



Soil Fertility Status and Fertilizer Recommendation Atlas for Tigray Regional State, Ethiopia July 2014



### Soil Fertility Status and Fertilizer Recommendation Atlas for Tigray Regional State, Ethiopia



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### Acronyms

AfSIS:	African Soil Information Services
AGP:	Agricultural Growth Program
ATA:	Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency
BART:	Bayesian Additive Regression Tree.
CASCAPE:	Capacity building for scaling up of evidence-based best practices in agricultural production in Ethiopia
CSA:	Central Statistical Agency
DSM:	Digital Soil Mapping
ESSP-IFPRI:	Ethiopian Strategy Support Program - International Food Policy Research Institute
EthioSIS:	Ethiopian Soil Information System
FAO:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
ICL Africa:	Israel Chemicals Limited Africa
ICP:	Inductively Coupled Plasma
LAEA:	Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area projection
MoA:	Ministry of Agriculture of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
MODIS:	Moderate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer
NSTC:	National Soil Testing Center
RBO:	Regional Bureaus of Agriculture
OCP:	Office Chérifien des Phosphates (Morocco Phosphate Company)
UNDP:	United Nations Development Programme

### Ministry of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture is a century old institution engaged in advancing the agriculture sector. After being established in 1991, the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia designed a new agricultural policy and strategy that focused on Agricultural Development Led Industrialization (ADLI) and aimed at transforming the country's economy. Since then, the Ministry along with its regional partners has prioritized and implemented key interventions that helped consistently increase agricultural production and productivity for nearly a decade and half.

Among the key strategies that were identified to help increase agricultural production and productivity in the GTP period was the soil fertility mapping of the country's agricultural lands and based on the information generated, revising the fertilizer advisory service to farmers. The Ministry believes agricultural transformation has yet to take place at higher levels through scaling up the use of improved technologies and farming practices by farmers to the extent that the country produces in huge quantities for the market and industry. The necessity to transform this sector is unquestionable. That is why the government has demonstrated a strong commitment to the agriculture sector through allocating more than 15 per cent of the county's total budget consistently.

### **Agricultural Transformation Agency**

The ATA is a time-bound government agency whose mandate is to address the systematic bottlenecks in the agricultural sector by supporting and enhancing the capacity of the Ministry of agriculture and other public, private and non-governmental implementing partners in 2 key ways;

1) Support agriculture sector stakeholders in developing and implementing solutions to systemic bottlenecks in order to transform the agriculture sector;

We work together with our partners to identify, develop, and support the implementation of long-term interventions that remove the systemic bottlenecks that are impeding the development of the Ethiopian agriculture sector

2) Support the implementation of a targeted set of integrated interventions that will make immediate impact for a large number of women, men and youth smallholder farmers in Ethiopia.

We work together with our partners to identify and implement targeted near-term opportunities to increase men, women and youth smallholder farmer productivity and income for specific crops and geographies.

### Foreword by H.E. Minister of Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia takes this opportunity to congratulate federal and regional institutions, experts and development agents for acquiring a strong tool that will help them in their day to day service to rural farmers, and increase agricultural productivity at higher level. Although strengthening the knowledge base about our country's soil fertility status has been the concern of our soil scientists and experts for many years, it remained as unattended agenda for many decades in the past. Thanks to our government, this is no more an issue, and the efforts of generating the information has now started to b ear fruits. In addition, as a country we have established a soil resource information database and processing capacity in the Ministry.

The soil fertility atlas that is completed for Tigray region is the beginning of the series of regional atlases that are expected to be published in the next 1-2 years. With these, the Ministry, Regional Bureaus of Agriculture, and other partners can refine the types of fertilizers to be distributed to farmers by woreda. As most of the recommended new fertilizers are blended fertilizer types, efforts will be made to expand the number of fertilizer blending plants in strategic locations in the country. We believe this approach will help us in realizing our agricultural transformation agenda.

The milestone we are witnessing today could not have come had it not been due to the big efforts of the project staff, federal and regional partners, and the donor community. We are happy to witness that this noble agenda has brought together a large pool of actors who stand for the same cause. At the same time, the Agricultural Transformation Agency's important role in housing and implementing the project is invaluable. From the Ministry side, we promise to make sure that the project attains its goal of completing the soil fertility atlas of the country's agricultural land.

Jepue

Tefera Derbew

Ministry of Agriculture

### Foreword by the Ethiopian ATA CEO

The Agricultural Transformation Agency of Ethiopia administered, managed and supervized the EthioSIS project in collaboration and involvement of its key partners. This included the Ministry of Agriculture and the regional bureaus of agriculture. Historical soil information collection in Ethiopia was fragmented, uncoordinated and did not answer the question of status and lack of nutrients at the national level. Recommendation of specific fertilizers to increase yield and productivity to Ethiopian farmers was not adequately based on knowledge about nutrient status of the agricultural soils.

To this effect, EthioSIS was launched to provide information on the status of soil fertility of the agricultural lands in addition to mapping Ethiopian's land resources through state of the art technology. Currently, The EthioSIS project has collected soil samples from 247 woredas of which 180 woreda soil samples have been analyzed and nutrient status and fertilizer recommendation have been developed for these woredas. The EthioSIS project has also collected soil samples from 59 confluence points to be used for land resource characterization and mapping purposes.

The EthioSIS project has also been involved in capacity building of the National Soil Testing Center and five regional laboratories (Mekele, Hawassa, Bahir Dar, Nekemte, Dessie laboratories and Jima research center) through providing highly needed training, building soil achieving centers (Shades) and providing small ware and equipment. Capacity building in geo-statistics was a central part of EthioSIS project and the contribution of our international partner such as AfSIS, Wageningen University and FAO was critical

The EthioSIS project has completed soil fertility mapping and fertilizer recommendation for all 35 woredas in Tigray. This information has been presented to stakeholders comprised of Tigray RBO, Tigray Agricultural Research Institute and a representative of Mekele University. The findings and recommendations have been discussed with them and this has also helped the Bureau to identify the types of fertilizer ingredients it will need to purchase for the 2007 cropping season.

Given the complexities of soil fertility mapping, it is important to note the valuable contributions of various institutions that have made this work successful. Many thanks go to our nongovernment partners, OCP group, Allana Potash, CASCAPE and ICL Africa for their financial support. Recognition also goes to the World Bank, AGP and UNDP for their continuing support.

Khalid Bomba

Chief Executive Officer

Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency

### About the Atlas

This atlas presents the status of key soil fertility parameters of 35 woredas of Tigray Regional State. In addition, it demonstrates the recommended fertilizers by woreda. All nutrients were extracted in Mehlich III method except pH, which was determined in water, and calcium carbonate that was measured using calciminer. Nutrient contents in the extracts were read using ICP in internationally accredited laboratories and classified using critical levels adopted from international sources (Appendix 2). Woreda level nutrient predictions were computed using the Regression Kriging and Bayesian Additive Regression Tree (BART) models. The soil fertility status comprises two forms: those soil properties that indicate the soil chemical status, and soil nutrients. Each woreda is represented by two pages of maps that show soil fertility status and recommended blended. While this atlas presents the current soil fertility status in the region, it should be recognized that it is a living document that needs to be updated on regular basis taking into consideration level of soil management and cropping intensity. In particular, periodic checks should be made for nutrients such as boron that have narrow deficiency and sufficiency range. By so doing, it is possible to witness that the status of some nutrients might change, thus requiring the modification of the recommended fertilizers in those areas. However, the maps are only valid for agricultural land.

There are six chapters in this atlas. The first chapter shows the maps showing the general soil fertility status, specifically, that of 17 types of soil fertility parameters and major blended fertilizer types recommended region-wise. In addition, woredas in zone one (North Western Tigray) are part of this chapter. The second chapter presents both soil fertility status and recommended blended fertilizer maps for woredas found in Zone two (Central Tigray Zone). Eastern Tigray Zone is represented in the third chapter. The fourth chapter contains the soil fertility status and recommended blended fertilizer maps for woredas found in Zone four (South Tigray). The fifth and six chapters present the similar types of maps of woredas found in Zone five (Western Tigray) and Zone six (Mekele special Zone particularly Quiha Kebele), respectively. The last pages have appendixes for additional information used during the course of this work. By taking into consideration the diverse agro-ecology and landscape variability, woredas may need many blended fertilizer types but here again, to make it more practical, between 2 and 4 major types of blended fertilizers are recommended after making scientifically acceptable approximations.

Finally, it should be noted that, other than indicating the soil fertility status and recommending the most appropriate fertilizers for each woreda, the atlas doesn't contain information about recommended fertilizer application rates. This and other related issues that need follow-up have been itemized and shared with the federal and regional research institutes.

Tekalign Mamo (Prof.) State Minister (Minister's Advisor), and EthioSIS Program Leader

### Acknowledgements

Our acknowledgement extends to different institutions and individuals who took part at every stage of the project. First and foremost, we thank the architects of the project who have made immense contribution in terms of formulating, guiding, directing and managing the project from its commencement till today. Among these people, we would like to mention H.E. Tefera Derbew (Minister of Agriculture), H.E. Prof Tekalign Mamo (State Minister and Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture) and Khalid Bomba (Ethiopian ATA - CEO) for their significant role and inputs. We would also like to extend our great appreciation to Dr. Samuel Gameda (former Director of Soil Health and Fertility of ATA), Sara Platt, Sid Kamath, Eric Couper and Eden Getachew for their excellent contribution.

We also would like to thank those who have taken part in the daily routine activities. This includes field data collection, laboratory analysis and processing. This group contributed towards a major and most challenging part of the project. We had more than 50 field surveyors who were led by Behailu Kassahun, and who all deserve appreciation. Dr. Zebene Mikru and Fikire Mekuria are acknowledged for laboratory operations and management including soil sub-sampling and shipment of samples to different laboratories for wet chemistry and spectral analysis.

Hezekiel Tasse has managed the project to great achievement and deserves special thanks. Amanuel Tadesse has coordinated the soil processing, archiving, and procurement of facilities. Dr. Erik Karltun has played a significant role of verifying laboratory data, and interpreting them into fertilizer recommendations in addition to his role as trainer of the laboratory technicians. Staff of the Soil Health and Fertility Program of ATA, namely Dr. Taye Bekele, Dr Selamyihun Kidanu, Mulugeta Demiss and Tegbaru Bellete, have made invaluable contribution on soil related advice as well as technical support and we appreciate their unreserved continuous support.

The GIS team led by Hailu Shiferaw, in which Kiflu Gudeta and Melakbirhan Adugna are members has handled with diligence and efficiency the soil fertility predictions and atlas production. They deserve many thanks and a special place in the project team.

The contributions of federal, regional government offices and international development partners are immense, and we extend our thanks to them. Federal and Regional Agriculture offices, Research Institutes, INSA, CSA, National Soil Testing Center, regional laboratory centers (Mekelle, Dese, Bahir Dar, Nekempte, Jima and Hawassa labs); and international development partners (UNDP, World Bank, IFPRI, AfSIS, FAO, OCP, Allana Potash, ICL Africa, CASCAPE, Wageningen University, BMGF) among others, have helped in the execution of project activities in one way or another and we thank them. We are deeply grateful to Dr. Markus Walsh and Dr. Jiehua Chen of AfSIS for geostatistical capacity building and technical backstopping - their prediction model development has been very valuable, and we always cherish their efforts. In addition, the staff of Wageningen University (Dr. Dick Brus and Dr. Dennis Walvoort) through CASCAPE project (Mr Arie and Dr. Eyasu Elias), have also assisted in the same way, and we extend our deepest gratitude to them.

Last and not least, the assistance and cooperation of the Ethiopia ATA Administration, logistics, communications and procurement staff is not something we can easily forget and we thank them with deep respect due to all; without their speedy support and action, the project would have not reached this stage.

### **Key terms**

- Agricultural land: In this context, agricultural land is defined as land that contains both currently cultivated areas (cropped land) and areas which have potentials for future cultivation (cultivable/arable land).
- BART: it is one of the regression types of model used to predicted soil nutrients. It is a non-linear approach for predicting soil nutrients in relation to other covariates. BART stands for Bayesian Additive Regression Tree.
- Blended fertilizer: a fertilizer product made by physically blending three or more fertilizer ingredients in a factory to provide several nutrients.
- Composite sampling: consists of taking nine sub samples that represent the soil variability within the sampling plot and are homogenized to form a single sample.
- Covariates: these are secondary datasets which can explain the respective soil parameters besides nutrient content in the soil. It is believed that non-surveyed areas can be confidently predicted from surveyed plots by using these covariates (explanatory variables). About 22 different types of covariates were used for this analysis. Different covariates can explain different soil nutrients depending on their relationship with the given ecosystems (agro-ecology).

These covariates are grouped into four major types: climatic factors, reflectance, topographic and vegetation indices for the last 12 years average (see the details at the end of the atlas-Appendix 2).

- Critical level: The critical level is the soil test level of soil fertility parameters below which a crop response to a nutrient application may be expected. For some parameters, at very high soil test levels, crop yield may decrease due to toxicity (Appendix 1).
- DSM: digital soil mapping, which is the state of the art of using geo-statistical prediction approach by modeling the relevant variables (covariates) with respect to soil nutrients from laboratory test results.
- Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area (LAEA): one of the projection types for Africa with 20 degree of Longitude and 5 degree of Latitude as a centroid.
- Legacy data: these are secondary datasets collected from different sources and used as covariates.
- MODIS: The Moderate-resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) is a payload scientific instrument launched into Earth orbit by NASA in 1999 on board the Terra Satellite, and in 2002 on board the Aqua satellite. The 250 m resolutions of MODIS's products were used as covariates after passing many preprocessing stages.

- Regression-kriging (RK) is a spatial prediction technique that combines a regression of the dependent variable on auxiliary variables (such as parameters derived from digital elevation modelling, remote sensing/imagery, and thematic maps) with kriging of the regression residuals
- Sample plot: a geo-referenced pre-identified circular sampling block of land from which composite soil samples were taken.
- Satellite image: is a photographic representation of an object that was taken using a satellite. Usually, these are images of the whole or part of the earth and they are taken using artificial satellites.
- Spatial prediction/ spatial statistics: the field of study concerning statistical methods that use space and spatial relationships (such as distance, area, volume,

length, height, orientation, centrality and/or other spatial characteristics of data) directly in their mathematical computations

- Soil nutrients: are elements that are useful for the growth of plants and animals. They are classified in to three, namely, macro (major)-, secondary and micronutrients, depending upon their volume of requirement by plants and animals. The nutrients removed from soils must be put back into the soil in equivalent amounts in order to mail good soil fertility status; otherwise, crop yield will be compromised
- Topsoil: is the top 20cm depth of the soil profile which was considered for soil fertility mapping of agricultural land. Sometimes, for perennial crops like coffee, sugarcane, samples were collected up to 50 cm depth.

### Introduction

Ethiopia's economy is based on agriculture, which accounts for 46% of the gross domestic product (GDP) and 85% of the employment (MoA, 2011). However, the sector is characterized by low productivity, mainly caused by low soil fertility and absence of efficient, sustainable and site specific soil fertility management practices (Abush et al., 2011), among others. One major impediment to increase fertilizer use efficiency in the country has been lack of information about the fertility status of the agricultural land. Currently, the problem has been recognized by the government and a national land resource and soil fertility mapping work is underway by the EthioSIS project of the Agricultural Transformation Agency. This initiative has been conducted throughout the country to assess the soil fertility status so that fertilizer recommendations can be based on soil test results. So far, soil fertility survey has been completed in 250 woredas, of which, 35 woredas are from Tigray region. This atlas presents the detailed results of the 35 woredas in the region.

Two sampling strategies were followed during soil sampling: randomized and gridded over agricultural land where sampling points were spaced 2-3km from each other. Predefined sampling plots were identified and used to take samples following the field guideline. More than 4,200 soil samples were collected from the 35 rural woredas of the region (on the average, 120 composite samples per woreda). Soil samples were collected from 0-20cm depth (topsoil) and composited to make one homogenized sample.

In the lab, different soil fertility parameters were determined; for the various nutrients, the Mehlich III extraction method was employed. The contents of most nutrients are expressed in mg/kg (or parts per million - ppm). More than 17 soil fertility parameters were analyzed and mapped. The maps on each page were developed using the analysis results of those soil parameters in relation to other satellite imageries. About 23 types of explanatory variables called covariates were used during prediction of the status of each soil fertility parameter.

The pixel sizes of the map outputs are 250m resolution, which is the highest resolution soil fertility map and it is one of the few soil fertility products in the globe. Soil organic matter is generally low in Tigray soils. Soil pH, measured in water, is found to be alkaline (high pH), particularly in western and southern parts of the region. Hence, the Region's soils are found to have either high pH or are neutral. Looking at electrical conductivity (EC), it was found that the soils are salt free (do not have any effect on crop growth). In addition to specific soil management recommendations, customized fertilizers are required to address the deficiencies of major and micro-nutrients.

In the region, seven soil nutrients (N, P, K, S, Fe, Zn and B) are found to be deficient in the soils. Perhaps, what is unique is the fact that Fe was only found to be deficient in the Region compared to the 180 plus woredas surveyed so far in the other regions. Other than these, the rest of the nutrients were found to be normal.

By considering the extent of deficiency of the 7 soil nutrients, it was found that Tigray soils require about 113 fertilizer types. However, with the prevailing resource limitations to prepare and distribute these many fertilizers (most of them for few number of farmers), it was deemed necessary to prioritize the types of new fertilizers to use in the region without compromising the nutrient requirement of the particular areas. By so doing, 11 types of blended fertilizers are recommended for agricultural land in the region.

### **Recommended nutrient combinations of fertilizer** blends for Tigray Region

So far, 12 types of fertilizers were identified and formulae were developed from soil analysis conducted in over 180 woredas. The first 6 blend types are commonly identified for other regions. However, the last 5 blends (highlighted in the table below) are identified for Tigray soil.

Table 1.	Fertilizers	required for	180 woredas
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Standard Formula No.	Fertilizer Type	Percent coverage for Tigray	Remarks
1	NPS		
2	NPSB	7.3	
3	NPKSB	10.2	Also
4	NPSZnB	6.8	recommended for other Regions
5	NPKSZnB	28.6	
6	NPSZn	1.5	
7	NPKSZn	1.5	
8	NPSFeZn	8	
9	NPSFeZnB	3	So far, recommended for Tigray Region
10	NPKSFeZn	1.9	
11	NPKSFeZnB	28.4	
12	NPKS	0.7	

### **Blended fertilizer sources and formulations**

The nutrient formulation of each fertilizer blend is presented below.

Formula 1: NPS: 19 N – 38P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> +7S Formula 2: NPSB: 18 N – 36 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + 7S + 0.71B

Formula 3: NPKSB: 13.7 N – 27.4 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – 14.4 K<sub>2</sub>O + 5.1S + 0.54B

Formula 4: NPSZnB: 17 N - 34 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + 7S + 2.2Zn + 0.67B

Formula 5: NPKSZnB: 13.0 N -26.1 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> -13.7K<sub>2</sub>O +5.6S+1.7Zn

+0.5B

Formula 6: NPSZn: 17.7 N – 35.3 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + 6.5S + 2.5 Zn

Formula 7: NPKSZn: 15 N – 31 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – 8K<sub>2</sub>O + 7 S+ 2.2 Zn

Formula 8: NPSFeZn: 17 N - 35 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + 8S+ 0.3 Fe+ 2.2Zn

Formula 9: NPSZnFeB: 17 N - 33 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> + 7S+ 2.2 Zn+ 0.3 Fe+ 0.5 B

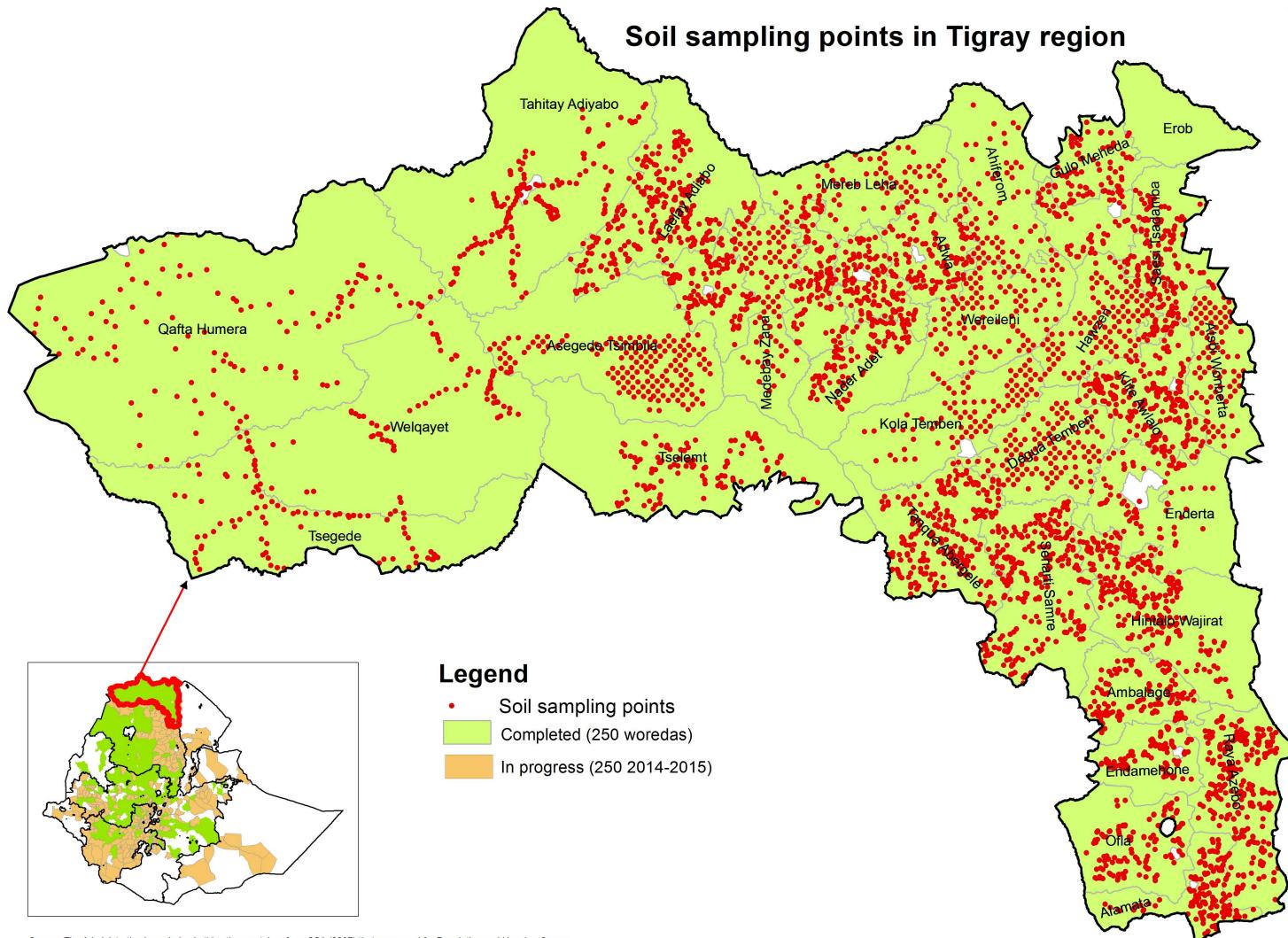
Formula 10: NPKSFeZn: 15 N-30 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>- 8K<sub>2</sub>O+7.0 S+0.3 Fe-

### chelate+2.2Zn

Formula 11: NPKSFeZnB: 17 N-20 P2O5-8K2O+11 S+2.2 Zn+0.3

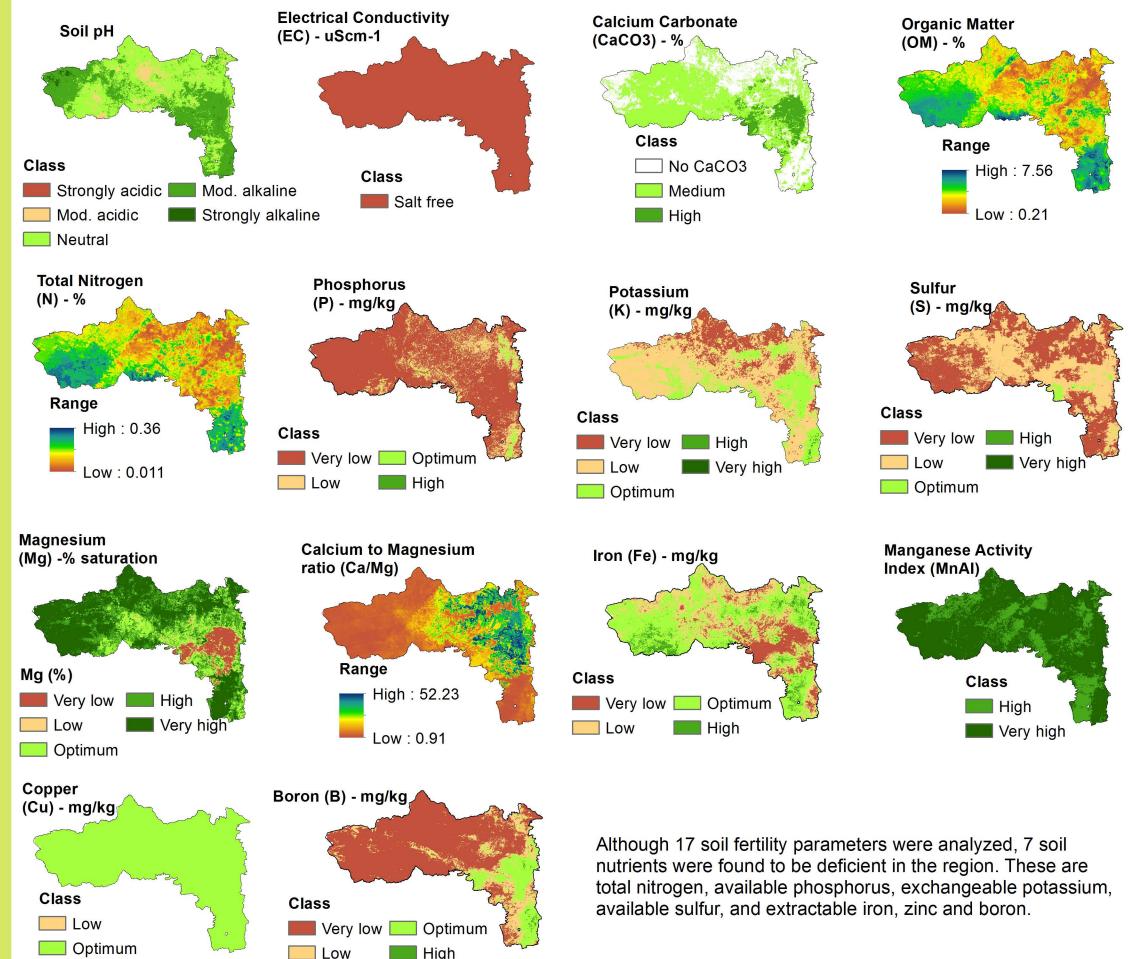
Fe+0.5B

Formula 12: NPKS: 15 N – 29P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – 8K<sub>2</sub>O + 10S



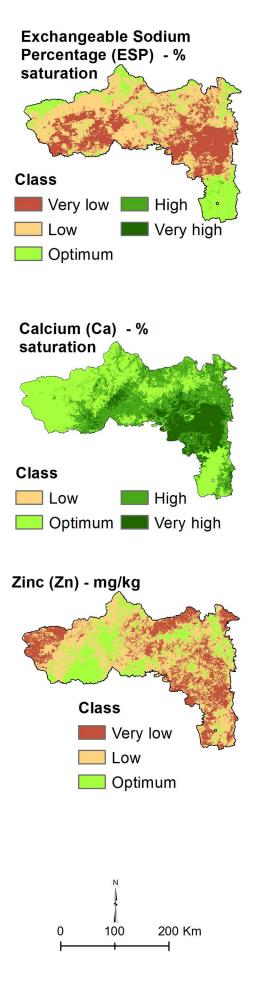
# **CHAPTER 1: TIGRAY REGION AND ZONE ONE**

### Soil fertility status of Tigray Region

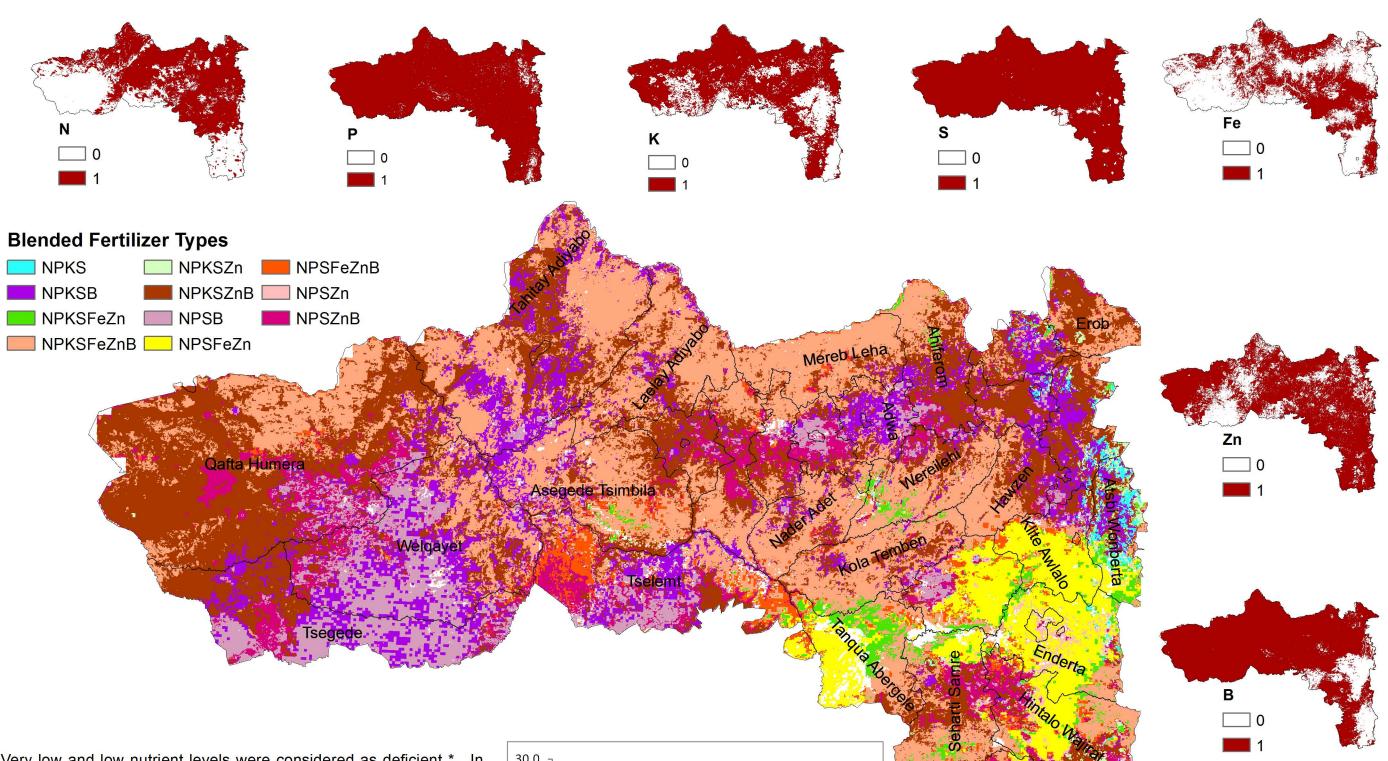


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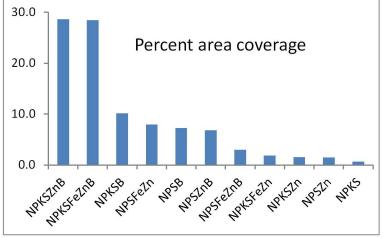
Source: The administrative boundaries in this atlas are taken from CSA (2007) that was used for Population and Housing Census.



### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Tigray Region



Very low and low nutrient levels were considered as deficient \*. In order to tackle soil nutrient deficiency for agricultural soils in the region, 11 types of blended fertilizers are recommended; their area coverage is: NPKSZnB (29%), NPKSFeZnB (28%), NPKSB (10%), NPSFeZn (8%), NPSB (7.4%) and NPSZnB (6.8%), etc.



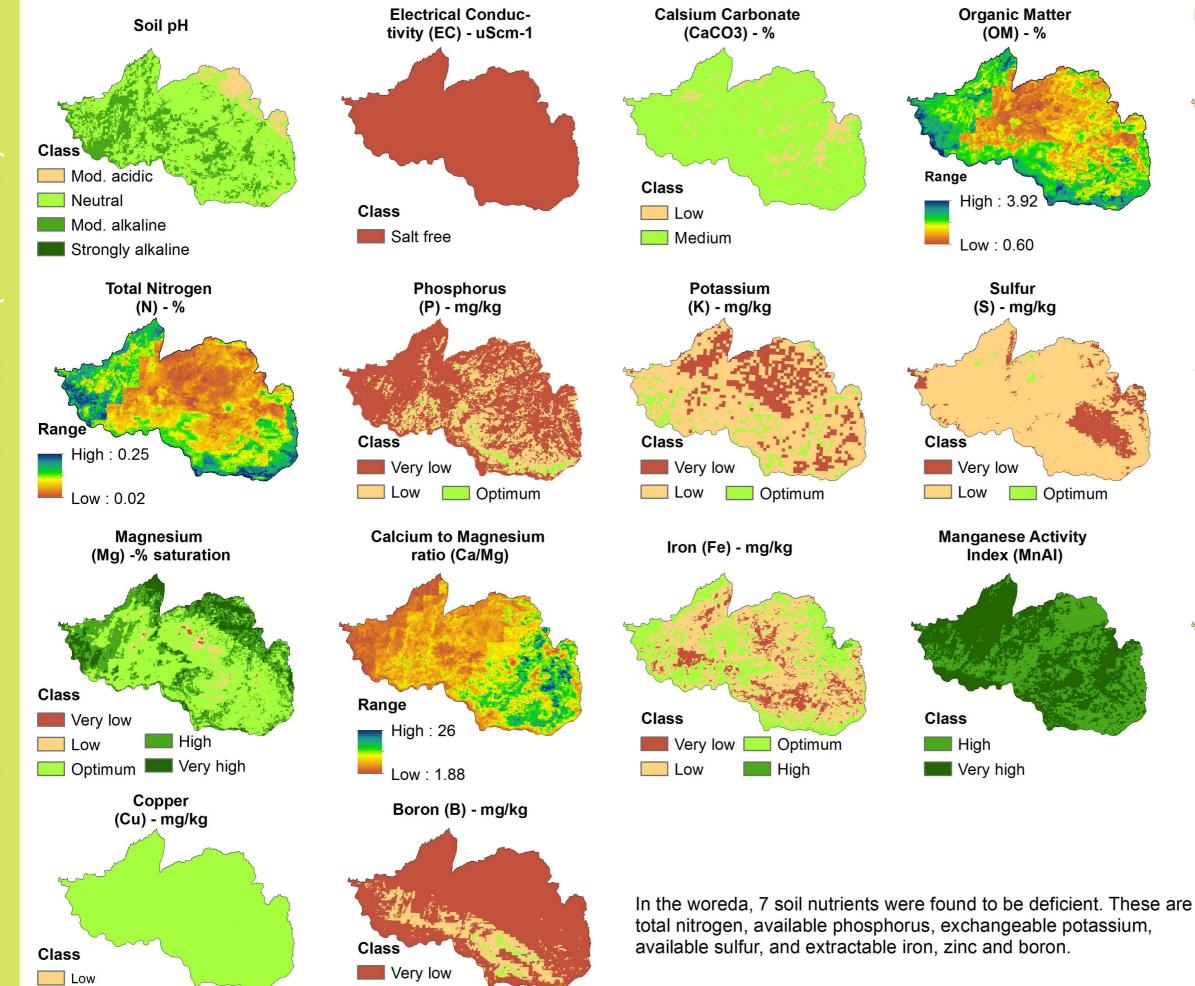
**CHAPTER 1: TIGRAY REGION AND ZONE ONE** 

50 Km

25

<sup>\* 0</sup> represents non-deficient areas and 1 represents deficient areas for seven selected soil parameter (shown above).

