

## Change Detection of Urban Growth in Some Area in El-Gharbiya Governorate Using Remote Sensing and GIS Techniques.

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### Abstract

Urban sprawl is one of the main problems that led to the reduction of the limited fertile land in the Nile Delta in Egypt. Now in Egypt, it may cause problems in food security. Remote sensing and GIS are effective tools to map and analyze urban sprawl using three Land sat images (Land sat-TM acquired in 1986, Land sat-ETM<sup>+</sup> acquired in 2013 and Landsat-OLI acquired in 2019), which provide needed data for measuring the change in urban area for the studied area. The purpose of this study is to estimate the changes in Agriculture area due to urban sprawl in El-Gharbiya Governorate, Egypt by using remotely sensed Land sat multispectral images for the period between the years 1986 to 2019. Software's (ENVI 5.1 and ArcGIS 10.2) have been used for processing and analyzing remote sensing data. Satellite data monitoring of land use –land cover changes in the study area. There were two classes identified in the studied area in 1986 and 2019, the agricultural area and urban sprawl. Area of agriculture land decreasing by 6000 ha. Urban area increasing by 5880 ha. The changing patterns of human life, human activities and increasing population growth in the study area have accelerated the environmental degradation. Urban expansion is the land degradation process in the study area. Agriculture, which present the first and largest economic sectors in the study area need to get more attention from the Government because these are most influenced and damaged sectors by urban encroachment. The application of law in Egypt must be enhanced and the essential services must be provided for the increase in the development of rural areas.

### Introduction

Egypt's agriculture is the core of the national economy and the soils in the Nile Delta is most suitable for Egyptian agriculture. Only approximately 4% of Egypt's total area are agricultural land. The remaining 96% of the land is arid desert. Seen from this perspective, the need for reclamation of the desert appears inevitable in light of continuing population growth and increasing congestion in the long-settled lands in the Nile valley and the delta (**Hamdi and Abdelhafez, 2001**). The government also aims to transfer the driving force of agricultural land away from the old and high-yielding agricultural land in the Nile Delta through effective horizontal urban expansion and the reclamation of more desert areas and land near the edge of the Nile Delta. Bella et al., 2014). Arable land in the Nile Delta is 1.85 million hectares that represent 51.2% of the total cultivated land, and 73.3% of the old fertile alluvial soils in Egypt. This region houses half of Egypt's inhabitants and about two thirds of the agricultural activities (**Mohamed, 2017a**). Fertile lands in this region undergo degradation processes including salinization, sodification, water logging, compaction (**Abdel Rahman et al., 2017**), chemical and physical risks (**El-Baroudy and Moghanm, 2014**), and water erosion due to Mediterranean Sea level rise, along the promontories of the Rosetta and Damietta branches (**Embabi, 2018**).

In Egypt, the management of different natural resources (land and water) is necessary to maintain food supply and achieve the sustainability of agricultural development; however, unfortunately, natural resources are under severe pressure from

increasing population and continuing land degradation (**El-Baroudy et al., 2011**).

Urban growth has led to changes in land use /land cover in many parts of the world, especially in developing countries. Egypt's unprecedented population growth coupled with unplanned development activities has led to the destruction of agricultural land. Change detection is the process of identifying differences in states by observing objects or phenomena remotely at different times. The changes caused by human forces are the result of humans changing the environment (**Pilon et al., 1988**). Change detection has become the main application of remote sensing data. Satellite remote sensing is a potentially powerful means to monitor land use changes with high time resolution and at a lower cost than using traditional methods (**Jensen, 1983; Martin, 1986; Martin and Howarth, 1989 and El-Raey et al., 1995**). Land degradation and urban expansion are the most common problems that threaten ongoing agricultural activities and prohibit further reclamation expansion (**A Mohamed E.S et al., 2011; and Mohamed et al., 2013**). During and after the Egyptian Revolution that began on January 25, 2011, urban sprawl on agricultural land was one of the negative results due to the lack of a security system. During this period, the monitoring report issued by the Agricultural Land Protection Bureau (DLPDA) of Egypt's El-Gharbia Province showed that there was a lot of evidence of urban encroachment on the agricultural center.

