

Understanding Your Spaces

Soil Sampling and Research Study at the Spaces of Opportunity Community Garden

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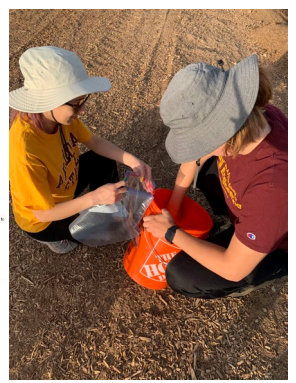
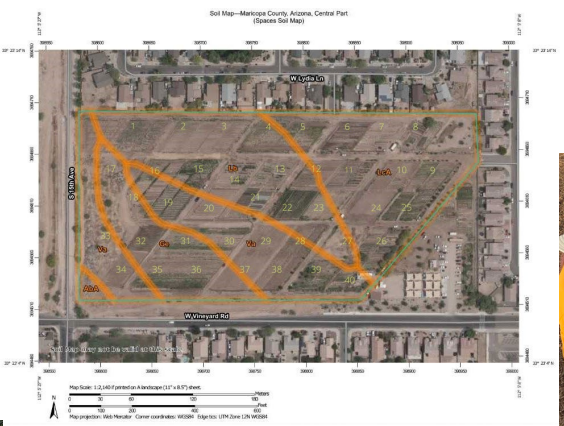
Project Summary

This study takes quantitative data through soil samples tested at a lab for pH, Electrical Conductivity, Calcium, Magnesium, Sodium, Potassium, Nitrate, Phosphate, Free Lime, ESP (%), CEC, Total Organic Carbon, and connects this with qualitative data on how farmers choose to care for their soil and crops. The goal in doing this is to educate farmers on how their work connects to the needs of their soil and plants

Background

- Spaces is a 19-acre parcel of land consisting of over 20 plots for incubator farms, farming plots, and community gardens.
- Farmers are multi-cultural, and all have different backgrounds and farming experience
- Plots are used for community building opportunities, hobbies, and/or for profit. Spaces is a strictly organic garden.

Methods

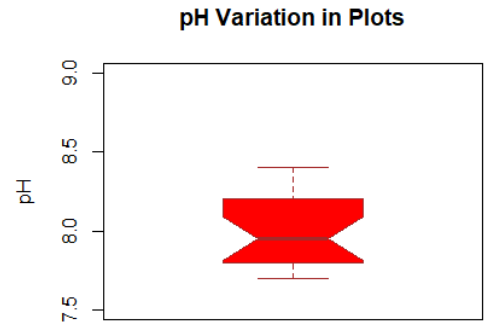


Sampling Steps:

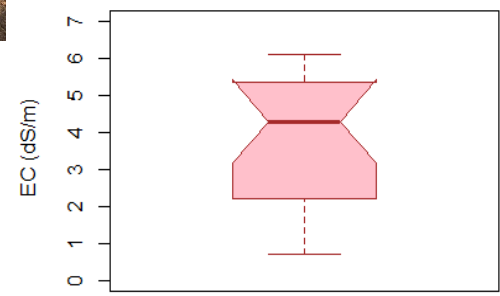
- Find Designated Plot
- Brush aside any mulch or topsoil. Dig about 4-6 inches deep in with trowel and add 2 scoops to bucket.
- Take 3-4 more samples in the designated area, well-spaced out, to represent the entire space.
- Mix well in bucket, break up clumps, and add a cup of soil to labeled bag

Outcomes

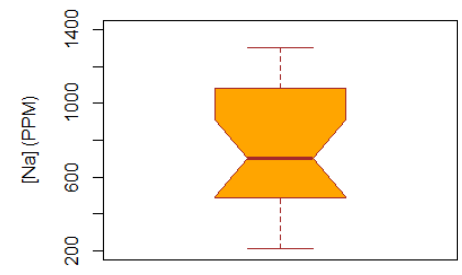
Certain parameters are more concerning the others, particularly sodium concentration/conductivity. Ongoing work to compare with management.



Electrical Conductivity in Plots 7-29



Sodium Concentration in Plots 7-29



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