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## The impact of farmland reclamation on soil distribution in Japan: the case of Andosols in Nagano prefecture --Manuscript Draft--

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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p><b>Purpose</b> In modern times, farmlands have been reconstructed on a large-scale by cutting and filling of soils with governmental support in Japan. Principally, the reconstruction process should be conducted with minimum transportation of soils to decrease environmental impacts and cost. Then, the reclamation process can influence on the soil classification and soil properties. Therefore, this study tried to evaluate an impact of the farmland reclamation on soils.</p> <p><b>Materials and methods</b> Farmland soil in the reconstructed area was surveyed from the pedological point of view and using geographic information system (GIS). For simple comparison of surface soil thickness and soil distribution before and after farmland reclamation, we selected survey soils classified as "High-humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols", which have more than 50cm thickness of Melanic horizon, in the Japanese soil classification system. Changes in the thickness of the surface horizon was evaluated by direct measurement on the field survey. The farmland area, where was affected by the reclamation with large-scale, have been calculated using GIS by comparison of data of digital elevation model (DEM) between two time periods made by topographic maps.</p> <p><b>Results and discussion</b> As a result, the thickness of Melanic horizon of Andosol was decreased from over 50cm to 26.9cm in average. Calculation by GIS showed that over half of the area occupied by "High-humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols", was reclaimed. This indicates that soils originally distributed possibly lost the feature of "Melanic". Reclamation processes always influence soils at the site. Soil profiles before and after reclamations tell us drastic changes of soil properties at the site. Although surface soil conserved through farmland reclamation processes corresponding to the Japanese guideline, this study showed the influence of farmland reclamation process on soil classification by decrease of surface soil thickness and mixing with subsurface soils. The soil distribution in study area is required to revise.</p> <p><b>Conclusions</b> We confirmed that farmland reclamation corresponding to the guideline influence on soil classification by modification of surface soil horizon. There is an</p>

	overlooking of soil disturbance area in prediction by calculation of elevation change by simple comparison using DEM before and after farmland reclamation. However, we suggested that this methodology is effective to predict the area where soil distribution was changed especially for area original soils with thick diagnostic surface horizons occupied.
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15 **Abstract**

16 **Purpose** In modern times, farmlands have been reconstructed on a large-scale by cutting and filling of  
17 soils with governmental support in Japan. Principally, the reconstruction process should be conducted with  
18 minimum transportation of soils to decrease environmental impacts and cost. Then, the reclamation process  
19 can influence on the soil classification and soil properties. Therefore, this study tried to evaluate an impact  
20 of the farmland reclamation on soils.

21 **Materials and methods** Farmland soil in the reconstructed area was surveyed from the pedological point  
22 of view and using geographic information system (GIS). For simple comparison of surface soil thickness  
23 and soil distribution before and after farmland reclamation, we selected survey soils classified as “High-  
24 humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols”, which have more than 50cm thickness of Melanic horizon, in the  
25 Japanese soil classification system. Changes in the thickness of the surface horizon was evaluated by direct  
26 measurement on the field survey. The farmland area, where was affected by the reclamation with large-  
27 scale, have been calculated using GIS by comparison of data of digital elevation model (DEM) between  
28 two time periods made by topographic maps.

29 **Results and discussion** As a result, the thickness of Melanic horizon of Andosol was decreased from  
30 over 50cm to 26.9cm in average. Calculation by GIS showed that over half of the area occupied by “High-  
31 humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols”, was reclaimed. This indicates that soils originally distributed  
32 possibly lost the feature of “Melanic”. Reclamation processes always influence soils at the site. Soil profiles

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33 before and after reclamations tell us drastic changes of soil properties at the site. Although surface soil  
34 conserved through farmland reclamation processes corresponding to the Japanese guideline, this study  
35 showed the influence of farmland reclamation process on soil classification by decrease of surface soil  
36 thickness and mixing with subsurface soils. The soil distribution in study area is required to revise.

37 **Conclusions** We confirmed that farmland reclamation corresponding to the guideline influence on soil  
38 classification by modification of surface soil horizon. There is an overlooking of soil disturbance area in  
39 prediction by calculation of elevation change by simple comparison using DEM before and after farmland  
40 reclamation. However, we suggested that this methodology is effective to predict the area where soil  
41 distribution was changed especially for area original soils with thick diagnostic surface horizons occupied.

43 **Keywords** Contour shape • Land consolidation • Paddy • Soil transportation • Surface soil thickness •  
44 Upland field

47 **1 Introduction**

48 Farmland reclamation has been traditionally conducted in Japan, mainly to open agricultural areas. The  
49 reclamations for agriculture have still been conducted on a tremendously large scale with civil-engineering  
50 works in modern times. Traditional reclamations for agriculture with man-powered work changed the land