Soil degradation has become an important factor that seriously threatens food production, reduces agricultural income, slows economic development, increases water siltation, changes the earth's carbon

storage, weakens watershed functions, and brings structural and functional disorders to the entire terrestrial ecosystem (Weinzier *et al.*, 2015 and Hazbavi *et al.*, 2019). The causes of land degradation in tropical areas are the complex relationships of climatic conditions, steep slopes, poor agricultural practices, high risk of soil erosion, overpopulation, lack of appropriate policies, and over-reliance on subsistence crop cultivation (Sanchez *et al.*, 2003). Increased farm degradation in the area has led to increased nutrient requirements for crop production (Ngome *et al.*, 2011 and Tiftonell *et al.*, 2007). Land degradation (LD) is a temporary or permanent decline in the productive capacity and quality of land, leading to a decline in its ecological and economic functions. This is one of the biggest challenges in the world, especially for developing countries in Asia and Africa (Mahala, 2017). Land degradation is not only one of the most serious environmental problems in the world, but also one of the major social and economic problems. Food and energy security (Reed *et al.*, 2011), land desertification (Salih *et al.*, 2017. Liu *et al.*, 2008), sustainable socio-economic system development and human living environment (Winslow *et al.*, 2011). Land degradation has become one of the biggest challenges facing mankind in the world today (Velmourougane and Blaise, 2017). Because human activities exaggerate natural events, land degradation is often described as a significant decline in the biological productivity of the land system (Johnson and Lewis 2007). The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

(UNCCD) recognizes that land degradation is one of the most noticeable environmental problems in modern times (UNCCD 1994, 2002). According to Baylis *et al.*, 2012 and UNCCD, 2013, they reported the sequences because of land degradation processes, nearly 40–75% of the world's agricultural land's productivity is reduced.

Nowadays, urban sprawl is an ongoing problem that must be faced in Egypt. It has an impact on our daily life. El-Gharbiya Governorate was taken as a study area to assess the urban sprawl impact on its agricultural land. The aim of the study is to measure the changes in agriculture land resulting from urban encroachment by using remote sensing and GIS techniques.

## Materials and Methods

### 1.2 Location of the study area

The study area is located in the middle of the Nile Delta in the province of El-Gharbiya. It is bounded by Kafr El Shiekh province to the north, El-Monufiya province to the south, El-Dakahlia province to the east, and El-Beheira Governorate to the west. It lies between longitudes 30°45'20" - 31°10'50" E and 30°35'10" - 31°10'05" N, with a total area of 192740ha. The detection of land cover/use change in only three areas in El-Gharbiya Province (Basion, Kafr El-zyatand Tanta) from 1986 to 2019 was evaluated through the specification of a multi-time classification joint model.

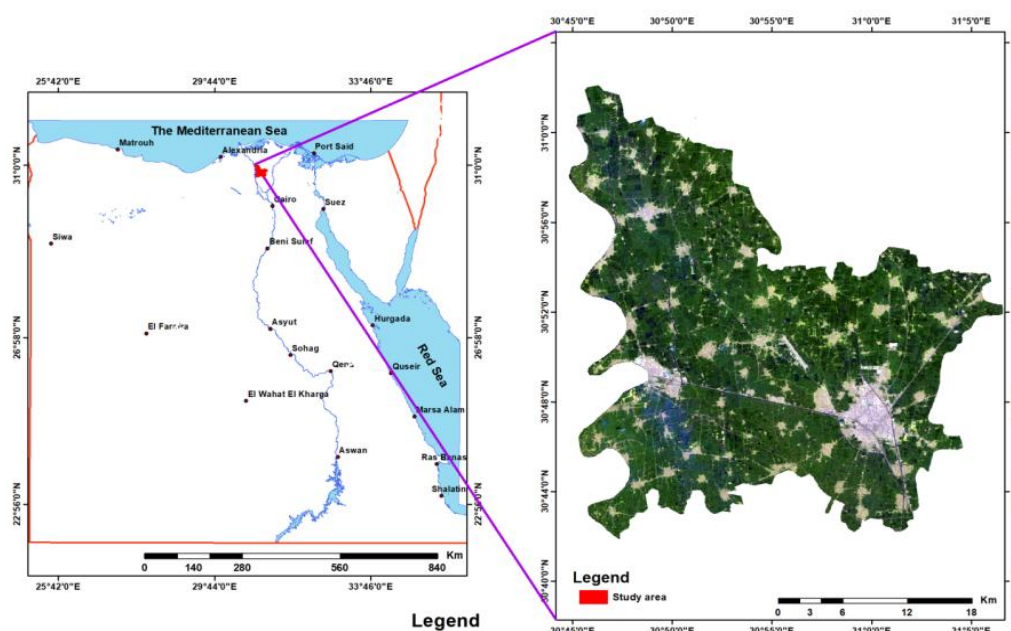


Fig1: Location map of study area

### 2.2. Data collection

Three different types of Landsat imagery (Landsat-TM, Landsat-ETM and Landsat-OLI TIRS) are obtained from the USGS earth explorer website