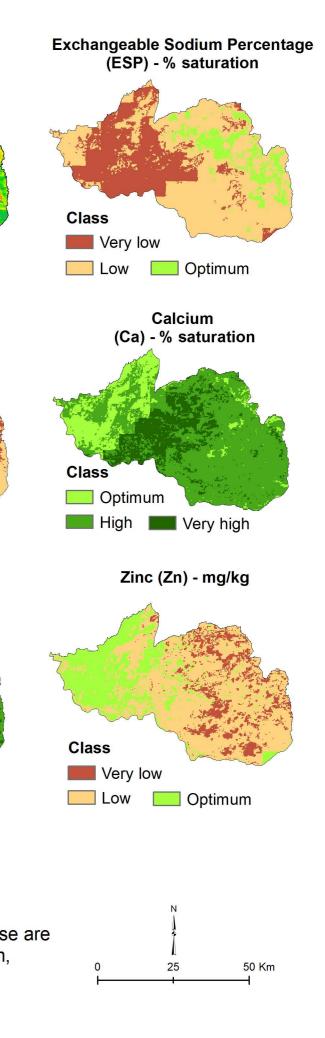
### Soil Fertility Status of Asegede Tsimbila Woreda

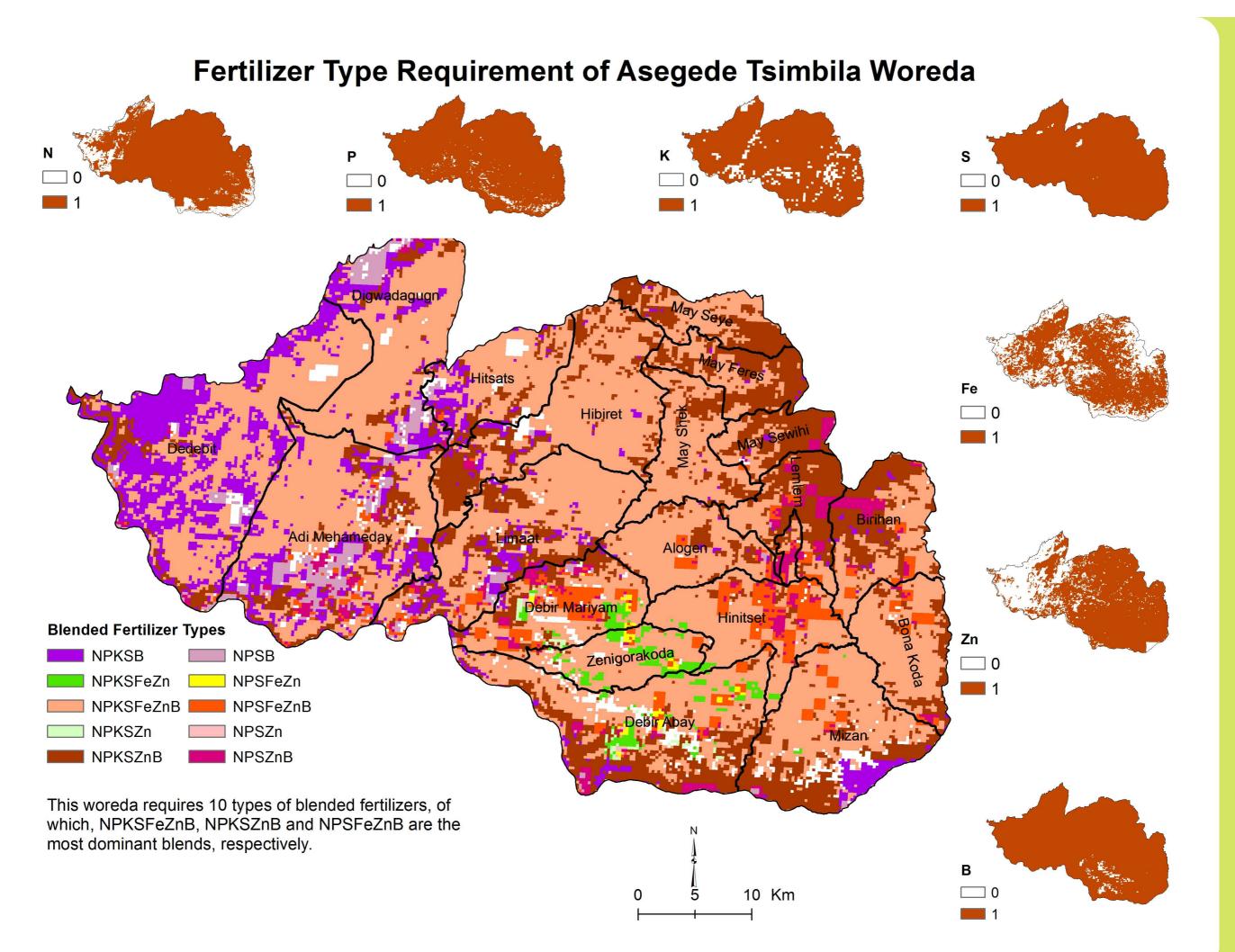


Optimum

Low

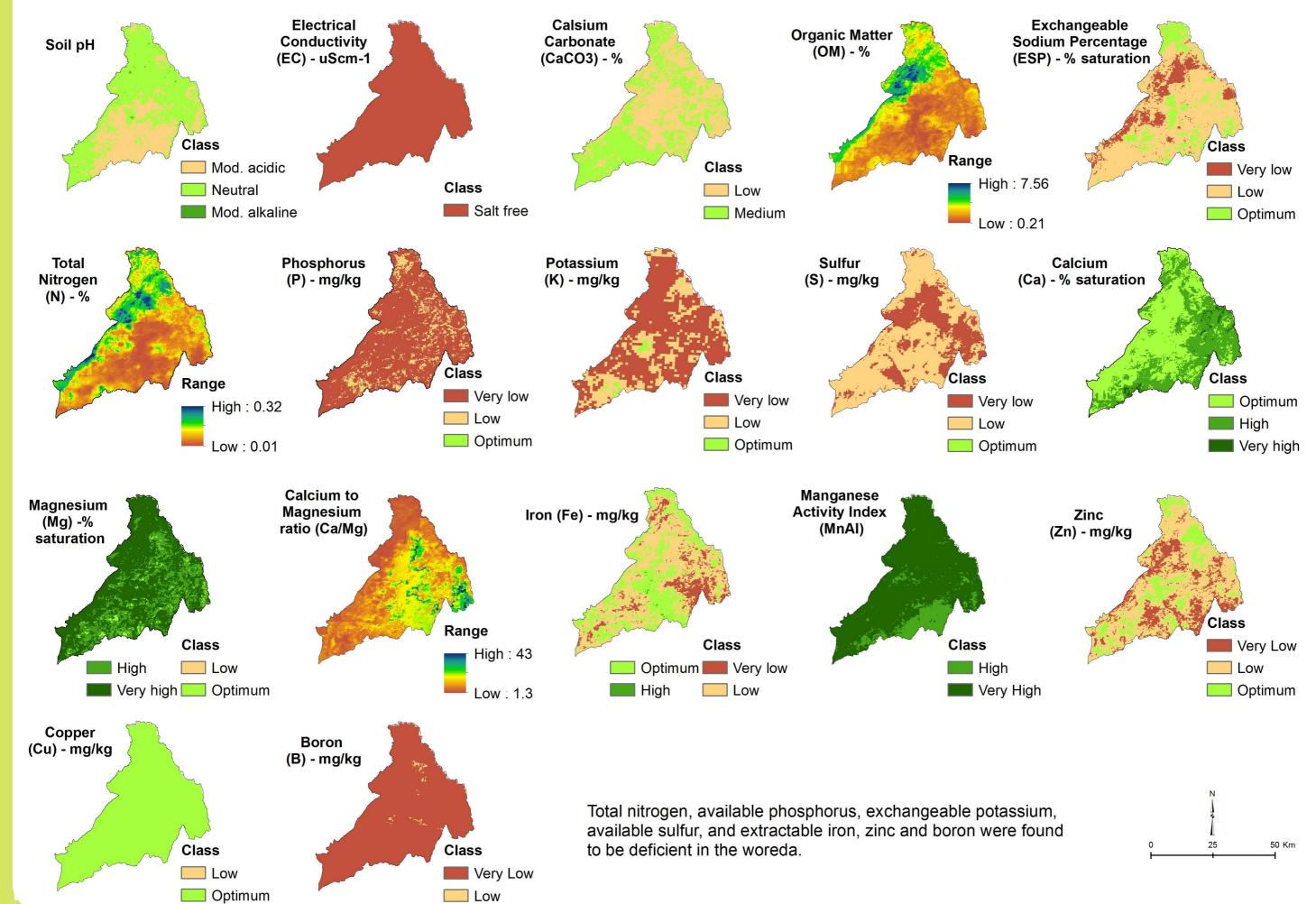
Optimum

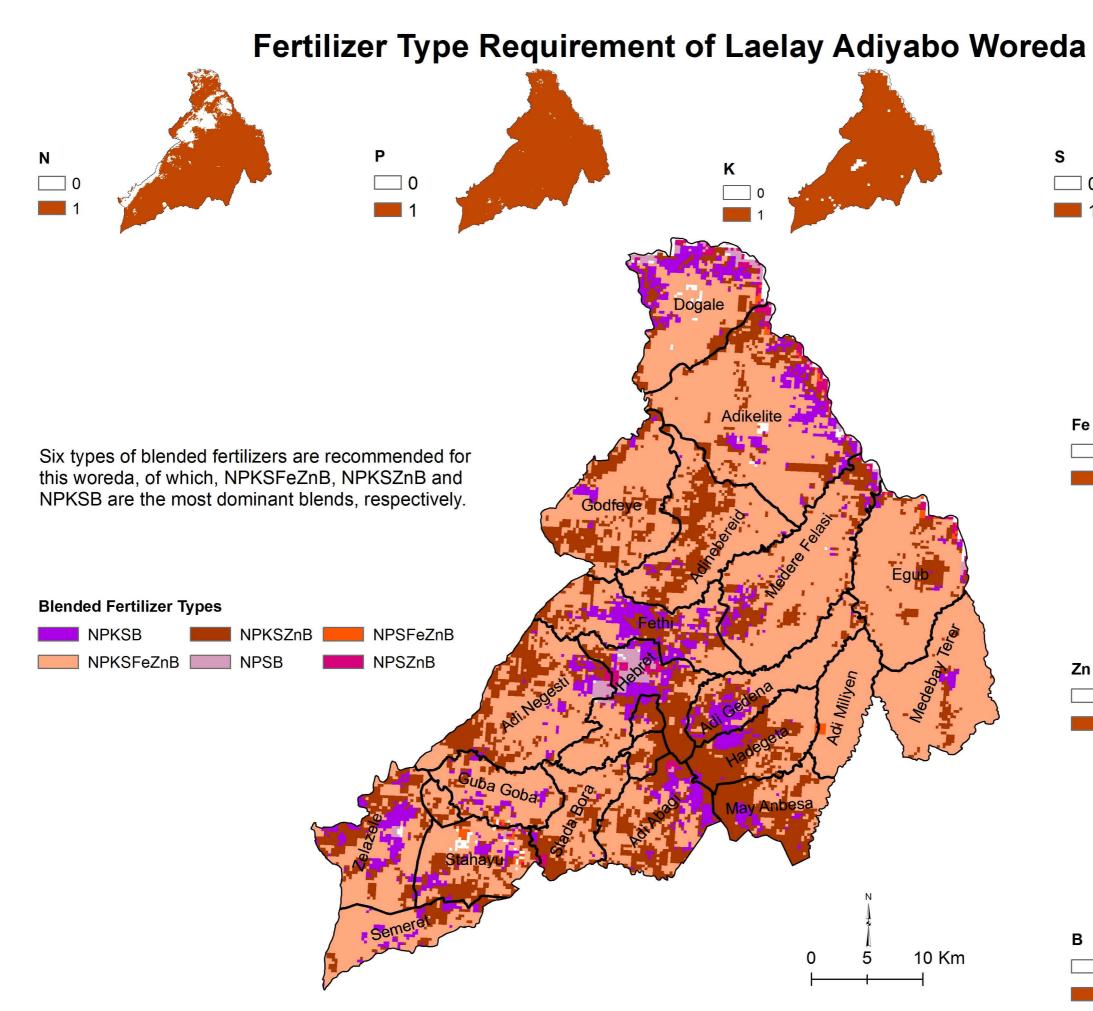


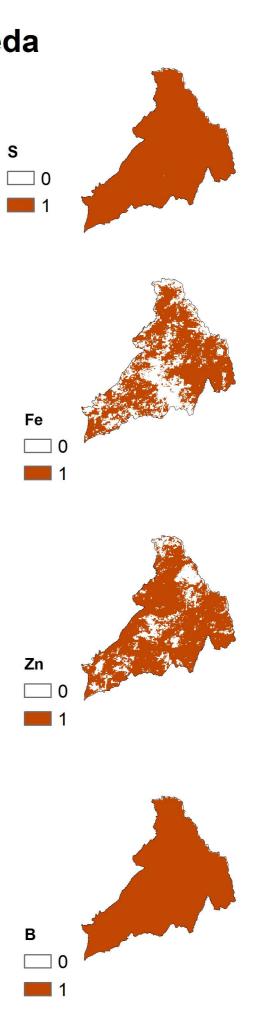


# **CHAPTER 1: NORTH WESTERN TIGRAY (ZONE ONE)**

### Soil Fertility Status of Laelay Adiyabo Woreda

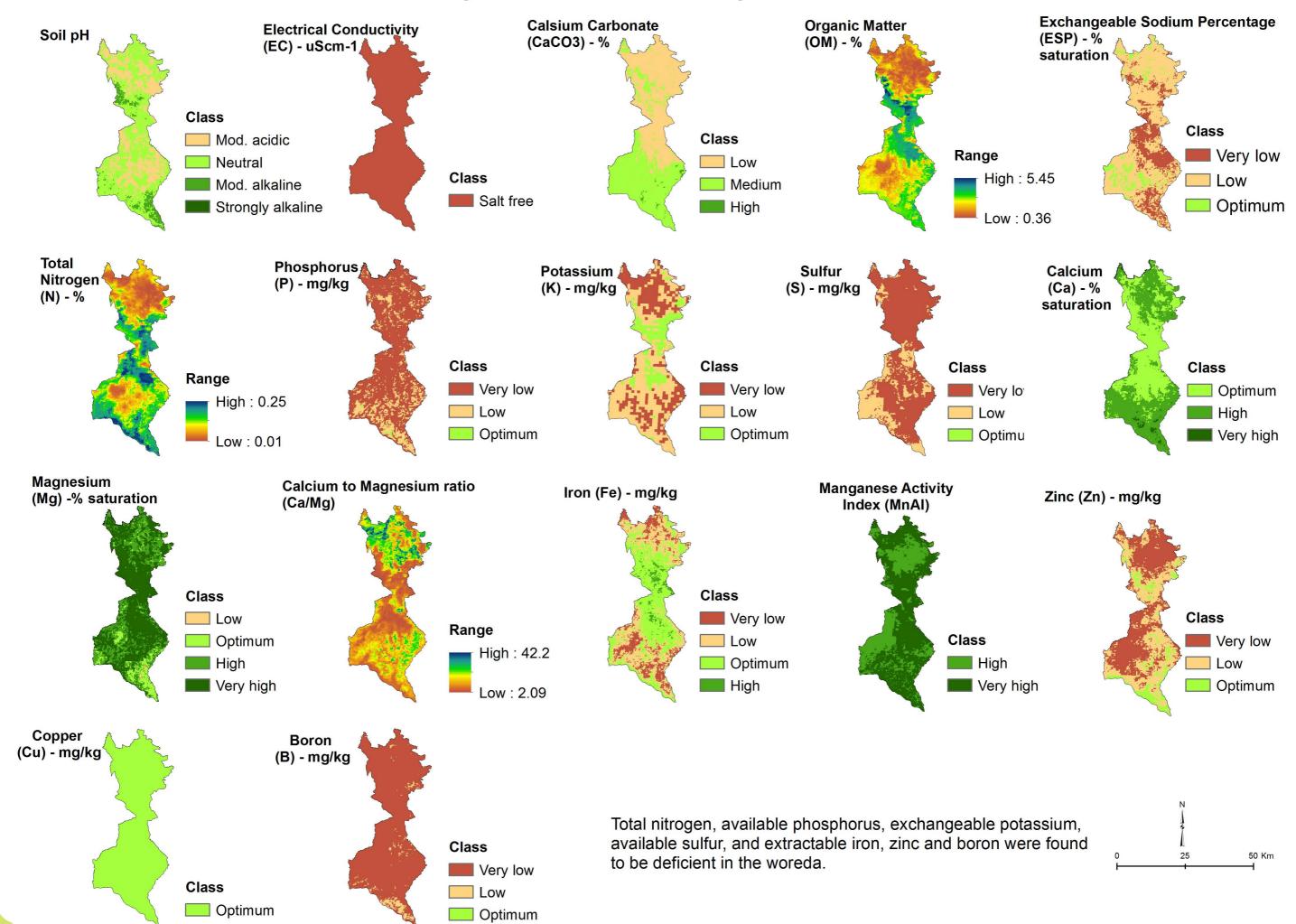




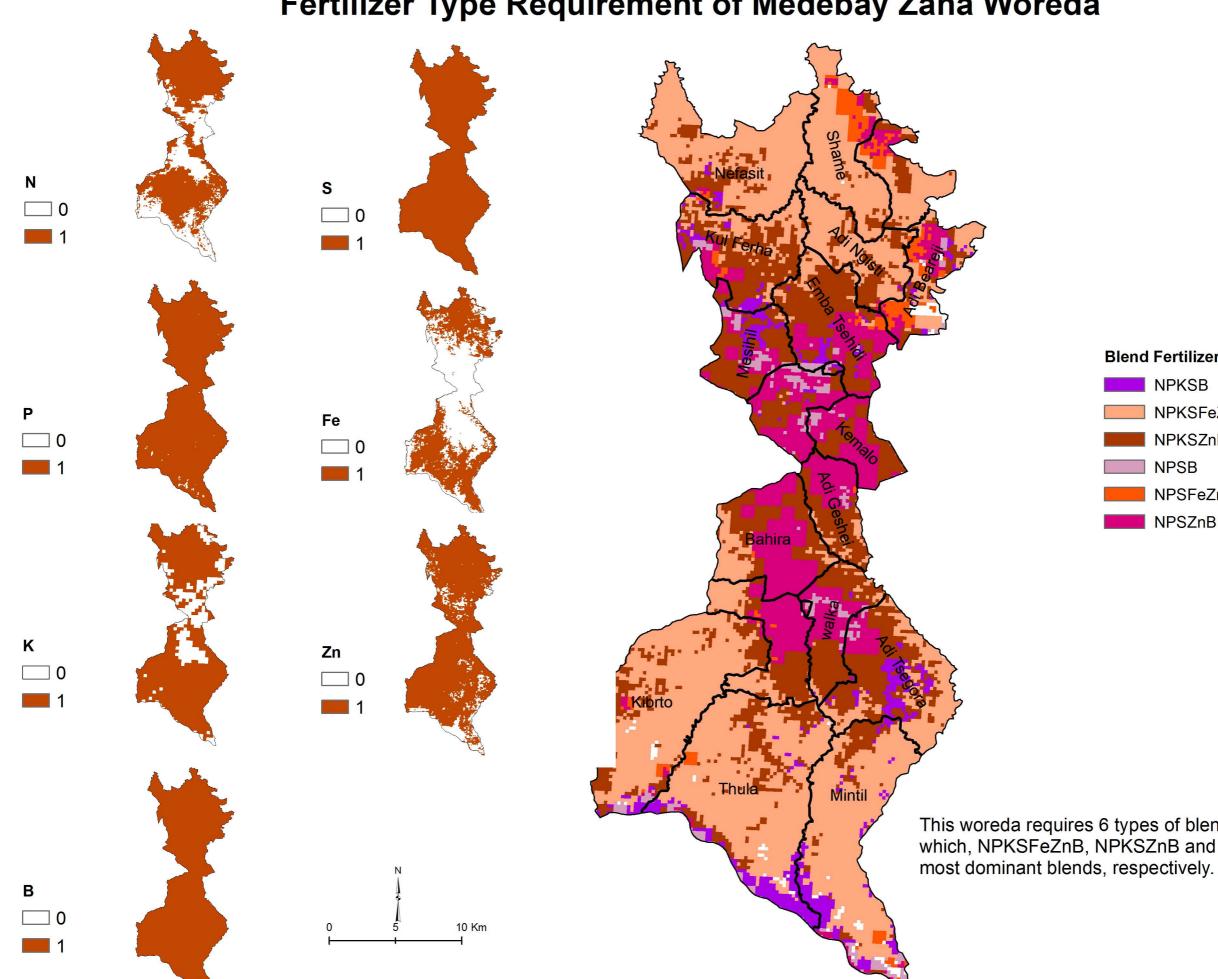


## **CHAPTER 1: NORTH WESTERN TIGRAY (ZONE** ONE)

### Soil Fertility Status of Medebay Zana Woreda



8



### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Medebay Zana Woreda

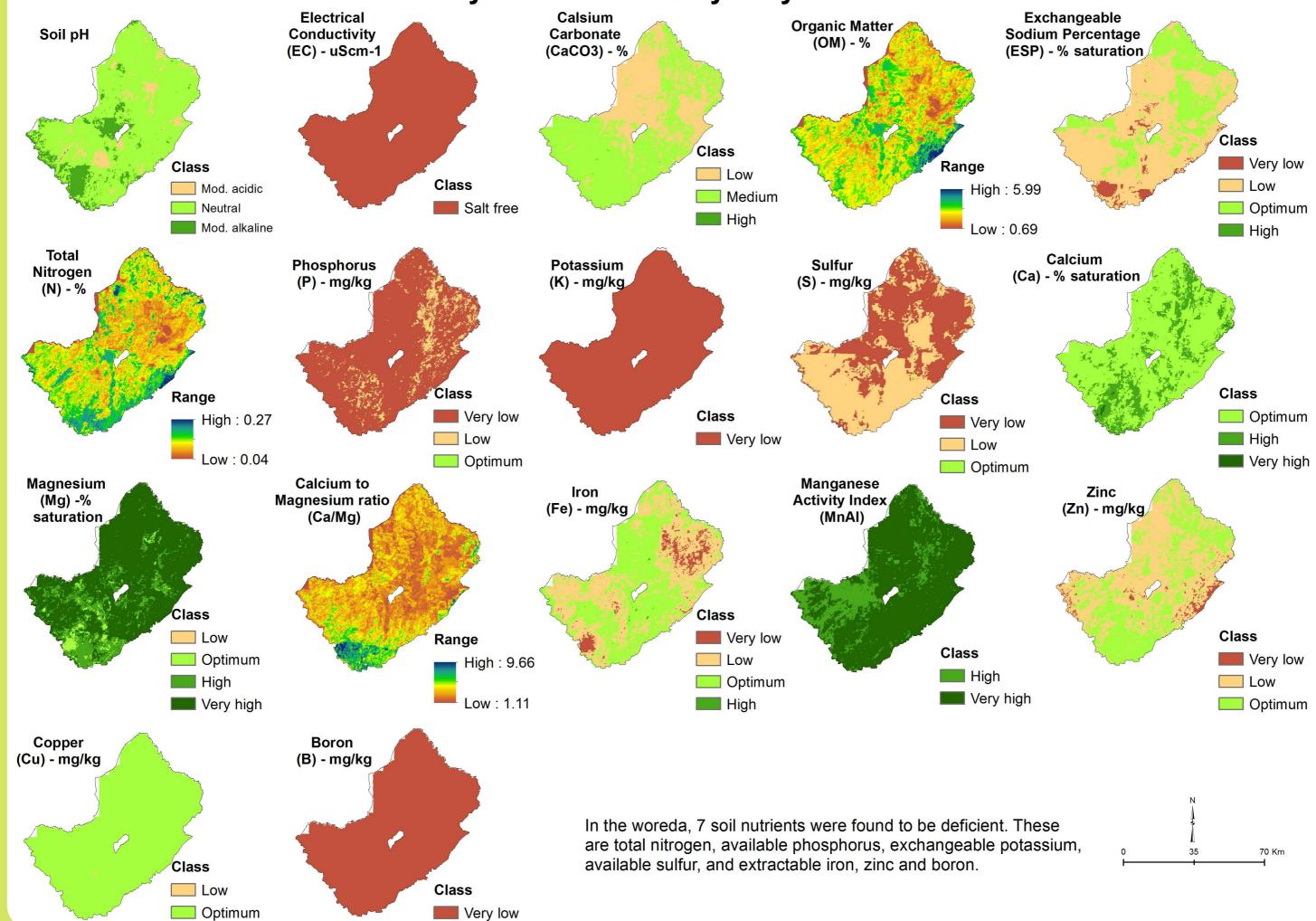
### **Blend Fertilizer Types** NPKSB NPKSFeZnB NPKSZnB NPSB

NPSFeZnB

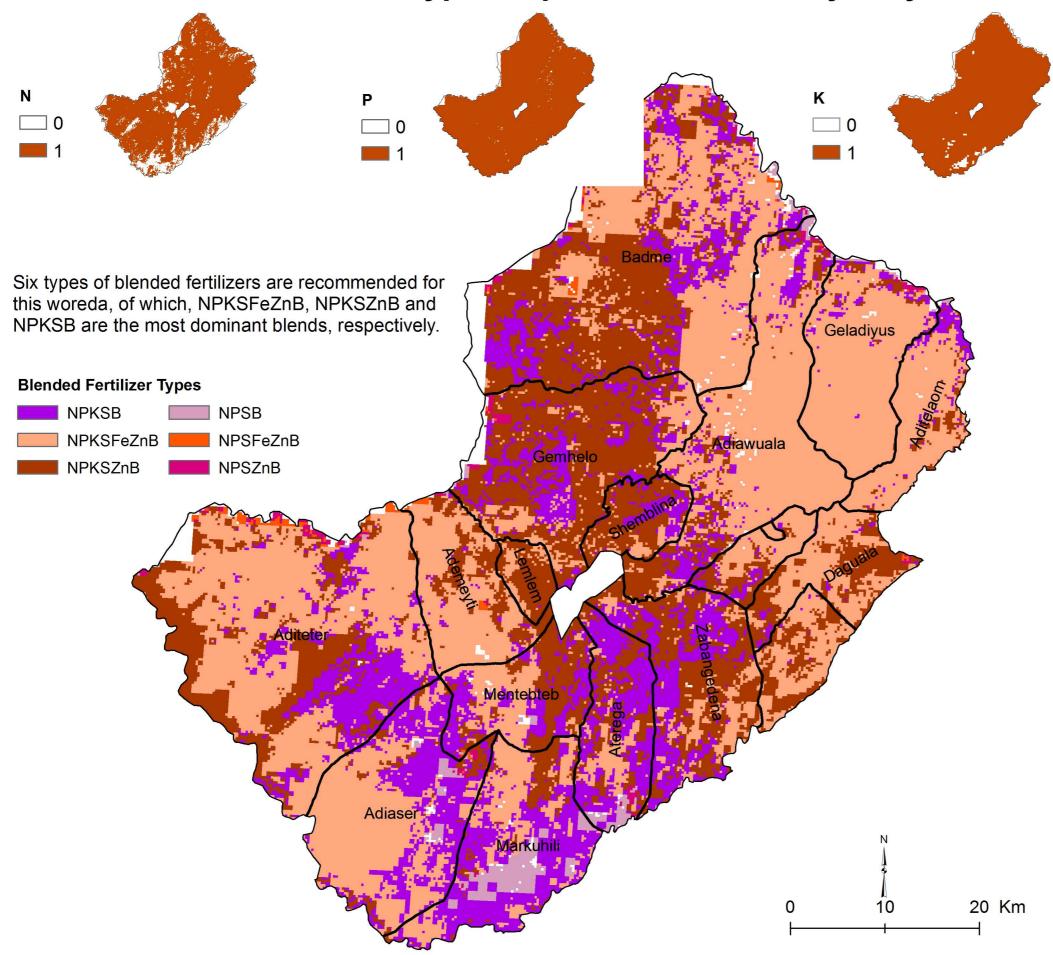
NPSZnB

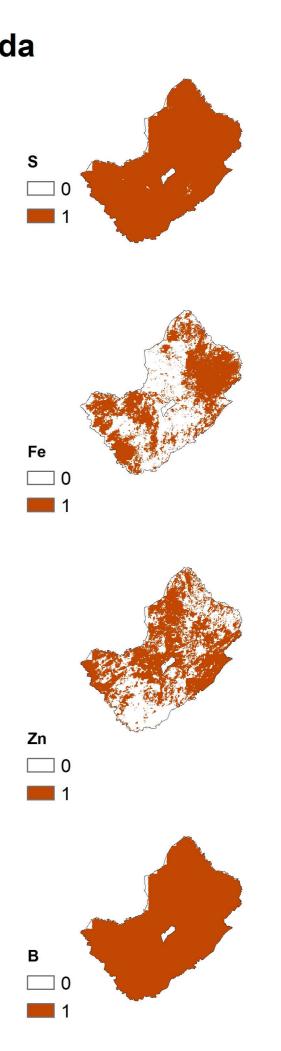
This woreda requires 6 types of blended fertilizers, of which, NPKSFeZnB, NPKSZnB and NPSZnB are the

### Soil Fertility Status of Tahitay Adiyabo Woreda



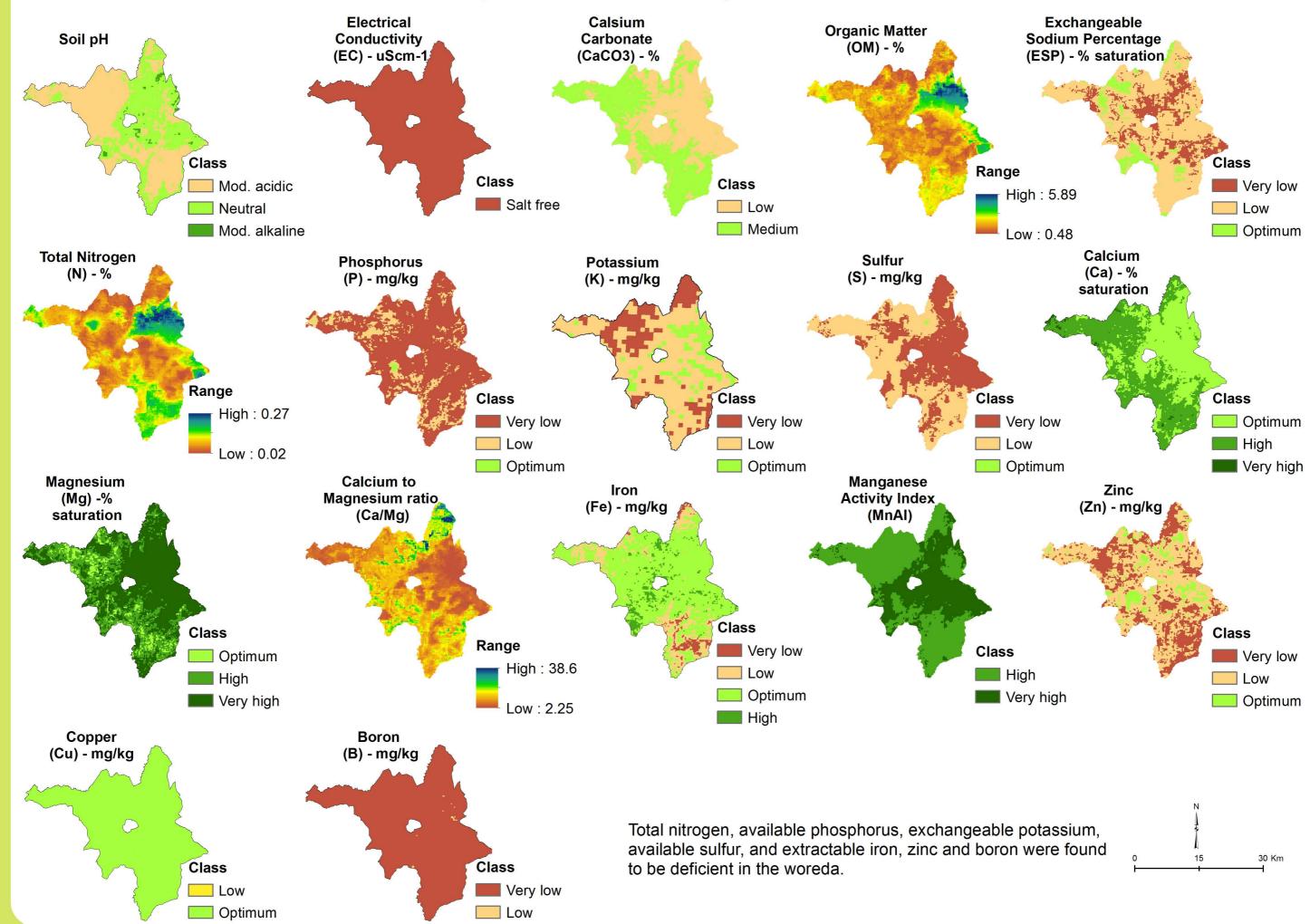
### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Tahitay Adiyabo Woreda



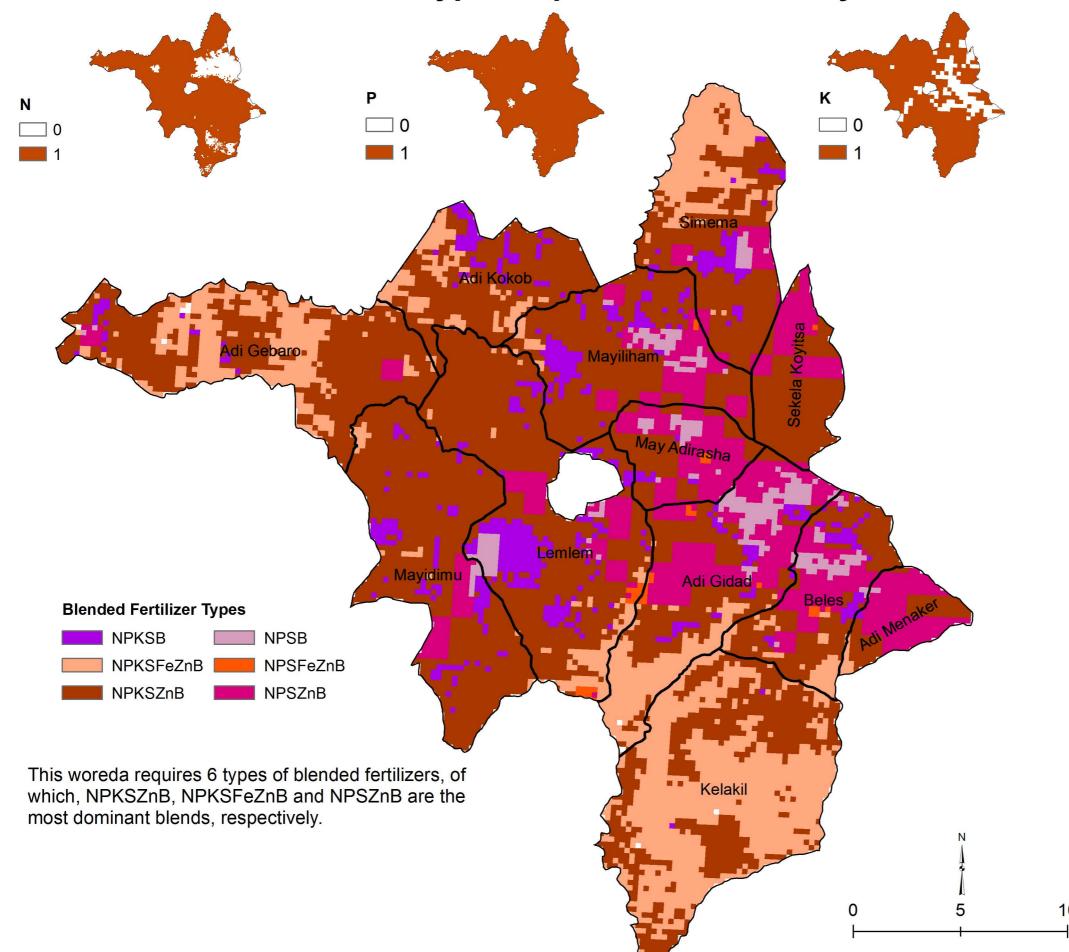


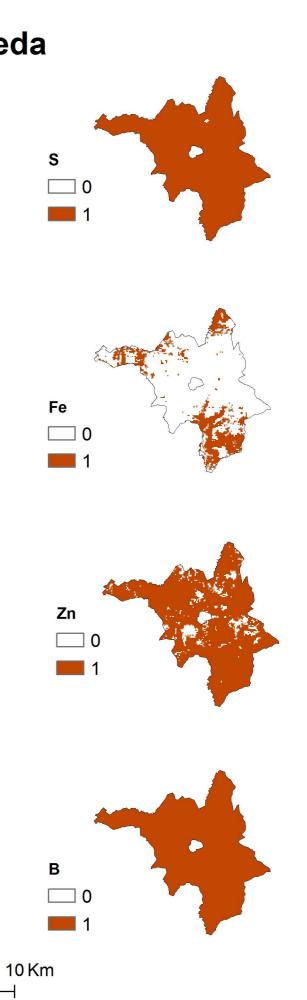
**CHAPTER 1: NORTH WESTERN TIGRAY (ZONE** ONE)

### Soil Fertility Status of Tahitay Qoraro Woreda



### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Tahitay Qoraro Woreda

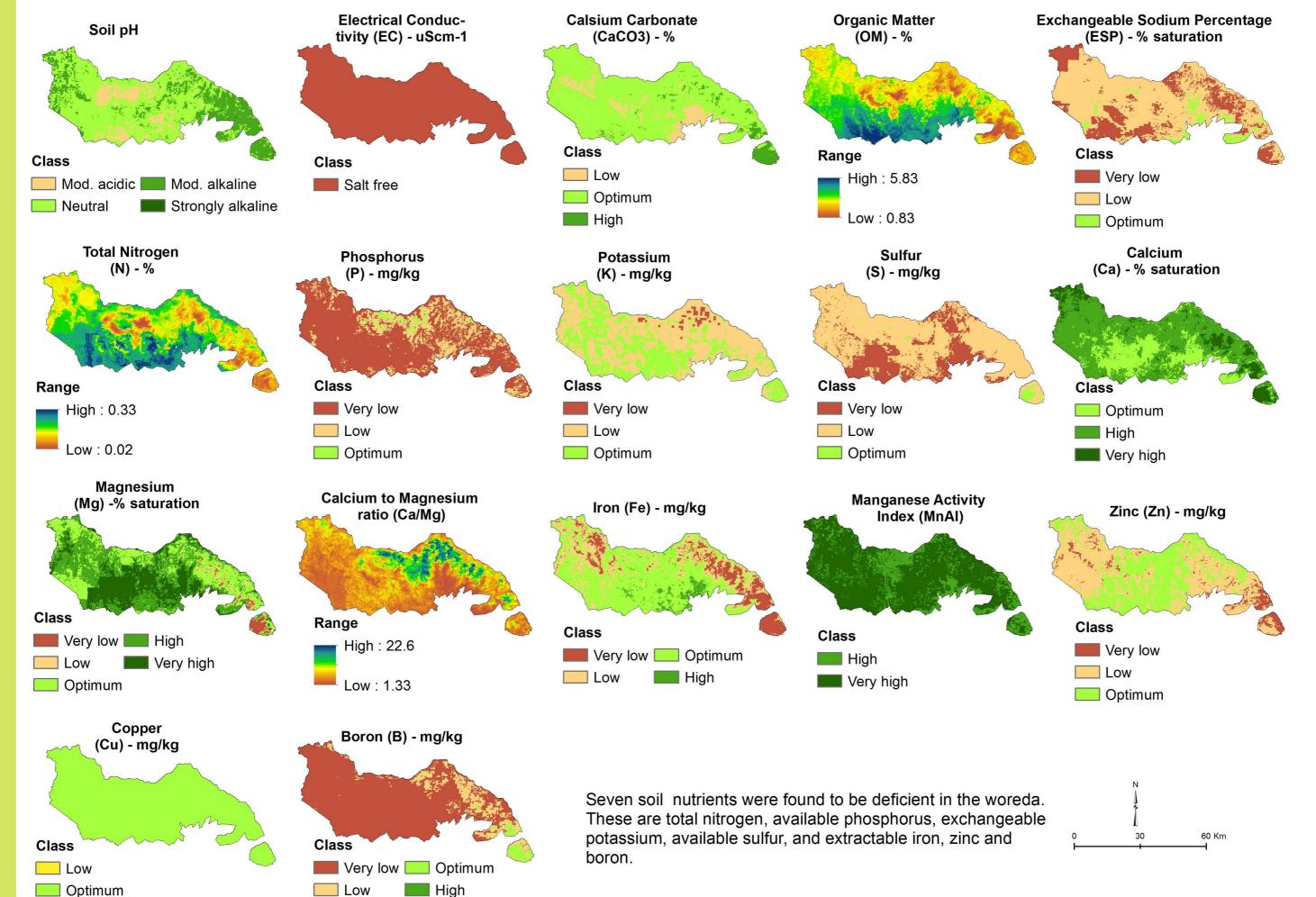




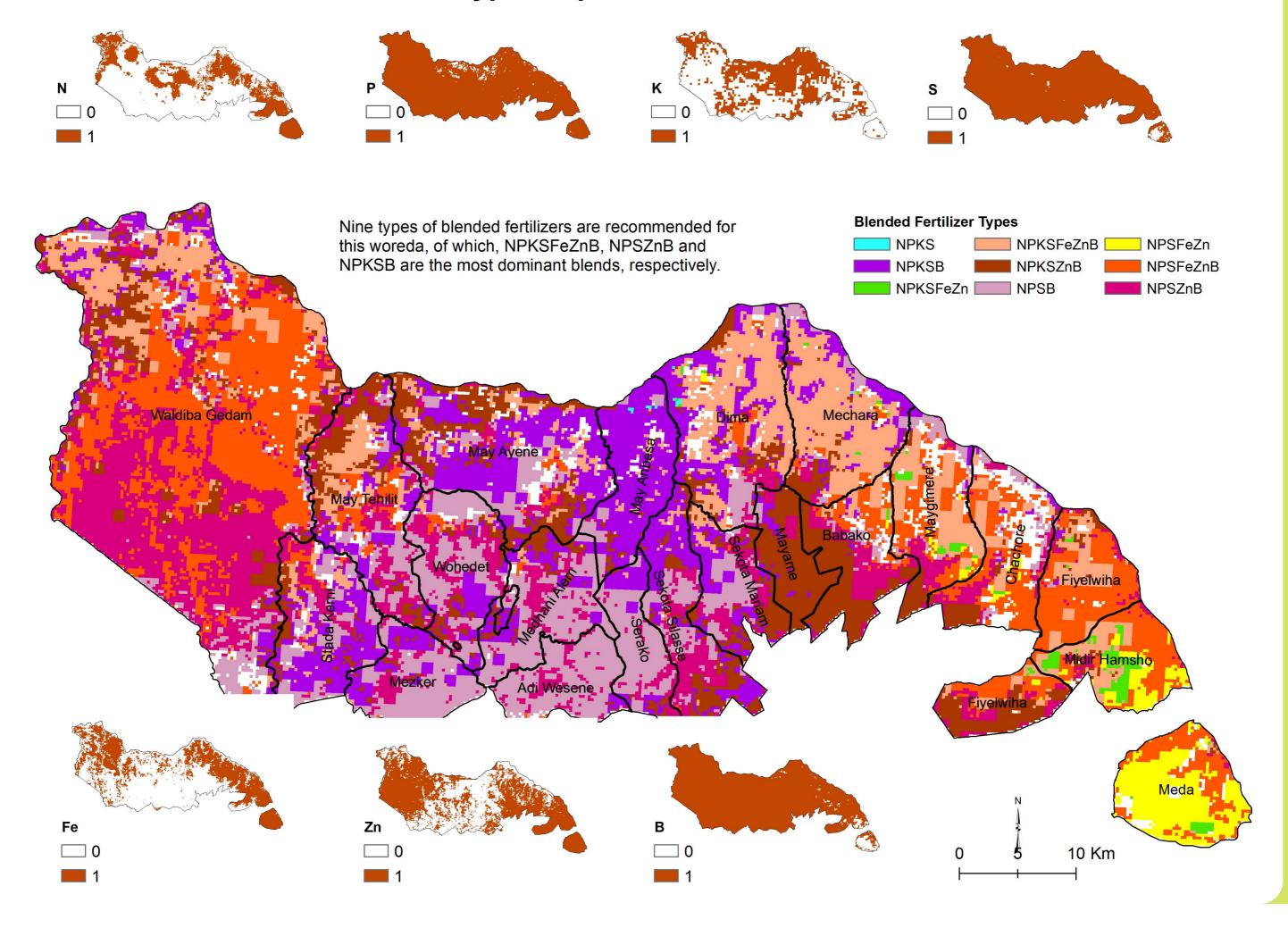
**CHAPTER 1: NORTH WESTERN TIGRAY (ZONE ONE)** 

