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Spatial distribution of paddy field's heavy metals diversity contamination in Samarinda using remote sensing imagery

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Abstract. *Palupi NP, Hardi EH, Fahrunsyah, Rahayu DE, Nugroho RA, Darma S, Idris SD. 2023. Spatial distribution of paddy field's heavy metals diversity contamination in Samarinda using remote sensing imagery. Biodiversitas 24: 6743-6752.* The adverse effects of heavy metal contamination on rice fields posing a significant threat to food safety. This study, conducted from May to July 2023 in Samarinda East Kalimantan, Indonesia, aims to determine the distribution of active rice fields and heavy metal contamination through Kriging's interpolation method. Aerial photographic interpretations, facilitated by ArcGIS 10.4, were performed with 144 sample points within 4 Districts. The content of heavy metals was assessed by Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy at specific wavelengths: 248.3 nm for Fe, 228.8 nm for Pb, 283.3 nm for Cd, 357.9 nm for Cr, 279.5 nm for Mn, 213.9 nm for Zn, and 324.7 nm for Cu, following guidelines of SNI 8910:2021. The research showed that existing rice fields were concentrated in North Samarinda District (380,416 ha), Loa Janan Ilir District (210,133 ha), Sambutan District (404,682 ha), and Palaran District (188,617 ha) with Fe content ranged from 4.976,45 ppm to 16.800,485 ppm, exceeding the critical Fe limit in soil of 500 ppm set by SNI. Mn content ranged from 22.65 ppm to 564.88 ppm, surpassing the critical soil threshold of 0.15 ppm for Mn according to SNI. Cu content varied from 3.32 ppm to 121.75 ppm, exceeding critical Cu limit of 0.04 ppm. Zn content ranged from 8.61 ppm to 223.12 ppm, surpassing the critical limit of Zn's pollution in the soil (0.06 ppm). Pb content ranged from 10.72 ppm to 32,84 ppm, categorized as intermediate compared to the threshold of 0.07 ppm for Pb in soil. Cd content ranged from 0.04 ppm to 0.739 ppm, exceeding the critical limit of 0.01 ppm set by SNI. Cr content was detected to be less than 0.032 ppm, falling into a very low category, with the critical limit for Cr content in soil set at 0.5 ppm according to SNI.

Keywords: Contamination, heavy metals, kriging, mapping accuracy, paddy field

INTRODUCTION

Soil plays a fundamental role in ensuring food safety, and the adverse effects of contaminants such as heavy metals on plant quality pose a threat to human health (Qin et al. 2021). Beyond impacting plant health, accumulating evidence suggests a correlation between heavy metal exposure and various diseases in humans (Wang et al. 2020). To mitigate health risks, effective measures are necessary to reduce the accumulation of metals, especially Cu and Zn, in rice fields, preventing their translocation from soil to the edible parts of plants (Abuzaid and Bassouny 2020). The availability ratio of metals in soil is intricately linked to pH, organic matter, and soil microbial activity (Jiang et al. 2021).

Study by Akter et al. (2022) indicates that pesticides contribute to the presence of heavy metals in rice fields, which contain heavy metals such as As, Cu, Zn, Mn, Hg, Pb in high amounts. reported that pesticides contain As 0.8-60 ppm, Cu 4-56 ppm, Hg 0.6-42 ppm, Mn 1-17 ppm, Pb 11-60 ppm, and Zn 1-30 ppm, which is one of the sources contamination of these elements alongside the consequences of the overuse of pesticides and chemical

fertilizers (Hembrom et al. 2020). The excessive use of agrochemicals not only deteriorates soil and water quality (Srivastav 2020) but also poses high vulnerabilities, mainly impacting socioeconomic development, negatively affecting food safety, and increasing carcinogenic risks (Jiang et al. 2020). The contamination of heavy metals in rice fields is attributed to various factors, including wastewater irrigation, sewage sludge application, livestock manure, mining (Qin et al. 2021), and mineral rock plating (Bashir et al. 2020). Consequently, heavy metals and metalloids, such as Cd^{2+} , Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , Cr^{2+} , Ni^{2+} , Fe^{2+} , and Fe^{3+} , accumulate in rice components (root, straw, chaff, and grain) at different levels (Sharma et al. 2021).