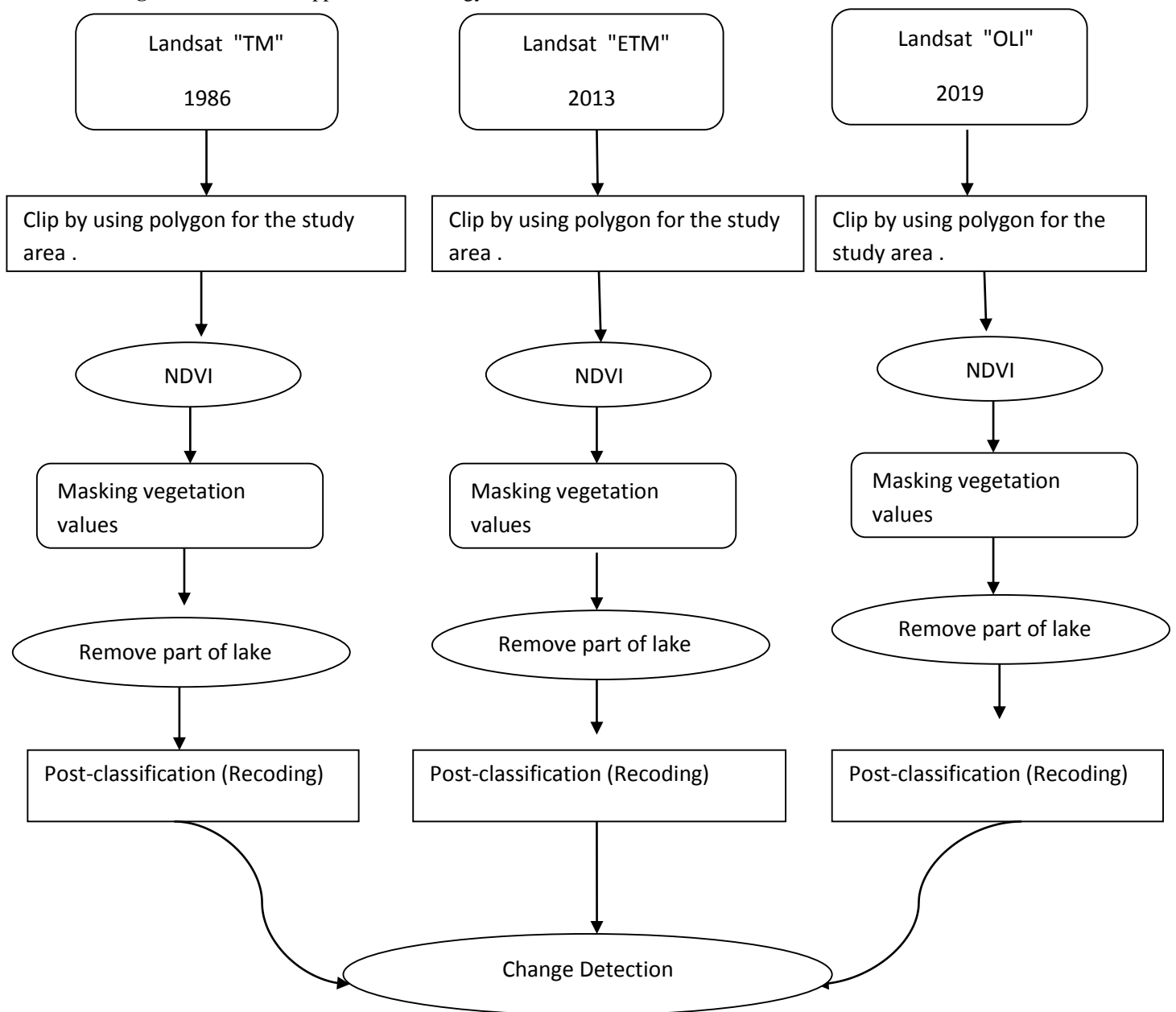
through ENVI version 5.1 and ArcGIS version 10.2. The Landsat-TM image consists of seven spectral bands with wavelengths from 0.45 m to 2.35 m. The spatial resolution of band 1 to band 5 and band 7 is 30