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### **Soil Fertility Status of Tselemt Woreda**

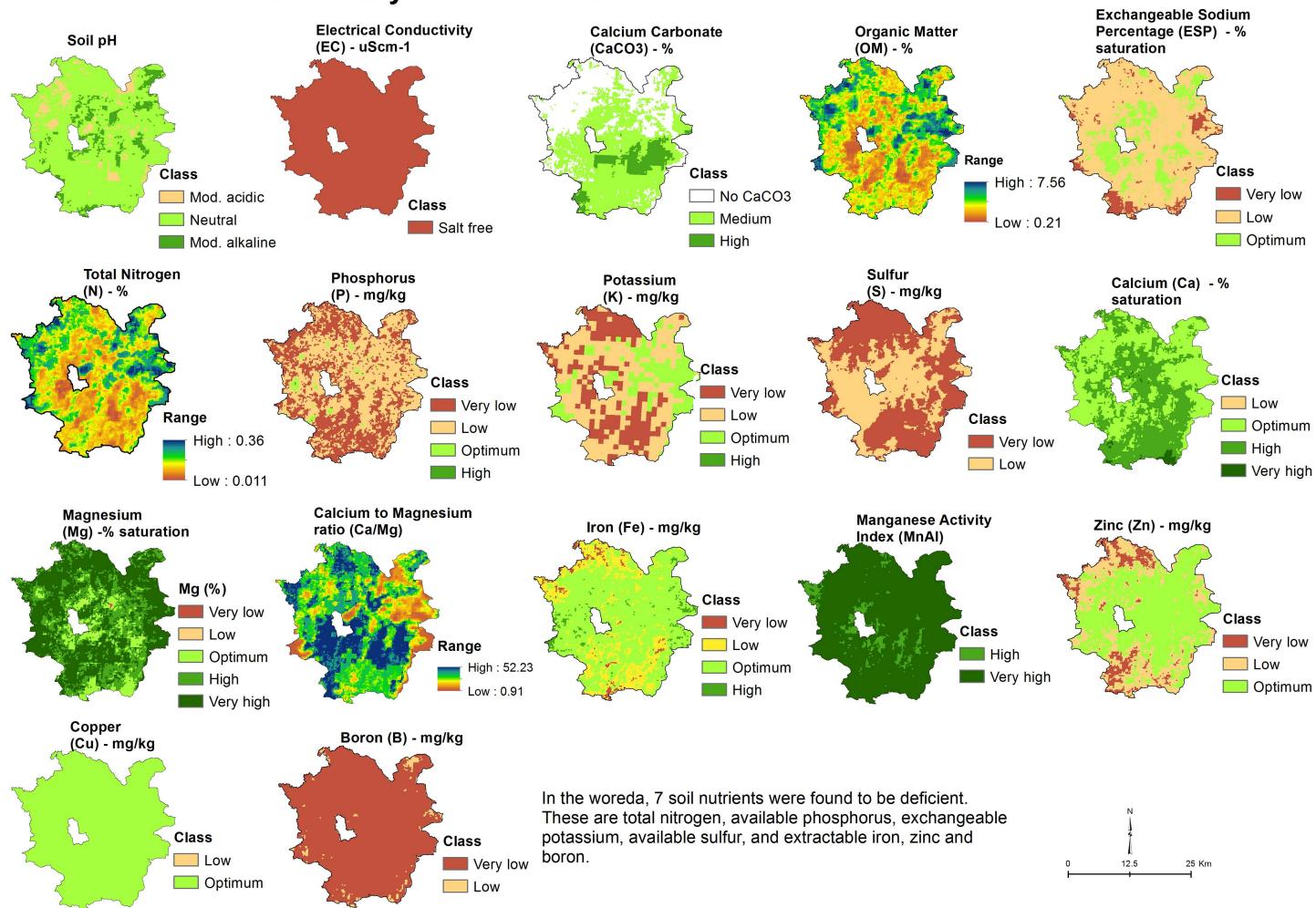


### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Tselemt Woreda

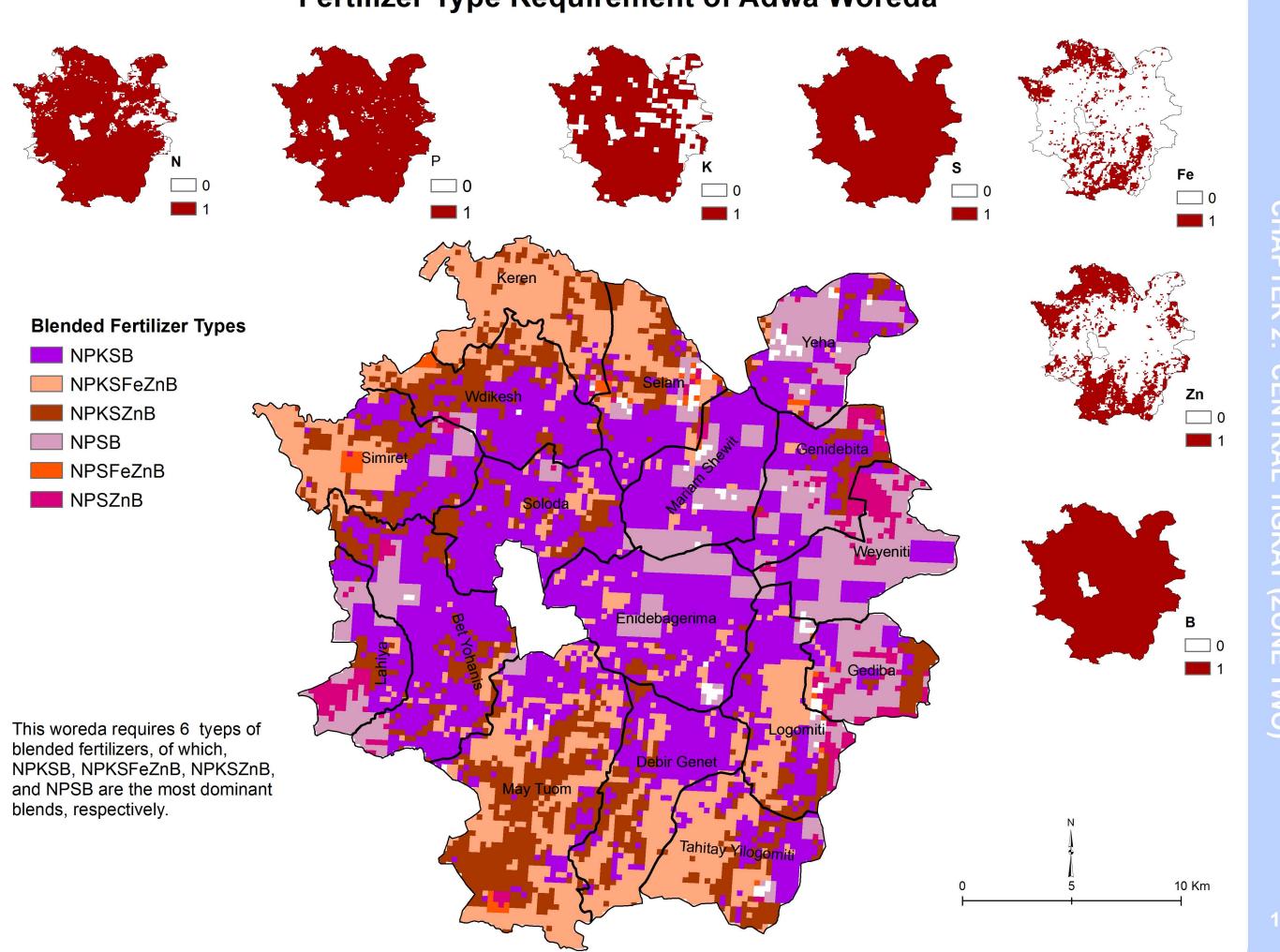


15

### Soil Fertility Status of Adwa Woreda

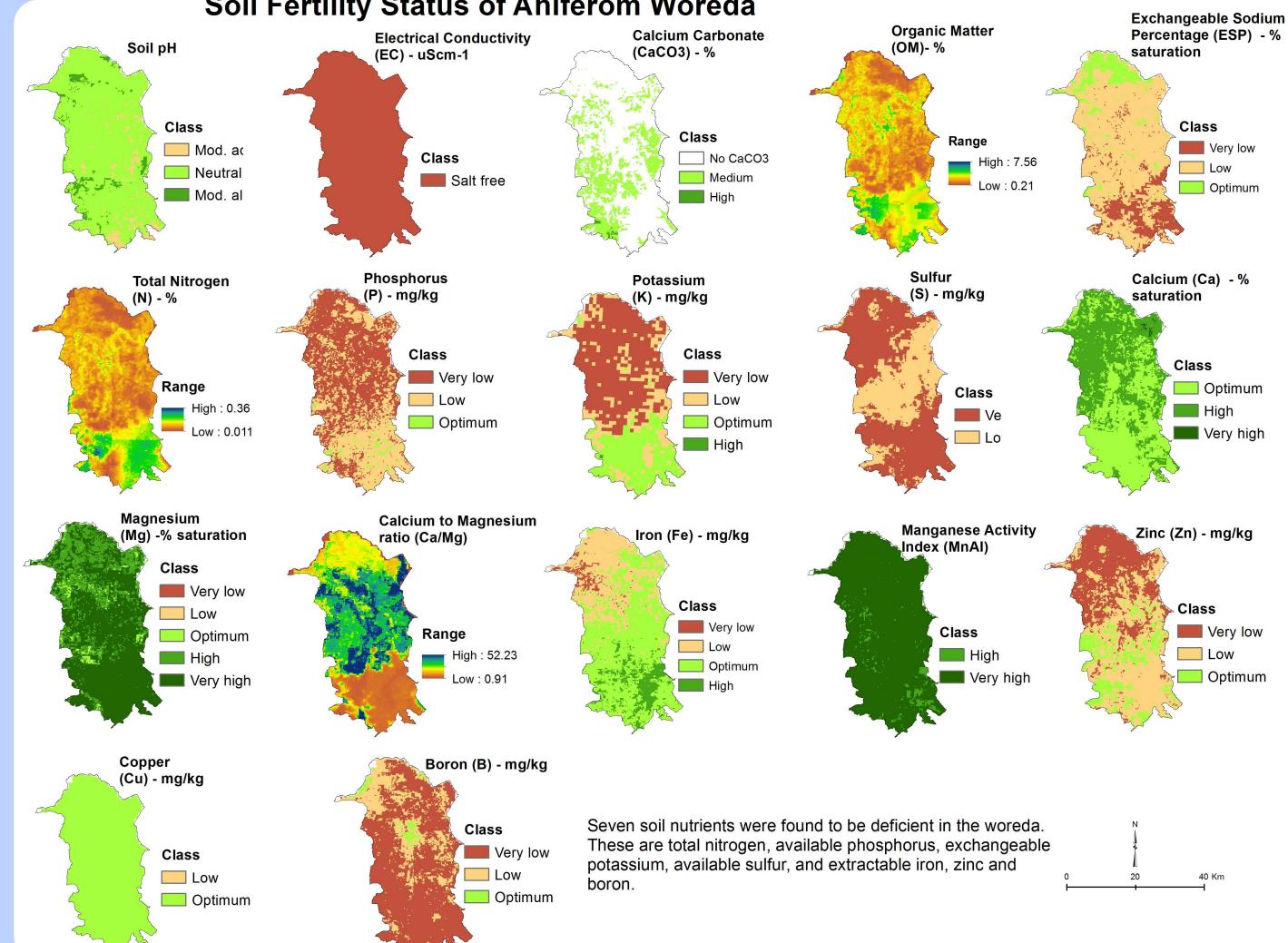


### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Adwa Woreda

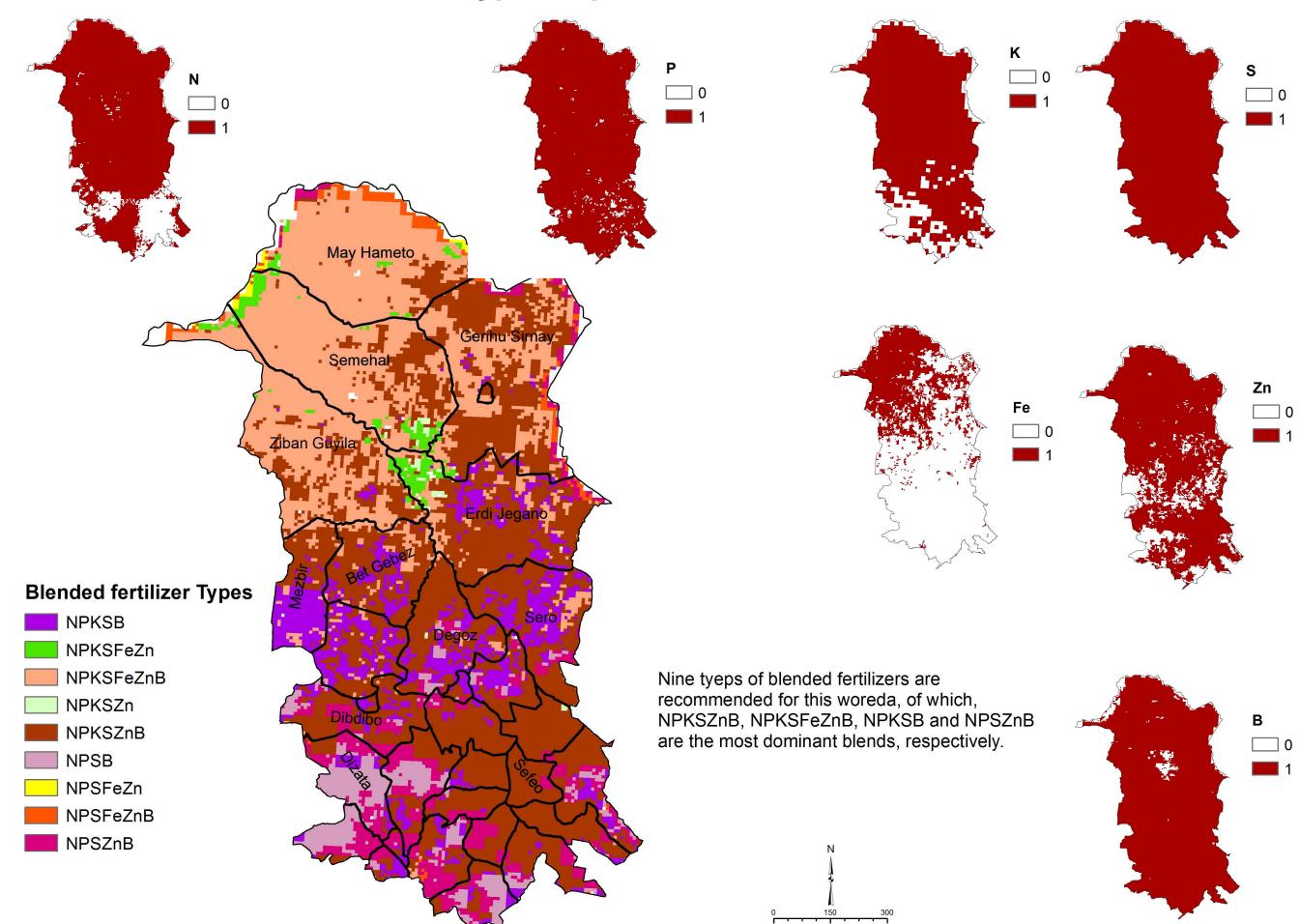


**CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY** (ZONE TWO)

### **Soil Fertility Status of Ahiferom Woreda**



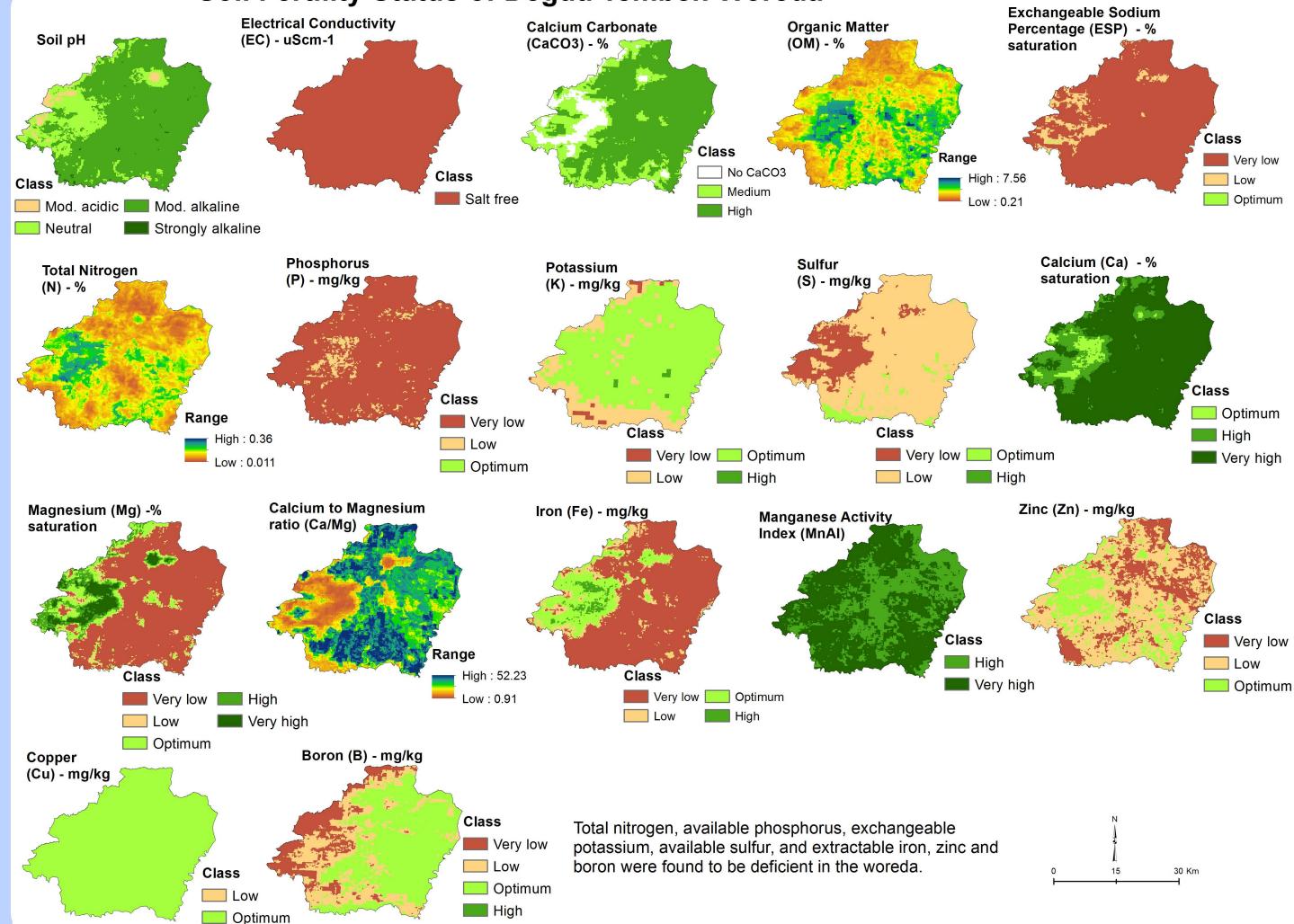
### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Ahiferom Woreda



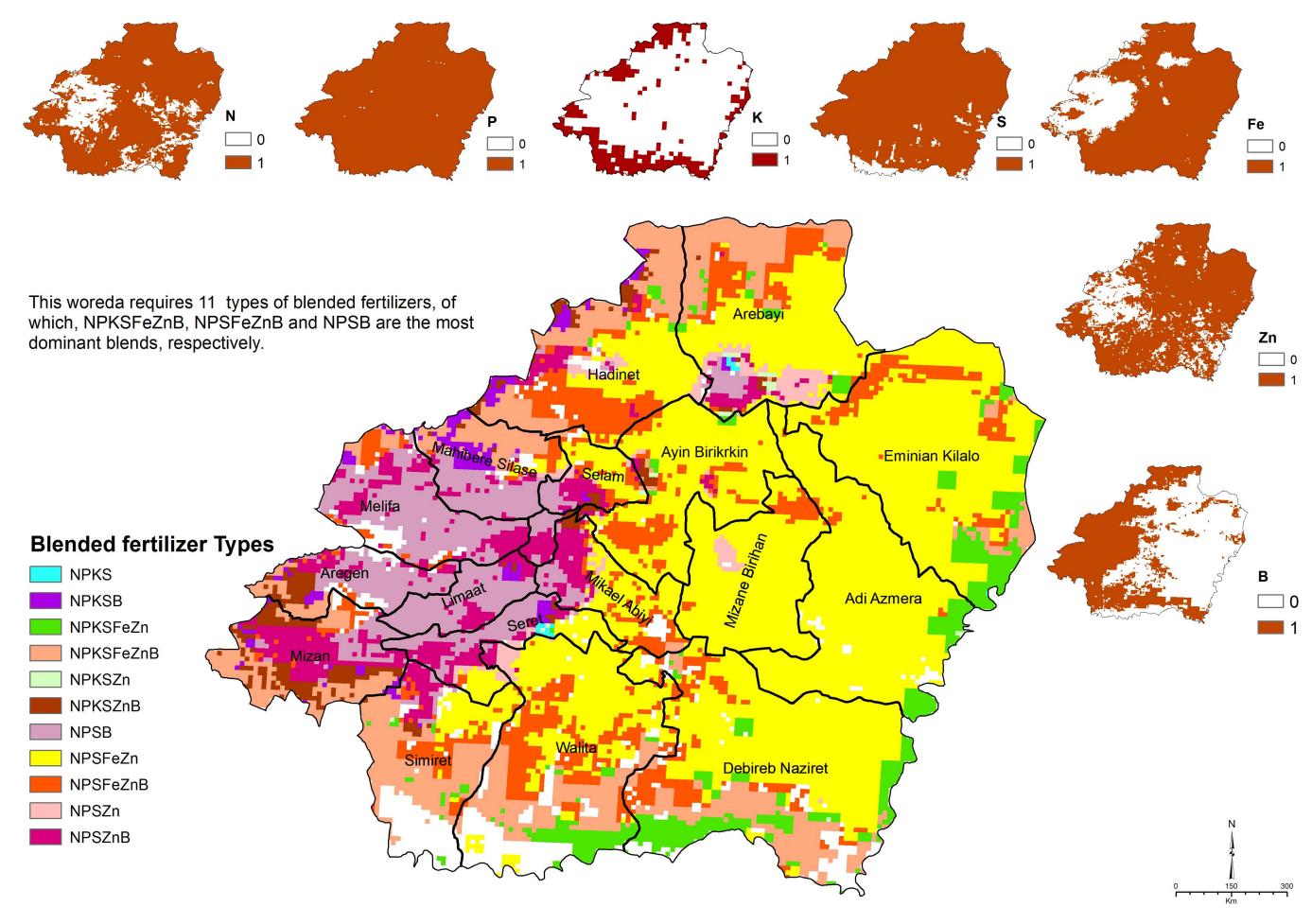


19

### Soil Fertility Status of Degua Temben Woreda



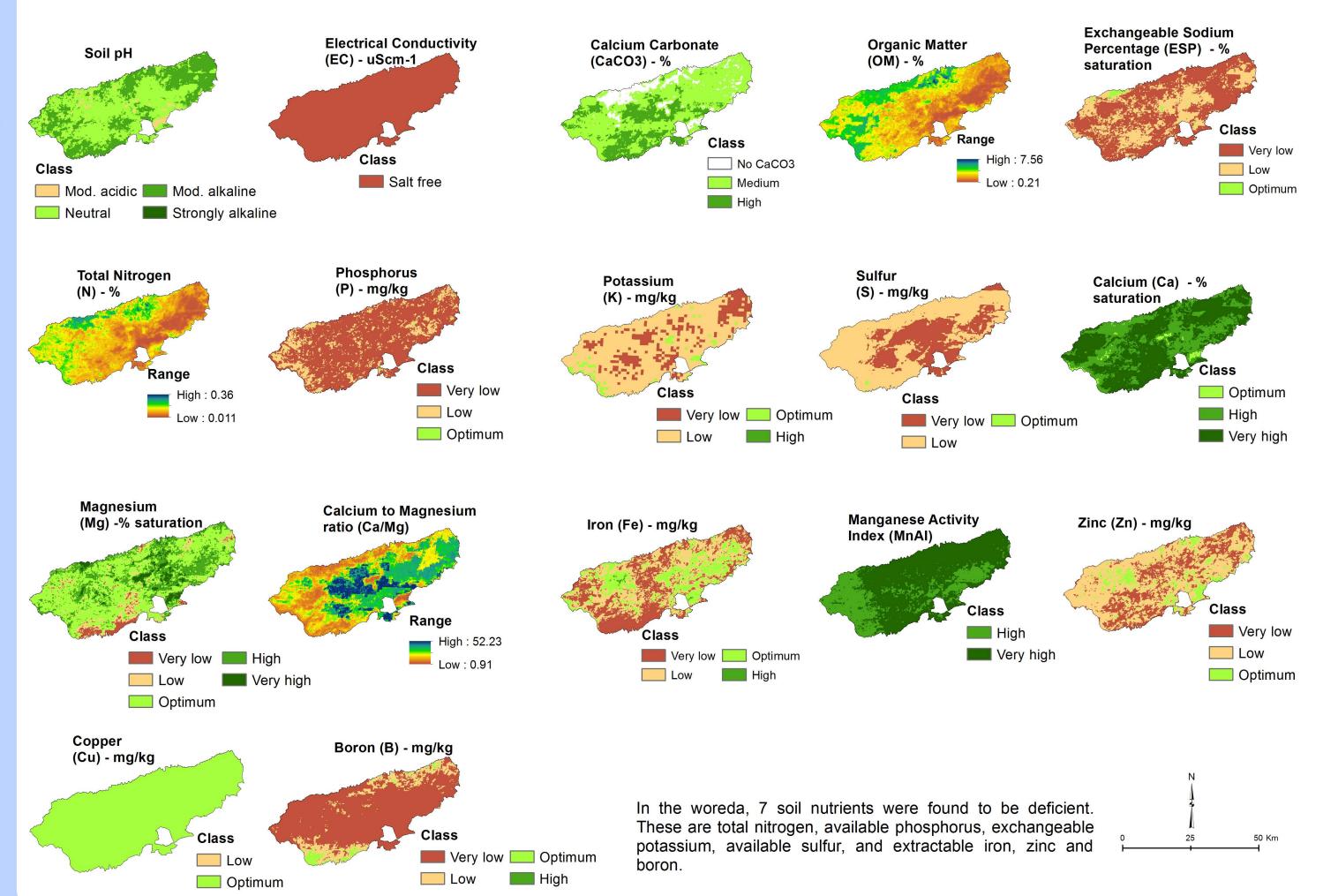
### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Degua Temben Woreda



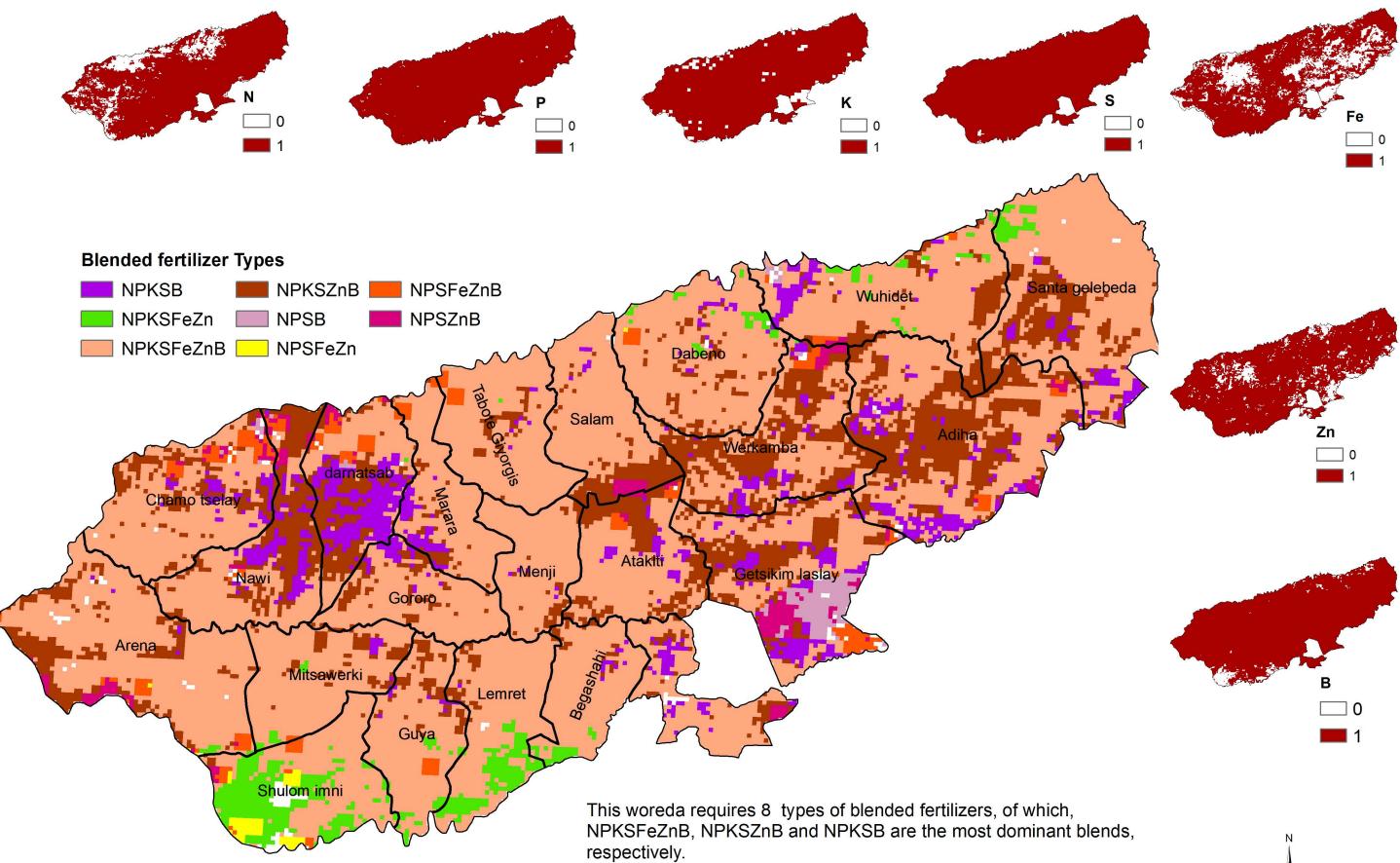
### **CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY** (ZONE TWO)

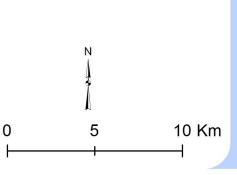
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### Soil Fertility Status of Kola Temben Woreda



## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Kola Temben Woreda

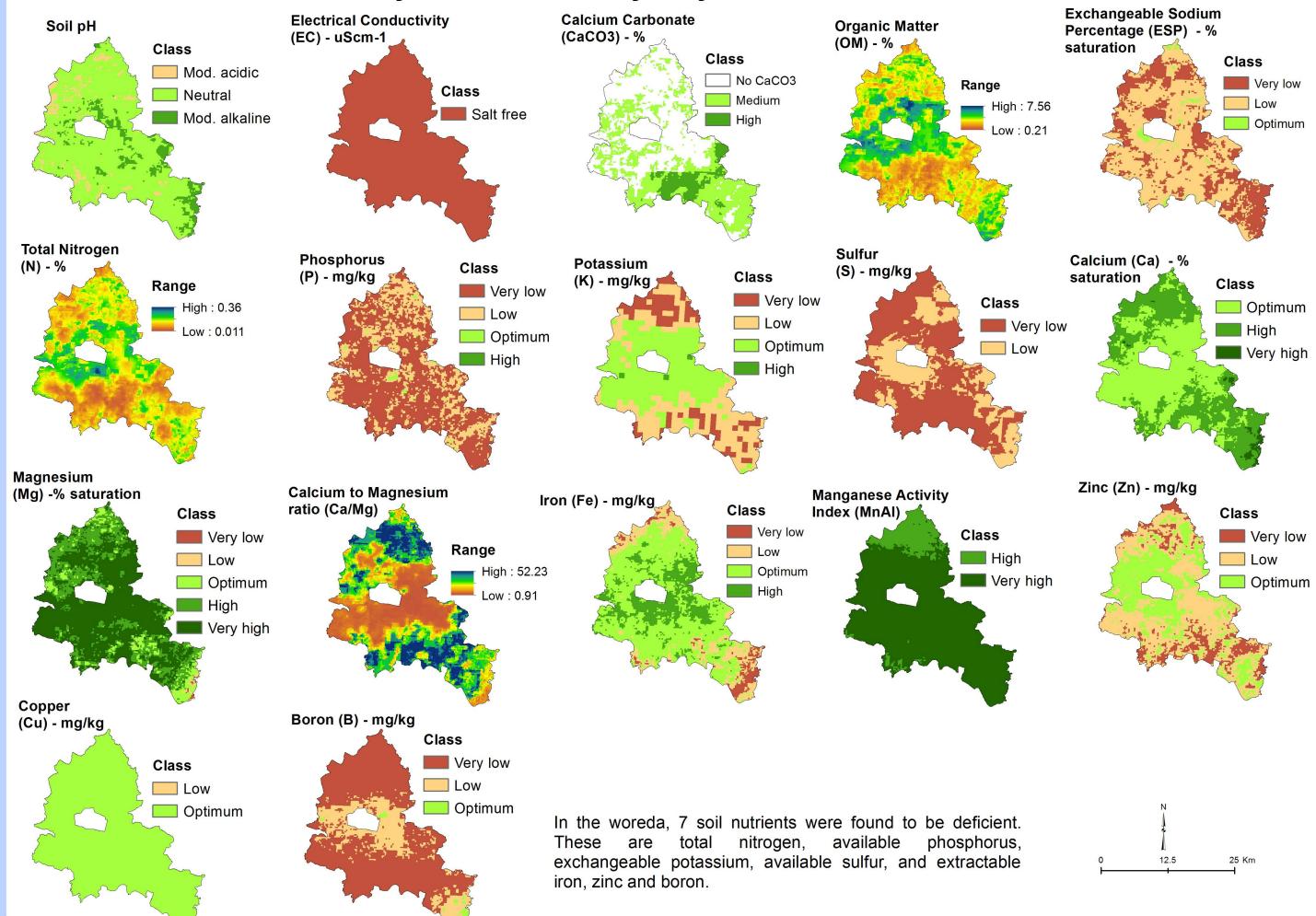




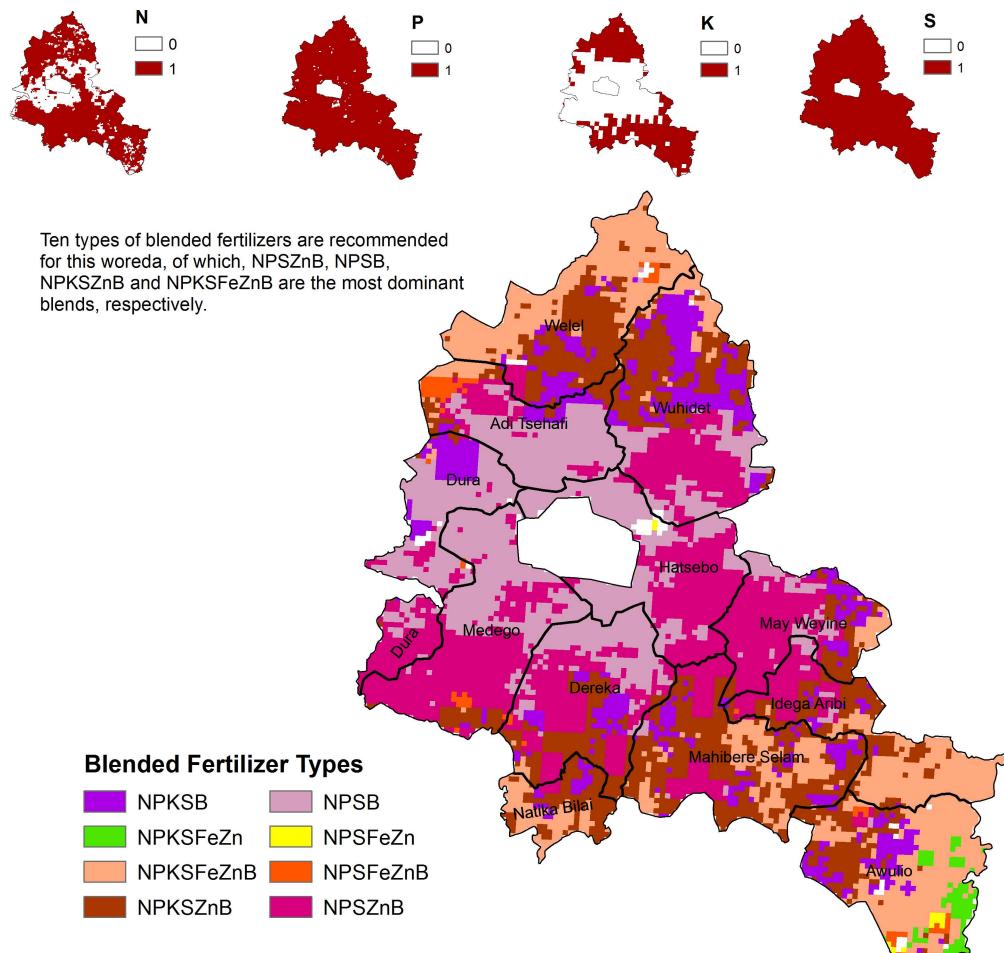
## **CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY** (ZONE TWO)

