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Land Suitability Analysis by Using Vegetation Index



The Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) is used to analyse remote sensing measurements. It shows the activity of a chlorophyll, which is directly connected with growth and development of a plant, and soil fertility. For this reason, our hypothesis predicted a connection between soil fertility/suitability and the NDVI index.

Problem overview

• Soil fertility is the ability of a soil to supply plants with nutrients and simultaneously support their development and growth.



- Soil fertility is a combination of physical, chemical and biological characteristics of a soil, which are interactive.
- Soil fertility study is a rather difficult agricultural task.

Data

- Satellite Rapid Eye images (6.5 m) for 2011 (June, July, August, September),
- NDVI values,
- meteorological data.

Methods

- The analysis of vegetation index (NDVI) on a maize,
- the analysis of meteorological data,
- field inspections.

The study of soil fertility (influence of deficit of moisture in a floor). Display of NDVI for different plots with equal crop (maize) and equal fertilization in four months (June, July, August and September, respectively).





Comparison of average NDVI for plots.



PET* potential evapotranspiration RV** available water in the soil

The consequences of water scarcity in the soil in different hybrids of corn.

Conclusions

- The use of the NDVI could be an appropriate method for studying soil fertility.
- The NDVI could be used to evaluate the reaction of plans in unfavourable conditions, above all, the lack of water needed for growth and development of plants.
- The NDVI method could most likely be used to determine the time of appearance of temperature stress on crops (the assimilation stops).

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