m, while the spatial resolution of band 6 (thermal infrared) is 120 m . Landsat-ETM consists of 8 bands with wavelengths ranging from 0.45 m to 2.35 m. The spatial resolution of bands 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 is 30, while bands 6 and 8 are 60 and 15 m, respectively. Land sat OLI TIRS TIRS consists of 11 bands with a spatial resolution of 30 m in bands 1-7, band 9 has a spatial resolution of 30 m, bands 10 and 11 (thermal bands) (TIRS) have 100 m, and band 8 The (panchromatic) spatial resolution is 15 m. In order to achieve the research goals, images of three different dates in 1986, 2013 and 2019 were used.

**2.4.1. Post classification change detection**

The images were classified from three time periods (1986, 2013, and 2020) and then compared and detected. Use support vector machine technology to classify each date of the image. Export the classified images to ArcGIS 10.2 software for vectorization, calculation, and area comparison between different dates to identify various changes in land use/land cover increase or decrease. The applied framework of methodology is presented in Figure 2.

**Fig.2:** Framework of applied methodology



**Results and discussion**  
**Land use/land cover change detection in the study area.**

The obtained classification images, after preprocessing and supervised classification, indicate different land use and land cover patterns in the study area. From 1986 to 2019, changes in different land

use/land cover types in the study area increased and decreased with changes in different activities such as urban expansion. The main impact of human activities on land degradation in the survey area is urban expansion. The results show that all land use and land cover types change regularly.

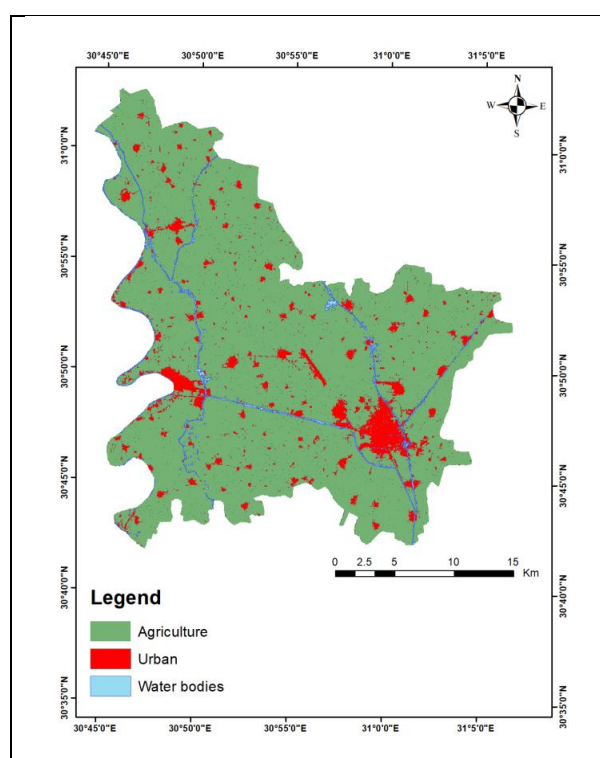
Change detection Land use/land cover during the survey period from 1986 to 2013.

Urban growth caused serious losses of agricultural land in Egypt (Hegazy and Kaloop, 2015) Figures 3

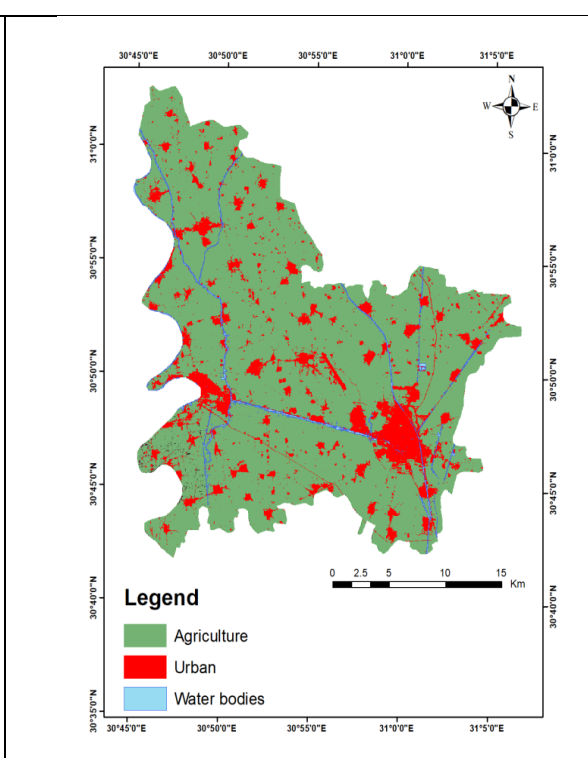
and 4 show image of Land sat- TM acquired in 1986 and image of Landsat -ETM<sup>+</sup> in 2013. Urban expansion in El-Gharbiya Governorate during 1986 to 2013 was considerable. The impact of this urban expansion land was evaluated, and the statistical data are illustrate din Table (1) and fig (5). Urban area increased from being 6760 ha in 1986 to 9390 ha in 2013 increasing by 2630 ha. Agricultural area decreased from being 61290 ha in 1986 to 58650 ha in 2013 decreasing by 2640 ha.