Li et al. (2022a) emphasize that agricultural land contributes to heavy metal presence in the soil, and effective government prevention and control policies can significantly reduce heavy metal smelting, ensuring the safety of all agricultural products for consumption. Mapping through remote sensing or aerial photography involves collecting image data, followed by image correction and digitization into a line map. Remote sensing image interpretation, categorized as visual or digital, aims to identify objects within the images (Knuth et al. 2023). Visual interpretation is conducted on a computer monitor, focusing on the visual examination of the Earth's surface depicted in images to identify objects and assess their significance. The elements of image interpretation include hue or color, size, shape, texture, pattern, shadow height, site, and association (Li et al. 2022b). Identification of the presence of heavy metals in paddy soil needs to be done precisely, this can be done through a soil survey by collecting chemical data on heavy metal content in the laboratory and then the results of the analysis are mapped by grouping soils of the same and almost identical nature into certain soil map units. The research area is based on rice fields in Samarinda City which are suspected of experiencing pollution due to surrounding activities.

Determining existing rice fields in an area is important for calculating the need for rice for the people of an area so that the shrinkage and contamination of rice fields can be seen as a basis for local governments to make efforts to reduce and prevent contamination. Based on this argument, it is very important research to reach the distribution of heavy metal contaminants like Fe, Mn, Cu, Cr, Cd, Zn in existing rice fields in Samarinda.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area

The study was conducted in Samarinda, East Kalimantan, Indonesia, from March to July 2023, situated geographically at coordinates 116° 15' 36"-117° 24' 16" BT and 0° 21' 18" - 1° 09' 16" LS. The processing and analysis of spatial data were conducted at the Cartography Laboratory and Geographic Information System of the Faculty of Agriculture at Universitas Mulawarman, utilizing both primary and secondary data sources.

Primary data were derived from high-resolution satellite imagery spot 7th on March 7th 2023 with a resolution of 15 meters per pixel. Secondary data encompassed various sources, including administrative maps of Samarinda City, publications, studies, and other relevant materials such as administrative maps, land-use maps, RTRW maps, topographic maps, and maps depicting Samarinda City land systems. These secondary data were collected through organizational observations and sourced from entities such as *Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah*-BAPPEDA (Development Planning Agency at Sub-National Level), Samarinda City, the Samarinda City Central Statistics Agency, the Samarinda City Agriculture Office, and the Samarinda City Public Works Office.

Procedures

Processing, analysis and layout creation

The ArcGIS 10.4 was employed for data pre-processing, systematically correcting radiometric distortions to mitigate atmospheric interferences as outlined by Tmušić et al. (2020). Subsequent steps involved image cropping to enhance focus, detail, and optimize data processing, ensuring the creation of a representative, uninterrupted image. The image was further positioned to align with real-world map coordinates, aiming to eradicate distortions

caused by Earth's rotation, satellite motion, and surface curvature, adhering to the methodologies proposed by Knuth et al. (2023). Image editing was conducted to augment the interpretability of data, catering to both digital and manual interpretation.

The interpretation of satellite imagery encompassed analysis of tone, color, shape, texture, pattern, shadow, location, and object associations. This process involved distinct activities including separation, delineation, recognition, and pattern discovery, in accordance with framework of Ha et al. (2020) for comprehending and interpreting satellite image content.

Heavy metals soil sampling

The soil sampling in depth 0-20 cm from surface for determining the distribution of contaminants was done at several random points in existing rice fields in Loa Janan Ilir District, Palaran District, Sambutan District, North Samarinda District. Analysis of Pb2+, Cd2+, Cr3+, Cu2+, Mn²⁺, and Fe³⁺ contents was conducted at the Agricultural Faculty of Agriculture and Water Resources Laboratory of the Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Sciences of Mulawarman University. The content of heavy metals were determined by measuring the description of soil samples which destroyed by wet ashing method with a mixture of strong acids HNO₃ (65% pa) and HClO₄ (60% pa) using Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (SSA) at wavelengths of 248.3 for Fe, 228.8 nm for Pb, 283.3 nm for Cd, 357.9 nm for Cr, 279.5 nm for Mn, 213.9 nm for Zn, and 324.7 nm for Cu, with reference to SNI 8910:2021 (BSN 2021). After the heavy metal content in the soil were known, the Kriging method was used to estimate the value of soil content. This method assumes that the distance and orientation between data samples show important spatial correlations in the interpolation results.

Data analysis

The results were categorized based on evaluation criteria established by the Balittanah Bogor (2005) and the Ministry of State for Population and Environment of Indonesia, and Dalhousie University Canada (1992). Subsequently, these categorized results were organized into maps utilizing the ArcGIS 10.4. This mapping process allowed for a visual representation of the distribution of analyzed parameters, facilitating a comprehensive understanding of the soil analysis outcomes.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Paddy field distribution in Samarinda

Physiographically, Samarinda City is predominantly characterized by fault areas, encompassing 41.12% of its total area, equivalent to 295.26 km². This is followed by a plain area covering 10,524 km², accounting for 14.66% of Samarinda City's total area. In terms of topography, the city mainly consists of relatively flat land, with approximately 27.39% having a slope of less than 2% and 24.47% at a slope ranging from 2-15% (Figure 1).

