

Main theme	Sub - Theme	Code Number
Natural Resources	Plant	22
<b>Study Name</b>	<b>Survey of the Vegetation on Playa &amp; Wadi</b>	
<b>Author</b>	Douglas Newton	
<b>Date of Study</b>	1997	
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>The study of desert vegetation has revealed spatial and temporal patterns characteristics of these ecosystems. Climate and topography create these patterns directly, by limiting productivity, density and composition. Indirect influences are manifested in patterns of soil and formation and fertility. By measuring pattern an understanding of how plants function has been gained, which has allowed reclamation procedures to be introduced which are based on scientific study that are in sympathy with the environment.</p>	
<b>Output and Recommendation</b>	<p>The objectives that were set for this research paper were only partially achieved. A pattern of relative abundance of species was only identified in those species that were present in sufficient numbers which allowed for any quantitative evaluation. Patterns of local distribution were also identified in particular the distribution of <i>A.fragrentissima</i> and <i>C.ovata</i> in respect of preferred soil conditions revealed by the clustering analysis. Two major points arise from this fieldwork, firstly the desirability of obtaining as much information about the area where work is to be done. This allows for a more detailed work plan to be made and a realistic one. Not much work has been done in the desert of Jordan, so as far as possible similar locations in other areas and the research carried out should have been provided insight into some of the problems and difficulties that other workers have encountered whilst in the field, and when analyzing their dat. The second point is that of time, in all thirteen days were available to do the fieldwork. Ideally it would have been desirable to sample soils, to identify nutrients present and the soul type, it would have also have been very useful to measure the moisture content of the soil, this would have provided a more integrated picture of the mudflat habitat. But given the circumstances this would have been un realistic objective.</p>	
<b>Development Aspects</b>	<p>The classification of desert vegetation is commonly related to soil physical characters, nature of surface and topographic features which all act through modifying the amounts of available moisture. However, with all this in mind it was a worthwhile experience and a snapshot in time of mudflat (playa) in Jordan was obtained during the most arid part of the year. More researches are needed in the coming future for more desert vegetation cover.</p>	
<b>Remarks</b>	<p>Dissertation by Douglas Newton, Reading University, Third year, Physical Geography Submission.</p> <p><a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sjbs.2014.02.001">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sjbs.2014.02.001</a></p>	