**Table1.**Changes in the areas of different soils and urban In El-Gharbiya Governorate in 1986 and 2013.

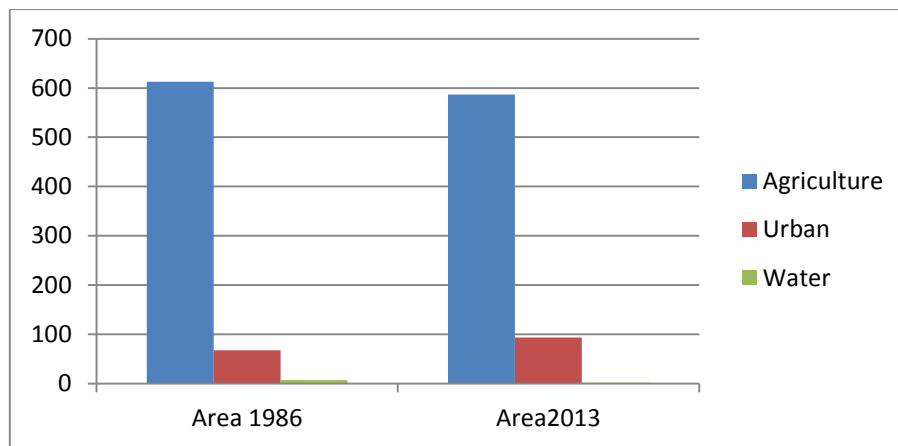
Land type	Total area in 1986 (ha.)	Total area in 2013 (ha.)	Change area (ha.)
Agriculture	61290	58650	-2640
Urban	6760	9390	+2630
Water	750	750	00
Totalarea	68800	68800	00



**Figure 3.** Land use /land cover classes in year of 1986 of the studied area (Land sat-TM).



**Figure 4.** Land use /land cover classes in year of 2013 of the studied area (Land sat ETM<sup>+</sup>).



**Figure 5.** Change detection in agriculture land and urban area during the 1986–2013 in the investing at ed area.

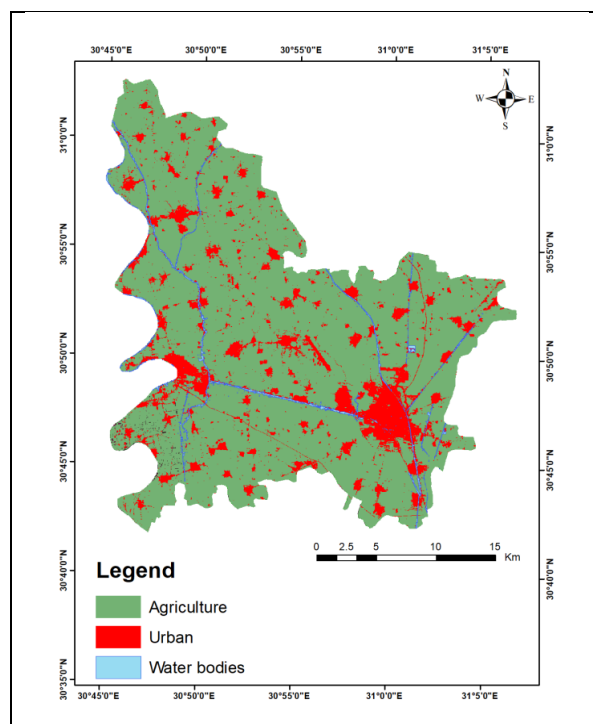
**Change detection the land use/land cover of the survey area from 2013 to 2019.**

