

Table S1: Methods followed by the analysis of soil physicochemical properties.

Parameter		Methods and Reference
1.	pH	1:2 Soil:water suspension, measured with digital pH meter (Jackson 1973)
2.	EC	1:2 Soil:water suspension, measured with digital EC meter (Jackson 1973)
3.	Organic carbon	Walkley and Black wet digestion method (Walkley and Black 1934)
4.	Available N	Alkaline potassium permanganate method (Subbiah and Asija 1956)
5.	Available P	Olsen's method (Olsen et al. 1954)
6.	Available K, Ca and Mg	Ammonium acetate method (Merwin and Peach 1951)
7.	Sulphate sulphur	0.15 % CaCl ₂ extractant and turbidimetric determination (Williams and Steinberg 1959)
8.	Available micro-nutrient cations (Cu, Fe, Mn & Zn)	DTPA extractant method (Lindsay and Norvell 1978)

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