Regarding soil depth classification, the majority of Samarinda's area exhibits soil depths exceeding 90 cm, encompassing 39,833 hectares or 55.48% of the total area (Table 1). This area falls within the Tropika Humida climate type and features soil types classified as reactive to acidity, categorized under Soil Taxonomic USDA classifications such as Ultisol, Entisol, and Histosol. Alternatively, according to the Bogor Land Research Institute, soil types consist of Podsolic, Alluvial, and Organosol. Podsolic Land (Ultisol) comprises approximately 57.57% of Samarinda's land area (Figure 2), with abundant water supplies primarily sourced from heavy rainfall. Spatially, the active rice fields in 2023 cover 1,734.26 ha out of the total land area of 71,726.59 ha in Samarinda (Figure 3). Details of the active rice fields per subdistrict are outlined in Table 2, revealing a 52% reduction in active rice fields since 2002 attributed to changes in land function.

The distribution of heavy metals in rice fields across four sub-districts in Samarinda-Loa Janan Ilir (Figure 4), North Samarinda District (Figure 5), Sambutan District (Figure 6), and Palaran District (Figure 7)-revealed noteworthy findings. The concentration of Fe in rice fields ranged from 4,976.45 ppm to 16,800.485 ppm, surpassing the critical limit of 500 ppm according to SNI. Elevated Fe levels in soil pose a significant challenge to rice production, leading to reduced yields and potential crop failure (Rakotoson et al. 2022; Dossou-Yovo et al. 2023). Studies (Ahmed et al. 2023) suggest that Fe toxicity hinders proper growth, resulting in stunted development and low production. High Fe content in soil negatively impacts the availability of essential elements (Briat et al. 2020), and various methods, such as using Si (dos Santos et al. 2020), have been explored to mitigate dissolved Fe in soil. Fe distribution by the Kriging method were presented in Figure 8.

The Mn content in rice fields ranged from 22.65 ppm to 564.88 ppm, exceeding the critical soil threshold of 0.15 ppm according to SNI and its distribution were presented in Figure 9. Mn toxicity is influenced by pH, organic matter, and soil moisture, with concentrations exceeding 200 ppm posing a risk (Wu et al. 2020). Soil with a pH below 5.5 enhances Mn solubility, and Mn4+ reduction to Mn2+ in poorly drained soil conditions further increases solubility (Zahoransky et al. 2022). Different metals affect plants differently, with their toxicity varying based on concentrations and plant types. Soil physics-chemical parameters such as pH, cation exchange capacity (KTK), texture, and organic matter influence metal absorption (Daulta et al. 2023).



Figure 1. Soil topographic map



Figure 2. Soil type map



Figure 3. Spatial map of existing paddy fields in Samarinda, 2023

Mn has antagonistic interactions with Fe, impacting their concentrations in plant tissue (Zheng et al. 2020), and maintaining a Fe:Mn ratio within the range of 1.5 and 2.5 is crucial (Cakmak et al. 2023). Addressing Mn poisoning in acid soil involves raising pH above 6.5 (Palansooriya et al. 2020). The Cu content in rice fields ranged from 3.32 ppm to 121.75 ppm, surpassing the critical Cu limit of 0.04 ppm (Bedoya-Perales et al. 2023). Cu pollution sources include air and water, impacting soil (Qin et al. 2021). The magnitude of heavy metal content in plant media influences metal absorption by plants (Diaconu et al. 2020), and elevated Cu levels above permissible thresholds can lead to diseases (Mitra et al. 2022). Soil characteristics such as cation exchange capacity and total organic carbon are negatively correlated with extractable Cu content (Zhang et al. 2020).

Zn content in rice fields ranged from 8.61 ppm to 223.12 ppm, exceeding the critical limit of Zn pollution in soil, which is below 0.06 ppm (Oprčkal et al. 2020). Clay

content influences Zn levels, with higher clay fractions leading to greater clay colloid absorption of Zn (Moreno-Lora and Delgado 2020). Additionally, soil pH affects Zn content, decreasing as soil pH increases (Laurent et al. 2020). Vegetation activities contribute to nutrient transfer between soil layers (Jaskulak et al. 2020), and Zn is easier for rice to accumulate compared to other plants. Hazard quotient (HQ) calculations suggest potential noncarcinogenic and carcinogenic health risks associated with rice consumption (Wang et al. 2023). Pb content in rice fields ranged from 10.72 ppm to 32.84 ppm, categorized as intermediate based on the threshold of 0.07 ppm in soil (Steliga and Kluk 2020). pH and soil texture influence Pb content (Stefanowicz et al. 2020), with acidic soil increasing metal availability. Clay fractions, particularly in high amounts, enhance clay colloid absorption of Pb (Otunola and Ololade 2020).