The changes in different characteristics of the survey area from 2013 to 2019 increased or decreased as cities occupied cultivated land and other activities. Figures 6 and 7 show maps of land use/ land cover of Land sat- ETM+ acquired in 2013 and image of Land

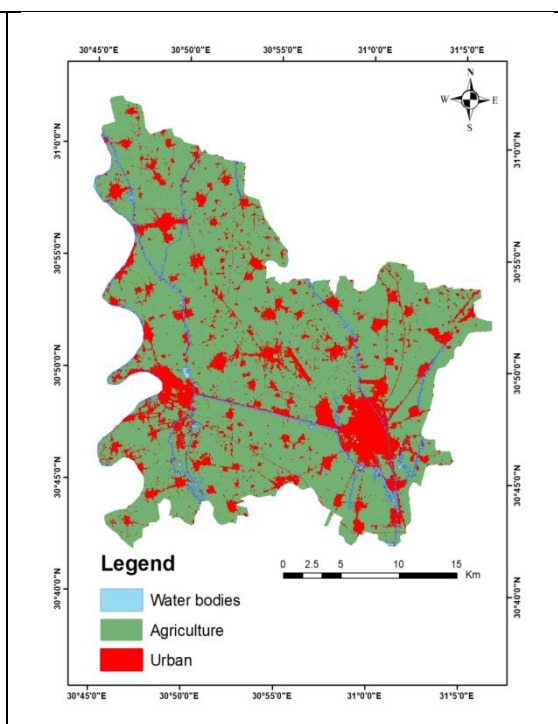
sat-OLI in 2019. Area of agriculture land increased during the period of 2013 to 2019. In 2013 the 58650-ha become 55290 ha in 2018 decreasing by 3360 ha. The area of urban land 9390 ha in 2013 and become 12740 ha in 2020 decreasing by 3350 ha. Table (2) and Figure (8) show the change during the period of 2013 –2019 in El-Gharbiy Governorate.

**Table 2.** Changes in the areas of different soils and urban In El-Gharbiya Governorate in 2013 and 2019.

Land type	Total area in 2013 (ha.)	Total area in 2019 (ha.)	Change area (ha.)
<b>Agriculture</b>	58650	55290	-3360
<b>Urban</b>	9390	12740	+3350
<b>Water</b>	760	760	00
<b>Total area</b>	688	688	00

