

Exploring methods for visualising the geospatial uncertainty in nitrous oxide emissions from agriculture

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Increasingly agricultural, climatic and ecological variables are being estimated over large spatial areas. Whilst in the literature there is a consensus about the need to visualise the uncertainty surrounding these sorts of variables, thus far there has been little agreement on best practices to present the uncertainty alongside the variable of interest. Here we present the results of an exploratory project looking at various techniques to visualise geo-spatial uncertainty. Our interest was on visualising the uncertainty in predictions of nitrous oxide emissions from agriculture across the UK. We considered several commonly recognised techniques for point data such as colour, line type, textures and side-by-side comparisons as well as key areas that need to be considered when presenting uncertain spatial datasets.