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51 little with winding boundary and narrow passes along the original topography, resulting in no change  
52 affecting to soil classification. In modern times, farmlands have been reconstructed on a large-scale like as  
53 civil engineering using a large agricultural machinery by transportation of soils within the reclaimed area  
54 and from outside to inside of the reclamation area. Such farmland reclamations have been encouraged by  
55 governmental support which established in 1960s (Kikuchi et al. 1999). Application of large agricultural  
56 machinery enables us the land consolidation accompanied by increase in a unit area surrounded by straight  
57 lines by civil engineering works and construction of broader agricultural passes. The land consolidations  
58 on a large scale have been conducted in the world (Hiironen and Riekkinen 2016; Karásek et al. 2018).  
59 However, the reconstruction process should minimize transportation of soil mass to decrease environmental  
60 impacts and to save the cost. Then, all of the reclamation process could not directly influence on the soil  
61 classification but soil profiles and properties. Moreover, according to Japanese guidelines for farmland  
62 reclamation, original surface soils, those are historically improved by farmers, are recommended to  
63 conserve to maintain the productivity (The Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering  
64 2006, 2013). The recommended thickness of the surface horizon as a plow layer, which ideally includes  
65 conserved surface soils, were defined in the guidelines as over 15cm for a paddy field and over 25cm for  
an upland field including the field for crop rotation consisting of paddy and upland field. The redistribution  
of the surface soils is a specific management for farmlands by the land consolidation shown in Fig. 1 (The  
Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering 2006, 2013). On the other hand, the

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69 Japanese guideline of engineering for settlements and roads have no rules for surface soil conservation  
70 (MLIT 2019). In the case of civil engineering in an urban area, removal of surface soils containing much  
71 organic carbons are recommended to improve the load capacity for constructions (The Japanese  
72 Geotechnical Society 1999, 2000; Scheyer and Hipple 2005; Trammell et al. 2017). Thus, surface soil  
73 thickness of reclaimed farmland can be a specific feature to consider their impacts on soil distribution.  
74 Since actual condition of soil distribution and soil surface horizons modified by land consolidation  
75 according to this definition is still unclear, the revision processes of Japanese soil maps have not taken it  
76 into account (Takata et al. 2009, 2011; Kanda et al. 2017). Therefore, this study tried to evaluate an impact  
77 of the farmland reconstruction on soils, by focusing on thickness of surface soil horizons and soil  
78 transportation by elevation change, in a region of Nagano prefecture, which is an inland prefecture in Japan  
79 and where Andosols largely occupy. The evaluation process of soil distribution proposed in this study can  
80 be applicable for further revision of Japanese soil map using geographic information system (GIS) coupled  
81 with old and recent issued geographical maps. To clarify the impact of farmland reclamation on soil  
82 distribution, farmland soil in the reconstructed area was surveyed from the pedological point of view and  
83 using GIS.

85 **2 Materials and methods**

86 **2.1 Study site**

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87 The study site was set on Nagano Prefecture where is located in the central Japan and an inland prefecture  
88 without seacoast. One of the major soil types of Andosols are distributed in this region, especially on the  
89 mountain foot slope and the river terrace. The geographical location of Andosols is common in the other  
90 areas in Japan. The Nagano prefecture is also characterized by famous mountain ranges called as Japanese  
91 Alps. These mountain ranges include many active volcanos, such as Mt. Ontake, Mt. Yakedake, Mt.  
92 Yatsugatake, Mt. Asama, Mt. Norikuradake and so on located on west side, the central part and the southern  
93 part in the prefecture (Fig. 2). Since volcanic activities during the Holocene have frequently released  
94 volcanic products to surrounding regions, the mountain foot slope and the river terrace have been covered  
95 with volcanic ash. Westerlies also promote accumulation of volcanic ash inside of Nagano. That is the  
96 reason why different types of Andosols are distributed in Nagano prefecture. Chino-City located in the  
97 western foot slope of Mt. Yatsugatake was chosen as the study site. Topography of the city is relatively flat  
98 and most of the area in the city is occupied by Andosols. Although this region has already opened as a  
99 common Japanese farmland in the Medieval time, the large-scale land consolidation has been tackled after  
100 21st century to extend a unit of farmland accompanied by the farmland readjustment. This type of land  
101 consolidation is getting common in Japan due to decrease in population of farmers and to achieve cost  
102 effective management in the local regions. In this area, farmland reclamation was conducted on paddy and  
103 upland field since 1990 to 2002 (Chino-City Board of Education 1993; Land Improvement and  
104 Consolidation Division, Suwa Region Promotion Bureau of Nagano Prefecture 2016).

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106 **2.2 Soil map**

107 The soil map used in this study was expressed by the latest version of the soil classification system. That  
108 was the cultivated soils in Japan according to the comprehensive soil classification system of Japan-First  
109 approximation” (Kanda et al. 2017). The soil map has been continuously translated on each time when the  
110 soil classification systems for cultivated land was revised (Takata et al. 2009, 2011; Kanda et al. 2017). The  
111 first soil map was prepared according to the soil survey during 1959 to 1978 using the first soil classification  
112 systems. Based on this revision system of the soil maps, changes in soil properties by the land consolidation  
113 have not been taken into account.

114 The target area was extracted from the digital soil map with 1/50,000 scale. This study area was mainly  
115 occupied by “High-humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols”. These soils have an advantage to identify change  
116 of soil property due to land consolidation from the diagnostic character. Changes in thickness and color of  
117 the surface horizon can be easily identified from the soil horizon. The qualifiers as “High-humic” means  
118 the soil horizon with high organic carbon content (over 6%) and “Cumulic” means thicker than 50cm  
119 surface soil horizon with “High-humic” or “Humic” (over 3% of soil organic carbon) feature. The  
120 combination of “High-humic with Cumulic” corresponds to “Hyperhumic” and “Melanic” in WRB (IUSS  
121 Working Group WRB 2015), and of “High-humic Cumulic” corresponds to “Melanic epipedon” in Soil  
122 Taxonomy (Soil Survey Staff 2014).

