

## 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.

This study describes the use of deterministic and statistical approaches for identifying heavy metals contamination and ecological risk in top soils. In the current time, this is an important study both for its environmental impact and the techniques used. There are a few suggestions which, in my opinion, will improve the quality of the manuscript.

- 1. In the introduction part, the heavy metals are not introduced properly. Which heavy metals will be studied and their impact on the environment and ecosystem is missing.
- 2. The study gap and novelty in this study should be properly highlighted.
- 3. Figure 1's space is empty; I can't see the figure.
- 4. Heavy metals are critical at very lower concentrations, which is why their determination on sensitive instruments like AAS and ICPMS is carried out. In the present study, a portable XRF is used, which gives a general idea of the elements in the samples. This instrument is not reliable at the ppm levels. Why is only a portable XRF used and not AAS or ICPMS?
- 5. Figure 2. Legends are not clear.
- 6. All the maps' quality can be improved for better visibility of the content.
- 7. English language needs to be reviewed by a native English speaker to avoid mistakes.
- 8. The PDF file is provided with suggestions and minor grammatical corrections suggested.

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