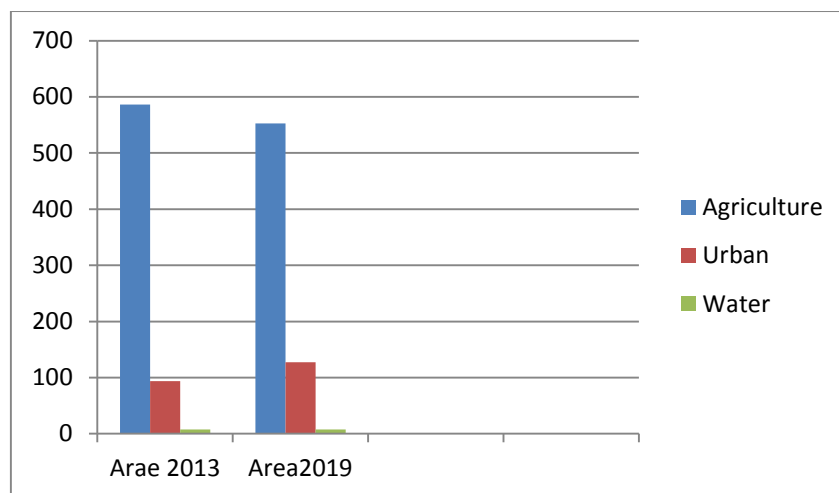


**Figure 6.** Land use /land cover classes in year of 2013 of the studied area (Land sat -ETM+).



**Figure 7.** Land use/ land cover classes in year of 2019 of the studied area (Land sat-OLI).





**Figure 8.** Change detection in agriculture land and urban area during the 2013–2019 In El-Gharbiya Governorate.

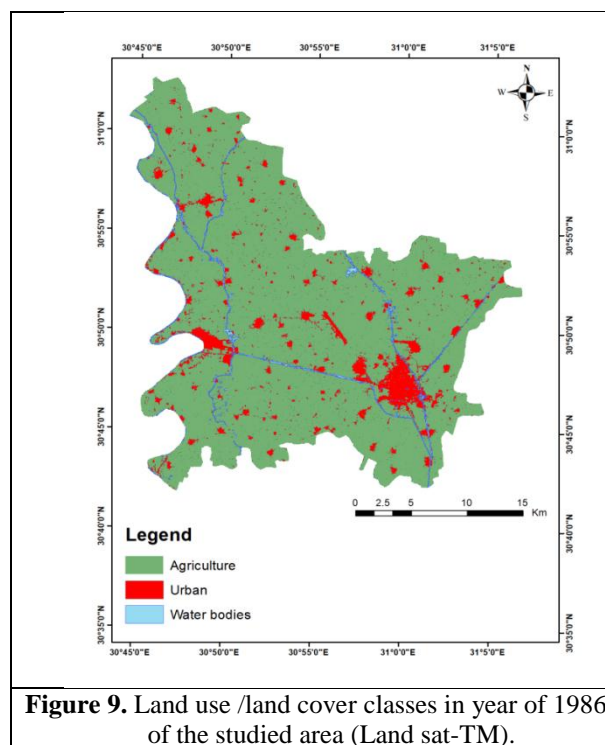
**Change detection the land use/land cover of the survey area from 1986 to 2019.**

Figures 9 and 10 show maps of land use/land cover of Land sat- TM acquired in 1986 and image of Land sat-OLI in 2019. Area of agriculture land decreasing during the period of 1986 to 2019. In 1986 the 61290

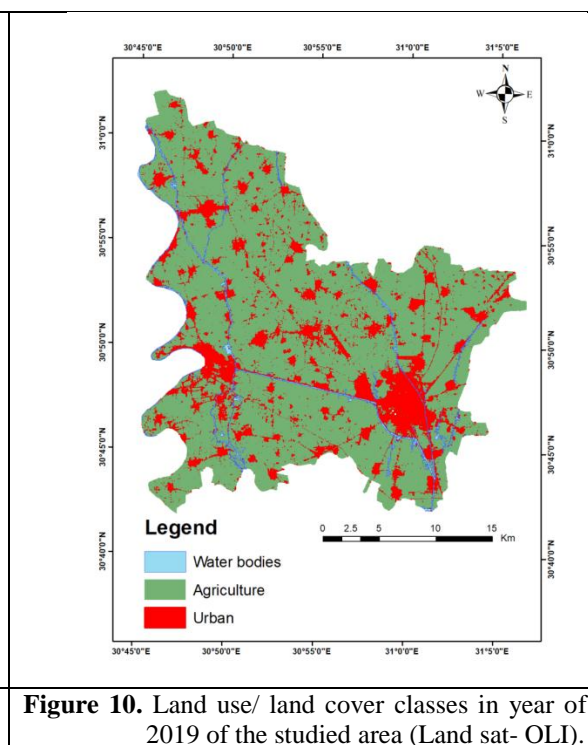
ha become 55290 ha in 2020 decreasing by 6000 ha. The area of urban land was 6760 ha in 1986 and become 12740 ha in 2020 increasing by 5880 ha. Table 3 and Figure 11 show the change during the period of 1986–2019 in El-Gharbiya Governorate.

**Table 3.** Changes in the areas of different soils and urban areas in El-Gharbiya Governorate in 1986 and 2019.

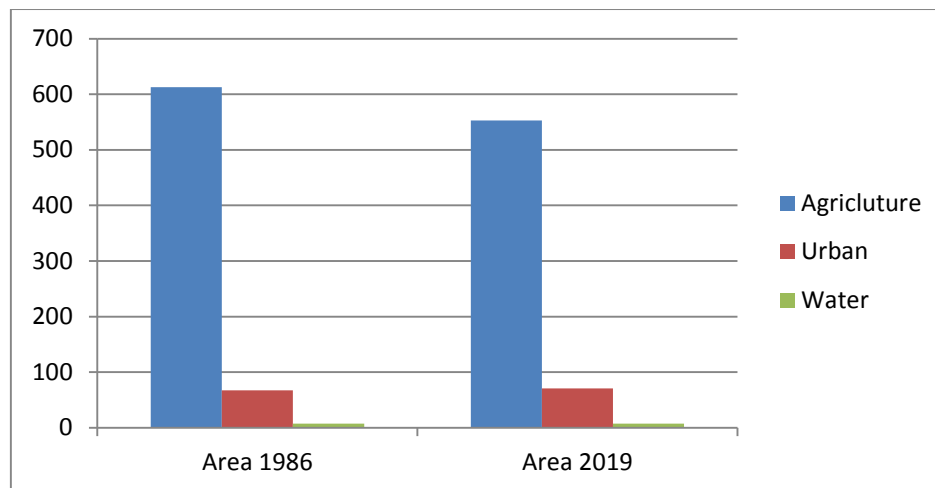
Land type	Total area in 1986 (ha.)	Total area in 2019 (ha.)	Change area (ha.)
<b>Agriculture</b>	61290	55290	-6000
<b>Urban</b>	6760	12640	+5880
<b>Water</b>	750	750	00
<b>Total area</b>	68800	68800	00