Table 1. Slope class and slope area of Samarinda City

Items	Coverage (Ha)	Percentage (%) 100.00	
Slope	71800.00		
<2	19663.19	27.39	
2-15	18290.88	24.47	
15-25	10630.59	14.81	
25-40	11248.92	15.67	
>40	9348.90	13.02	
Waters	2617.52	3.65	
Depth Class	71800.00	100.00	
<30	-	-	
30-60	11544.13	16.08	
60-90	17805.32	24.80	
>90	39833.03	55.48	

Notes: Central Bureau of Statistics, 2023 (Source)

Table 2. Existing paddy field area per District (2002-2023)

District	Area (ha)	Paddy fields area (ha)				
District		2002	2011	2023		
Samarinda Utara	22,422.92	1,121.48	842.26	380.416		
Sungai Pinang	3,487.17	51.79	10.40	-		
Sungai Kunjang	7,187.75	71.55	21.33	5.67		
Samarinda Seberang	1,035.61	12.35	6.81	-		
Loa Janan Ilir	3,039.82	265.97	325.15	210.133		
Palaran	19,679.48	1,208.29	479.66	188.617		
Sambutan	8,970.53	551.02	521.67	404.682		
Samarinda Kota	356.02	-	-	-		
Samarinda Ilir	511.05	-	-	-		
Samarinda Ulu	5,036.24	1.32	-	-		
Гotal	71,726.59	3,283.78	2,207.28	1,189.518		
Veter Service Anglesis Develop 2022 (Servers)						

Notes: Spatial Analysis Results, 2023 (Source)



Figure 4. Distribution of heavy metals contamination in paddy fields in Loa Janan Ilir Sub-district



Figure 5. Distribution of heavy metals contamination in paddy fields in North Samarinda Sub-district

Pb

34,128

34,768

35,506

36,345

11,950

36,992

16,157

15,203

26,31

25,725

26,668

25.546

27.821

28,934

27,568

27,959

36,884

18,457

12,286

16.051

17.183

21,655

19,523

21,992

34,85

34,018

35,670

38,696

37,004

Cd Cr

0,278 <0,032

0.336 < 0.032

0,293 <0,032

0.315 < 0.032

0,140 < 0,032

0,434 <0,032

0,349 <0,032

0,618 <0,032

0,629 <0,032

0.637 < 0.032

0.641 < 0.032

0,678 <0,032

0,695 <0,032

0,600 <0,032

0,335 <0,032

0,399 <0,032

0.359 < 0.032

0.291 < 0.032

0,600 < 0,032

0,576 <0,032

0,643 <0,032

0,432 <0,032

0,338 < 0,032

0,357 <0,032

0,446 <0,032

0,295 <0.032

0,346 <0,032

<0,032

0,354 <0,032

0,603



Figure 6. Distribution of heavy metals contamination in paddy fields in Sambutan Sub-district



Figure 7. Distribution of heavy metals contamination in paddy fields in Palaran Sub-district





Figure 8. Mapping of the Fe distribution



Figure 9. Mapping of the Mn distribution



Cd content in rice fields ranged from 0.04 ppm to 0.739 ppm, surpassing the critical Cd limit of 0.01 ppm according to SNI. The solubility of Cd increases in soil with a low pH (Lu et al. 2022), and cation exchange capacity (KTK) affects dissolved heavy metal concentrations (Cui et al. 2021). Organic matter from rice plants contributes to soil KTK, with higher KTK values indicating greater Cd tolerance (Gao et al. 2021). Cr content in rice fields in Samarinda was detected to be less than 0.032 ppm, categorized as very low based on the SNI threshold of 0.5 ppm. Chromium is a carcinogenic element released from industrial processes and poses risks even in small concentrations (Mitra et al. 2022). Chromium toxicity depends on its specifications, with hexavalent chromium [Cr(VI)] being more harmful than the trivalent form (Kapoor et al. 2022). Soil conditions influence the forms of chromium present, with Cr6+ being more mobile and toxic in oxidized conditions (Monga et al. 2022).

In conclusion, this study provides insights into the spatial distribution of heavy metal contamination in active rice fields in Samarinda. The findings indicate that Fe, Mn, Cu, Zn, Pb, and Cd concentrations in rice fields surpass critical limits established for soil, suggesting potential risks to agricultural and environmental health.

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