأرض وخصوبتها في محافظة الدقهاية باستخدام نظم المعلومات الجغرافية والاستشعار عن بعد محسن محمد على منصور

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#### الملخص

تدهور إنتاجية المحاصيل وخصوبة التربة وعدم قدرتها على تلبية متطلبات النمو السكاني في منطقة الدراسة. تم تحسين الصورة باستخدام برنامج 1.5 ETM من ETM وقت التقيم خصوبة التربة وانتاجيتها بالاستشعار عن بعد ونظم المعلومات الجغرافية. إن تقييم إنتاجية التربة وخصوبتها يعد من المؤشرات المهمة التي تؤدي إلى نظام بيئي مستدام، وقد تقييم مؤشرات انتاجية التربة وخصوبتها وفقاً لـ (1970) , Riquier et al., (1970) ، حيث تشير النتاجج إلى أن أنواع المناظر الطبيعية في منطقة الدراسة هي السهول الفيضية، والرواسب الريحية، تشمل منطقة المناظر الطبيعية الشروفات النهرية المرتفعة (HRT) ، والشروفات النهرية المنخفضة (CRT) ، وألاحواض الفيضية (GB)، وعباءة الفائض (OM)، أحواض الترسيب (DB) ، الفرشات الرملية (SS) ، ظهور السلاحف (H) ، والشريط الرملي السلحلي (CSB) ، والمسطحات الطبينية المنخفضة نسبيًا (RLC) ، والسبخة الرطبة (WS) ، والمسلحة شديدة الخصوبة (الفئة الأولى) نتائج تصنيف الرطبة (WS) ، والتكوينات الجبسية (GF) ، والمستقعات (S) والمسطحات المائية . (WB) ، خصوبة التربة حوالي 63.68 من المسلحة شديدة الخصوبة (الفئة الأولى) نتائج تصنيف مؤشر إنتاجية المؤلم وحدات المسلحة مصنفة على أنها فئة إنتاجية ممتازة . (I) وهي تتكون من وحدات PRL و PRL (II) ، وتتكون من وحدات BD و OM. وحدات المسلحة تندرج تحت فئة الإنتاجية المؤسلمة إنها فئة إنتاجية منخفضة (IV) ، وتتكون من وحدات BD و SS . من المسلحة، تندرج تحت فئة المؤسلمة وصنف على أنها فئة إنتاجية منخفضة (IV) ، وتتكون من وحدات SS .