**Figure 9.** Land use /land cover classes in year of 1986 of the studied area (Land sat-TM).



**Figure 10.** Land use/land cover classes in year of 2019 of the studied area (Land sat-OLI).



**Figure 11.** Change detection in land cover and urban area during the 1986–2019 in El-Gharbiya Governorate.

## Conclusion

The loss of limited arable land associated with population growth requires the transfer of new urban development plans to locations that are less important for food production. Use GIS and RS to systematically update the city database to detect new changes, which mainly depends on the frequency and rate of occurrence of urban changes and the socio-economic development of the region. Remote sensing and GIS were employed using satellite images from 1986 to 2019 to classify and analyze dramatic changes of agriculture areas and urban sprawl. It was found that the about 9.8% of the most fertility lands were lost between 1986 and 2019 due to urban encroachment by building constructions in El-Gharbiya Governorate, especially after the dramatic change in Egypt during 2011. According to the results of the study, the following should be taken into consideration: 1) Urban Planning agency should cover preserve agricultural land from further urban encroachment to protect agriculture sector, 2) Urban Planning agency should be concerned to develop rural areas and preserve the agriculture character, which will make farmers more concern for protecting their cultivated land and 3) GIS and remote sensing proved to be efficient tools for assessing urban encroachment.

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## الكشف عن التغيرات في النمو الحضري في بعض المناطق في محافظة الغربية باستخدام تقنيات الاستشعار عن بعد ونظم المعلومات الجغرافية

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2- الهيئة القومية للاستشعار عن بعد وعلوم الفضاء-القاهرة- مصر

ويعد الزحف العمراني أحد المشاكل الرئيسية التي تحد من الأراضي الخصبة للغاية في دلتا النيل في مصر. اليوم في مصر وقد يؤدي إلى مشاكل في الأمن الغذائي. الاستشعار عن بعد ونظم المعلومات الجغرافية هي أدوات فعالة لرسم وتحليل الزحف الحضري باستخدام 3 صور لاندسات ( Land sat-TM المكتسبة في عام 1986 و Land sat-ETM المكتسبة في عام 2013 و Land sat-OLI المكتسبة في عام 2019 ) ، والتي توفر البيانات اللازمة لقياس التغير في المنطقة الحضرية للمنطقة التي خضعت للدراسة . الهدف من هذه الدراسة هو تقدير التغيرات في المساحة الزراعية إلى الزحف العمراني في محافظة الغربية بمصر باستخدام صور استشعار عن بعد متعددة الأطياف لاندسات للفترة ما بين عامي 1986 و 2019. تم استخدام برامج (ENVI5 land Arc GIS 10.2) لمعالجة وتحليل بيانات الاستشعار عن بعد. وقد رصدت المرئيات الفضائية التغيرات في استخدام الأراضي الغطاء الأراضي في المنطقة موضع الدراسة. تم تحديد فئتين في المنطقة التي تمت دراستها في عامي 1986 و 2019 ، المنطقة الزراعية والزحف العمراني. تناقص مساحة الأراضي الزراعية بمقدار 6000 هكتار وزيادة المساحة الحضرية بمقدار 5880 هكتار. إن التغير في أنماط الحياة البشرية وزيادة النمو السكاني في منطقة الدراسة قد عجلت من التدهور البيئي الزحف العمراني هو العمليات المهيمنة لتدهور الأراضي في منطقة الدراسة النشاط الزراعي ، يمثل أول وأكبر القطاعات الاقتصادية في منطقة الدراسة وتحتاج إلي مزيد من الاهتمام من الحكومة لأن هذه القطاعات هي الأكثر تأثراً وتضرراً من الزحف العمراني .