Editor’s Comment:

The authors need to address the additional clarification issues for the following section:

1.3 Heavy metal quantification

Atomic absorption spectrophotometry with surrogate standard was used to calibrate and quantify the heavy metals in the soil and values expressed in microgram per gram (ug g⁻¹)

They need to provide additional sentences to clarify.

Author’s feedback:

Authors have adequately clarified this section. Revision has been highlighted in yellow background.