



**Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
Ministry of Water and Irrigation  
Jordan Valley Authority**



**Administration of Planning and Information  
GIS Division**



**KAFA'A Project**



**Sweet Potato**

**Mango**

**Apricot**

**Artichoke**

**Nectarine**

**Fig**

**Pistachio**

**Peach**

**Litchi**

**Avocado**

## **Crop Suitability Maps for Potential Cash Crops: Middle and South Jordan Valley**

**Report submitted to:  
Academy for Educational Development  
By: Noemi Sabillon, PhD.  
October 2004.**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Crop Selection**

This report focuses on eight fruit crops (apricot, avocado, mango, fig, litchi, peach, nectarine, and pistachio) and two vegetable crops (artichoke and sweet potato). The requirements for each crop including climate, soil and water are listed in Appendix I. Some of these crops (i.e. apricot, peach, nectarine, and pistachio) require a specific chilling period to stimulate fruiting. Since different varieties have different chilling requirements, care must be taken to select the right variety for each area according to their chill hours. According to the Meteorological Department, Agro meteorological Directorate (2003) and information from weather stations in Deir Alla and Baqura, the period with temperature of 0.1 – 7.0°C during November to March, in the Jordan Valley is insufficient for deciduous fruit trees. While other crops, such as avocado and mango are more suited, attention must be given to the selection of the appropriate rootstock, which will determine their ultimate adaptability to different soil and water conditions.

### **Methodology**

The methodology used in this study is the same used in preparing the Crop Suitability Map. However, more detail is provided on special crop characteristics, climatic requirement, water quality, and varieties.

Separated maps are provided for each crop according to yield potential (100%, 90%, and 75%) based on salt tolerance, and general maps for each crop regarding soil texture, pH, and E<sub>C</sub>e (Appendix II). A list of tables on water quality consideration is included in Appendix III.

### **Special considerations**

#### **Apricot:**

- Fruits will crack in humid climate
- Cross-pollination maximizes yield
- Common varieties are: Goldkist, and Royal (AKA Blenheim)

#### **Artichoke**

- Hot, dry, windy conditions create woody, bitter, less compact buds with bracts that curve outward
- Freezing damages bud bracts, causing blistering of the outer bud tissue and a whitish appearance
- Yield is a function of population density
- Excessive irrigation encourages root rot

- Excessive fertilizer reduces both yield and quality
- Common varieties are: Green Globe, Imperial star, Emerald, and Green Globe Improved

### Mango

- Applications of copper, zinc, manganese, iron, and boron are necessary on calcareous soils
- Rootstocks tolerant of high pH soils should be selected specially rootstocks that have dwarfing effects
- Over irrigation and over fertilization stimulate vegetative growth but flowering and fruiting are suppressed
- Common cultivars are Keith, Maya, and Shelly

### Avocado

- Rootstocks differ in their ability to reduce the chloride uptake and translocation to the tops.
- Mexican varieties are less salt than Guatemalan and West Indians races
- Common cultivars are Hass, Ettinger, and Fuerte

### Figs

- Figs required plenty of sunshine and heat to ripen
- The most common method of propagation is to root leafless cuttings. *In Vitro* propagation is another alternative.
- Common cultivars are Sultani, White Adriatic

### Litchi

- The best method for propagation is air-layering
- Auxins sprays and autumnal water stress are recommended to increase yields
- Mycorrhizae on the roots are essential for the development of the crop in calcareous soils
- Water table should be kept at least 1.2 m below soil surface
- Common cultivars are Mauritius (Da Zao), Nuo Mi Ci, Huai Zhi, BD 5-27, BD 17-70, Fei Zi Xiao, Kaimana, Sah Keng, Amboina, Bengal, Brewster, Groff, Hak ip, and Kwa luk

### Peaches and Nectarines

- They require plenty of sunlight during growth and a specific number of chill hours, depending on variety, during dormancy
- Peach X almond crosses tolerate high pH and calcareous soils
- Needs severe pruning after planting and annually (open vase system).
- Fruits must be thinned to increase fruit quality. Rule of thumb: the distance between fruits along the shoot should be at least 15 cm and two fruits should not be closer than 10 cm from each other
- Shallow soils restricted by hardpans should be avoided
- Rootstocks should be resistant to root-knot nematode
- Common peach varieties are Red Ceylon, August Pride, Bonita, Desert Gold, Earligrande, Eva's Pride, May Pride, Mid Pride, and Ventura.
- Common nectarines varieties are Flamekist and Fairlane