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124 **2.3 Evaluation of the effect of land consolidation on the soil distribution**

125 The farmland area, where was affected by the farmland reclamation on a large-scale, have been calculated  
126 using GIS (Arc GIS 10.2.2 ESRI Japan, Tokyo) by comparison of 10m digital elevation models (DEM)  
127 made from contour maps in 1 to 25000 scale published in two time periods, 1988 (GSI 1997) and 2014  
128 (Geospatial Information Authority of Japan 2018), using the “Topo to Raster” tool of Arc GIS. The  
129 calculated area was shown in Fig.3. Contour map in 1 to 25000 scale are basic maps covering all area of  
130 Japan since 1983 (Akeno et al. 2002). Thickness of surface horizons affecting to the qualifier of soil  
131 classification was surveyed within the study area by direct measurement using a boring stick (W10mm,  
132 L300mm, H10mm, DIK-1641 Daiki Rika Kogyo Co., Ltd.) at the research area where farmland was  
133 reclaimed on a large scale. The total survey of area was approximately 30 ha depending on land uses. The  
134 surface soil thickness of 30 points was checked by each farmland lot at approximately 40m intervals within  
135 the research area (Fig. 4).

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137 **3 Results**

138 Surface horizon thickness was shown in Fig. 5 and Table 1. Despite of our selection of survey points in  
139 this study area where was occupied by soils classified as “High-humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols”,  
140 which has ”Melanic” horizon thicker than 50cm, our result showed  $26.9\text{cm} \pm 9.4\text{cm}$  in thickness.

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3 141 Exceptionally just one surveyed points reached to 50cm thickness due to mechanical disturbance by deep  
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6 142 cultivation after reclamation. The minimum thickness of surface horizon, observed in two points, was 15cm  
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9 143 thickness, which equals to the minimum thickness recommended to conserve according to the guideline of  
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12 144 farmland reclamation (The Japanese Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering 2006, 2013).  
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15 145 Approximately one-third of soil color data of surface horizons on the field survey was brighter than the  
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18 146 criterion of “High-humic” in the comprehensive soil classification system of Japan-First approximation.  
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21 147 The following is the criterion of soil color for “High-humic” horizon, the Value is not higher than 3 and  
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24 148 Chroma is not higher than 3 and not both of Value and Chroma is 3 in the Munsell color chart. From these  
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27 149 two features (thickness and color of surface soil horizon), farmland reclamation changed soil distribution  
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30 150 in the surveyed area. The diagnostic surface horizon, “High-humic Cumulic” in Japan, “Hyper humic” and  
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33 151 “Melanic” in WRB, and “Melanic epipedon” in Soil Taxonomy, was lost through farmland reclamation  
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36 152 processes.  
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39 153 Around surveyed area, we estimated soil thickness affected by soil cutting and filling by land  
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42 154 consolidation using GIS and two period of topographical maps. The result of estimation was illustrated in  
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45 155 Fig. 6 at more than 50cm topographical change. The overlaying of this map and soil map indicates that over  
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48 156 half of “High-humic Cumulic Allophanic Andosols” classified in the soil map of cultivated soil potentially  
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51 157 lose their “Cumulic” and “High-humic” features through land consolidation processes (Figs 3 and 6). The  
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54 158 18 field survey points were distributing in the area which consolidated by cutting, the 7 survey points were  
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159 distributed in the area consolidated by cutting, and the 5 survey points were distributed in area consolidated  
160 within 0.5m filling or cutting. We did not find any relations between thickness of surface soil horizons and  
161 type of elevation change (cutting or filling).

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163 **4 Discussion**

164 The soil classification system (Obara et al. 2011) used for the soil map has a soil group named as  
165 “Reformed soils” for soils filled with transported materials. Since this soil group is defined by import of  
166 alien soil materials thicker than 35cm, which identified by unusual pairs of vertically continuous soil  
167 horizons, some of soils reclaimed by on-site transportation were not classified as “Reformed soils”. It is  
168 difficult to judge whether soil materials redistributed by farmland reclamation can fulfill the definition of  
169 “Transportic” in WRB (2015), because we can’t trace the redistribution of surface soil materials and we  
170 can’t distinguish that redistributed soil materials, that “have been moved from a source area outside the  
171 immediate vicinity” or not. According to Soil Taxonomy (2014), most of these redistributed soil materials  
172 can be identified as “Human–Altered Materials” and some of these soil materials likely to identify as  
173 “Human-Transported Materials”. Soils modified by farmland reclamation should be represented with  
174 qualifiers for human activities. On the other hand, most of those soils could not be classified by features of  
175 human activities at the highest or second highest category (“Reference Soil Group” (RSG) in WRB and  
176 “Soil Order” in Soil Taxonomy). Thus, classification of soils in reclaimed farmland usually require field

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177 survey.

