

Review of: "Probabilistic Assessment of the Heavy Metal Pollution in Debrecen's Topsoil"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The following comments will help to improve the status of the manuscript.

1. Introduction: The authors need to include some related literature where stochastic modelling has been used successfully for risk assessment of heavy metal pollution. Also, there should be a brief literature review of heavy metal pollution assessments in Debrecen and environs.
2. Area of Study: The geographical location of the study area should be provided. Also, the map of the study area is not found.
3. Analytical Procedures: i. State how you standardize your measurements. ii. What is the limit of detection of each of the measured heavy metals?
4. Assessment of heavy metals in soil: i. Please use the equation editor to type all your equations for clarity. ii. Number all your equations for easy reference.
5. Under HMEI, state why Fe was used as the reference metal.
6. In section 3.2, did you perform measurements of vertical variability of heavy metals? This is not seen in your description of the sampling procedure. 0 - 20 cm represents top soils. Also, if that is the case, at what vertical intervals were the soil samples collected? Again, results should reflect this.
7. Results should be compared with other studies.