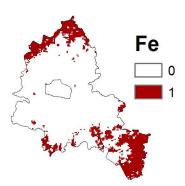
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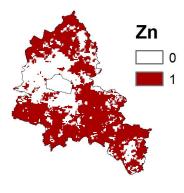
## Soil Fertility Status of Laelay Mayichew Woreda

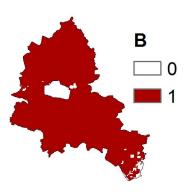


## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Laelay Mayichew Woreda



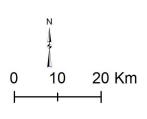






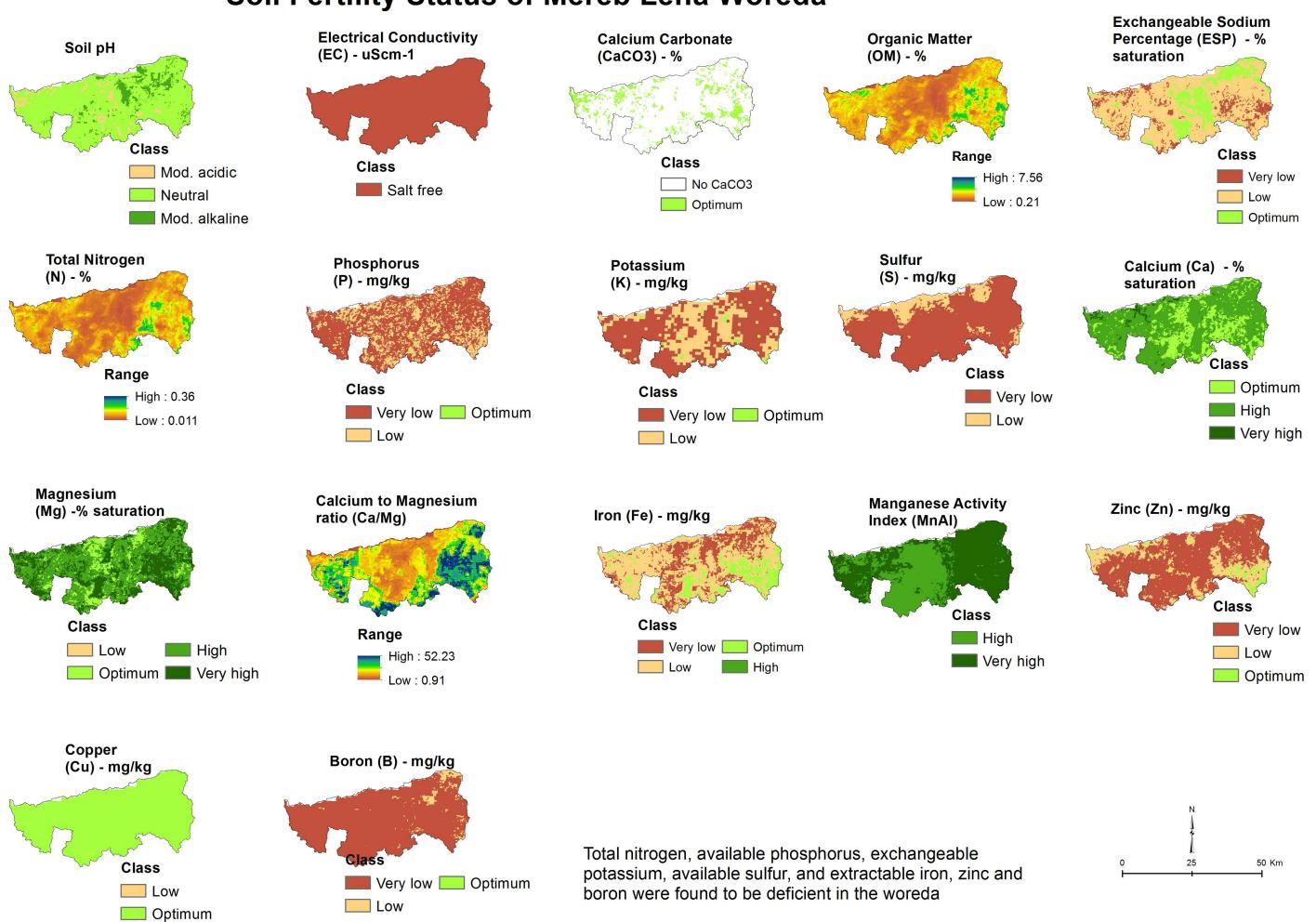
## **CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY** (ZONE TWO)

)

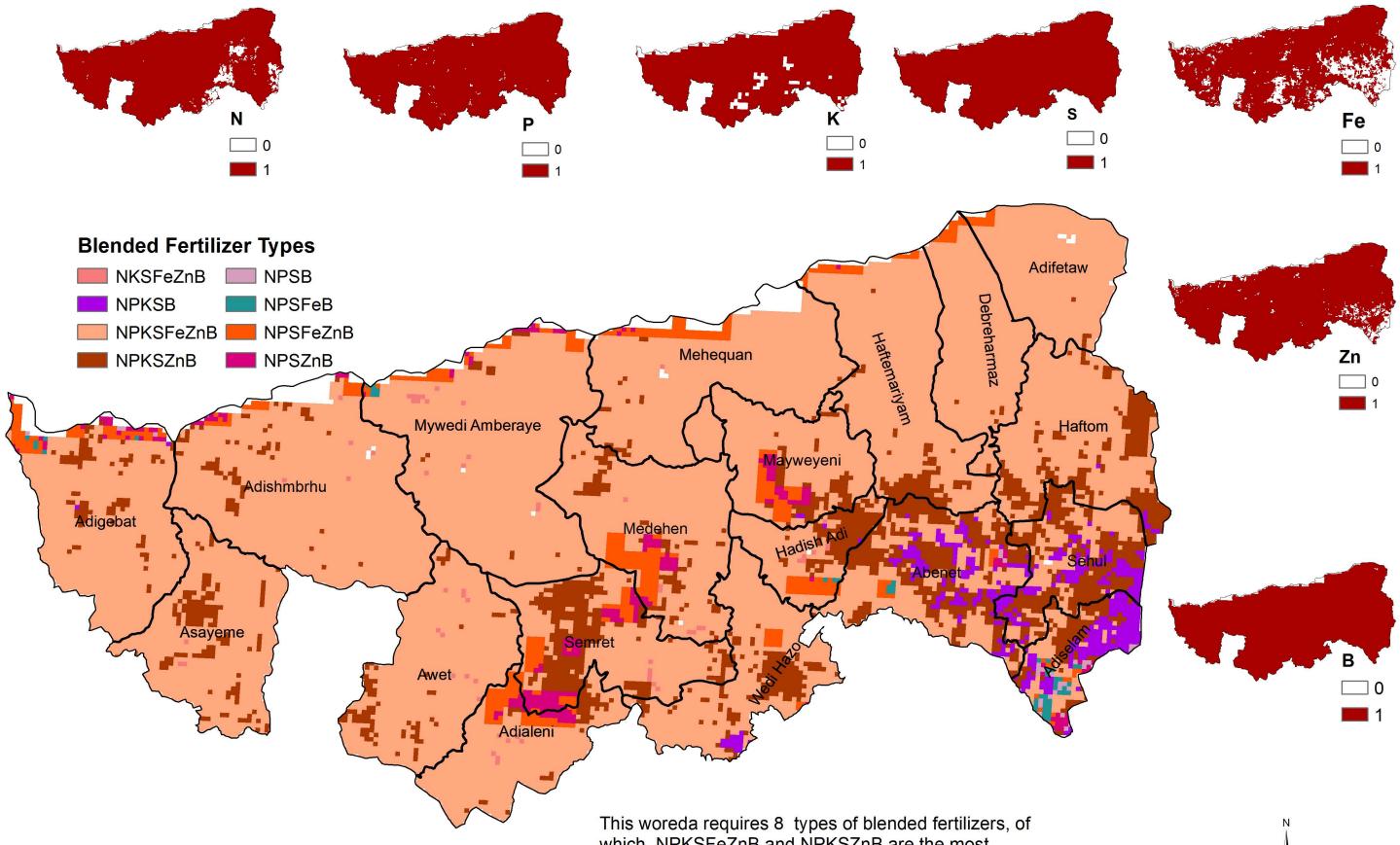


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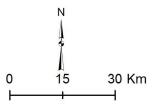
## **Soil Fertility Status of Mereb Leha Woreda**



## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Mereb Leha Woreda

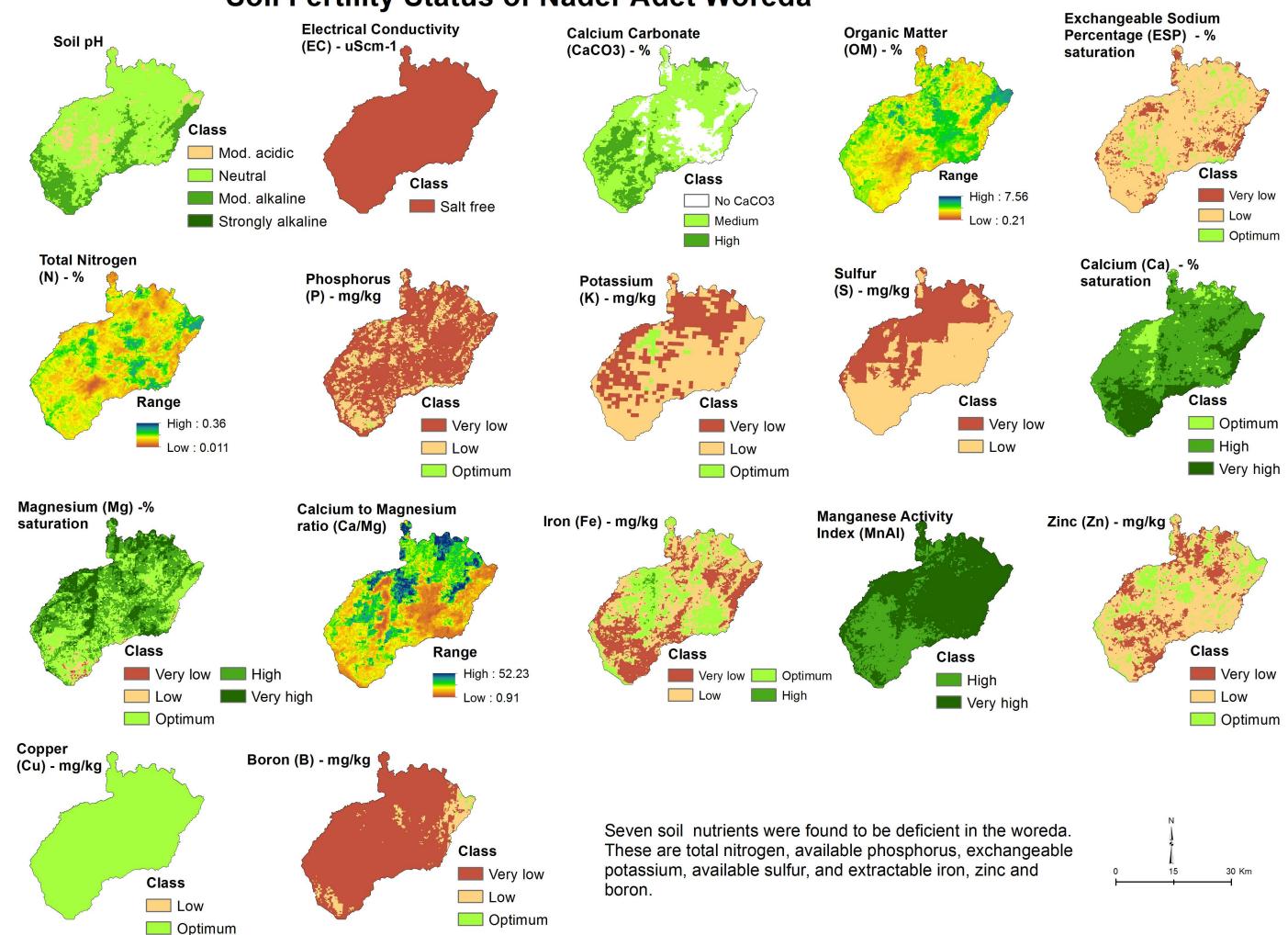


which, NPKSFeZnB and NPKSZnB are the most dominant blends, respectively.

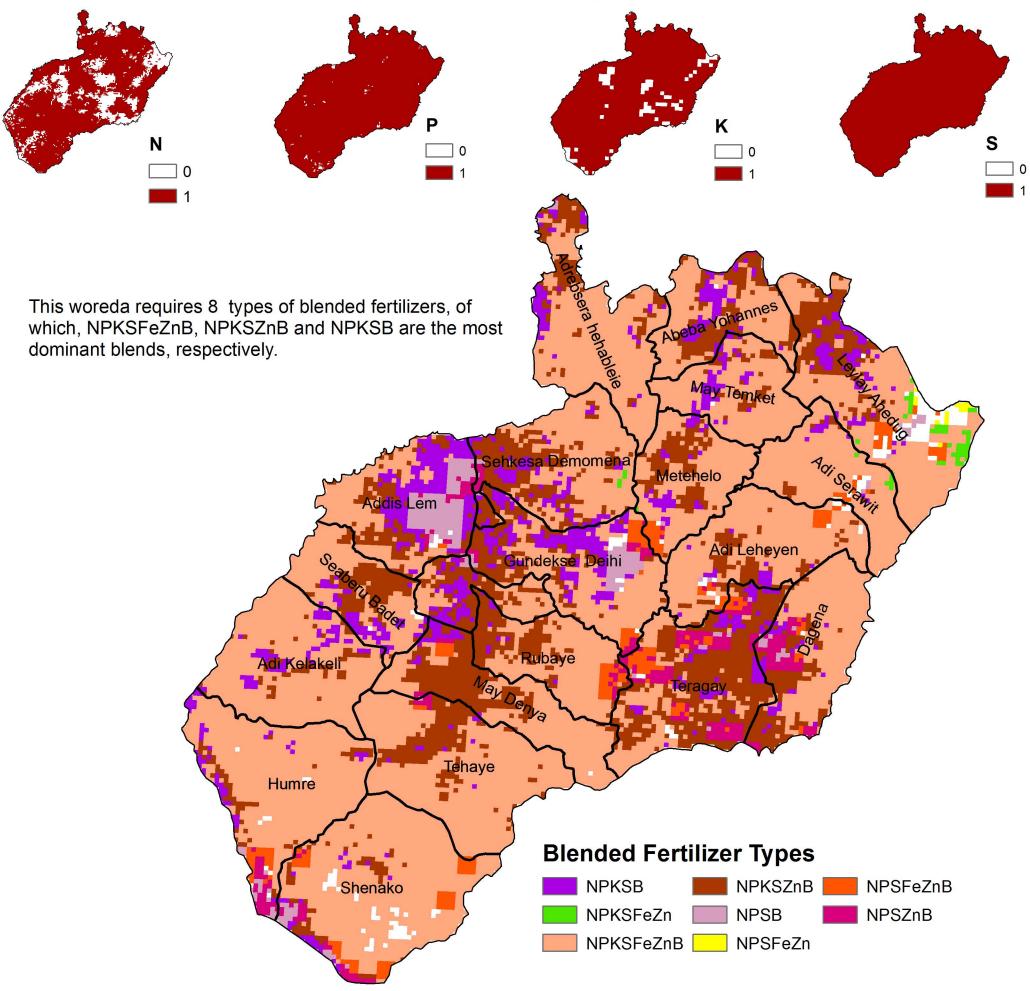


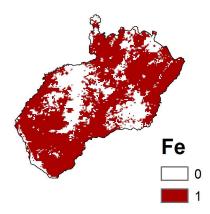
## **CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY** (ZONE TWO

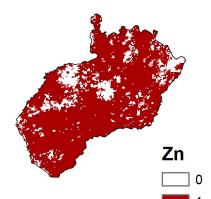
## Soil Fertility Status of Nader Adet Woreda

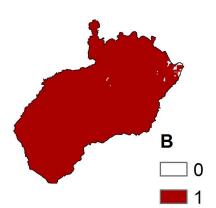


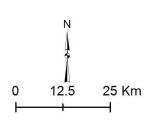
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Nader Adet Woreda





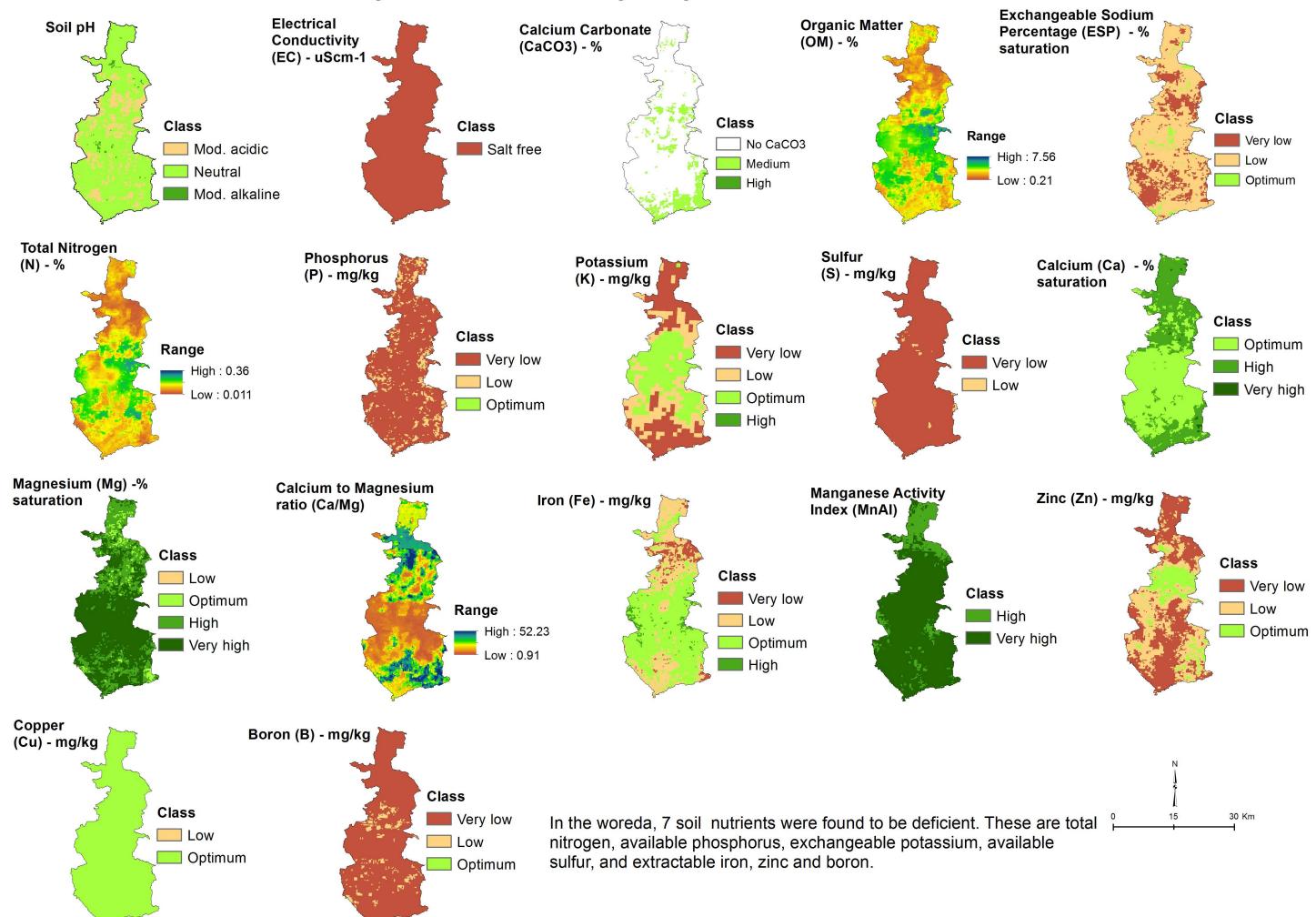




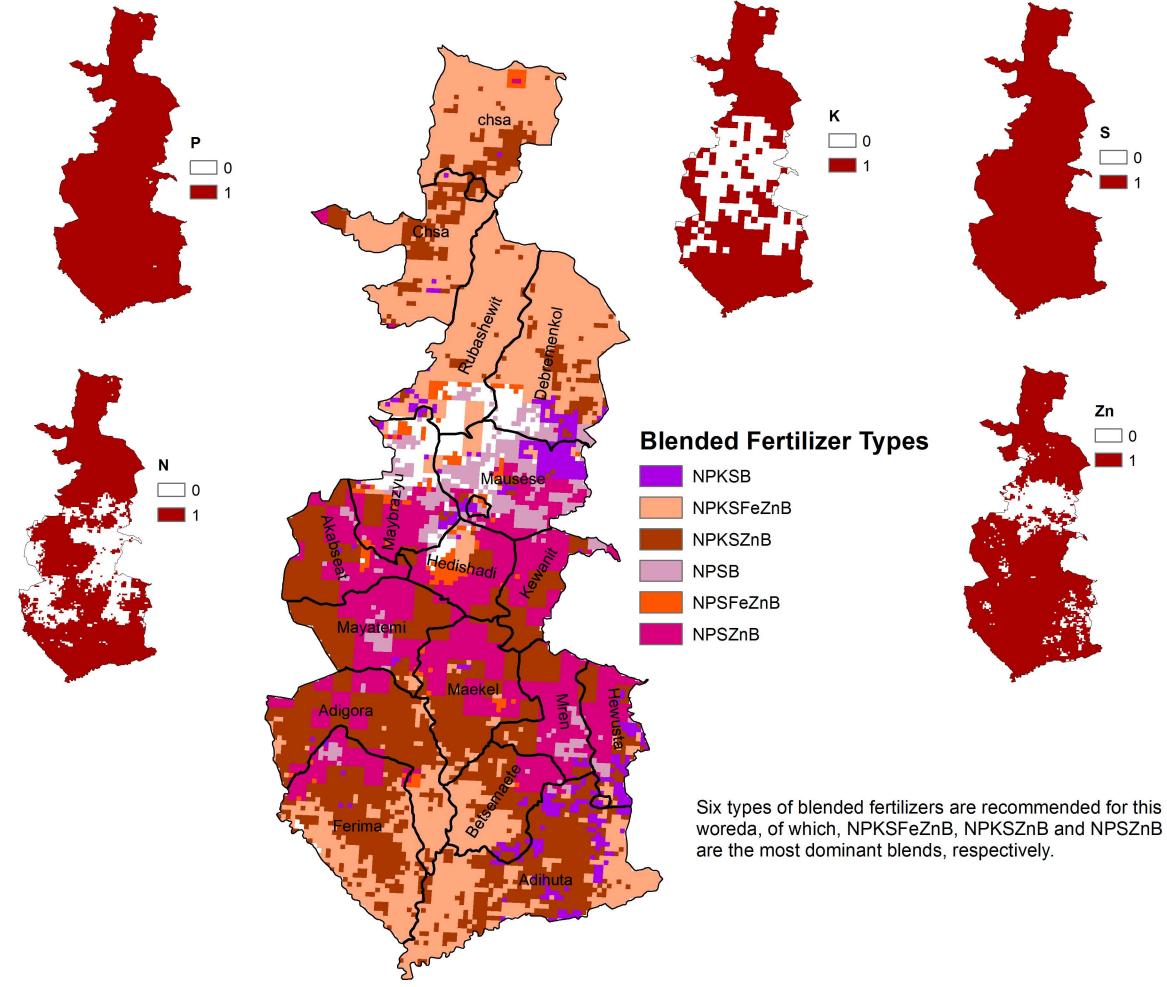


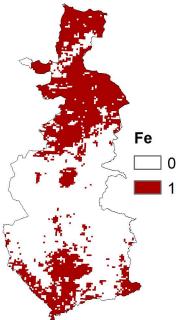
**CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY (ZONE TWO** 

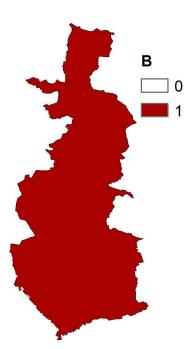
## Soil Fertility Status of Tahitay Mayichew Woreda



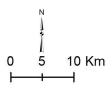
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Tahitay Mayichew Woreda





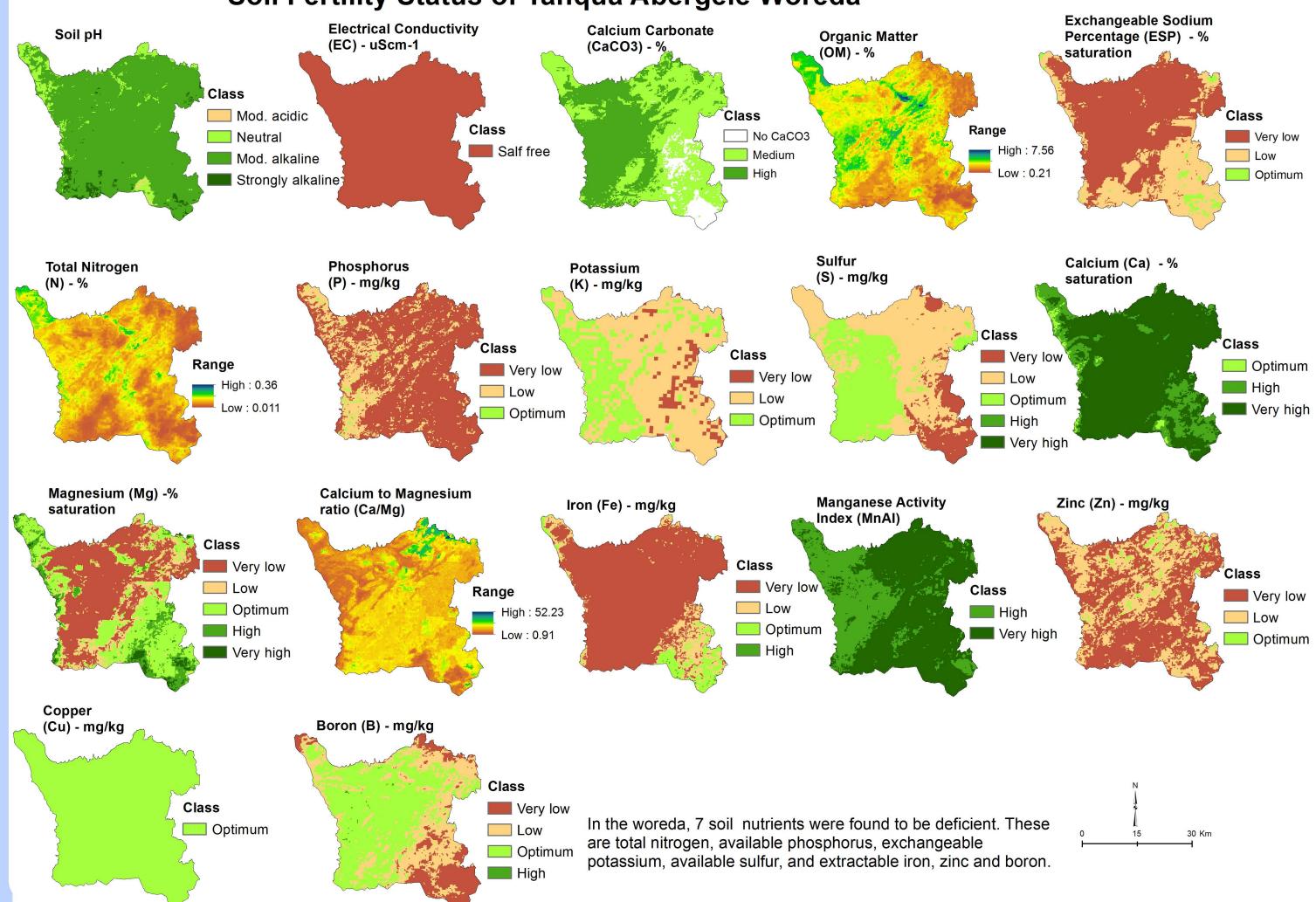


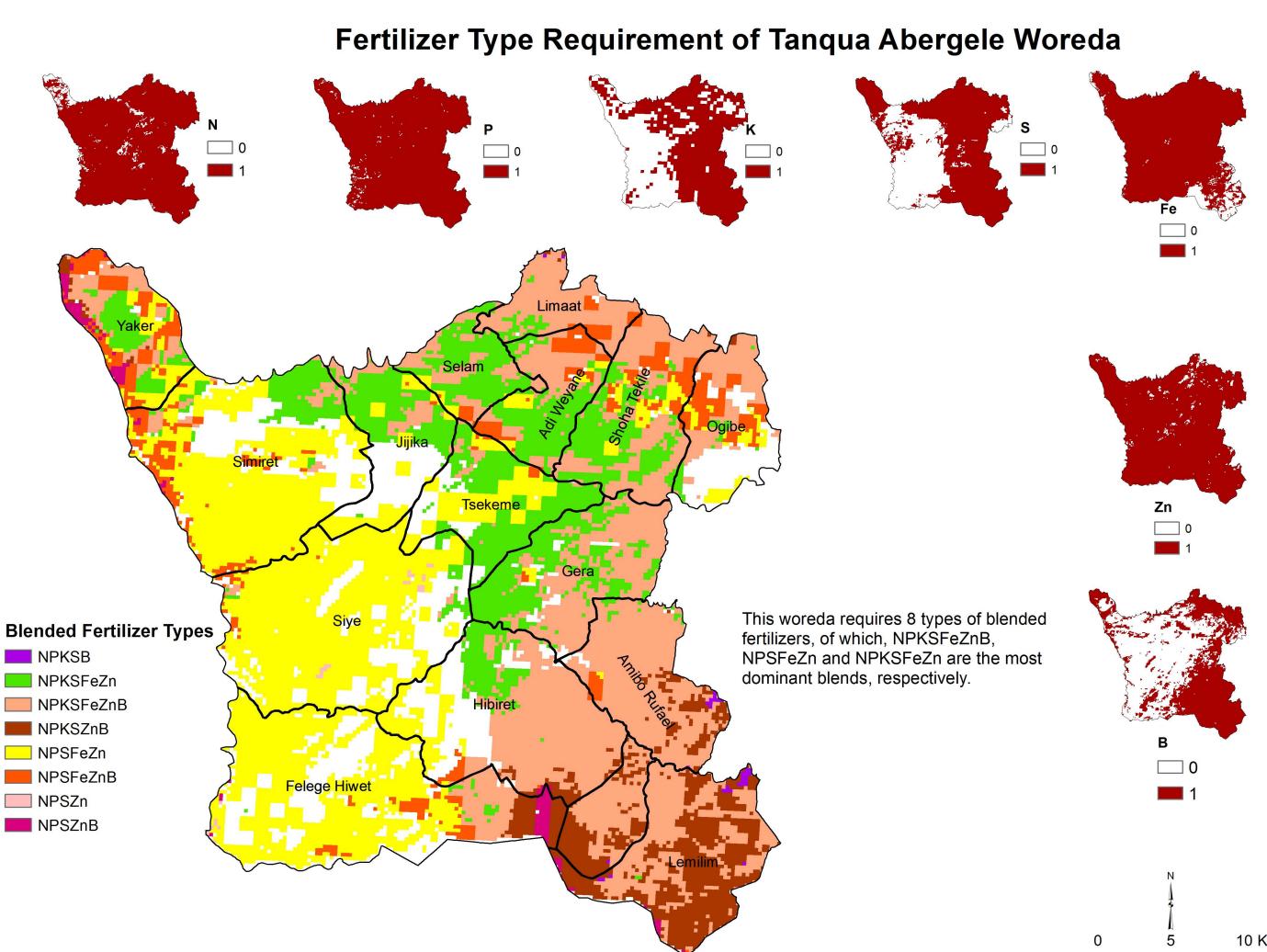




## **CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY** (ZONE TWO)

## Soil Fertility Status of Tanqua Abergele Woreda

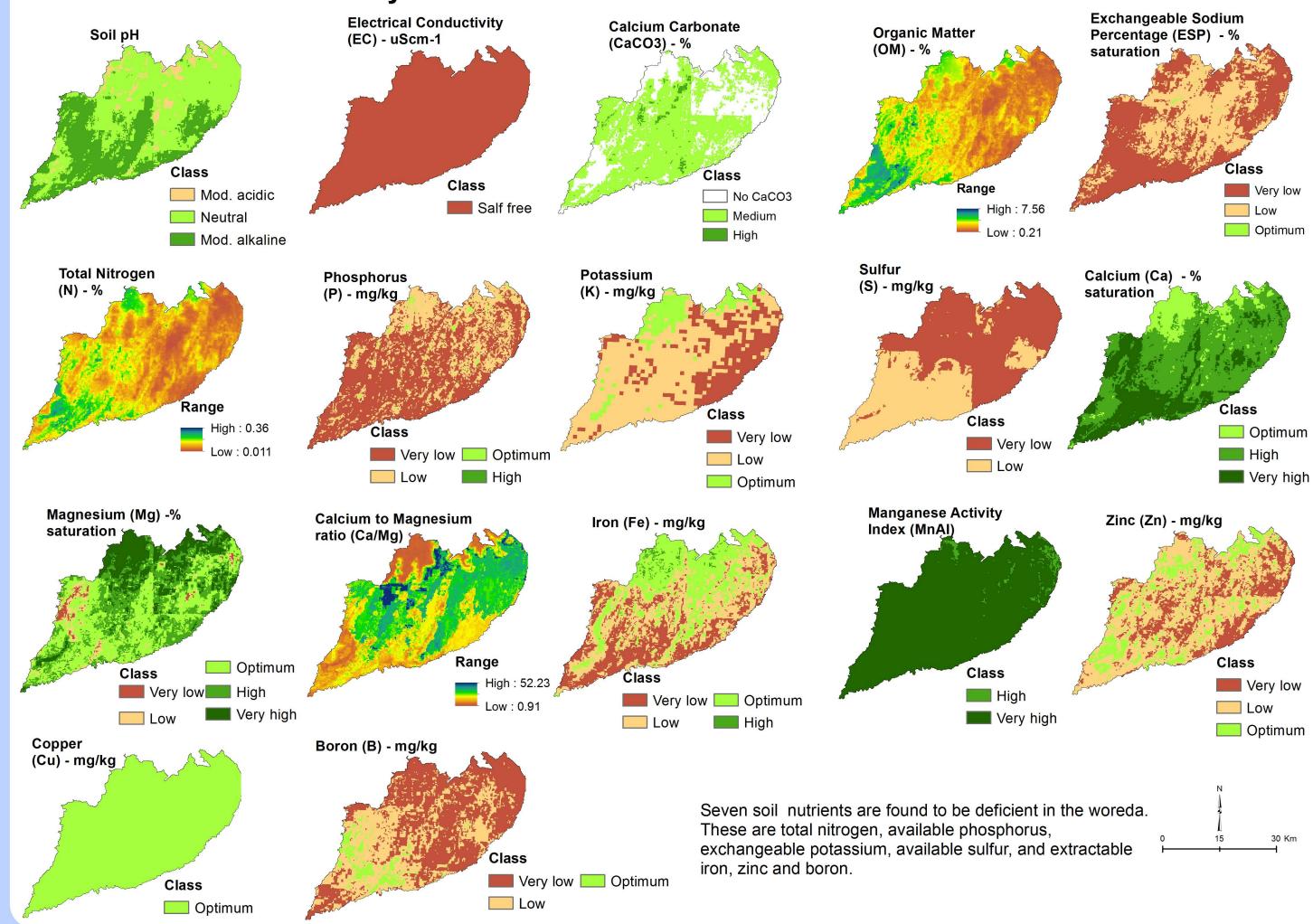


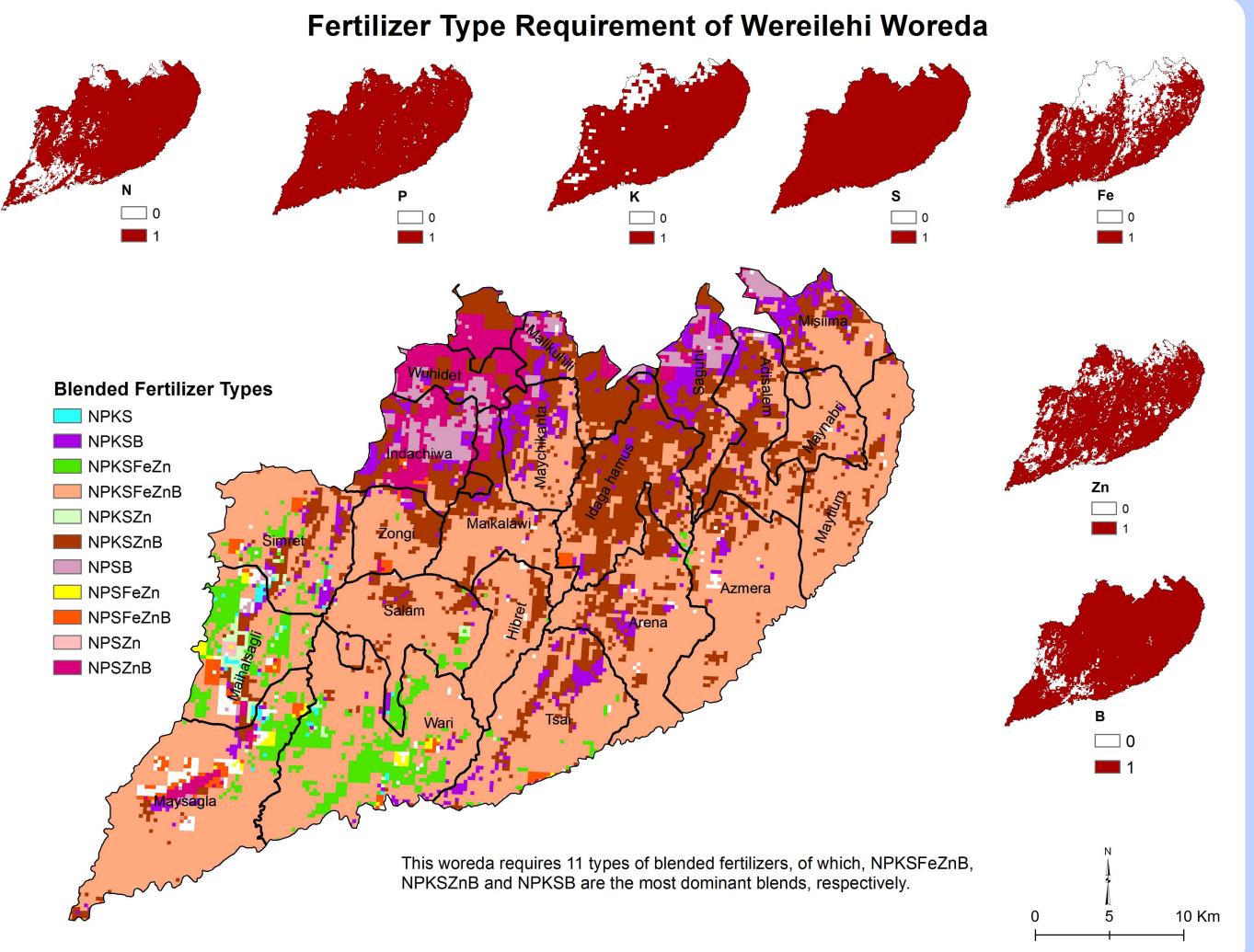


**CHAPTER 2: CENTRAL TIGRAY (ZONE TWO)** 

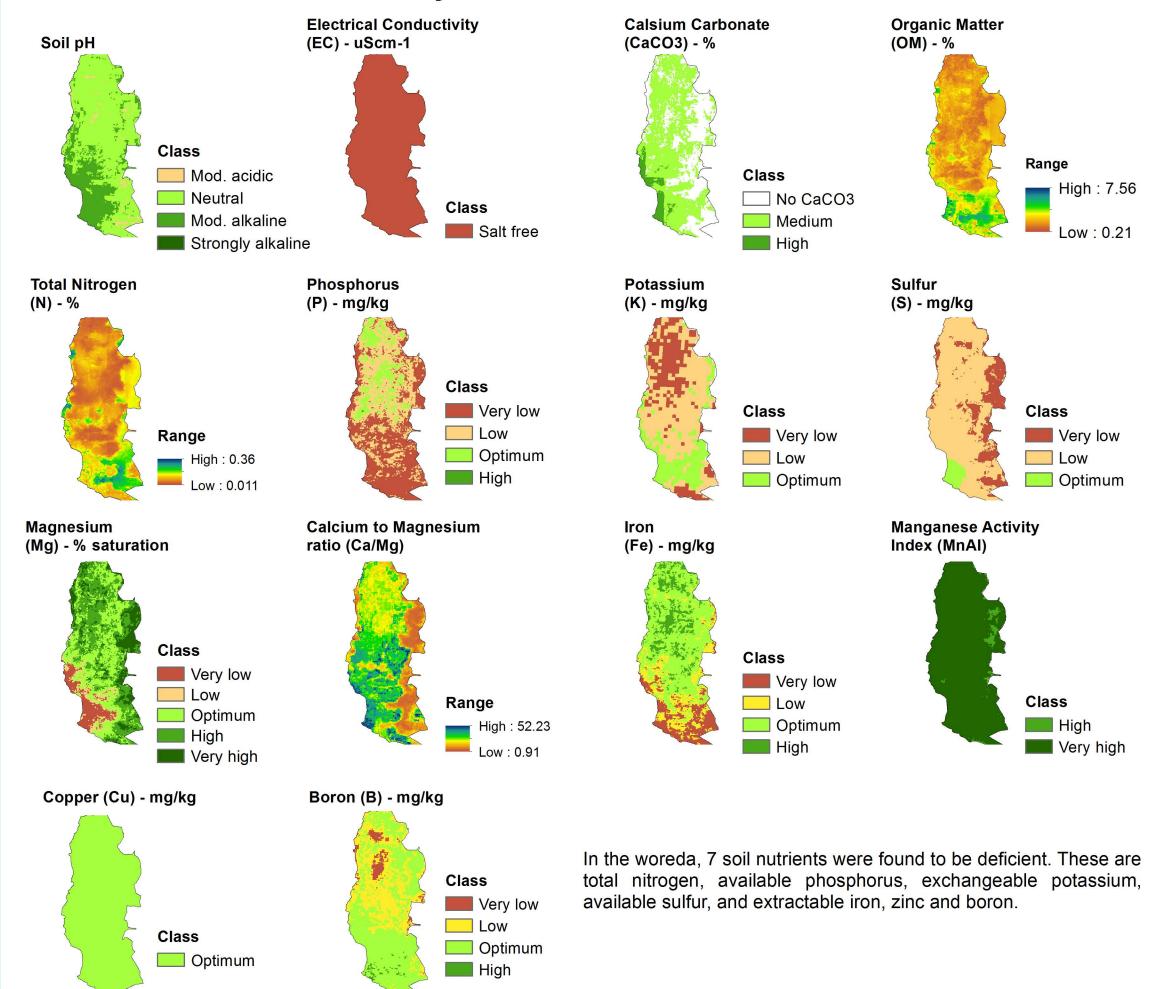
10 Km

## Soil Fertility Status of Wereilehi Woreda

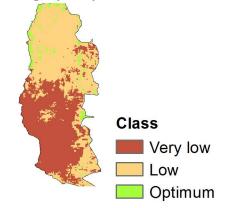




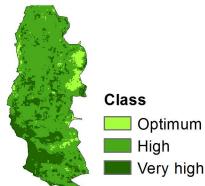
## Soil Fertility Status of Atsbi Wonberta Woreda