178 Thickness of the field survey indicates that soils originally distributed have already lost the feature of  
179 “Melanic” (in WRB and Soil Taxonomy) by the farmland reclamation in thickness and color criteria.  
180 Change of soil color can be explained by contamination of sub-surface soil materials with brighter color  
181 through soil transportation process. We have a guideline about thickness of reclaimed surface soil horizon  
182 for cultivation. In Japanese guideline for farmland reclamation, original surface soil conservation is  
183 recommended because of effective soil resource utilization for plant growth and cost saving (The Japanese  
184 Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering 2006, 2013). In this guideline, the required soil  
185 thicknesses for cultivation, which is almost same as recommended thickness of original surface for soil  
186 conservation, are 15 cm in paddy and 25 cm in upland field and rice-crop rotation farmland at least. These  
187 are general plowing thickness for rice and major crops except for root crops. Averaged surface soil thickness  
188 in this study (26.9 cm) including paddy fields were well fitted to the case for rice-crop rotation fields. Our  
189 results showed a case that the land consolidation project complied the guideline and a case of land  
190 consolidation changed soil distribution classified as thick “Melanic” horizon, that is one of diagnostic  
191 surface horizons. If all of farmland reclamations in Japan were conducted according to the guideline,  
192 originally distributed surface soil horizons thicker than 25 cm were uniformed into approximately 15 cm  
193 thickness in paddies and 25 cm thickness in upland field same as the surveyed area. The thickness for  
194 upland field is also same as the required thickness of diagnostic surface soil horizons in the Japanese soil

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195 classification systems. Therefore, according to this precondition, information about farmland type and  
196 identification of topographical change between before and after farmland reclamation enable prediction of  
197 soil distribution changes classified by diagnostic surface soil horizons.

198 The farmland reclamation should impact on sub-surface horizons as well. In the case of minimum  
199 transportation of soil materials to be less impact on the agricultural land, the sub-surface horizon might not  
200 be changed from the original one, even if we can observe any anthropogenic alteration in the surface soil s.  
201 Although depth of diagnostic sub-surface horizons is changed by the reclamation, properties and classified  
202 soil names are not changed in such cases. On the other hand, our results in the case of land cutting indicated  
203 that the soil distribution might be changed at the highest category (“RSG” and “Soil Order”) by farmland  
204 reclamations. A geological study reported that about 3m thickness of volcanic material layers distribute in  
205 the study area (Kitazawa and Kawachi 1967). Although the reported thickness has large uncertainty, our  
206 estimation indicated that whole diagnostic horizons of “Andosols” might be removed in area identified as  
207 over 3.5m cutting. More precise estimation of elevation changes by soil transportation using large-scale  
208 contour maps and other geographical data can help more certain prediction of soil distribution change at  
209 the highest category by alteration in deeper horizons. Therefore, we can’t predict that soil names classified  
210 from before farmland reclamation and after reclamation are different or not. Thus, our prediction  
211 methodology for soil distribution change by farmland reclamation should be limited in area with soils  
212 classified by diagnostic surface horizons showed by soil map.

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213 In Japan, exploitation and reclamation of farmland have been managed on a small scale depending on  
214 original topography before establishment of a governmental supporting law for land consolidation until  
215 1960s (Kikuchi et al. 1999). Now, farmland reclamation project accompanies construction of infrastructures  
216 for the farmland and villages on a larger scale as compared to the period before 1960s. Large-scaled  
217 reclamation on the farmland involve a topographical modification with a larger civil engineering process.  
218 In the study area, we can find differences in shape of contour lines on maps before and after the reclamation.  
219 In Japan, the scale of maps used in this study (1 to 25000) is standard and we can easily get maps which  
220 have periodically revised since 1983. Although this scale of contour maps was too small-scale to precisely  
221 calculate elevation in the order of centi-meter which is required for soil classification, it was enough to  
222 identify land consolidated area and soil distribution change through the consolidation processes. Therefore,  
223 this study suggested that maps in 1 to 25000 scale is enough for prediction of loss of “High-humic Cumulic”  
224 (“Melanic” in WRB and Soil Taxonomy) surface horizons.  
225 There was no relationship between surface soil thickness and changes in elevation through the process  
226 of filling and cutting. This result indicated that the thickness of surface horizon after the reclamation was  
227 uniformed through the land consolidation processes regardless of the filling or cutting. When the farmland  
228 reclamation conduct taking the minimum soil transportation into account, less changes in elevation will be  
229 detected from the comparison between before and after the reclamation using the DEM of the project area.  
230 However, severe disturbance on soil can be included after the reclamation. This overlooking of the soil

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231 disturbance is one of the defects of the proposed calculation using DEM.

232 We can identify the area, where farmland reclamation was conducted, by comparison of the shape of  
233 contour line at farmland in two period of topographical maps before and after the farmland reclamation.  
234 The contour line has been changed from the winding shape under traditional land uses to the straight contour  
235 line after a large-scale farmland reclamation (Fig. 7).

236 Although we need more examples and studies, our results suggest that identification of land consolidated  
237 area by comparison of topographical maps or aerial photos before and after reclamation might be enough  
238 to extract the area. Soils classified by diagnostic surface horizons in the reclaimed area should be taken into  
239 account for revision of soil maps. Thus, this study can contribute to simplify revision of soil maps of  
240 farmland without analyzed dataset and detailed soil survey in the human altered area on a large scale. Since  
241 the thickness of surface soil horizons recommended to conserve for upland field is same as the thickness  
242 required for diagnostic surface horizons, information of farmland types (paddy or upland) is important for  
243 prediction of soil distribution change by surface soil redistribution. Actually, it is difficult to get large-scale  
244 geographical data especially published in older periods, but more precise estimation of elevation change  
245 caused by farmland reclamation using large-scale maps with combination of other geographical data such  
246 as geological maps might enable to identify the deeper soil transportation and soil distribution changes  
247 classified by diagnostic subsurface horizons.