### Pistachio

- Nut production is influenced by drought, rain, temperature, and wind
- Rootstocks used for propagation should be resistant to nematodes and fungal diseases
- For the production of fruits, male and female trees are needed or male branches should be grafted onto female trees
- Kerman and Peters are the common cultivars

### Sweet Potato

- Excessive irrigation should be avoided in early and late growth stages
- Most common cultivars are Jewel, Beauregard, White Delight, and Sumor

### Quality of irrigation water to be used for each crop.

Table 1. Shows the quality of the water used for irrigation in the MJV and SJV.

According to this data, and the requirements of the crops included in this report:

- Only the water from the Kufranja dam would be suitable for irrigating crops which are sensitive to boron such as apricot, avocado, figs nectarine, and peach
- Artichoke, a tolerant crop to boron, can be irrigated with water from all the sources available, except the Karama dam
- Avocado, depending on the variety, could be irrigated with water that has less than 4.0 meq/l of Cl for Mexican race up to 15 meq/l of Cl for West Indian avocados. The SAR should be less than 4
- Overall, the water from the Karama dam is not suitable for irrigation

Table 1. Quality for different water sources in the MJV and SJV (Source: PA-ECO Consult, 2003).

	FAO 29 <sup>1</sup>	KTD	Kufranja	Shueib	Kafrein	Karama
EC <sub>iw</sub> (dS/m)	<0.7 None 0.7-3.0 Slight to moderate >3.0 Severe	1.5-2.9 Slight to moderate	0.70-1.5 Slight to moderate	0.6-1.3 Slight to moderate	0.6-1.3 Slight to moderate	5.0-40.0 Severe
Na (meq/l)	<3.0 None 3.0-9.0 Slight to moderate >9.0 Severe	0-15.0 Severe	1.0-2.5 None	0.6-4.6 Slight to moderate	0-5.0 Slight to moderate	30-220.0 Severe
SAR	0-6 and EC <sub>iw</sub> >1.2 none	2.0-6.5 None	0.6-1.3 None	0.5-2.6 None	0.0-2.6 None	7.0-28.0 None
N-NO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	<5.0 None 5.0-30.0 Slight to moderate >30.0 Severe	0-30.0 Slight to moderate	7.0-12.0 Slight to moderate	0-11.0 Slight to moderate	0-11.0 Slight to moderate	5.0-20 Slight to moderate
HCO <sub>3</sub> (meq/l)	<1.5 None 1.5-8.5 Slight to moderate >8.5 Severe	4.0-12.5 Severe	3.5-6.0 Slight to moderate	1.6-5.5 Slight to moderate	2.0-11.0 Severe	
B (ppm)	<0.7 None 0.7-3.0 Slight to moderate >3.0 Severe	0.2-1.1 Slight to moderate	0.14-0.34 None	0.2-1.0 Slight to moderate	0.1-1.7 Slight to moderate	0-12.0 Severe
Cl (meq/l)	<4.0 None 4.0-10.0 Slight to moderate >10.0 Severe	5.0-15.0 Moderate/ Severe	1.4-3.5 None	1.0-6.0 Slight to moderate	1.5-5.5 Slight to moderate	0-300.0 Severe
PH	6.5-8.4 Normal	7.5-8.0	8.3-8.6	7.5-9.0	7.5-10.0	7.0-9.0

## **Appendix I**

### **Crop requirements<sup>1</sup>**

Common name	Crop		Family	Life form	Habit	Life span	Physiology	Category
	Botanical name	Local name						
Apricot	<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>	mish mish	Rosaceae	tree	erect	perennial	deciduous, single stem	forage/pasture, fruits & nuts, materials
Artichoke	<i>Cynara scolymus</i>	ardishok	Compositae	herb	erect	perennial		vegetables, materials, medicinals & aromatic
Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	avucado	Lauraceae	tree	erect	perennial	evergreen, deciduous, single stem, C3 photosynthesis	fruits & nuts, forest/wood
Figs	<i>Ficus carica</i>	teen	Moraceae	shrub, tree	erect	perennial	deciduous, single stem, multi stem, C3 photosynthesis	fruits & nuts, ornamentals/turf, medicinals & aromatic
Litchi	<i>Litchi chinensis</i>	lishi	Sapindaceae	tree	erect	perennial	evergreen, single stem, C3 photosynthesis	fruits & nuts, materials, ornamentals/turf, medicinals & aromatic, forest/wood, environmental
Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	manga	Anacardiaceae	tree	erect	perennial		fruits & nuts, medicinals & aromatic, forest/wood