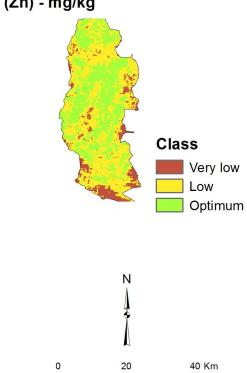
## Exchangeable Sodium Percentage (ESP) - % saturation



Calcium (Ca) - % saturation

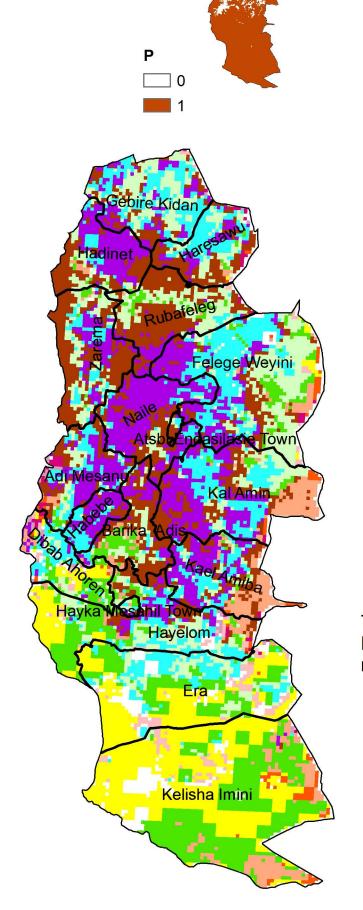


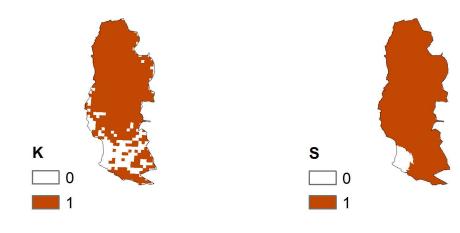




## Fertilizer Requirement of Atsbi Wonberta Woreda







## Blended Fertilizer Types



This woreda requires 11 types of blended fertilizers, of which, NPKSB, NPKSZnB and NPKSZn are the most dominant blends, respectively.





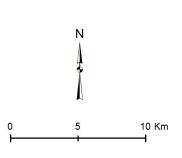




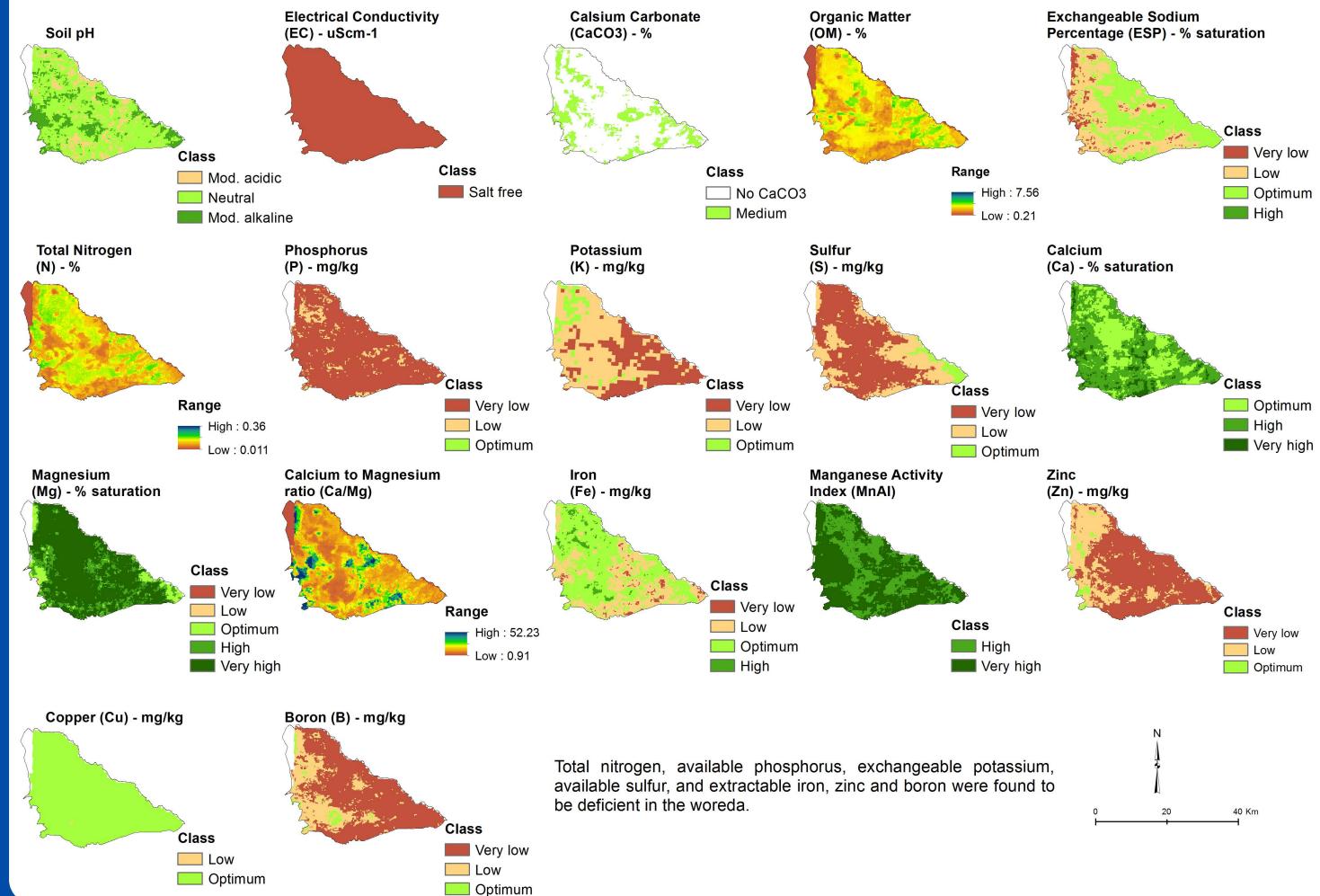




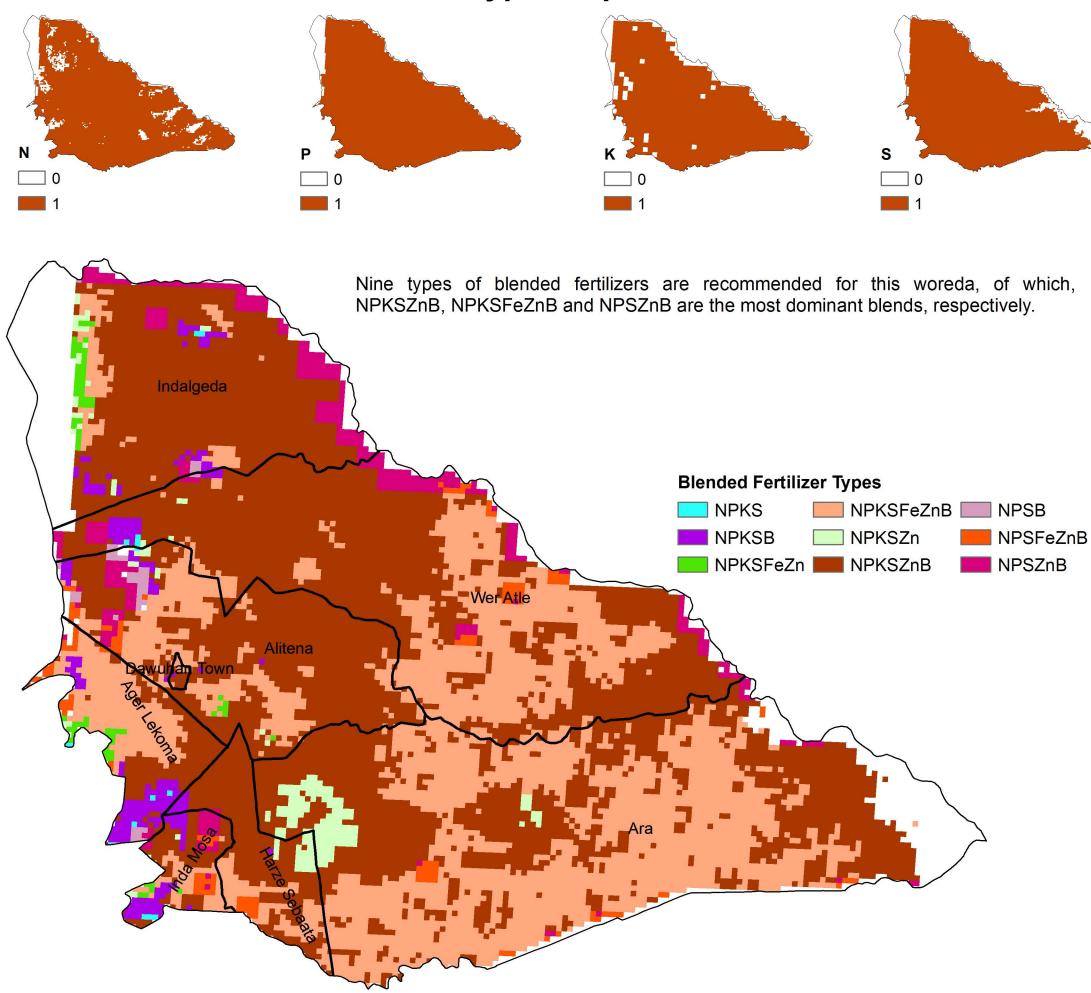


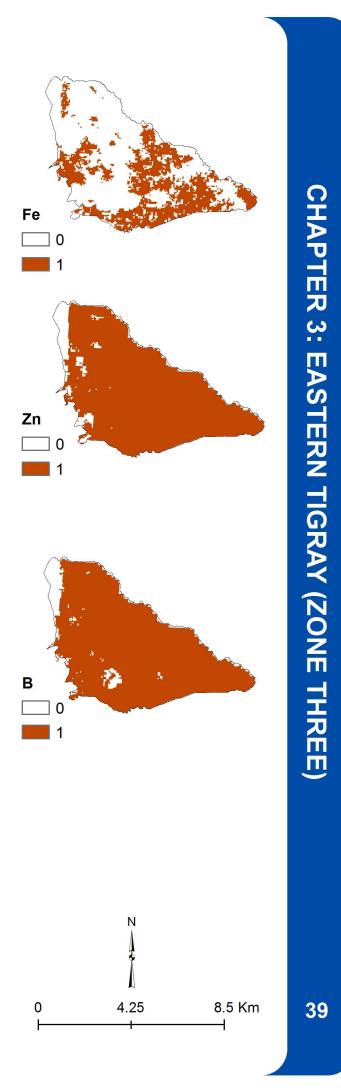


## Soil Fertility Status of Erob Woreda

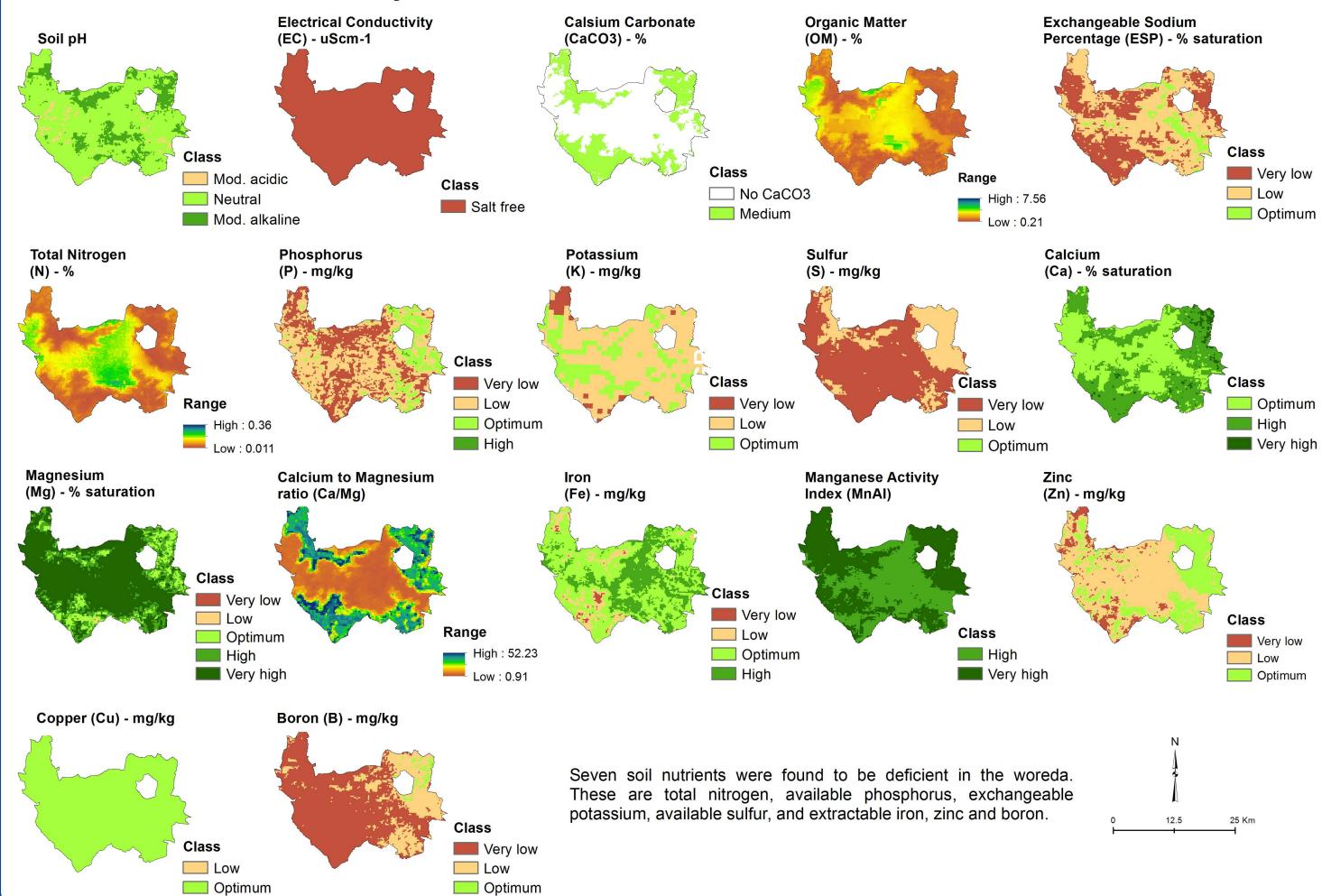


## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Erob Woreda

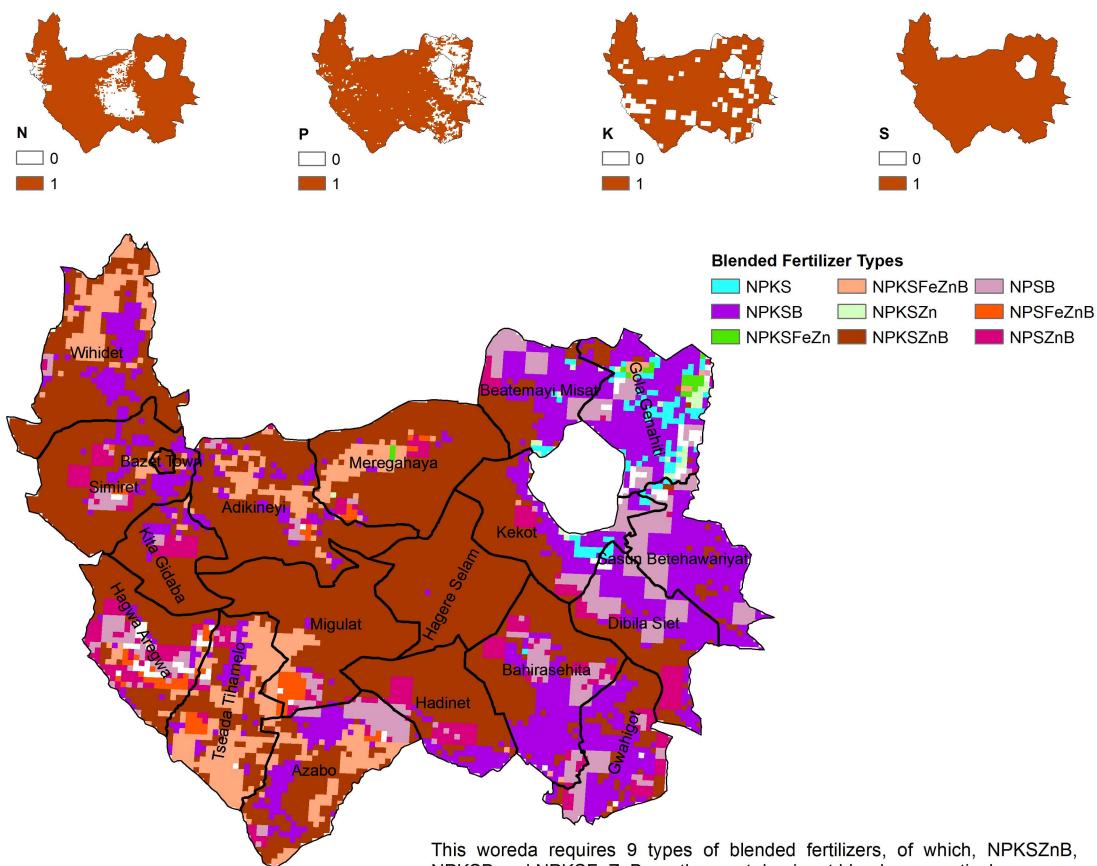




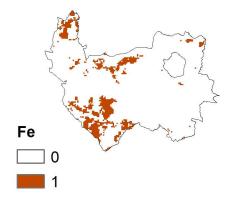
## Soil Fertility Status of Ganta Afeshum Woreda

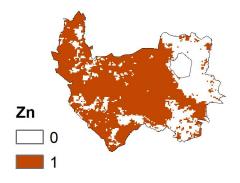


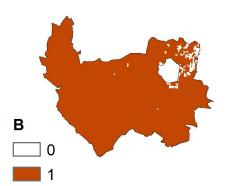
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Ganta Afeshum Woreda

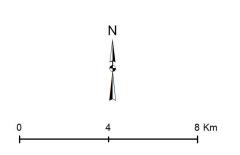


NPKSB and NPKSFeZnB are the most dominant blends, respectively.





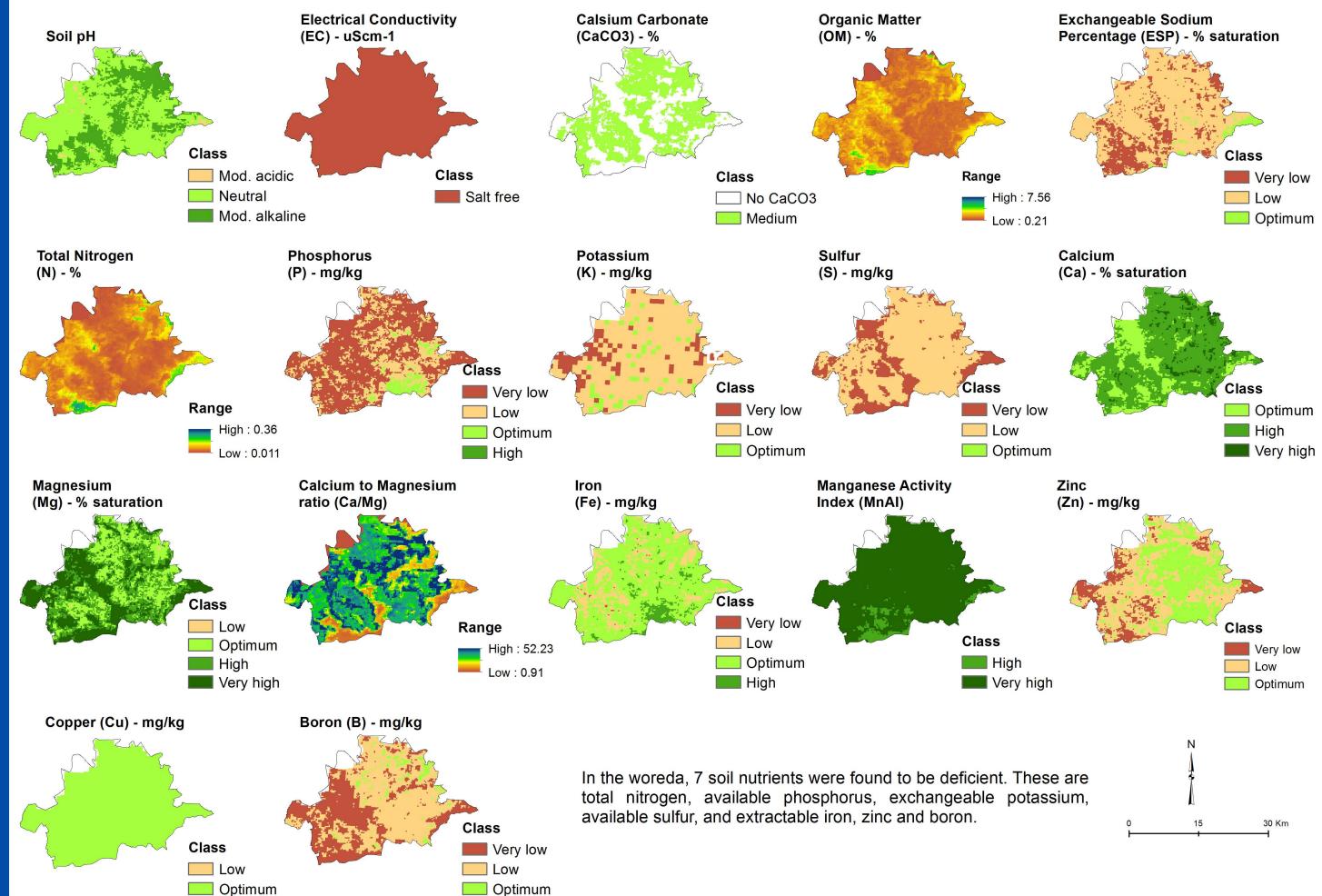




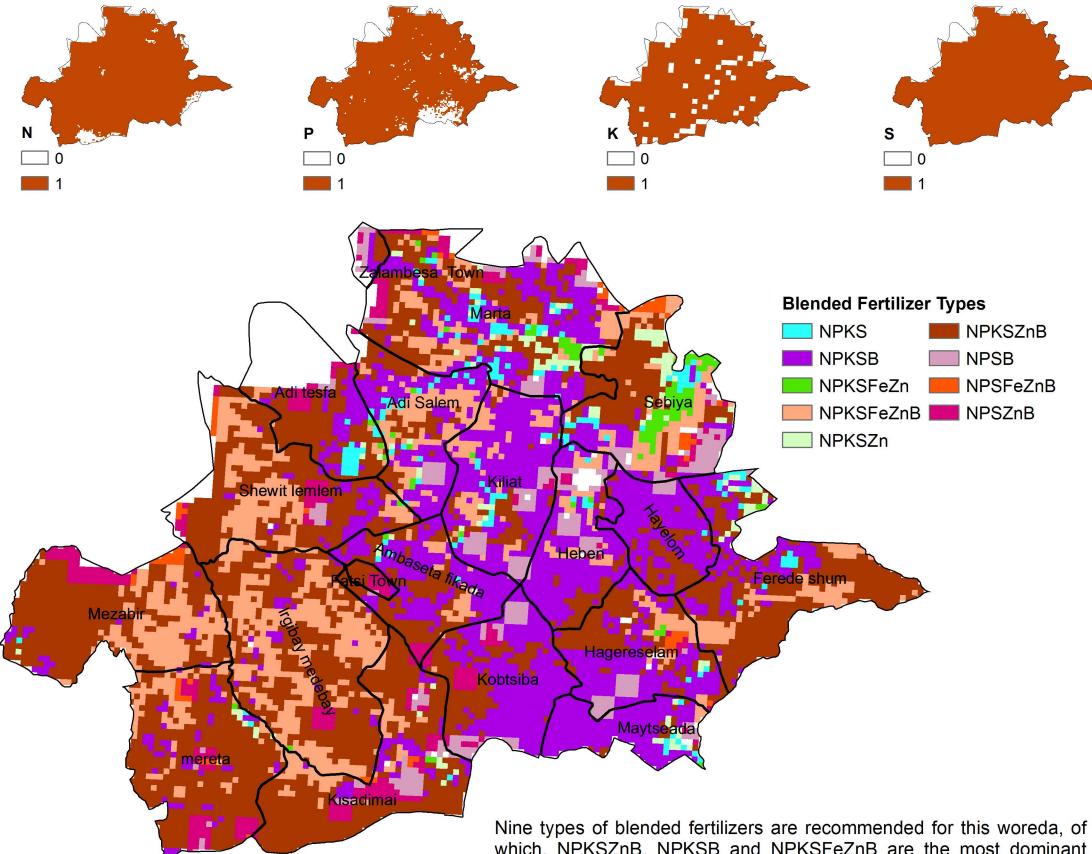
# **CHAPTER 3: EASTERN TIGRAY (ZONE THREE)**

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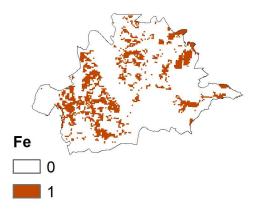
## Soil Fertility Status of Gulo Meheda Woreda

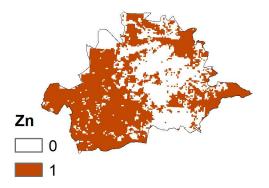


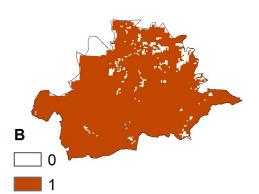
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Gulo Meheda Woreda

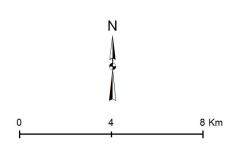


which, NPKSZnB, NPKSB and NPKSFeZnB are the most dominant blends, respectively.