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249 **5 Conclusions**

250 In this study, the thickness of Melanic horizon of Andosol was decreased from over 50cm to 26.9cm in  
251 average (no points over 50cm and less than 15cm). We confirmed that farmland reclamation was conducted  
252 corresponding to the guideline in the surveyed area. Calculation by GIS indicated that over half of the area,  
253 where “Melanic Andosols” originally distributed, was reclaimed with elevation change more than 50cm.  
254 Thickness of surface soil horizons we surveyed were not related to reclamation type (filling or cutting). In  
255 cases of soils classified by diagnostic surface soil horizons, we suggest that if all large scale farmland  
256 reclamations for upland field were fulfilled to the guideline quality, comparison of contour lines in  
257 topographical maps or aerial photos before and after farmland reclamation might be enough to predict soil  
258 distribution change into classification as 25cm same surface soil materials. Reclamation processes always  
259 influence soils at the site. Soil profiles before and after reclamations tell us drastic changes of soil properties  
260 at the site. Although this study showed the case that reclamation process influences soil classification, it is  
261 still unclear that soils classified by thinner diagnostic surface horizon than this study and diagnostic  
262 subsurface soil horizons also have been changed or not. More precise estimation of topographical changes  
263 by farmland reclamation and geological information might reveal influences of the reclamation on soil  
264 distribution classified by diagnostic subsurface horizons.

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327 **Table 1** Land use type and results of field survey. The "○" fitted to criteria of written features and the  
 328 "×" didn't fit to the features. The "Cumulic" required more than 50cm thickness of "High -humic" surface  
 329 soil horizon

330	Survey points	Land use	Thickness of surface soil horizon(cm)	Decision of Soil color for High-humic	Decision of Cumulic
331	1	paddy	45	○	×
	2	paddy	50	○	○
	3	paddy	45	○	×
	4	paddy	22	○	×
	5	paddy	20	○	×
	6	paddy	25	○	×
	7	paddy	40	○	×
	8	paddy	20	○	×
	9	paddy	20	○	×
	10	paddy	40	○	×
	11	paddy	20	×	×
	12	paddy	20	○	×
	13	paddy	15	○	×
	14	upland field	20	○	×
	15	paddy	20	×	×
	16	paddy	30	×	×
	17	paddy	30	○	×
	18	paddy	20	×	×
	19	paddy	20	×	×
	20	upland field	18	×	×
	21	paddy	15	○	×
	22	paddy	30	○	×
	23	paddy	30	×	×
	24	paddy	22	○	×
	25	upland field	29	×	×
	26	paddy	37	×	×
	27	paddy	23	×	×
	28	upland field	27	×	×
	29	upland field	25	×	×
	30	upland field	30	×	×

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332 **Figure Captions**

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334 **Fig. 1** Schematic diagram of surface soil conservation method for farmland reclamation (The Japanese  
335 Society of Irrigation, Drainage and Rural Engineering 2013). Shaded polygon indicates surface soils.  
336 Surface soils return on farmland after reclamation

337 **Fig. 2** Distribution of Andosols in Nagano Prefecture and several volcanos. Base map satellite image from  
338 (c) ESRI Japan, ESRI, HERE, Garmin, © Open Street Map contributors, and the GIS user  
339 community, Sources; Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,  
340 USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

341 **Fig. 3** Distribution of Andosols in Farmland of Chino-City. Surrounded area by red line is calculation area  
342 of elevation change using DEM. Base map satellite image from (c) ESRI Japan, ESRI, HERE,  
343 Garmin, © Open Street Map contributors, and the GIS user community, Sources; Esri, DigitalGlobe,  
344 GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS  
345 User Community

346 **Fig. 4** Field survey points in “High-humic Cumulic” Andosols. Numbers mean the survey points in Table  
347 1. Orange color indicates soil filling more than 0.5m, blue color indicates soil cutting more than  
348 0.5m, and grey color indicates soil cutting or filling within 0.5m. Base map satellite image from (c)  
349 ESRI Japan, ESRI, HERE, Garmin, © Open Street Map contributors, and the GIS user community,

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350 Sources; Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS,  
351 AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

352 **Fig. 5** Thickness of surface soil horizons

353 **Fig. 6** Elevation change in farmland area of Chino-City calculated by DEM comparison between 1988 and  
354 2016. Base map satellite image from (c) ESRI Japan, ESRI, HERE, Garmin, © Open Street Map  
355 contributors, and the GIS user community, Sources; Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar  
356 Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community.

357 **Fig. 7** Change of winding contour line into straight after farmland reclamation. Left map was published in  
358 1988 (JSI 1997), right map was published in 2016 (Geospatial Information Authority of Japan 2018).

359 Figure Captions

Figure 1

[Click here to access/download;Figure;Fig. 1 Schematic diagram of surface soil conservation.tif](#)