Common name	Crop		Local name	Family	Life form	Habit	Life span	Physiology	Category
	Botanical name								
Nectarine	<i>Prunus persica</i>		durraq	Rosaceae	shrub, tree	erect	perennial	deciduous, single stem, multi stem	fruits & nuts, ornamentals/turf, environmental
Peach	<i>Prunus persica</i>		durraq	Rosaceae	shrub, tree	erect	perennial	deciduous, single stem, multi stem	fruits & nuts, ornamentals/turf, environmental
Pistachio	<i>Pistacia vera</i>		fustoq halabi	Anacardiaceae	tree	erect	perennial	deciduous, single stem	fruits & nuts, materials, medicinals & aromatic
Sweet potato	<i>Ipomoea batatas</i>		batata helwua	Convolvulaceae	herb, vine	prostrate/procumbent/semi-erect	perennial	multi stem, C3 photosynthesis	roots/tubers, forage/pasture, vegetables

Crop  Common name	Temperature				Rainfall (annual)				Latitude				Altitude	
	Optimal		Absolute		Optimal		Absolute		Optimal		Absolute		Absolute	
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max
Apricot	14	35	7	40	900	1300	800	1470					0	2000
Artichoke	15	25	5	30	900	1200	300	1500					0	2000
Avocado	14	40	10	45	500	2000	300	2500	0	42	0	42	0	2800
Figs	16	26	4	38	700	1500	300	2700	30	50	25	53	0	1200
Litchi	20	35	15	40	1000	1700	700	2800	13	29	9	32	0	2000
Mango	24	30	8	48	600	1500	300	2600	0	25	0	30	0	1200
Nectarine	20	33	7	35	900	1100	750	1600	30	50	30	50	0	1000
Peach	20	33	7	35	900	1100	750	1600	30	50	30	50	0	1000
Pistachio	25	35	12	40	400	700	250	1100	25	35	25	35	0	1200
Sweet potato	18	28	10	38	750	2000	350	5000	0	32	0	40	0	2800



Crop Common name	Soil pH				Soil depth		Soil texture		Soil fertility		Soil drainage	
	Optimal		Absolute		Optimal	Absolute	Optimal	Absolute	Optimal	Absolute	Optimal	Absolute
Min	Max	Min	Max									
Apricot	6.5	7	5	8	deep	medium	medium	Coarse to fine	moderate	moderate	well	well
Artichoke	6	6.5	5.5	8.3	medium	medium	medium to moderately coarse	Coarse to fine	high	moderate	well	well
Avocado	5	5.8	4.5	7*/8	deep	deep	medium	medium	moderate	moderate	well	well
Figs	6	7	4.3	8.6	deep	medium	medium	Coarse to fine	moderate	low	well	well , excessive
Litchi	5.5	6.5	5	8.5	deep	shallow	medium, organic	Coarse to fine	moderate	low	well	Poorly, well, excessive
Mango	5.5	7.5	4.3	8.5	deep	medium	medium to moderately coarse	Coarse to fine	moderate	low	well	well, excessive
Nectarine	5.5	6.3	4.5	7.5/8	deep	medium	medium to moderately coarse	Coarse to fine	high	moderate	well	well
Peach	5.5	6.3	4.5	7.5/8	deep	medium	medium to moderately coarse	Coarse to fine	high	moderate	well	well
Pistachio	7	8	6	8.5	medium	shallow	medium to moderately coarse	Coarse to fine	moderate	low	well	well, excessive
Sweet potato	5	7	4	8.7	medium	shallow	medium	Coarse to fine	high	low	well	well

\* red values according to literature review.

