

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of Environment and Climate Change
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJECC_88269
Title of the Manuscript:	REMOTE SENSING AND GIS BASED CROP ACREAGE ESTIMATION OF THE RABI SEASON GROWING CROP OF THE MIDDLE GUJARAT (INDIA)
Type of the Article	

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>Introduction:</p> <p>-The authors can briefly integrate some underlying theories linked to some SDGs, livelihood frameworks among other green based approaches to enrich the literature.</p> <p>Materials and Methods:</p> <p>-Line 105: Technical procedures like accuracy assessments or ground truthing exercises require spatial representation or proof to depict such exercise. Therefore, authors are required to include a map to depict ground truthing sample points either in the methodology of the main text or as a supplementary file.</p> <p>-Figure 1: Authors should consider adding administrative towns as a legend/feature to the study area map, specifically the map for "Panchmahal".</p> <p>-Again, the vertical grids (i.e., the coordinates around the figures) for India and Gujarat maps could be reduced to just 3 to enhance readability and presentation of images (i.e., prevent images from being clumsy). The horizontal grids for the map of "Panchmahal" is too much. It could be reduced further using the grid classification to 3 or 4 for better representation of Fig. 1.</p> <p>Lines 107-112:</p> <p>-Authors need to integrate a justification for the period satellite imagery were acquired. References to existing literature could be made. The relevance of this is that periods are critical in affecting results generated. The season or period could influence the variables acreage fair representation considering NDVI being sensitive. Harmattan or dry seasons, rainy or wet seasons, or perhaps, fall, winter, spring and summer are influential in selecting best images that wouldn't affect the study's results or data analysis.</p> <p>Results and Discussion:</p> <p>-I did not see any in-depth discussion pertaining to the explanation of the study results against early studies or existing literature. Authors need to compare or show how the study results tally/agree or refute/disagree with other studies with similar scope either domestically or elsewhere across the globe with reasons.</p> <p>-Are there policies, plans, programs and projects (agroforestry, technology, among other food or economic driven initiatives or strategies) or interventions (i.e., incentives, subsidies, and so on) coupled with external factors (international market prices of some crops or commodities, support etc) driving the extensiveness of some specific crops</p> <p>Fig.3: It is highly inappropriate for authors to present a figure or an image directly after a major section. There must be a preceding or introductory section that introduces the section or figure before presenting the figure.</p> <p>Table 1:</p> <p>-The mini or summarized table below table one is similar to the total acreage for each crop. Authors need to delete the mini-table beneath table 1 since they present the same information.</p> <p>-Again, I find it strange observing similar information presented in Table 1 in the form of a pie-chart. It is unacceptable for scientific reasons and academic papers to create such doublets. I suggest authors add a new column after the "Total" column with the title or</p>	

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	<p>caption Percentages. Fig. 5 needs to be removed in that regard.</p> <p>Section 3.3.1: -Kindly refer to my comments above (in the methodology section) on integrating a spatial map to depict areas where samples were taken.</p> <p>Conclusion:</p> <p>-The first two lines in the conclusion have been repeated severally in other sections.</p> <p>-The main findings should be made clear and summarised in the conclusion without repetition or ambiguity.</p> <p>-Authors could integrate briefly some study limitations or challenges, coupled with possible areas for further research.</p>	
Minor REVISION comments	<p>Abstract:</p> <p>-The wording, specifically lines 15-26 could be reduced to ensure brevity and conciseness in the abstract. Repetitive phrases or lines like ... ISODATA unsupervised classification techniques... could be paraphrased as it has been used three times in the abstract. Authors can keep the abstract within a threshold of 200-250 words.</p> <p>Keywords:</p> <p>-Authors can state or include keywords which haven't been included or stated in the study's title. This would enhance readability and availability of the study in a database or search. Words/phrases like: crop acreage, overall accuracy could be omitted or replaced.</p> <p>Materials and Methods:</p> <p>-Line 94: Kindly write SW in full before subsequently using the abbreviated form.</p>	
Optional/General comments	<p>The manuscript is publishable if authors are willing to integrate the suggested comments to improve its current robustness/structure. The study would inform policies, have an application value and would enrich basic datasets to support regional or country-level studies.</p>	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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