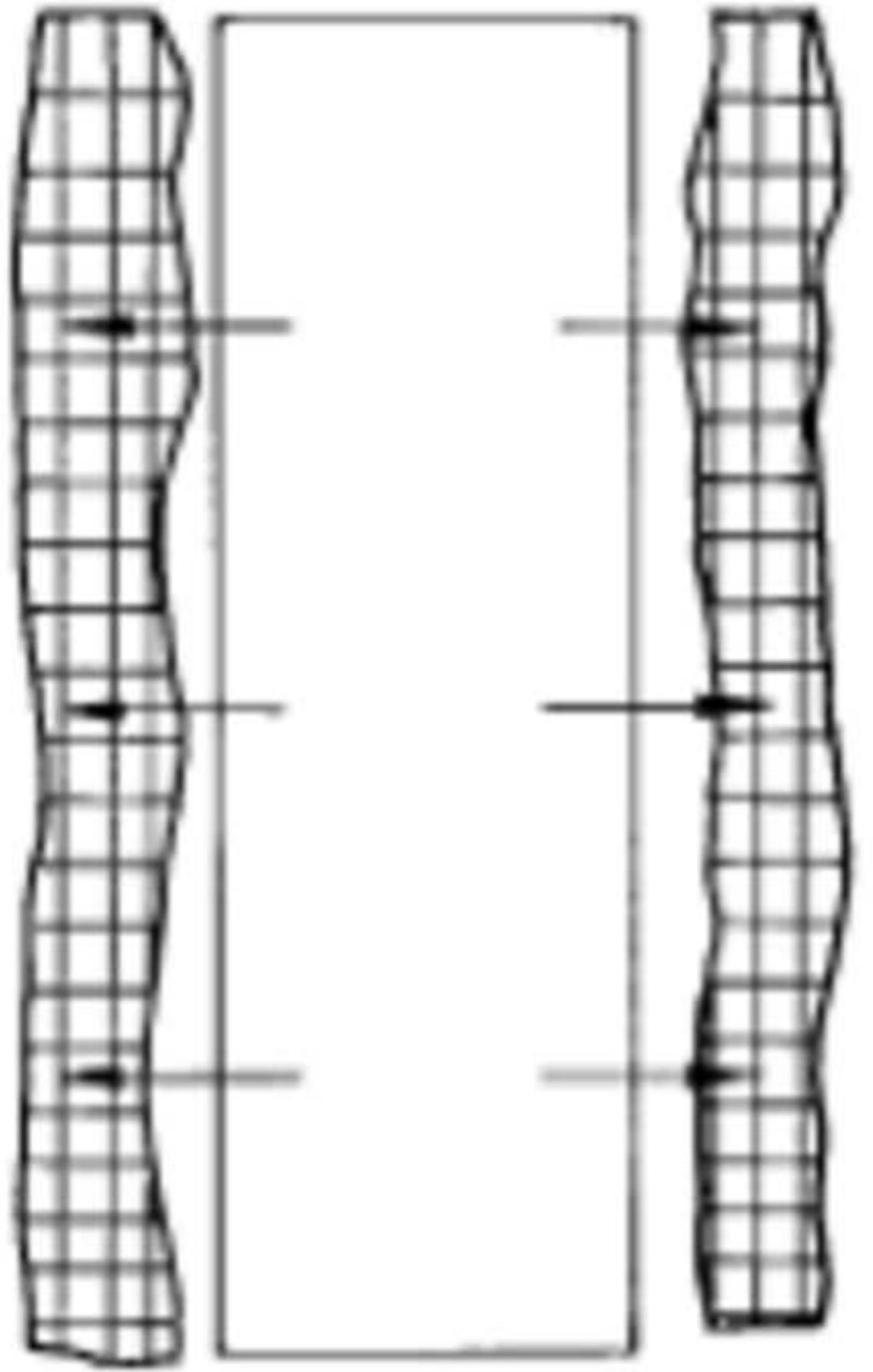


Figure 2

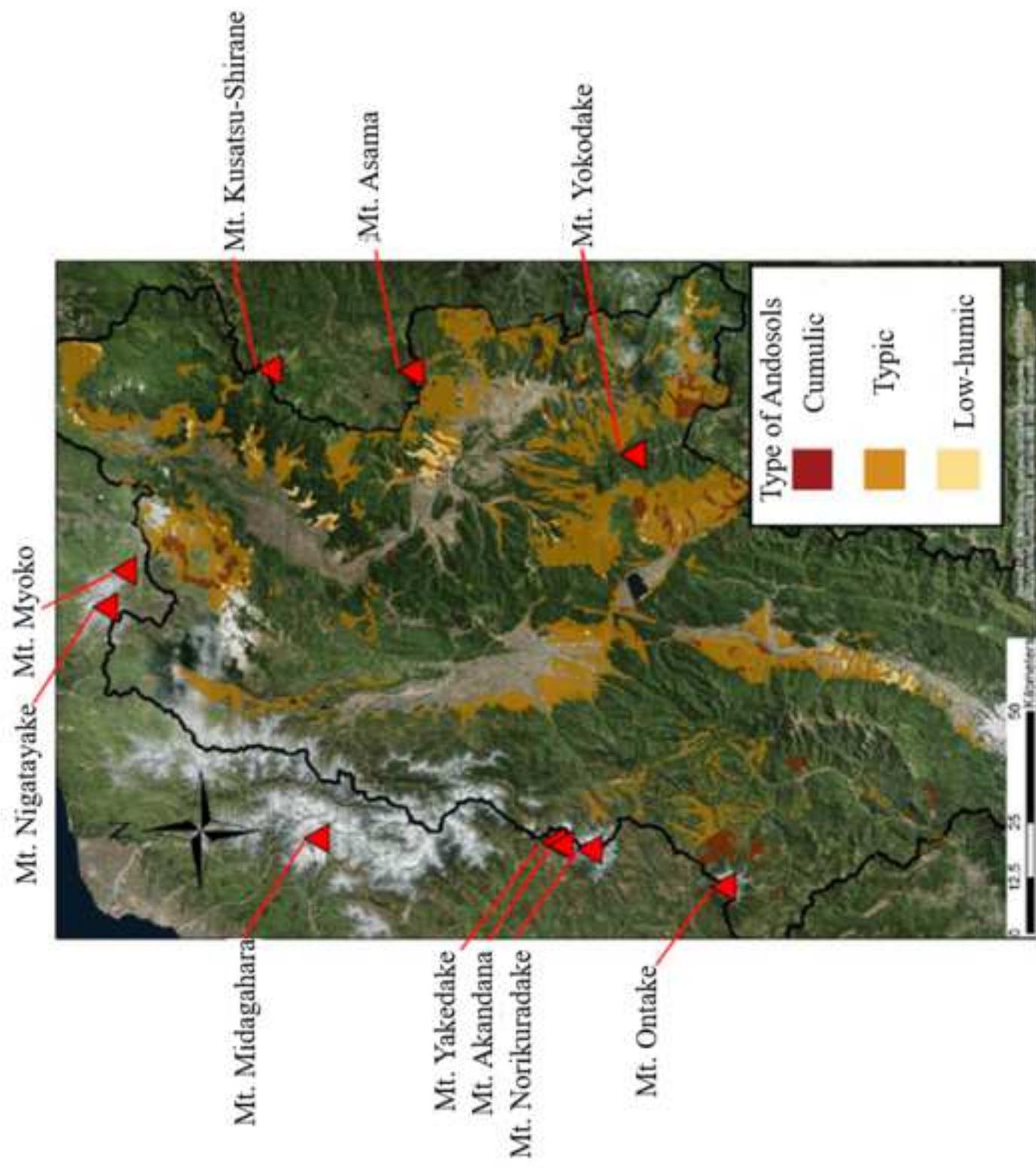


Figure 3

[Click here to access/download;Figure;Fig. 3 Distribution of Andosols.tif](#)