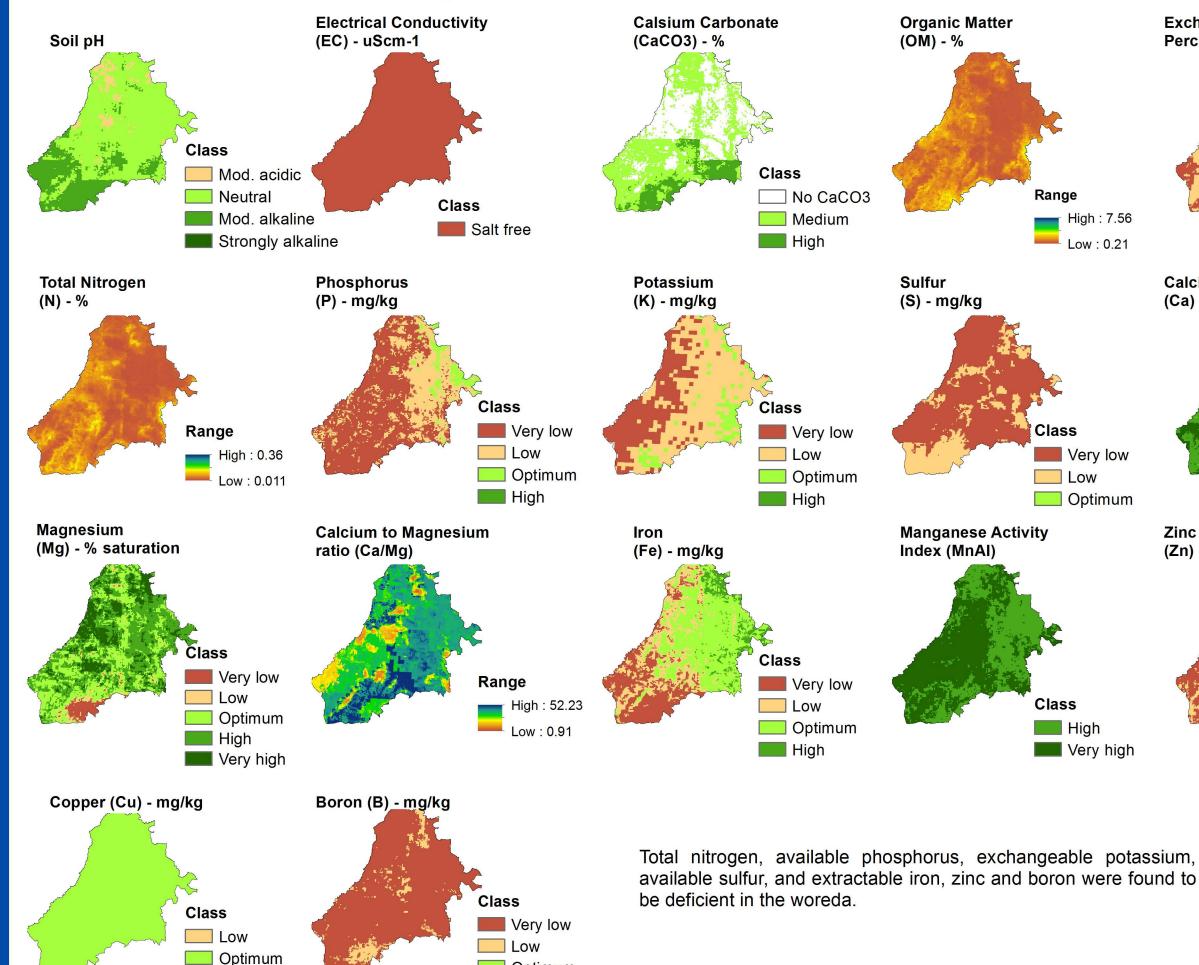






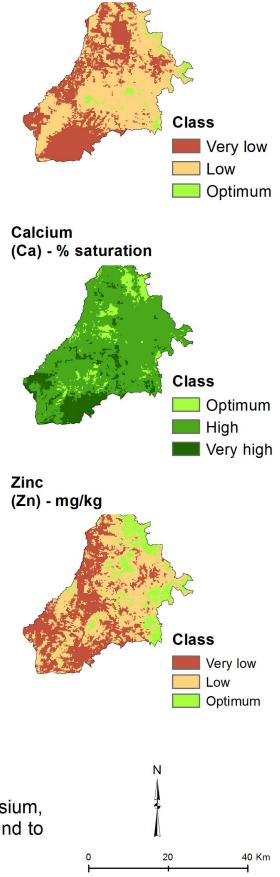


## Soil Fertility Status of Hawzen Woreda

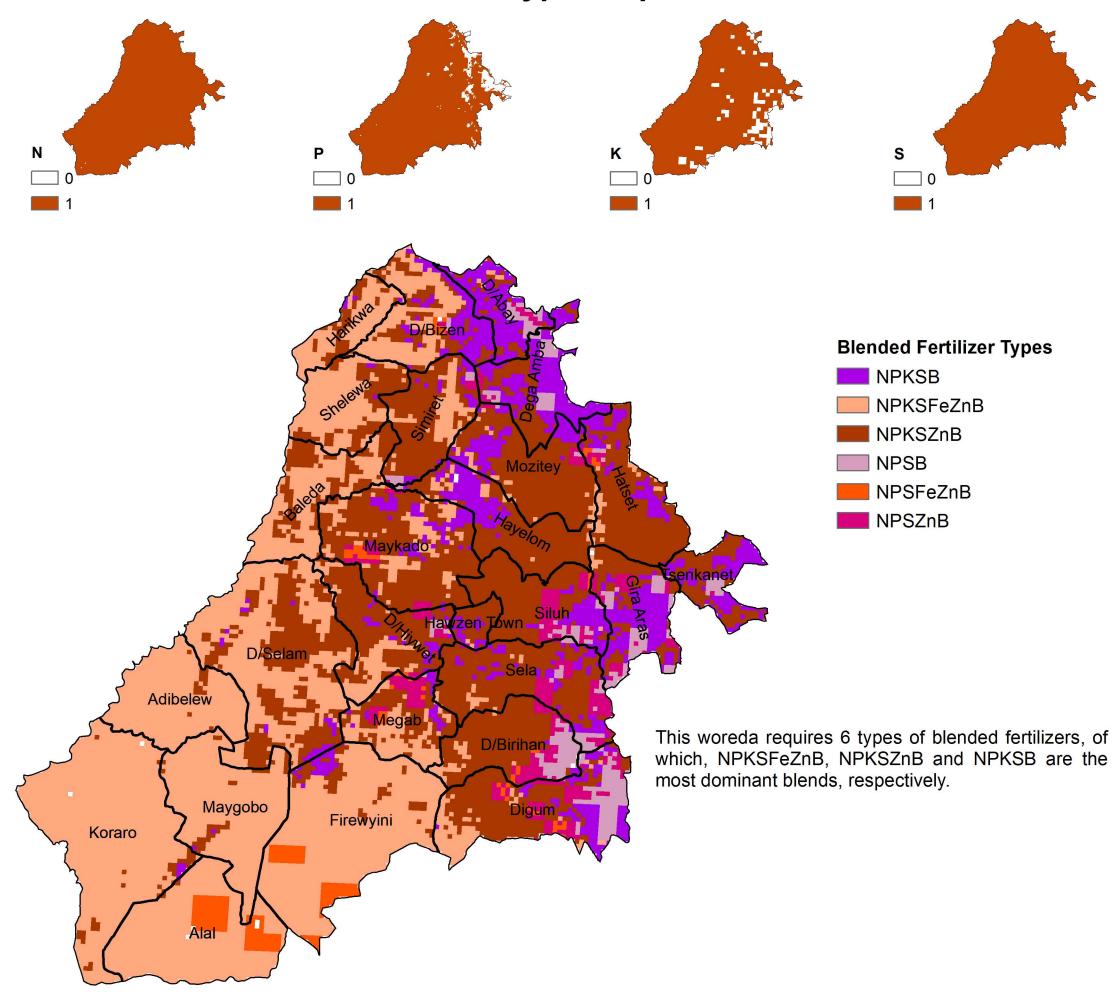


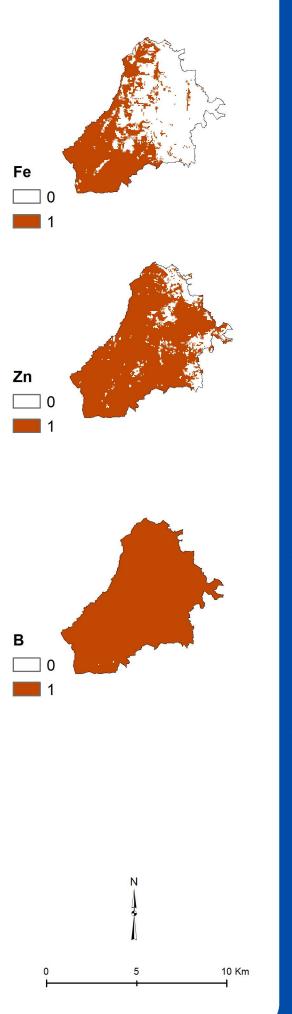
Optimum

## Exchangeable Sodium Percentage (ESP) - % saturation



## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Hawzen Woreda

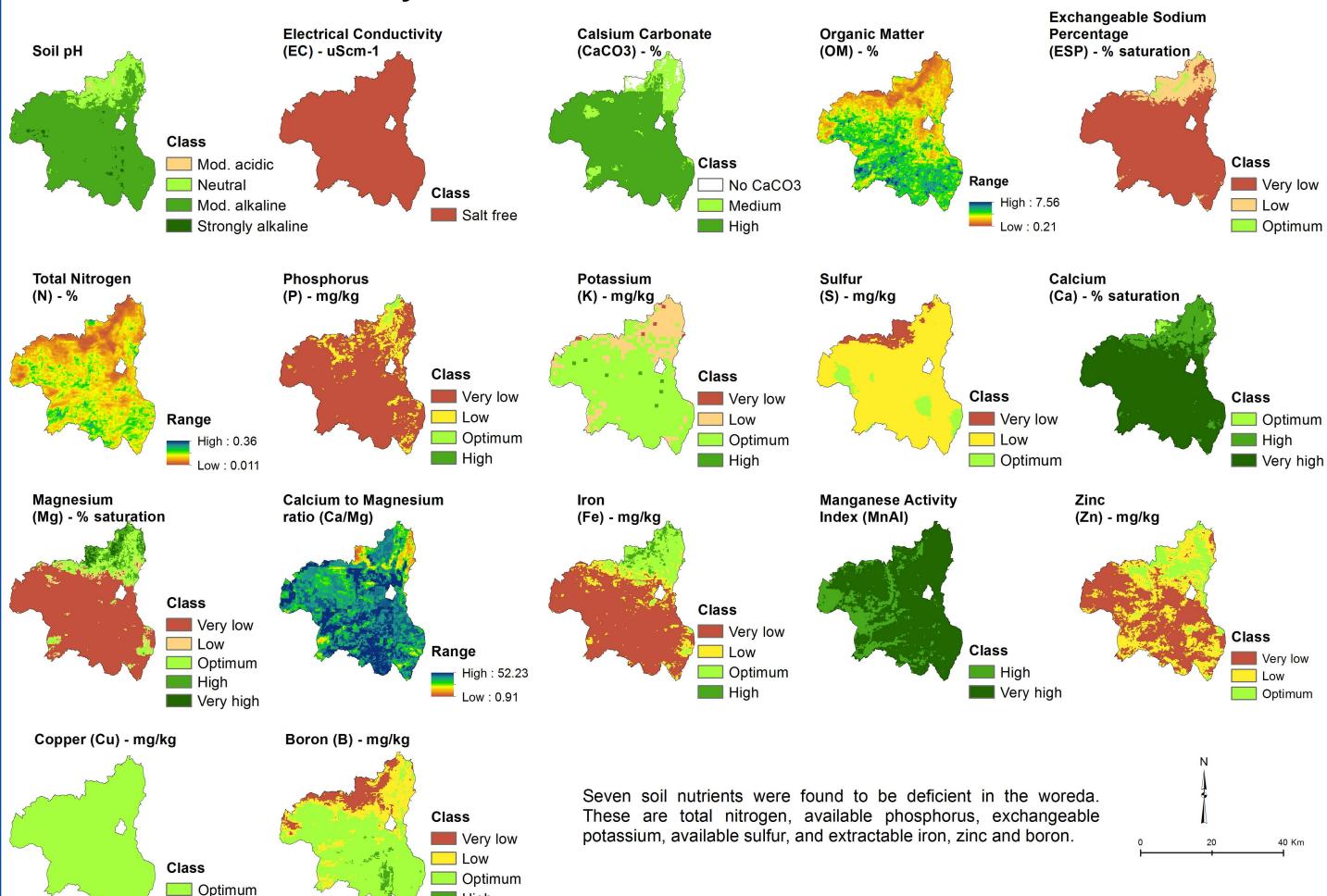




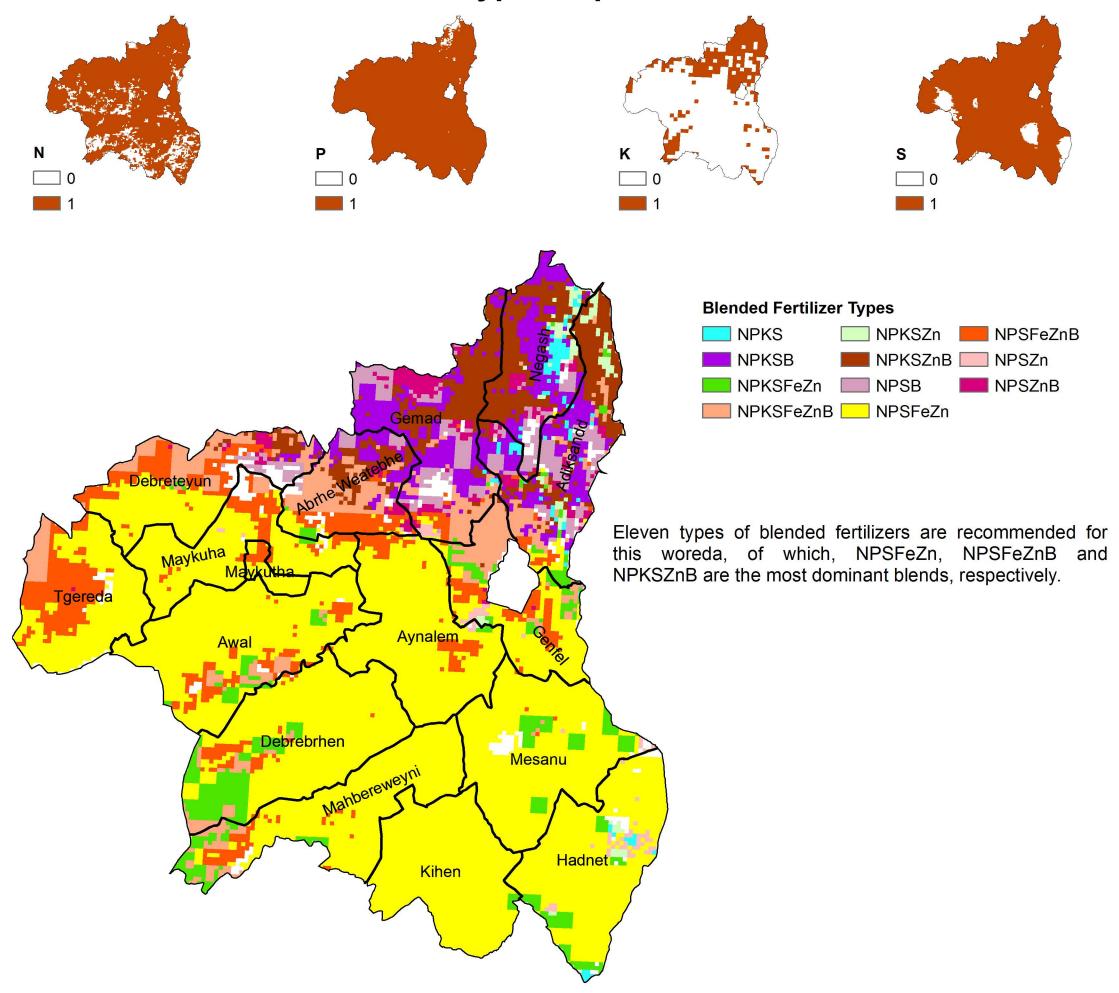
# **CHAPTER 3: EASTERN TIGRAY (ZONE THREE)**

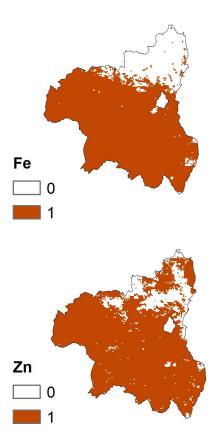
## Soil Fertility Status of Klite Awlalo Woreda

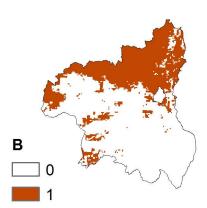
High

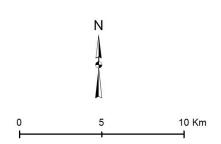


## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Klite Awlalo Woreda





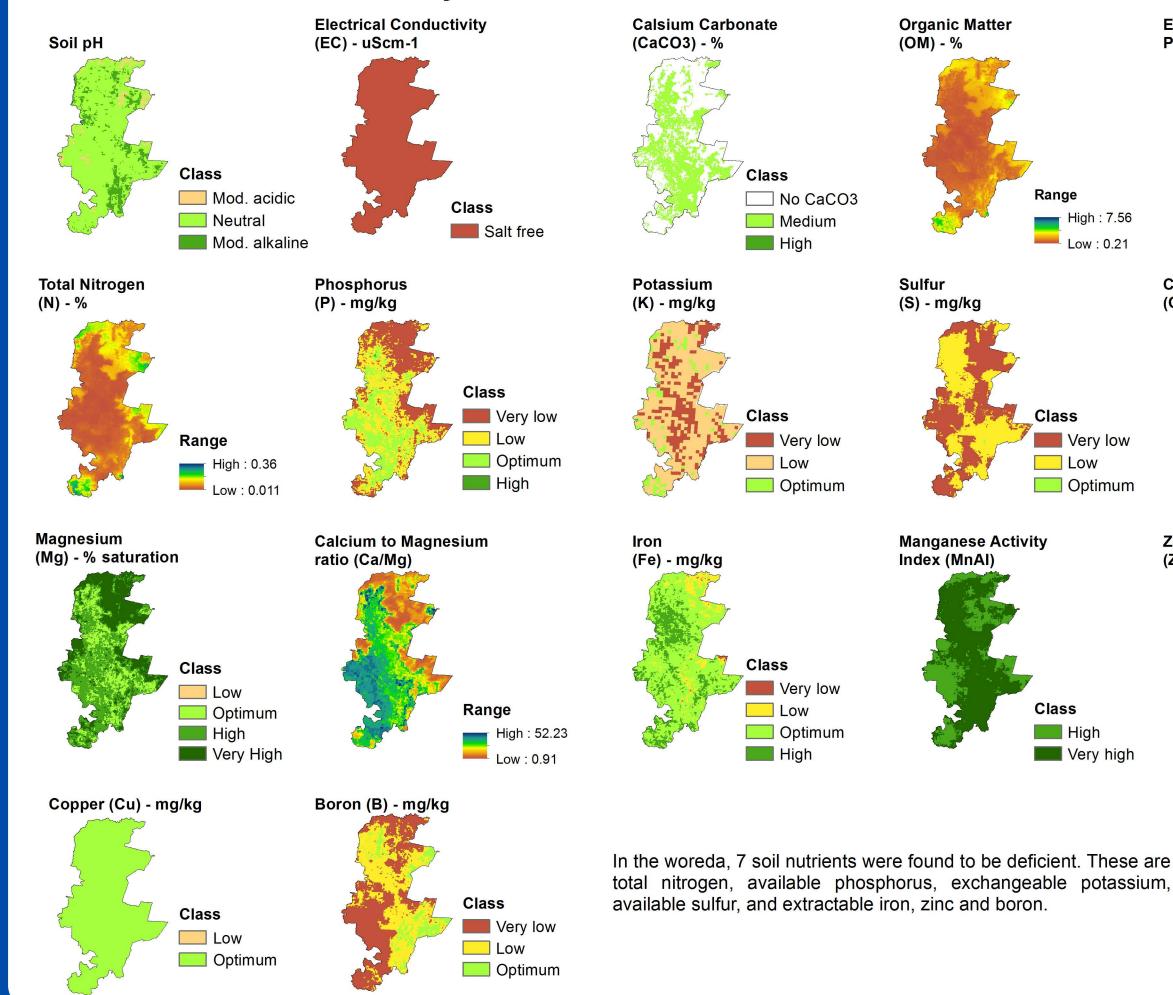


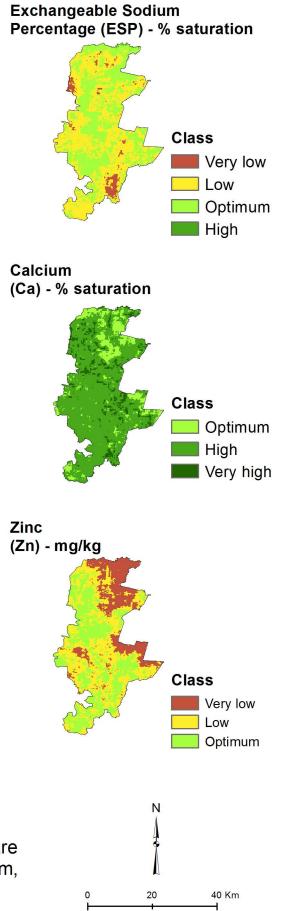


# **CHAPTER 3: EASTERN TIGRAY (ZONE THREE)**

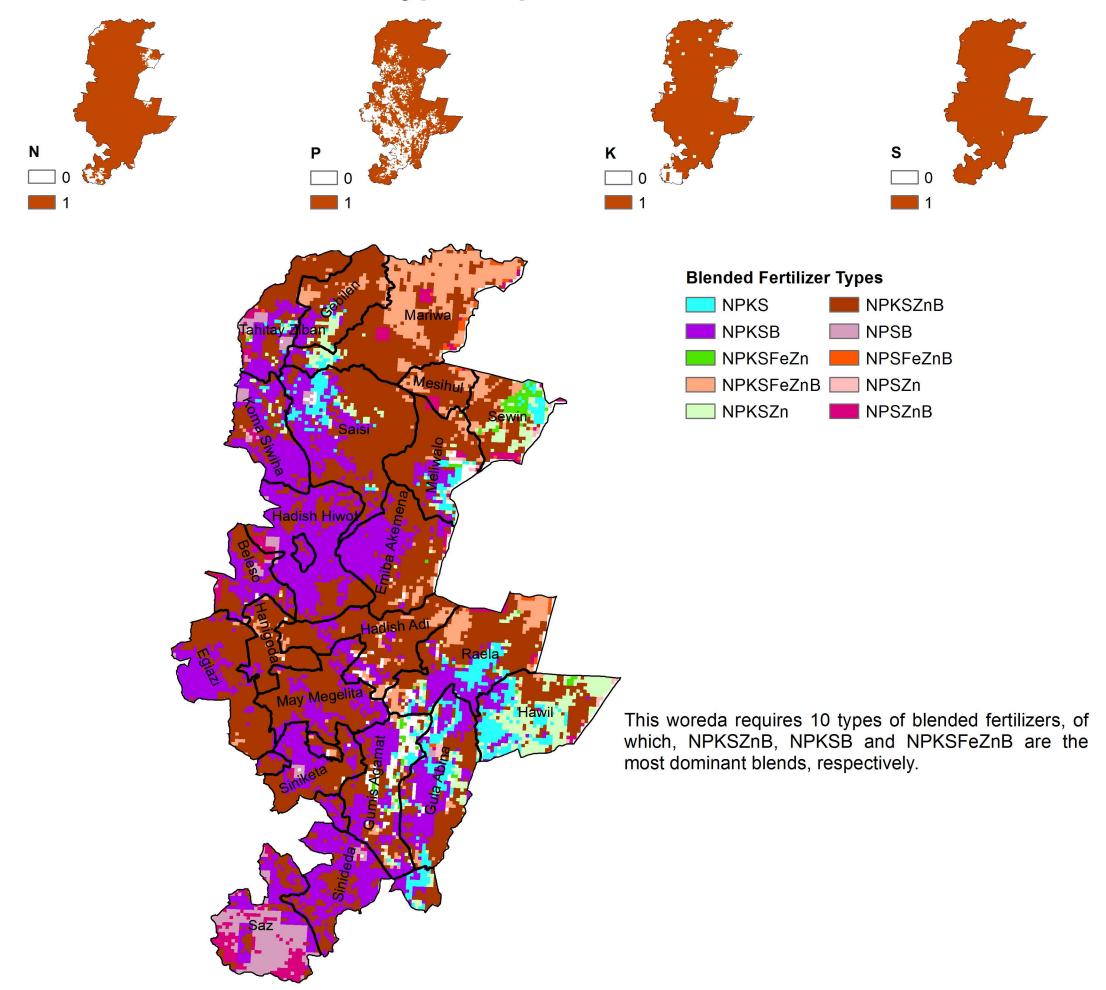
47

## Soil Fertility Status of Saesi Tsadamba Woreda

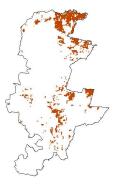




## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Saesi Tsadamba Woreda







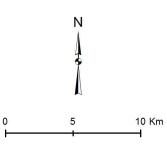




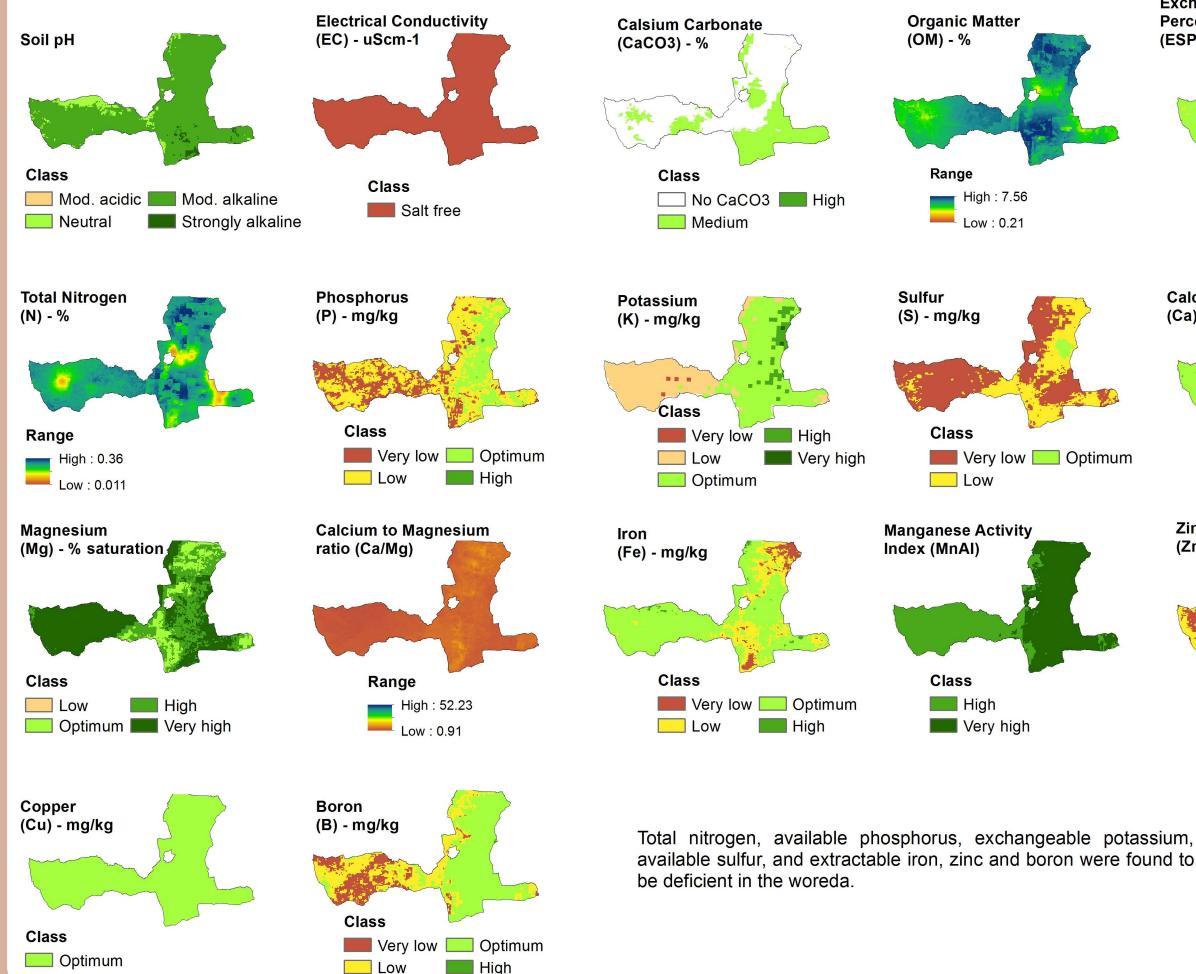


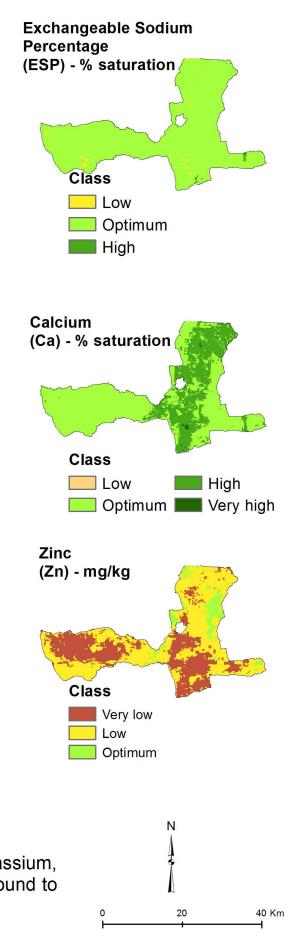




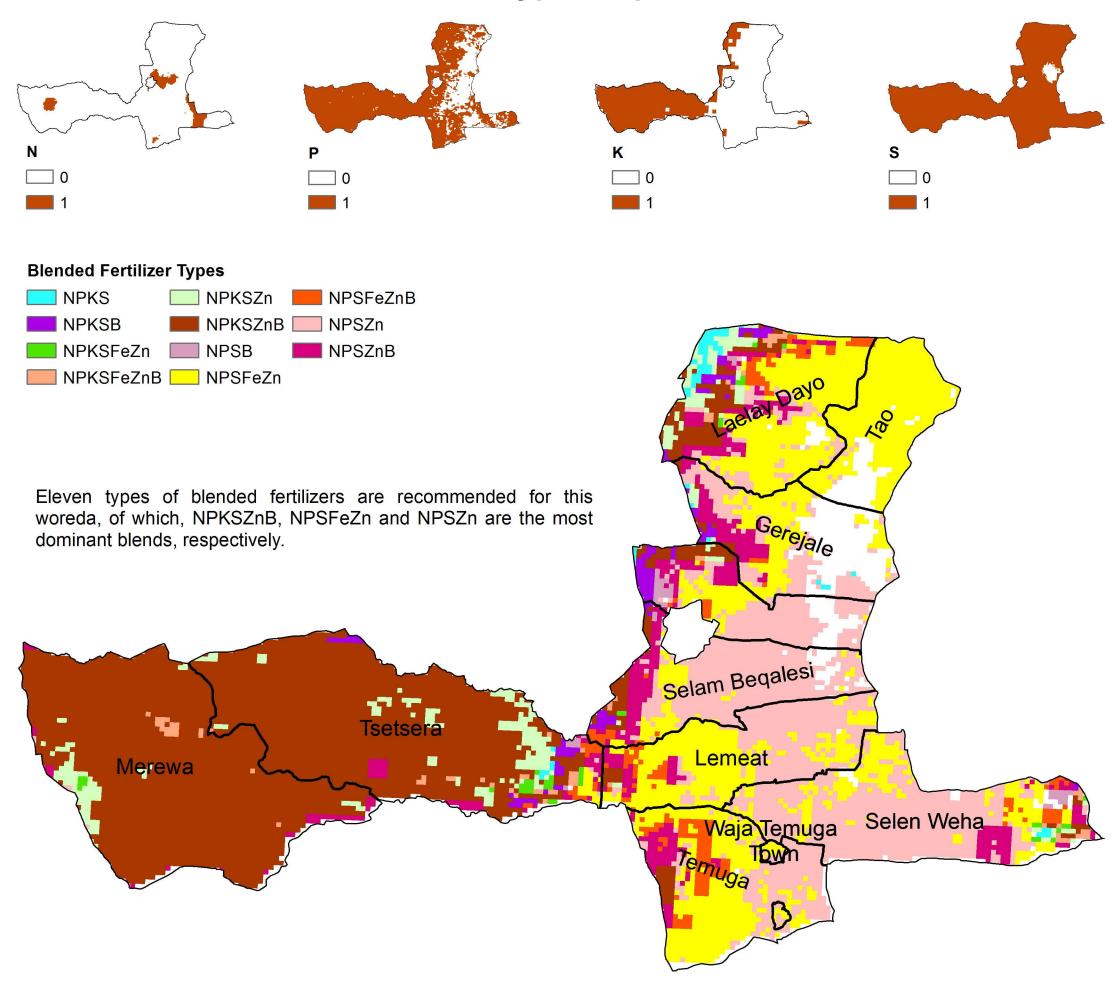


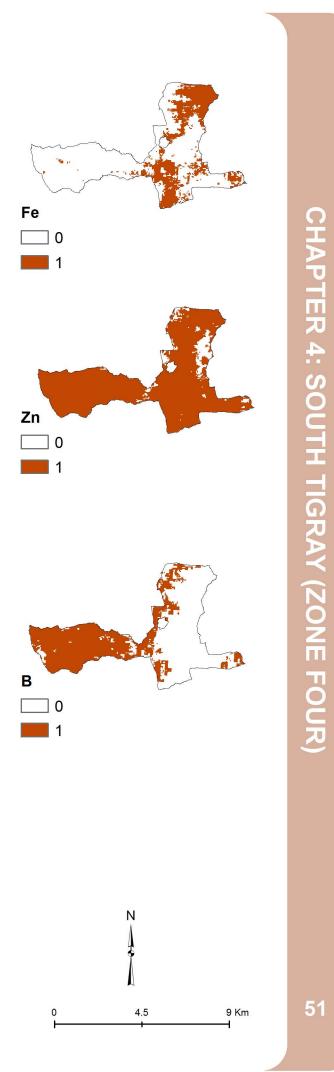
## **Soil Fertility Status of Alamata Woreda**



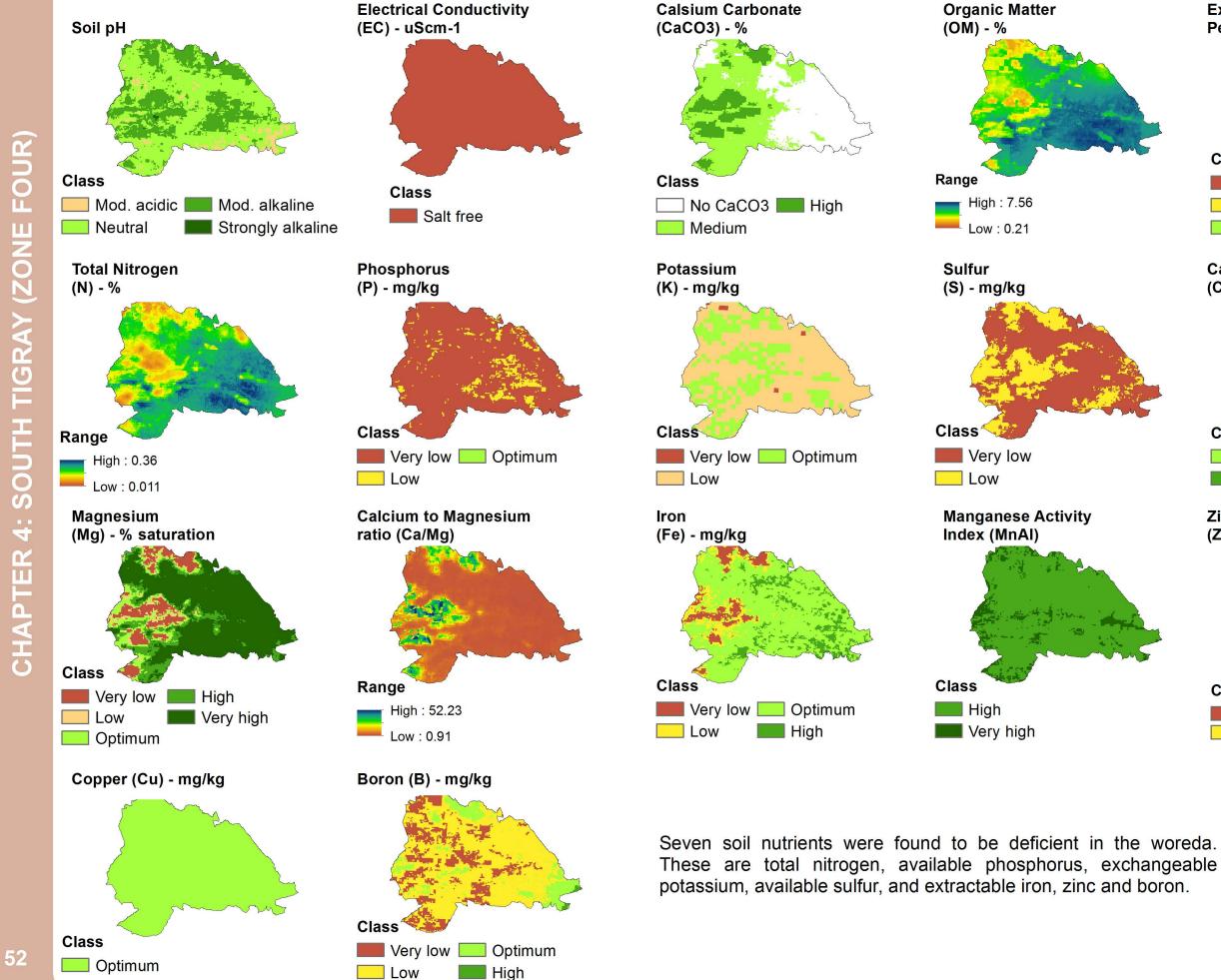


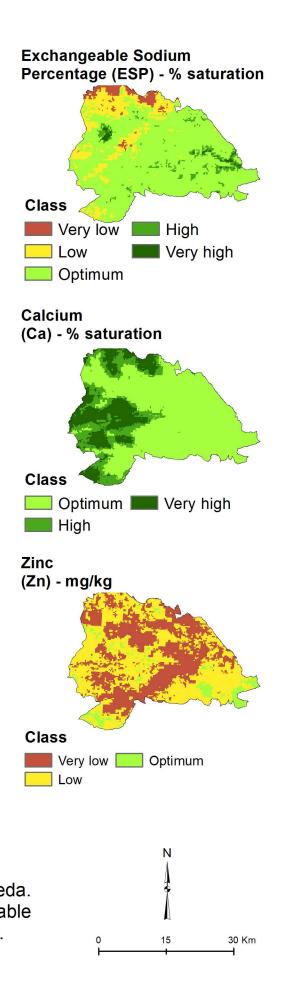
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Alamata Woreda



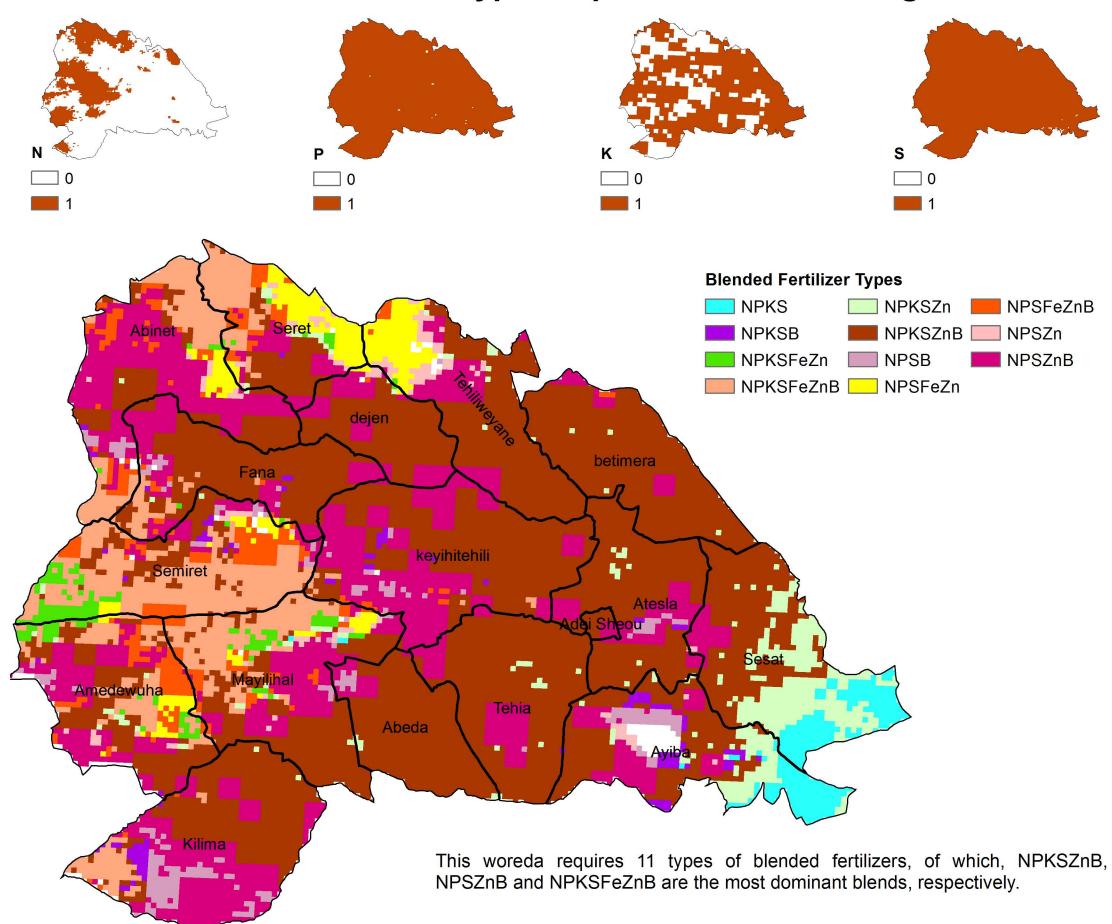


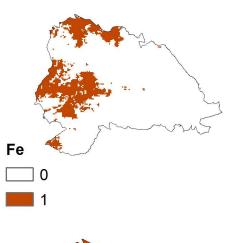
## Soil Fertility Status of Ambalage Woreda



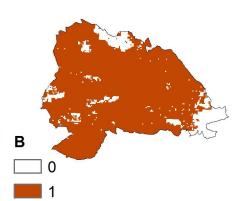


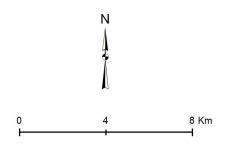
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Ambalage Woreda



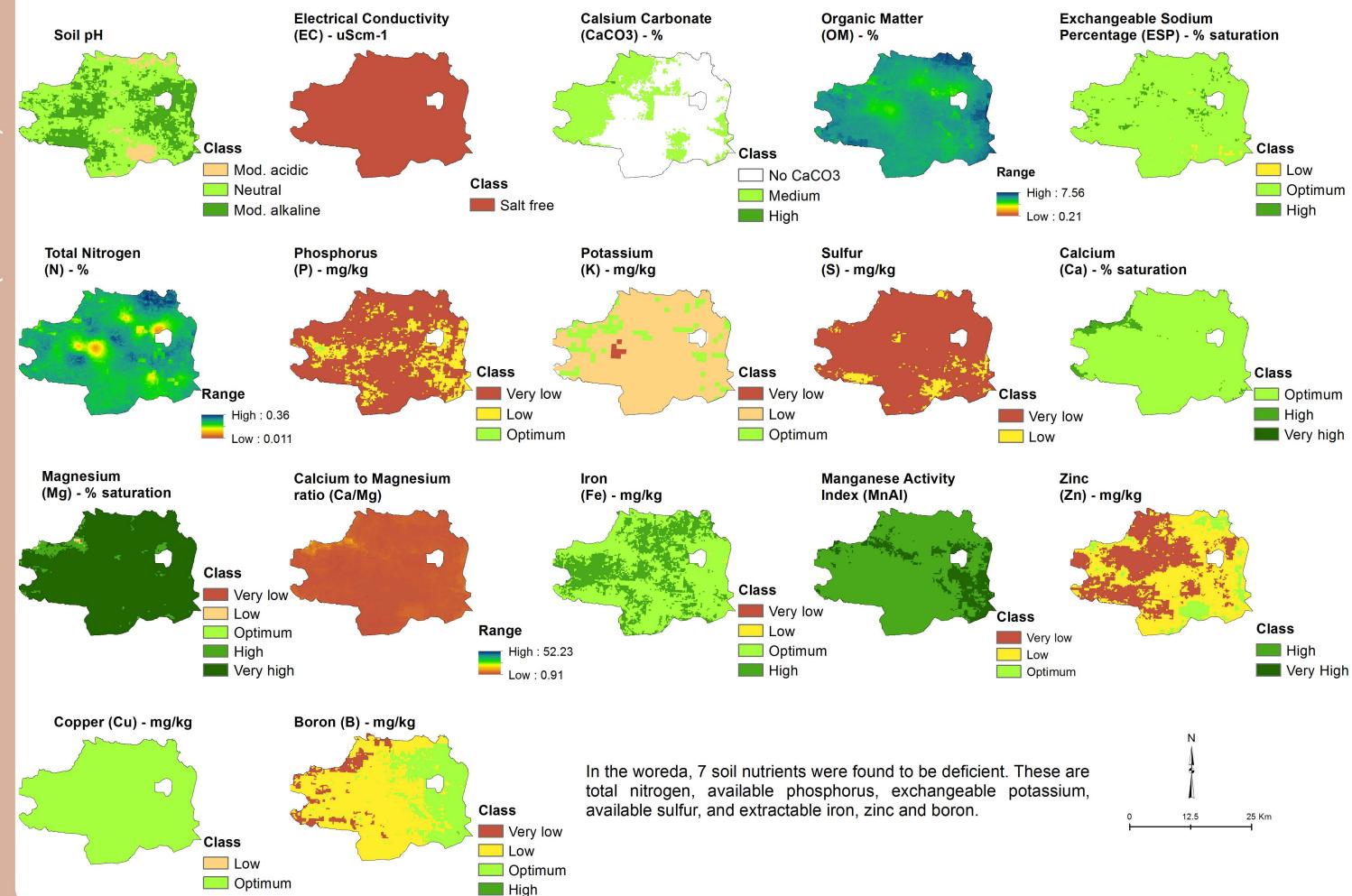




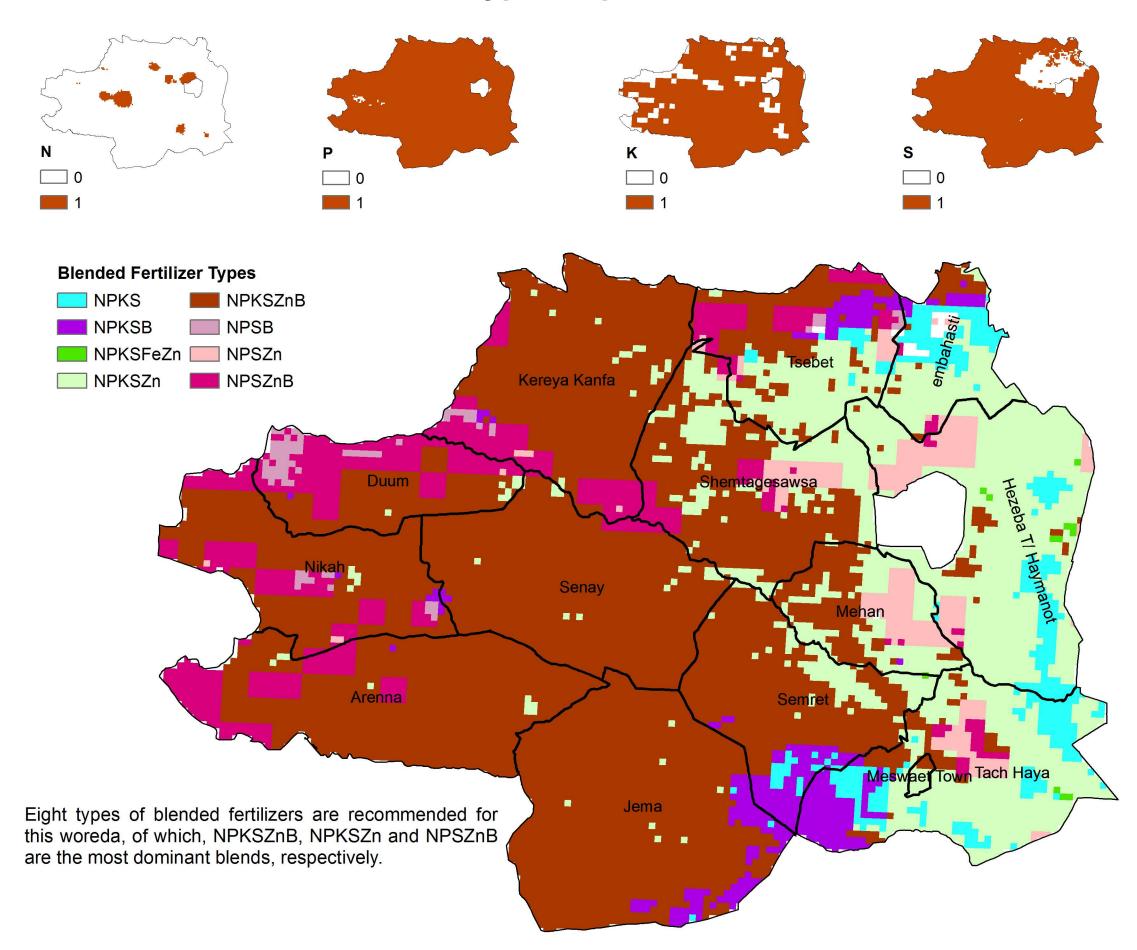


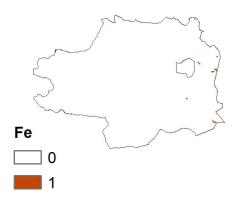


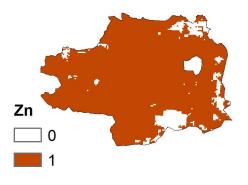
## Soil Fertility Status of Endamehone Woreda

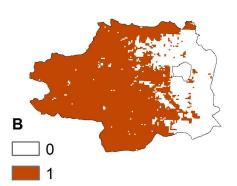


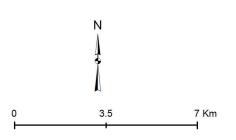
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Endamehone Woreda







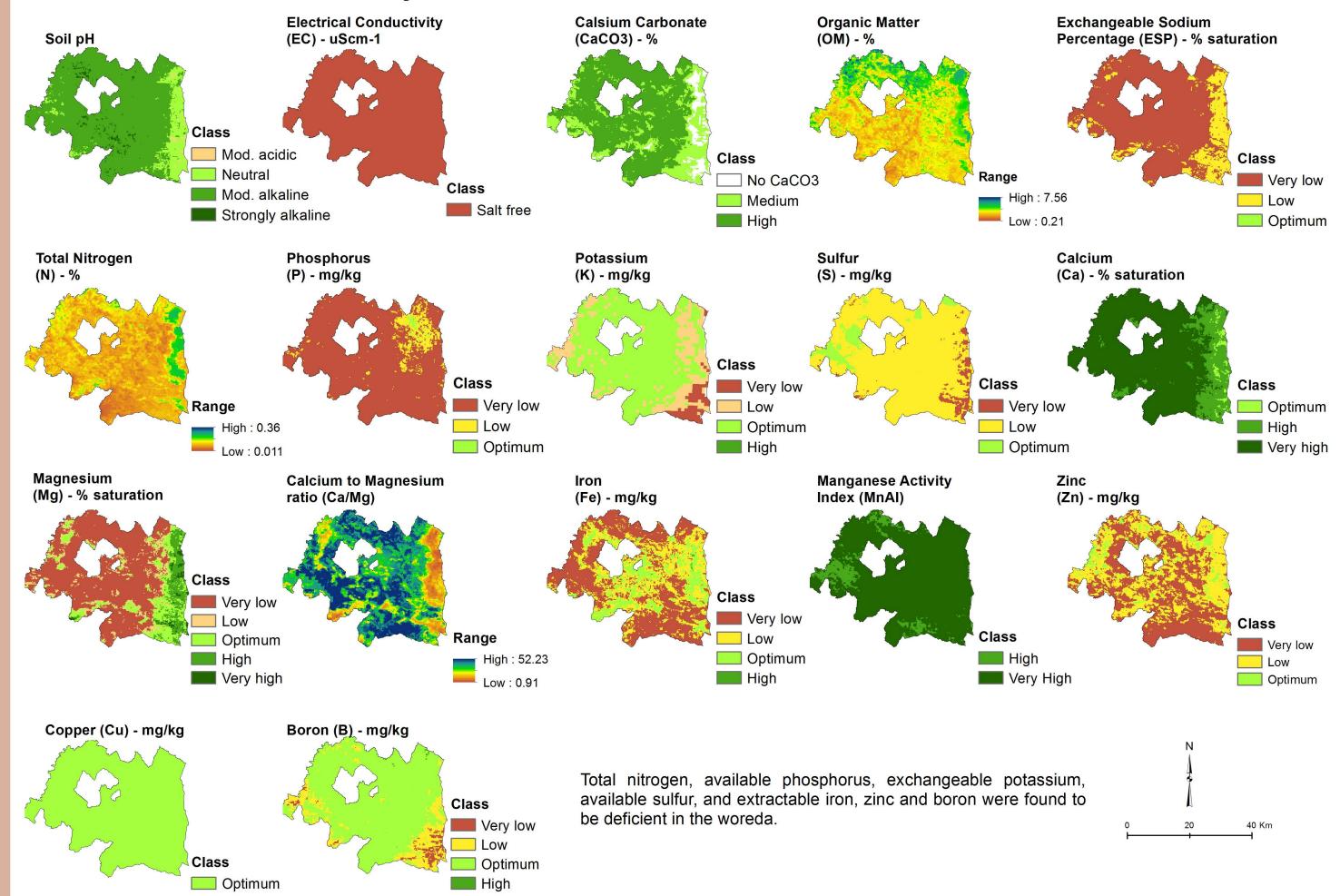




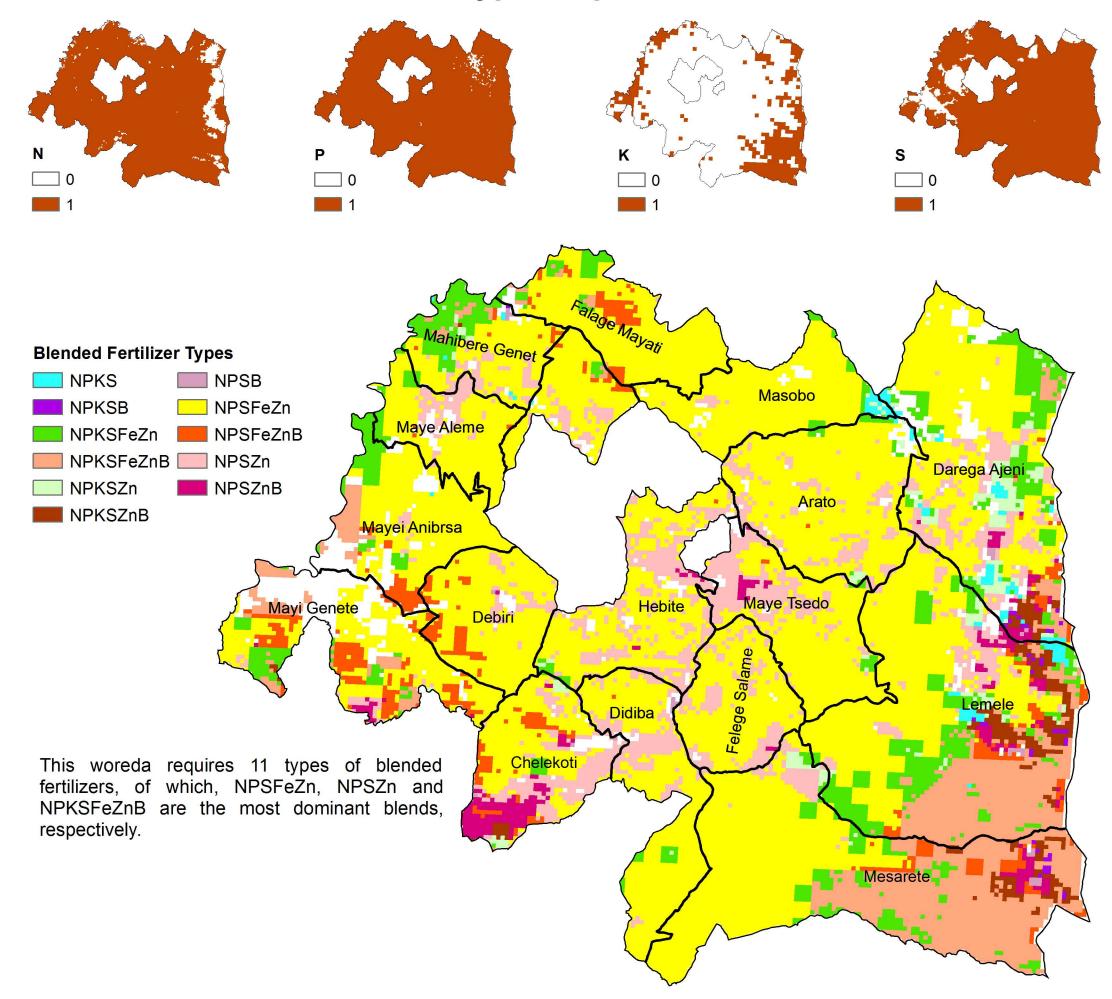
# CHAPTER 4: SOUTH TIGRAY (ZONE FOUR)

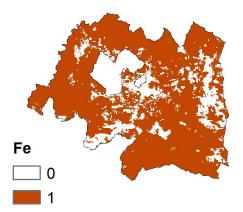
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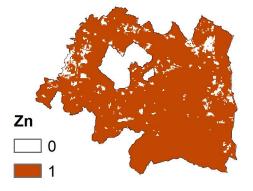
## Soil Fertility Status of Enderta Woreda

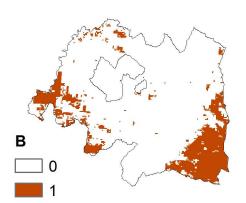


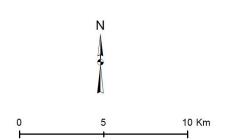
## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Enderta Woreda





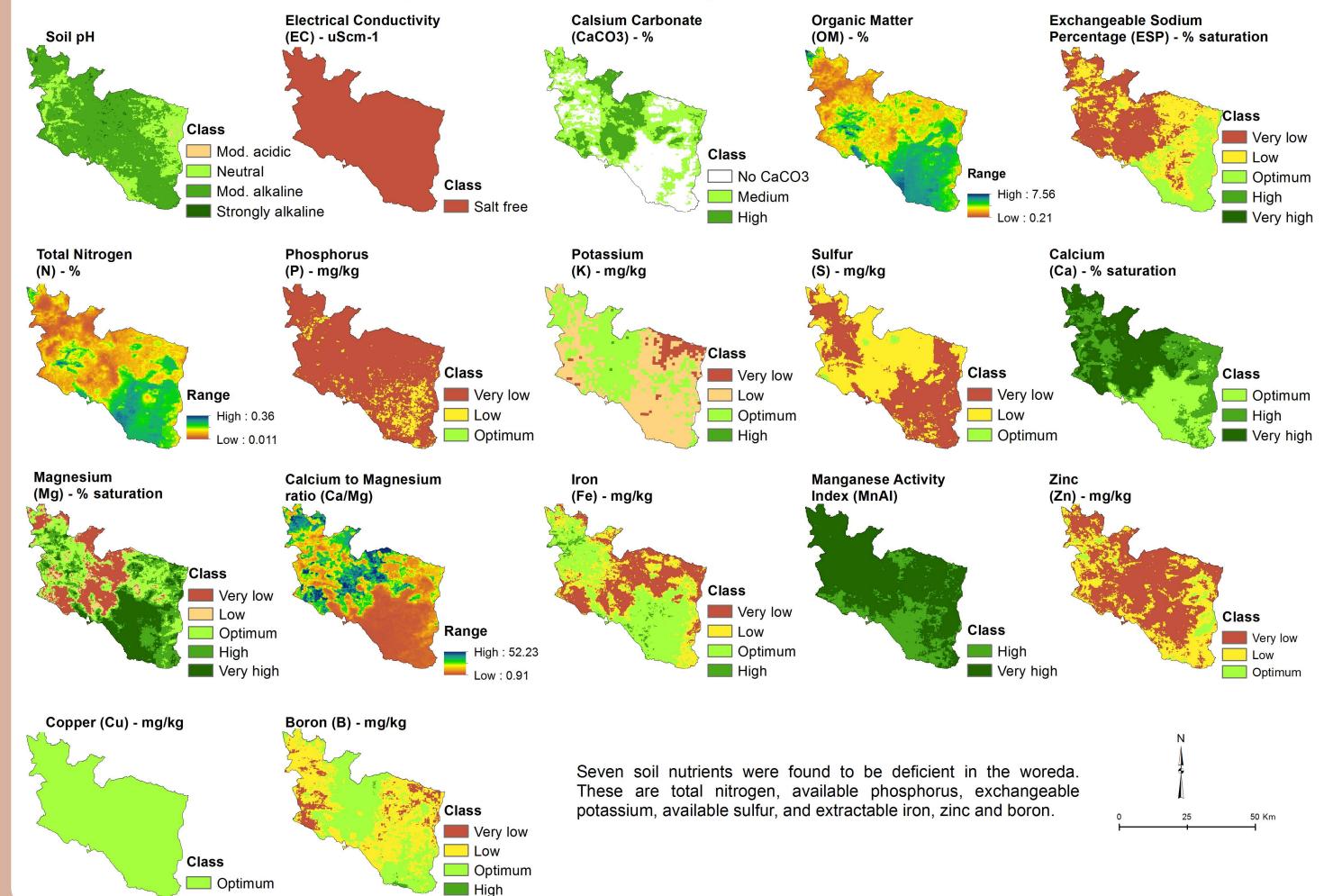




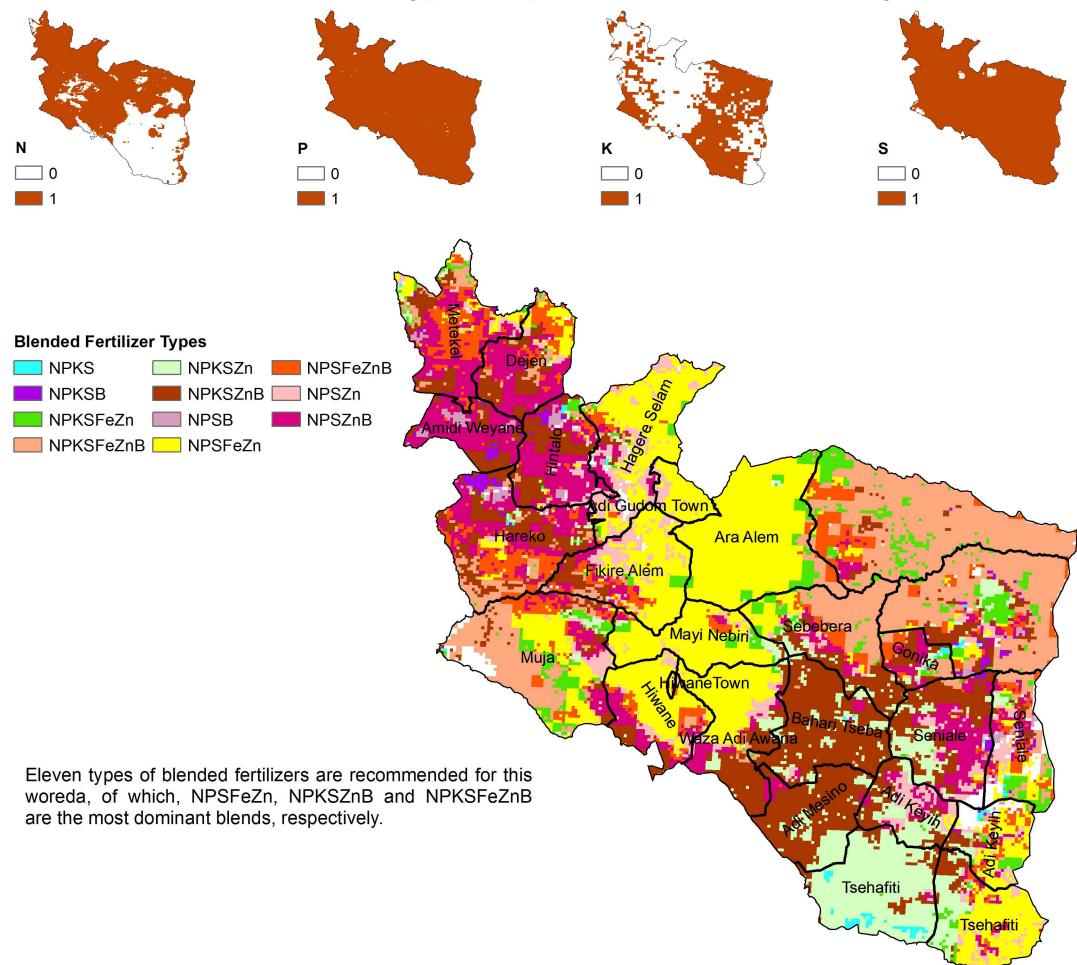


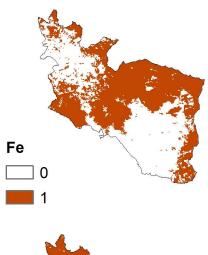
# CHAPTER 4: SOUTH TIGRAY (ZONE FOUR)

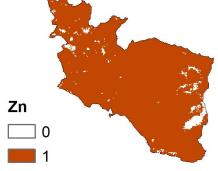
## Soil Fertility Status of Hintalo Wajirat Woreda

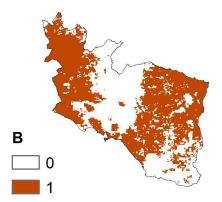


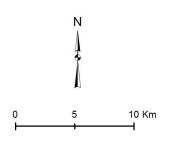
### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Hintalo Wajirat Woreda





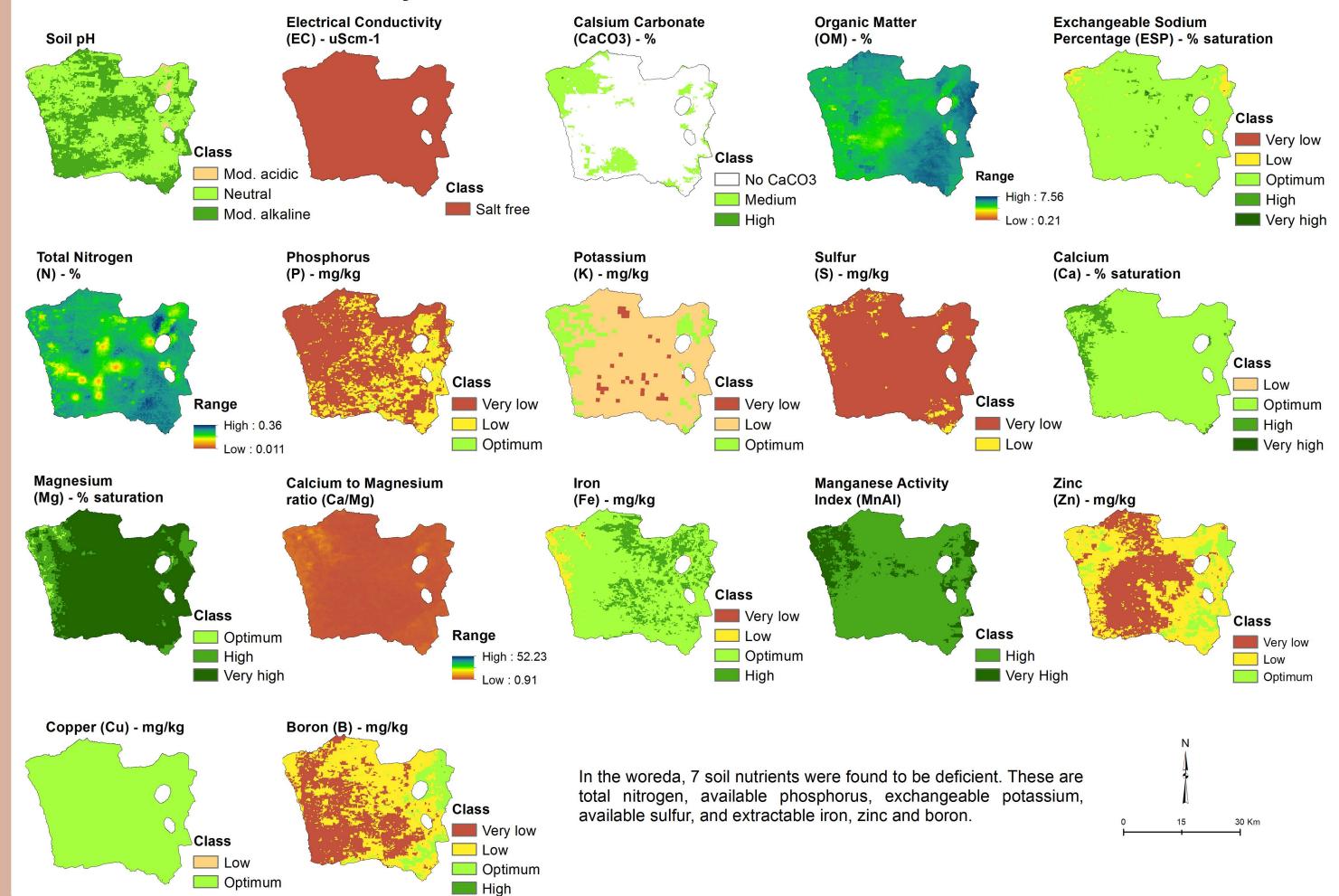




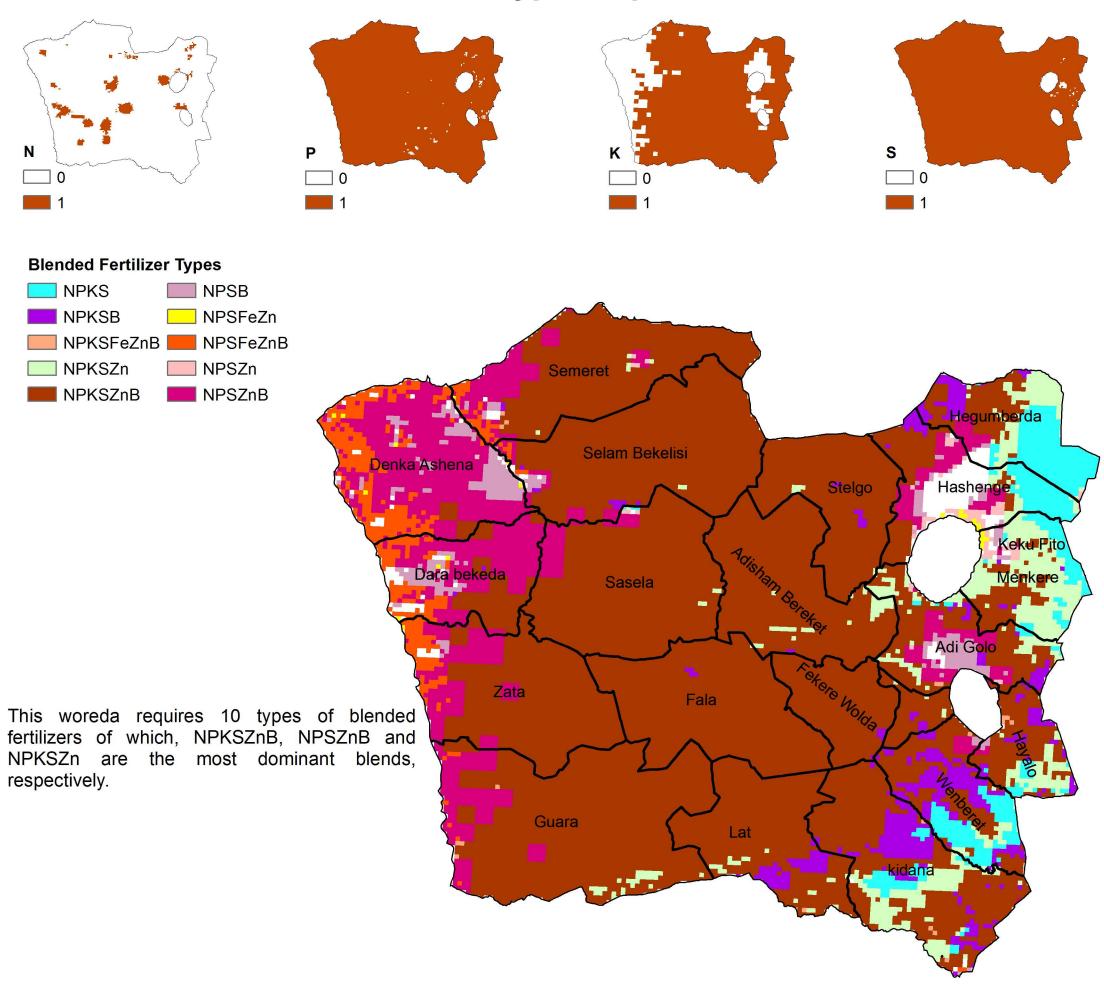


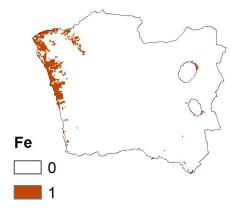
# CHAPTER 4: SOUTH TIGRAY (ZONE FOUR)

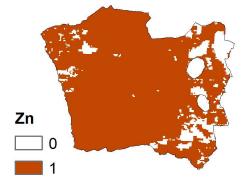
# Soil Fertility Status of Ofla Woreda

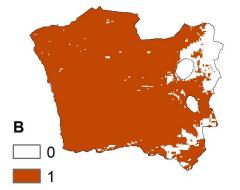


## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Ofla Woreda





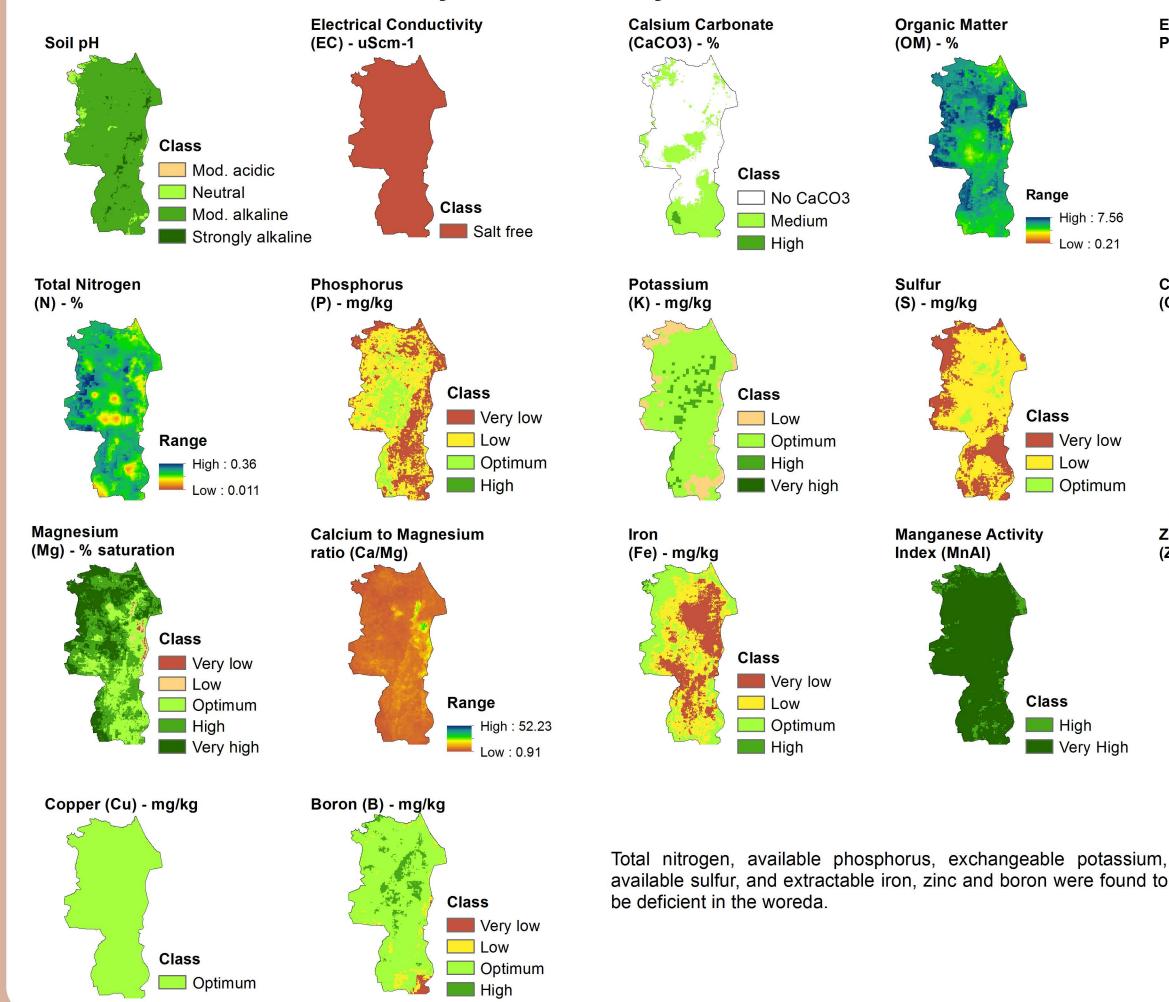


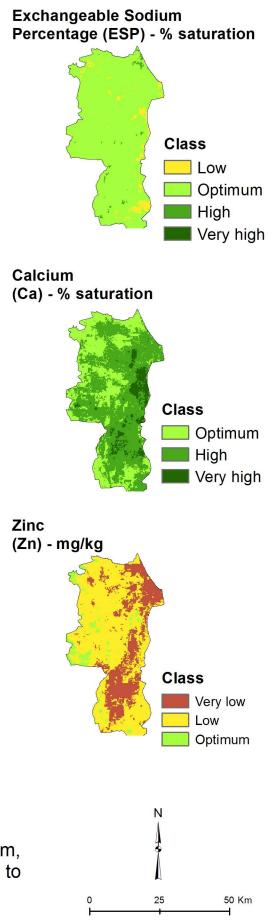


N 1 0 5 10 Km

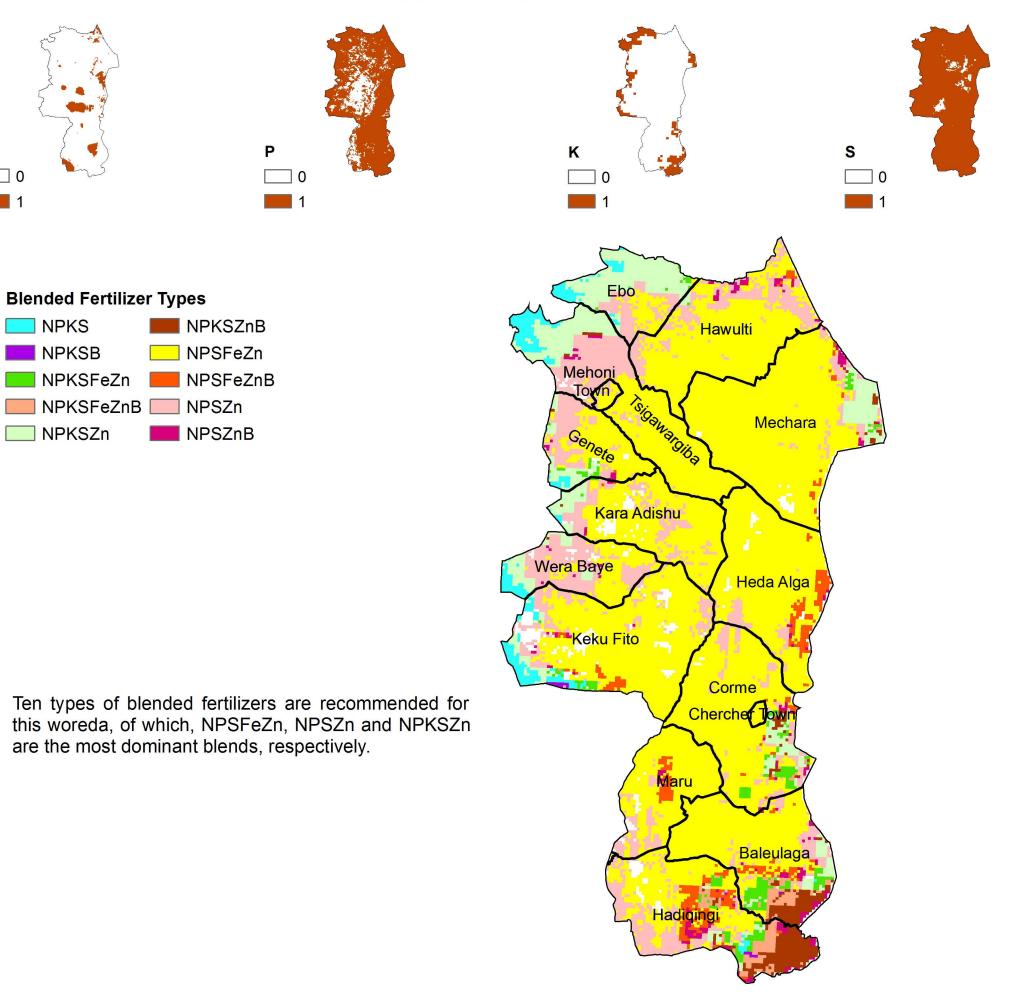
# CHAPTER 4: SOUTH TIGRAY (ZONE FOUR)

# Soil Fertility Status of Raya Azebo Woreda





## Fertilizer Type Requirement of Raya Azebo Woreda



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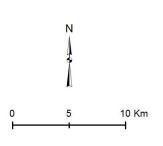