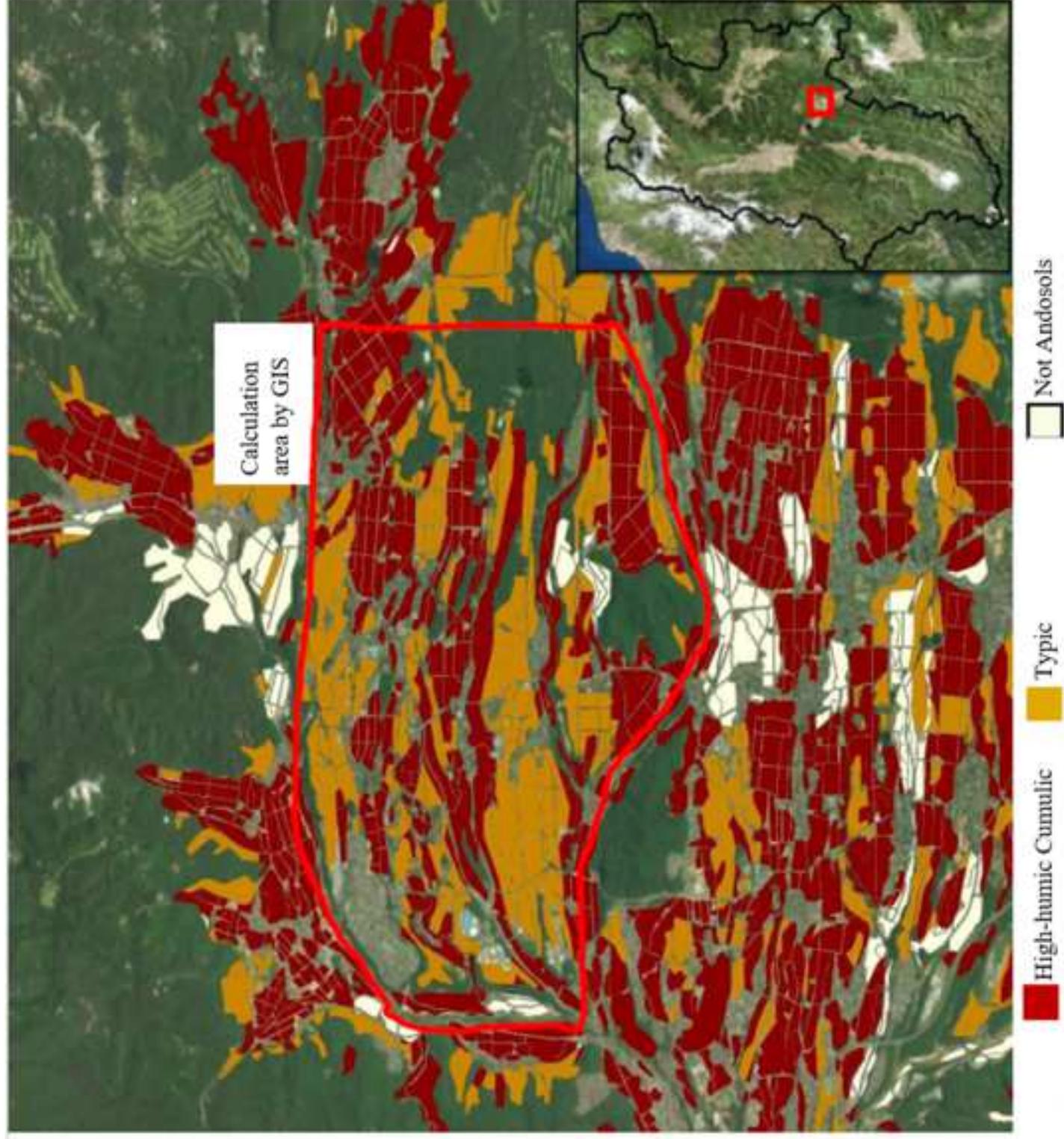


Figure 4

[Click here to access/download;Figure;Fig. 4 Field survey points in High-humic Cumulic Andosols..tif](#)



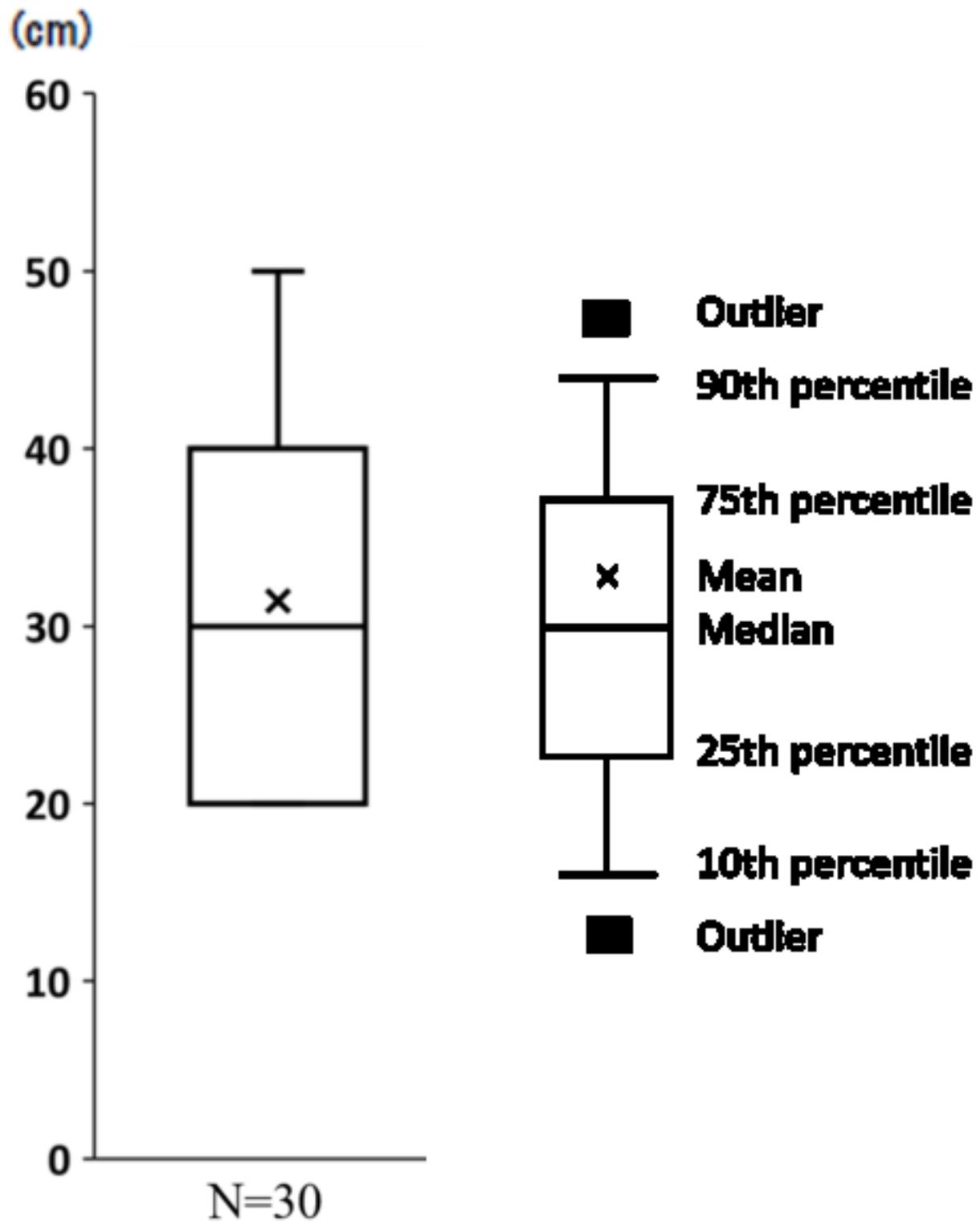


Table 1

Survey points	Land use	Thickness of surface soil horizon(cm)	Decision of Soil color for High-humic	Decision of Cumulic
1	paddy	45	○	×
2	paddy	50	○	○
3	paddy	45	○	×
4	paddy	22	○	×
5	paddy	20	○	×
6	paddy	25	○	×
7	paddy	40	○	×
8	paddy	20	○	×
9	paddy	20	○	×
10	paddy	40	○	×
11	paddy	20	×	×
12	paddy	20	○	×
13	paddy	15	○	×
14	upland field	20	○	×
15	paddy	20	×	×
16	paddy	30	×	×
17	paddy	30	○	×
18	paddy	20	×	×
19	paddy	20	×	×
20	upland field	18	×	×
21	paddy	15	○	×
22	paddy	30	○	×
23	paddy	30	×	×
24	paddy	22	○	×
25	upland field	29	×	×
26	paddy	37	×	×
27	paddy	23	×	×
28	upland field	27	×	×
29	upland field	25	×	×
30	upland field	30	×	×



Figure 7

[Click here to access/download;Figure;Fig. 7 Change of winding contour line.tif](#)