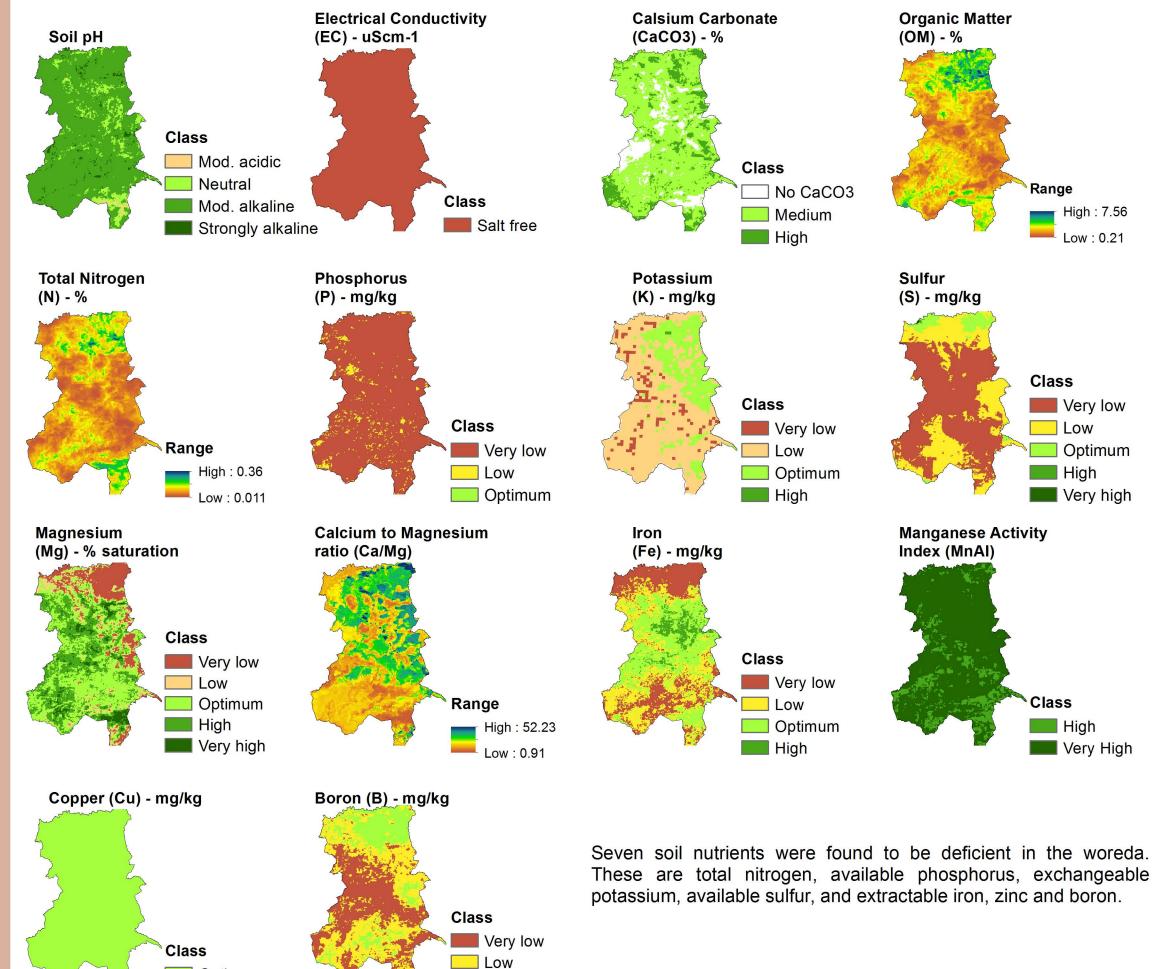






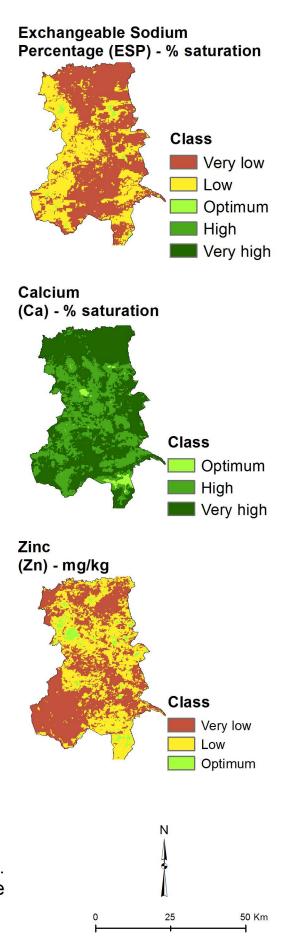


### Soil Fertility Status of Seharti Samre Woreda

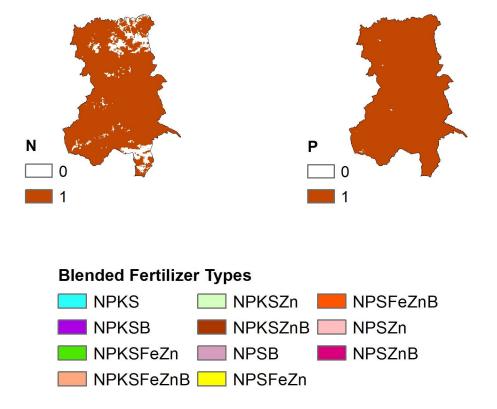


📃 Optimum

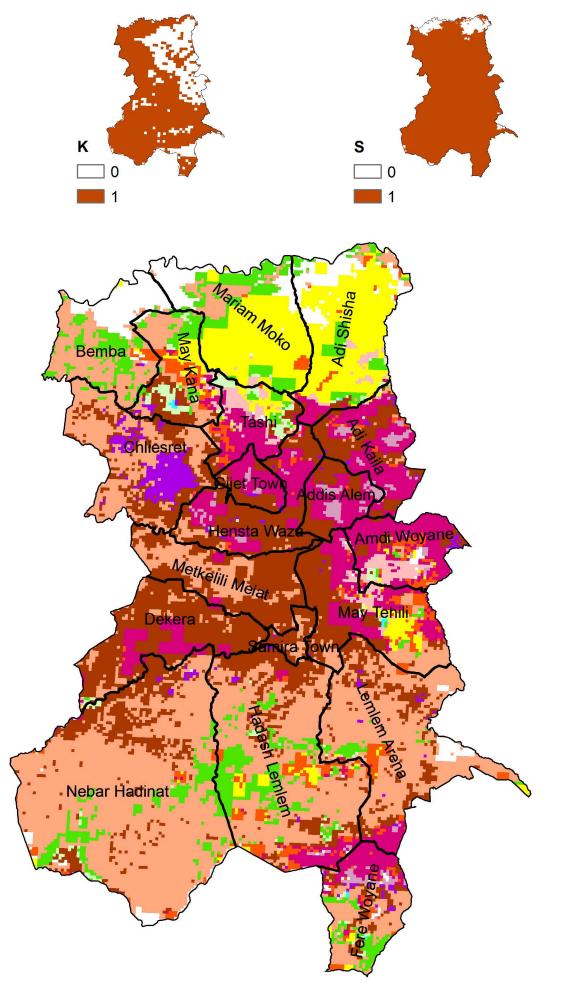
📃 Optimum

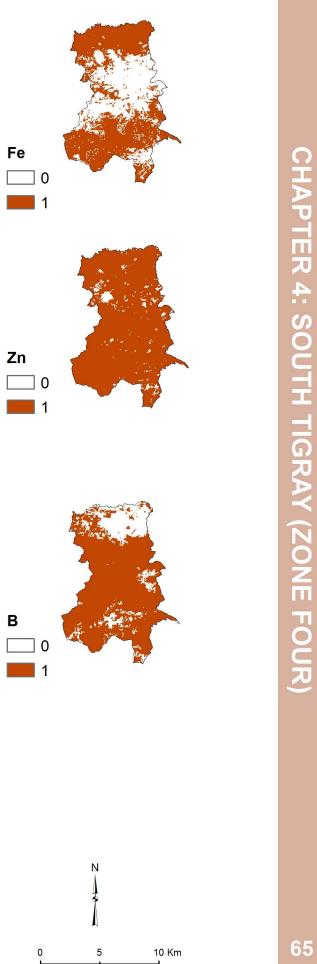


# Fertilizer Type Requirement of Seharti Samre Woreda

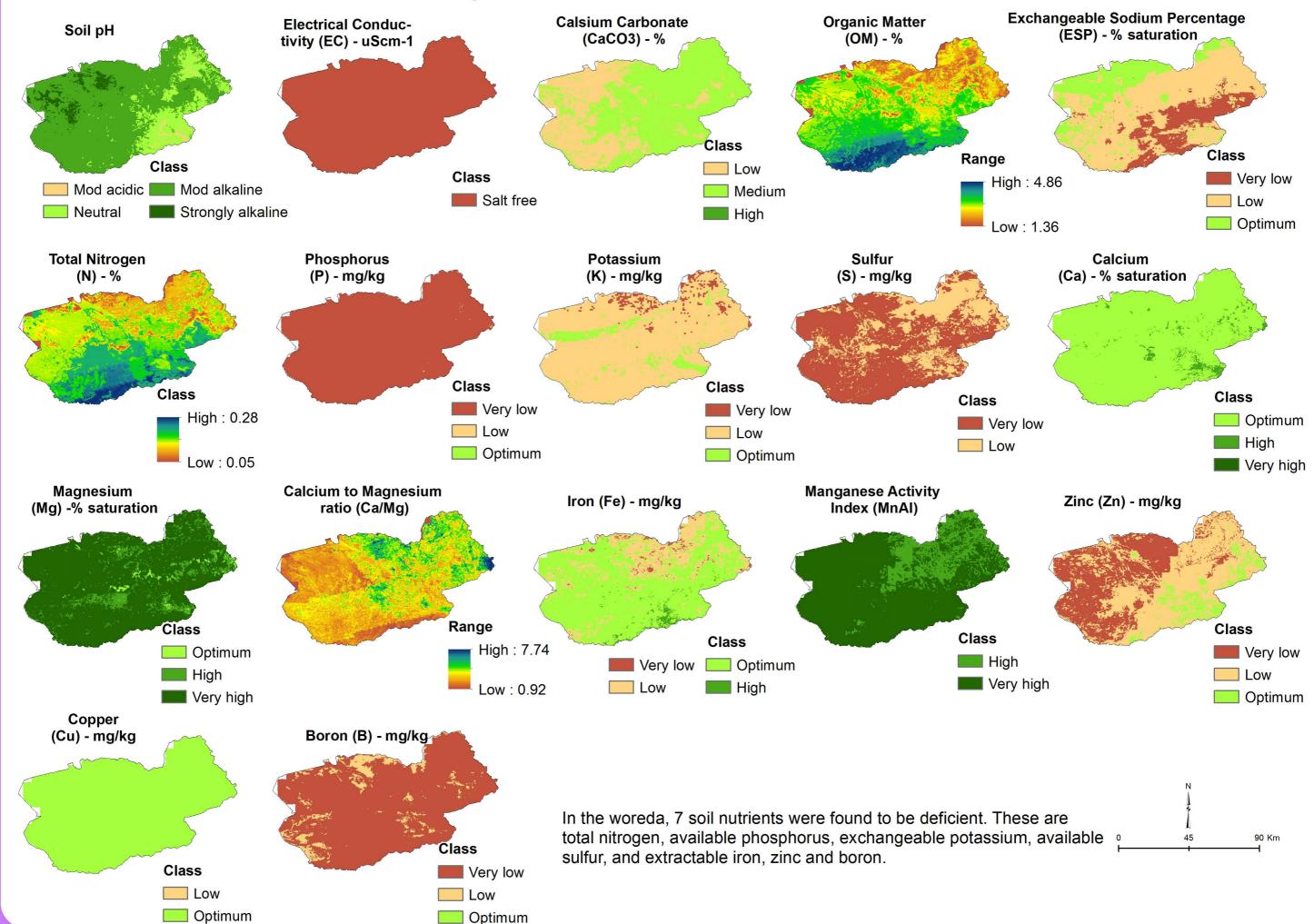


This woreda requires 11 types of blended fertilizers, of which, NPKSFeZnB, NPKSZnB and NPSZnB are the most dominant blends, respectively.



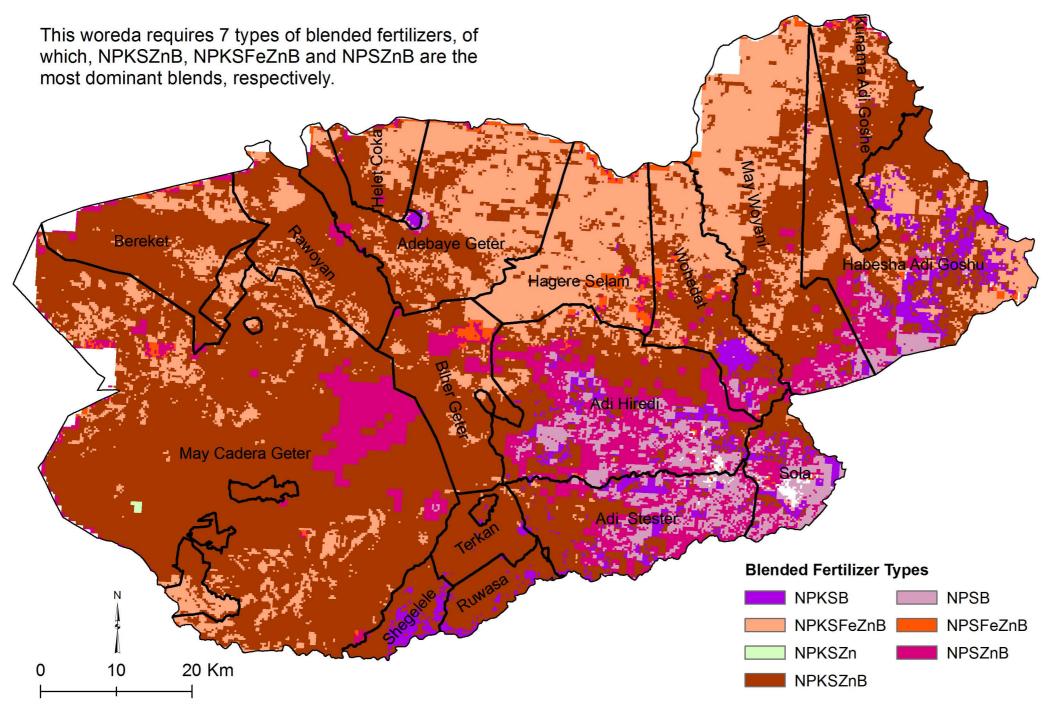


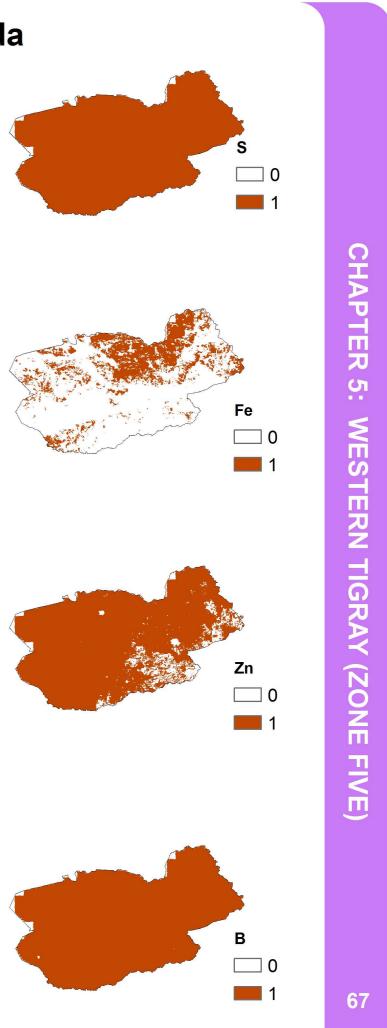
# Soil Fertility Status of Quafta Humera Woreda



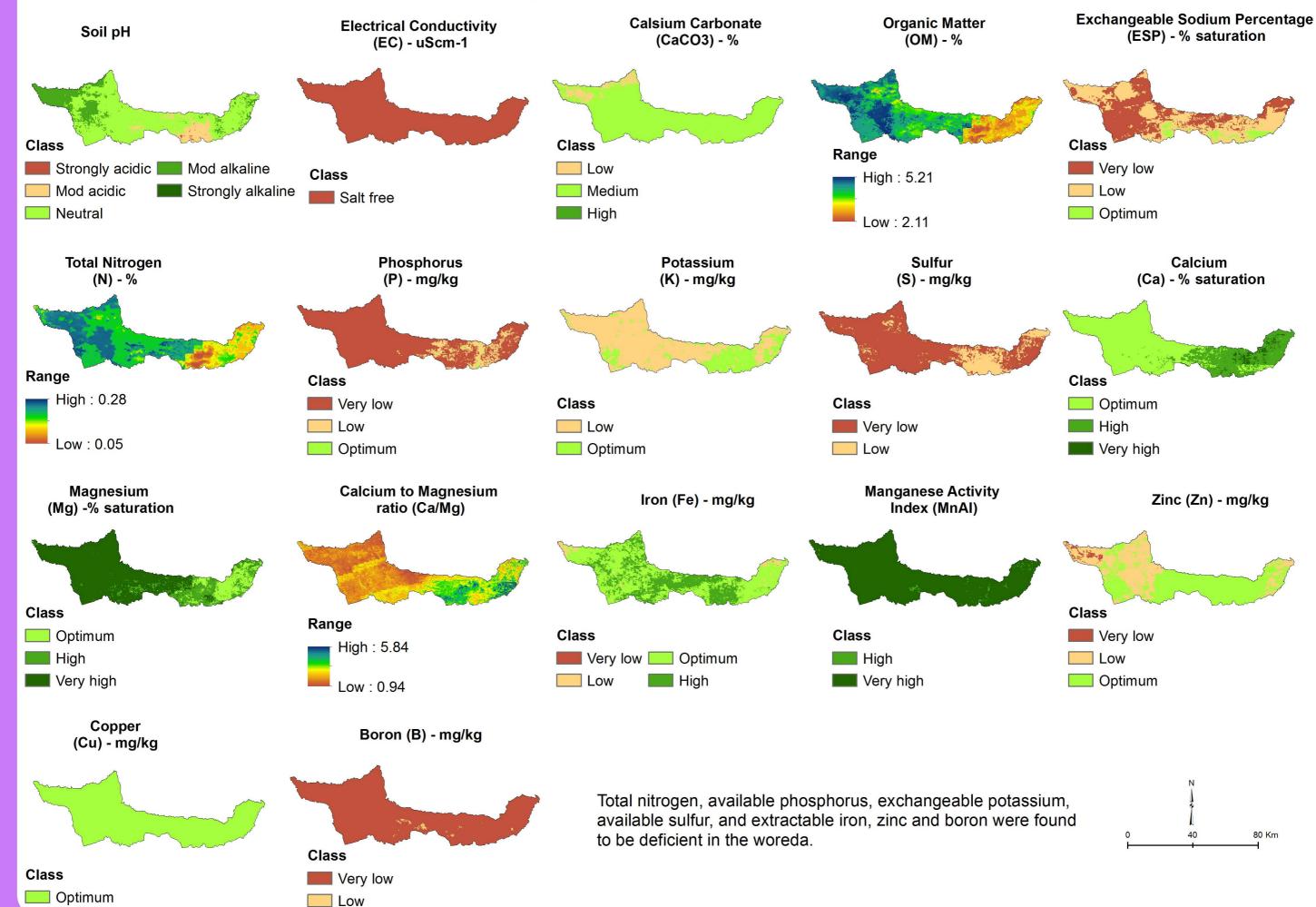
### Fertilizer Type Requirement of Qafta Humera Woreda

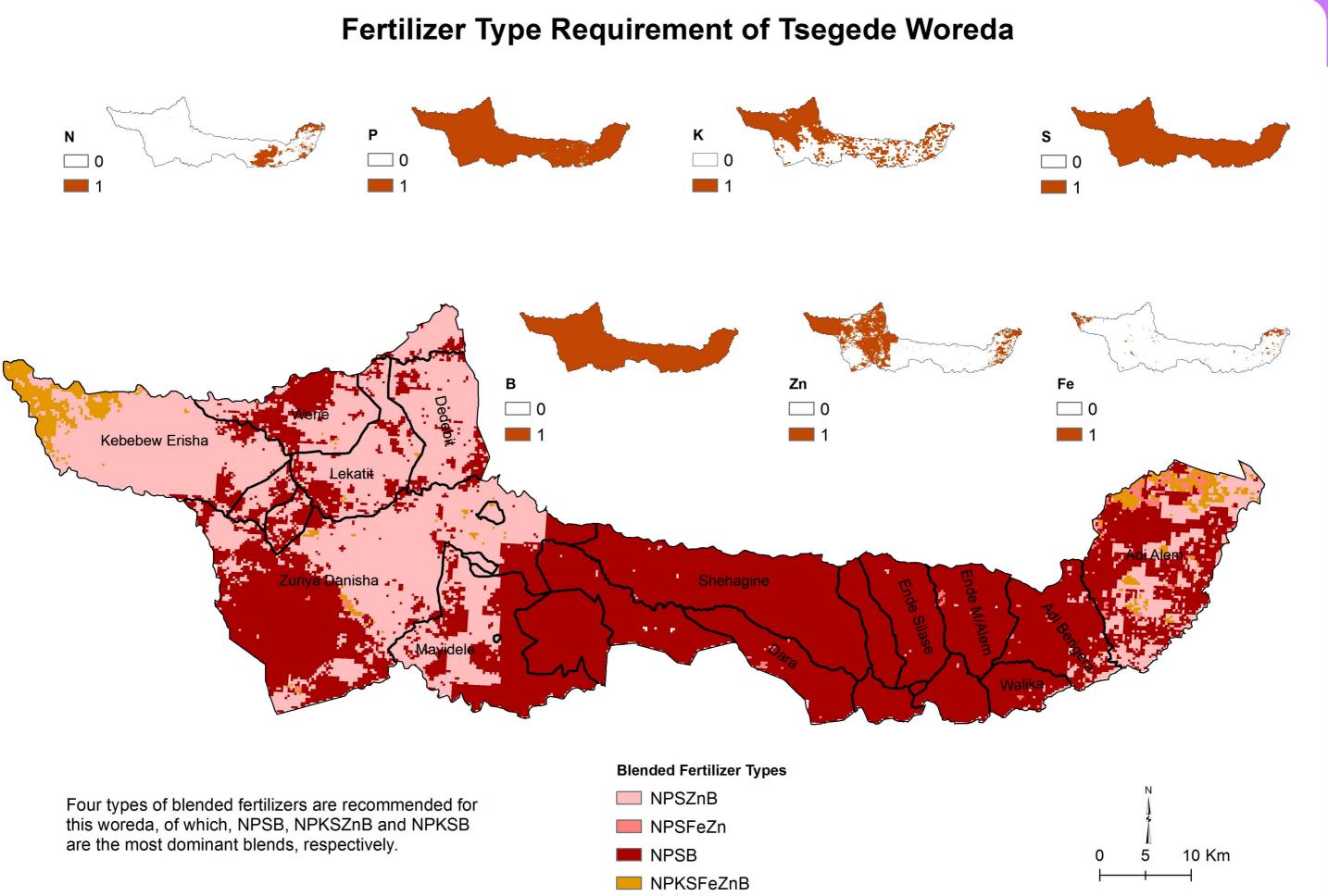




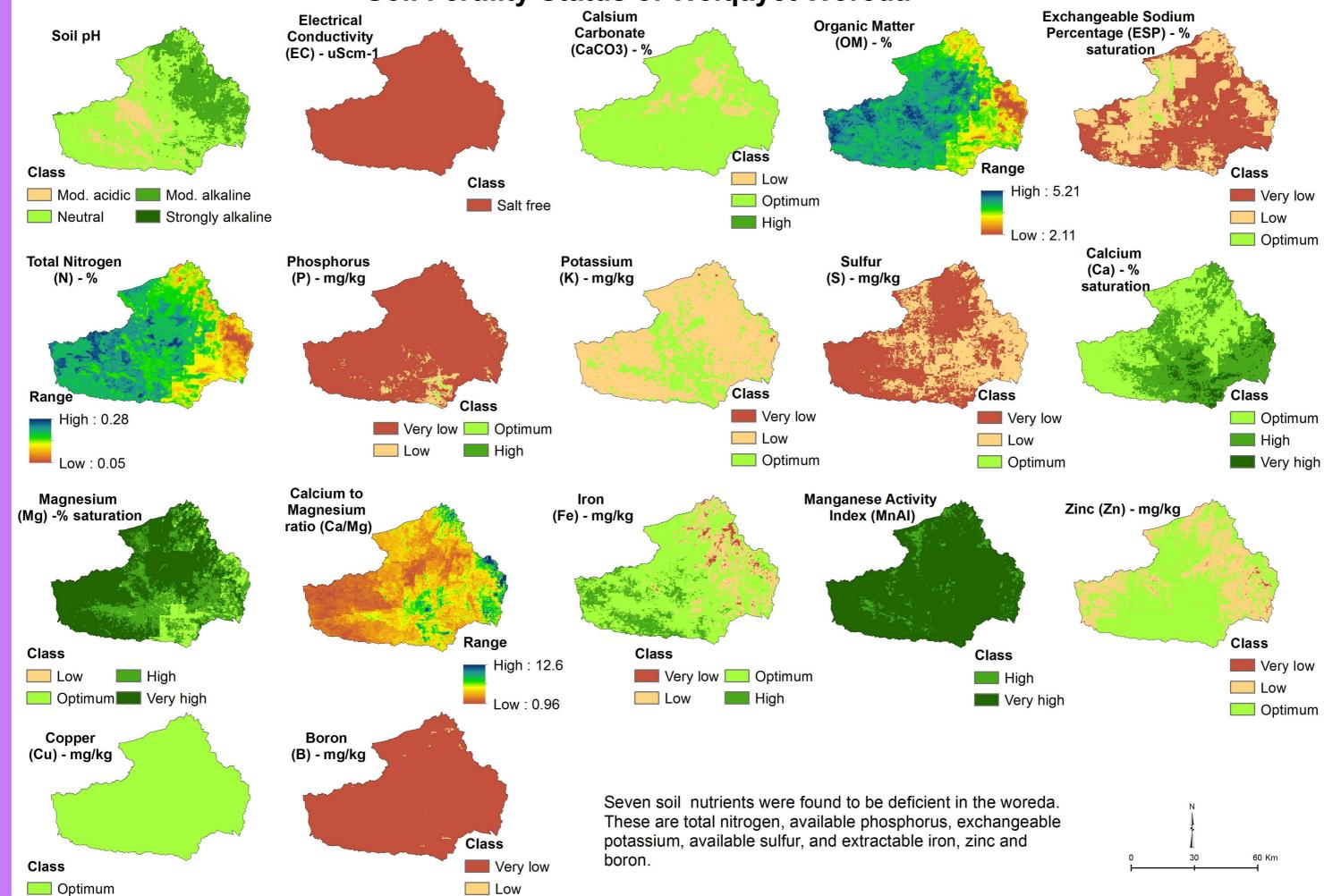


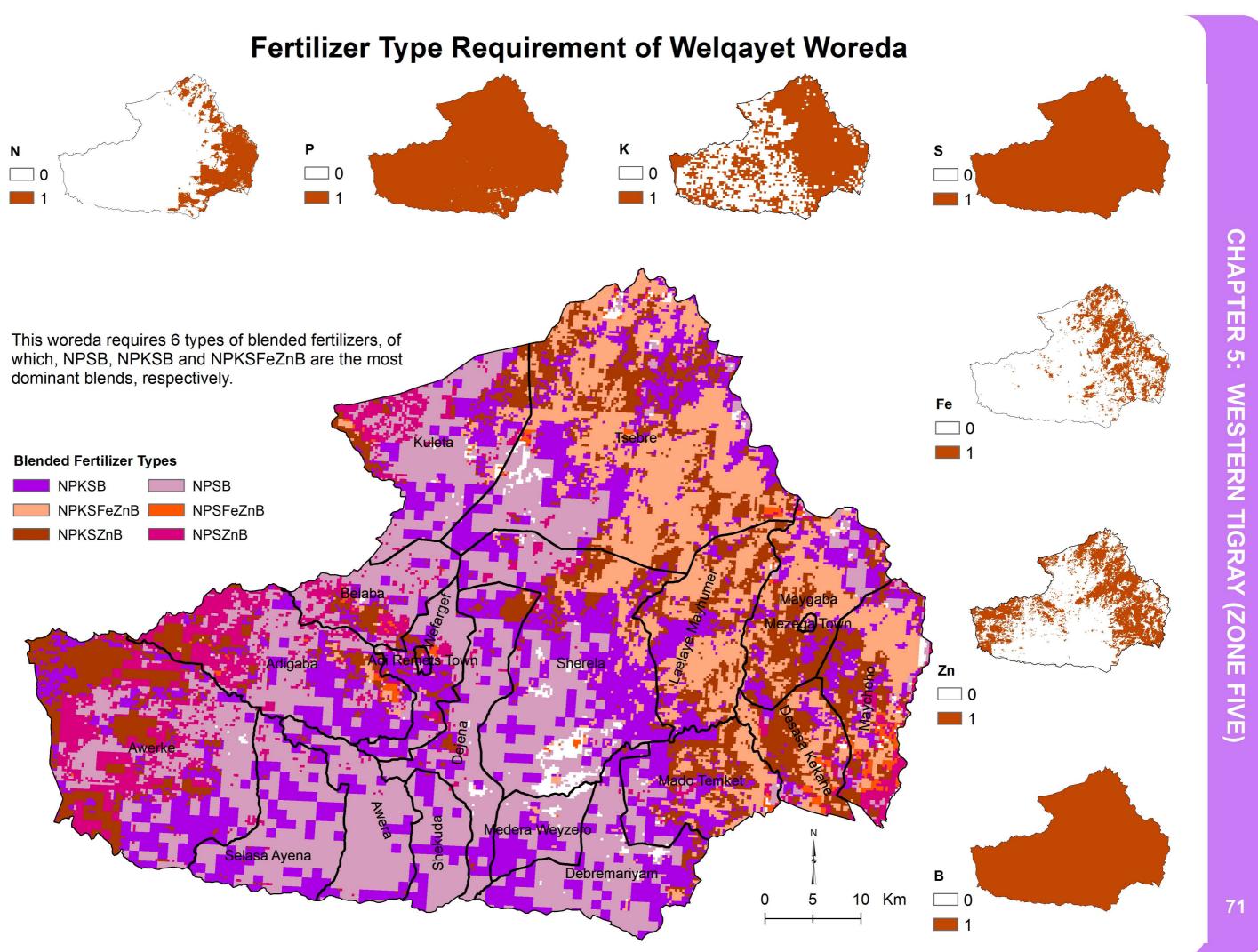
# Soil Fertility Status of Tsegede Woreda



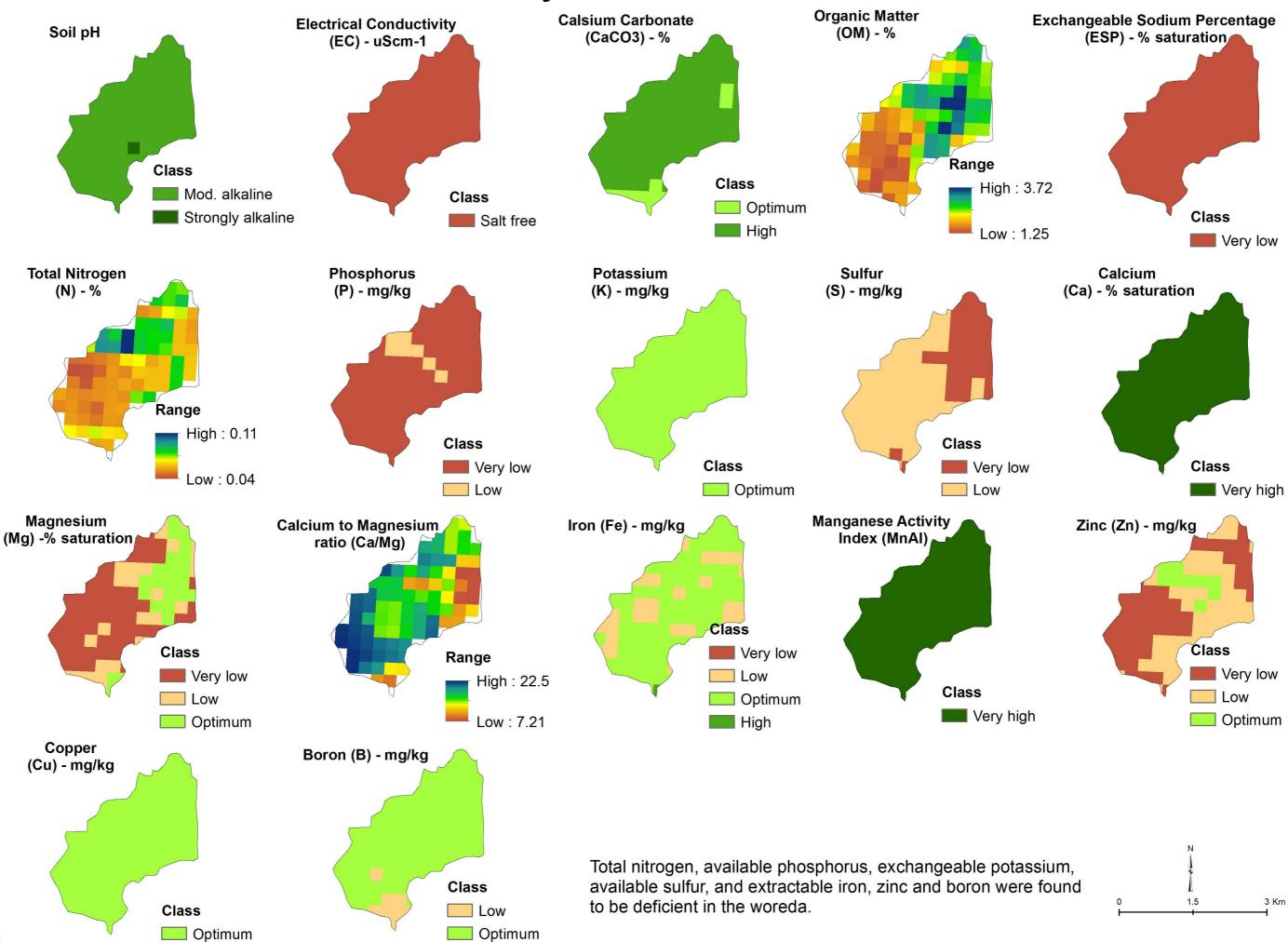


# Soil Fertility Status of Welqayet Woreda

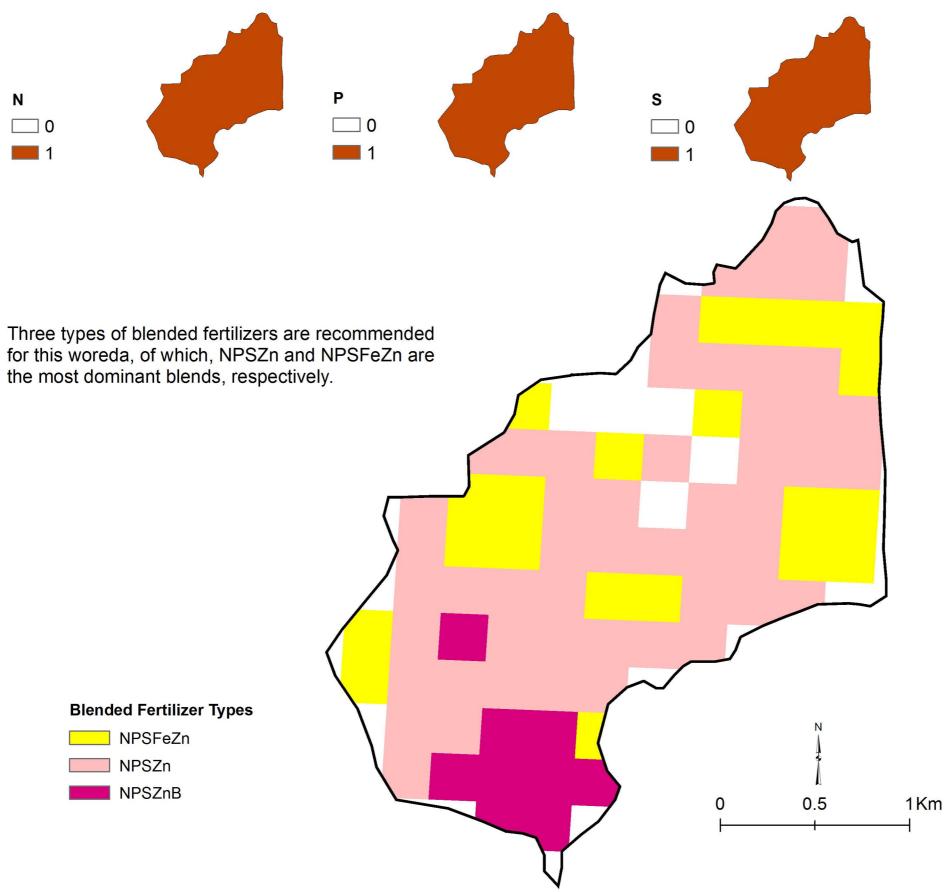


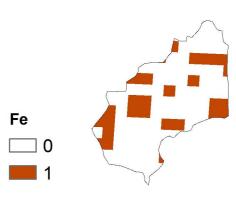


# Soil Fertility Status of Quiha Woreda



## **Quiha Woreda Fertilizer Recommendation**











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# **CHAPTER 6:** MEKELE **ESPECIAL ZONE** (ZONE SIX)

### Appendices

Appendix1. Critical levels used for classifying soil fertility parameters analysis results

Soil parameter	Status	Critical level adopted by EthioSIS	Soil parameter	Status	Critical level adopted by EthioSIS	Soil parameter	Status	Critical level adopted by EthioSIS
Soil pH (water)	Strongly acidic	< 5.5		Very low	< 0.5		Very low	< 0.5
	Moderately acidic	5.6 - 6.5	Exchangeabl	Low	0.5 - 1.0		Low	0.5 - 0.9
	Neutral	6.6 – 7.3	e sodium	Optimum	1.0 - 3.5	Copper	Optimum	1 - 20
	Moderately alkaline	7.3 – 8.4	percentage (ESP)	High	3.5 - 5	(mg/kg)	High	20 - 30
	Strongly alkaline	> 8.5		Very high	> 5		Very high	> 30
Phosphorus (mg/kg)	Very low	0 - 15	Sulfur (mg/kg)	Very low	< 10	Boron (mg/kg)	Very low	< 0.5
	Low	15 - 30		Low	10 - 20		Low	0.5 - 0.8
	Optimum	30 - 80		Optimum	20 - 80		Optimum	0.8 - 2.0
	High	80 - 150		High	80 - 100		High	2.0 - 4.0
	Very high	> 150		Very high	> 100		Very high	> 4.0
	Very low	< 90	Zinc (mg/kg)	Very low	< 1	Total	Very low	< 0.1
Potassium	Low	90 - 190		Low	1 - 1.5		Low	0.1 – 0.5
(mg/kg)	Optimum	190 - 600		Optimum	1.5 - 10	nitrogen	Optimum	0.15 – 0.3
	High	600 - 900		High	10 - 20	(%)	High	0.3 – 0.5
	Very high	> 900		Very high	> 20		Very high	> 0.5
Calcium	Very low	< 30		Very low	< 60		Very low	< 0.2
saturation	Low	30 - 50		Low	60 - 80	Organic matter (%)	Low	2.0 - 3.0
Percentage	Optimum	50 - 70	Iron (mg/kg)	Optimum	80 - 300		Optimum	3.0 - 7.0
	High	70 - 80		High	300 - 400	matter (%)	High	7.0 - 8.0
	Very high	> 80		Very high	> 400		Very high	> 8.0
Magnesium saturation percentage	Very low	< 8		Low	< 25	EC (mScm <sup>-1</sup> )	Salt free	< 2
	Low	8 - 10	Manganese Activity				Very slightly	< 2 2 - 4
	Optimum	10 - 18					saline	2 - 4 4 - 8
	High	18 – 25	Index				Slightly saline	4 – 8 8 – 16
	Very high	> 25	(MnAI)				Moderately saline Strongly saline	> 16

Sources: EthioSIS team analysis, 2014.

### Appendix 2. List of covariates<sup>\*</sup> and their definitions

No	Covaria te name	Descriptions	No	Covaria te name	Descriptions
1	BLUE	Blue Reflectance (Band 3) data set at 250m resolution for the continent of Africa, including long-term and monthly averages for the period between Jan 2000 and June 2012 (MOD13Q1)	13	MAT	Mean Annual Temperature (annual temperature)
2	BSAn	Black Sky albedo near infra-red	14	MIR	Mid-infrared (MIR) Reflectance (Band 7) data set at 250m resolution for the continent of Africa, including long-term and monthly averages for the period between Jan 2000 and June 2012 (MOD13Q1)
3	BSAs	Black Sky albedo shortwave	15	NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index, calculated from NIR and Red of spectral regions
4	BSAv	Black Sky albedo visible	16	NIR	Mid-infrared (NIR) Reflectance (Band 2 & 3) data set at 250m resolution for the continent of Africa, including long-term and monthly averages for the period between Jan 2000 and June 2012
5	CTI	Compound Topographic Index	17	NPP	Net Primary Productivity derived from satellite imageries
6	DEM /ELEV	Elevation is derived from Digital Terrain Model (DTM) of Shuttle Radar Topographic Mission (SRTM) of NASA at 90-m resolution	18	RED	Red band of spectral region
7	EVI	Enhanced Vegetation Index (EVI) data set at 250m resolution for the continent of Africa, including long-term and monthly averages for the period between Jan 2000 and June 2012	19	RELIEF	Calculated from elevation difference at a pixel level.
8	fPAR	fraction of Photosynthetically Active radiation	20	SLOPE	Derived from Shuttle Radar Topographic Mission (SRTM ) of NASA at 90-m resolution
9	LAI	Leaf Area Index (LAI) data set at 1km resolution for the continent of Africa, including Long-term Average, Variance, and Standard Deviation for the period between Feb 2000 and June 2012 (MOD15A2)	21	WSAn	White Sky albedo near infra-red
10	LSTd	Land Surface Temperature (LST) Day data set at 1km resolution for the continent of Africa, including Long-term and Monthly Averages and Variance for the period between July 2002 and June 2012 (MYD11A2)	22	WSAs	White Sky albedo shortwave
11	LSTn	Land Surface Temperature (LST) Night data set at 1km resolution for the continent of Africa, including Long-term and Monthly Averages and Variance for the period between July 2002 and June 2012 (MYD11A2)	23	WSAv	White Sky albedo visible
12	MAP	mean Annual Precipitation (annual rainfall)			

Sources: Africagrid.net; NASA, NMA of Ethiopia

\* They are categorized into four main types: Climatic factors; Reflectance; Topographic and Vegetation indices.

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One of the five Fertilizer Blending Plants at Tulu Bolo (owned by Becho Weliso Farmer's Cooperative Union)



Wheat planted with blended fertilizer in Enderta Woreda, Tigray

Tef planted with blended fertilizer in Enderta Woreda, Tigray

With balanced fertilization, maize could bear four productive cobs at Dabo Hana, Oromia