Crop Common name	Soil salinity, ECe (dS/m) % in yield reduction					Tolerance		Average Root depth, m	Management Allowed Depletion, MAD
	0%	10%	25%	50%	100%	Boron, mg/l	Chloride <sub>sw</sub> , ppm		
Apricot	3.6	4	4.6	5.7	7.8	0.5-0.75		1.2	0.50
Artichoke <sup>1</sup>	6	7.2	9	12	18	2.0-4.0		0.8	0.45
Avocado <sup>2</sup>	3.6	4	4.6	5.7	7.8	0.5-0.75	350-525	0.8	0.70
Figs <sup>3</sup>	4.7	5.8	7.5	10.4	16	0.5-0.75		0.9	
Litchi	3.6	4	4.6	5.7	7.8				
Mango <sup>2</sup>	3.6	4	4.6	5.7	7.8				
Nectarine	3.7	4.2	4.9	6.1	8.5	0.5-0.75		1.2	0.50
Peach	3.7	4.2	4.9	6.1	8.5	0.5-0.75		1.2	0.50
Pistachio <sup>3</sup>	4.7	5.8	7.5	10.4	16			1.2	0.40
Sweet potato	4.5	5.5	7	10	14.6	0.75-1.0	525	0.9	0.65

<sup>1</sup> Assumed to have a slope of 8.3

<sup>2</sup> Assumed the same value as apricot

<sup>3</sup> Assumed the same value as olive

Crop Common name	Killing temperature		Abiotic		Light intensity				Photoperiod
	During rest	Early growth	Tolerance	Suscepti bility	Optimal  min	Absolute  max	min	max	
Apricot	-5	1		Humidity frost, wind	very bright	very bright	very bright	clear skies	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Artichoke	1	0			clear skies	cloudy skies	very bright	cloudy skies	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Avocado	-4	-1		Wind, Flooding	very bright	very bright	clear skies	very bright	
Figs	-12	-1	Drought		very bright	clear skies	very bright	light shade	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Litchi	-5	-1		Wind, Flooding	very bright	clear skies	very bright	cloudy skies	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Mango	-1	0		Frost	very bright	very bright	cloudy skies	very bright	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Nectarine	-5	-5			very bright	very bright	very bright	cloudy skies	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Peach	-5	-5		Flooding	very bright	very bright	very bright	cloudy skies	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours), long day (>14 hours)
Pistachio	-18	-1	Drought, high summer temp.	Flooding, high RH	very bright	very bright	very bright	very bright	short day (<12 hours)
Sweet potato	1	5		Frost	very bright	very bright	very bright	clear skies	short day (<12 hours), neutral day (12-14 hours)

<b>Crop Common name</b>	<b>Climate zone</b>	<b>Main use</b>	<b>Detailed use</b>	<b>Used part</b>
Apricot	subtropical humid (Cf), subtropical dry summer (Cs), subtropical dry winter (Cw), temperate oceanic (Do), temperate continental (Dc), temperate with humid winters (Df), temperate with dry winters (Dw)	food & beverage, animal food (feed), material, environmental	vitamins, minerals, lipids, lipids/oil & fats, ornamental/turf	fruits, seeds, leaves, entire plant
Artichoke	tropical wet & dry (Aw), steppe or semiarid (Bs), subtropical dry summer (Cs), temperate oceanic (Do)	food & beverage, material, medicinal	vitamins, dye/tannin/ applications	flowers, leaves
Avocado	tropical wet & dry (Aw), tropical wet (Ar)	food & beverage, animal food (feed), material, medicinal, poison, environmental	vitamins, minerals, protein, timber wood, cosmetics & perfumery, applications, agroforestry	fruits, seeds, leaves, entire plant
Figs	tropical wet & dry (Aw), tropical wet (Ar), steppe or semiarid (Bs), subtropical humid (Cf), subtropical dry summer (Cs), subtropical dry winter (Cw), temperate oceanic (Do), temperate continental (Dc), temperate with humid winters (Df), temperate with dry winters (Dw)	food & beverage, animal food (feed), material, medicinal, environmental	vitamins, minerals, dye/tannin, applications, ornamental/turf, shade & shelter	fruits, leaves, entire plant
Litchi	tropical wet & dry (Aw), subtropical humid (Cf), subtropical dry summer (Cs), subtropical dry winter (Cw)	food & beverage, environmental, medicinal, material	vitamins, minerals, shade & shelter, agroforestry, ornamental, turf, timber, wood, honey	fruits, entire plant, seeds, stems, flowers

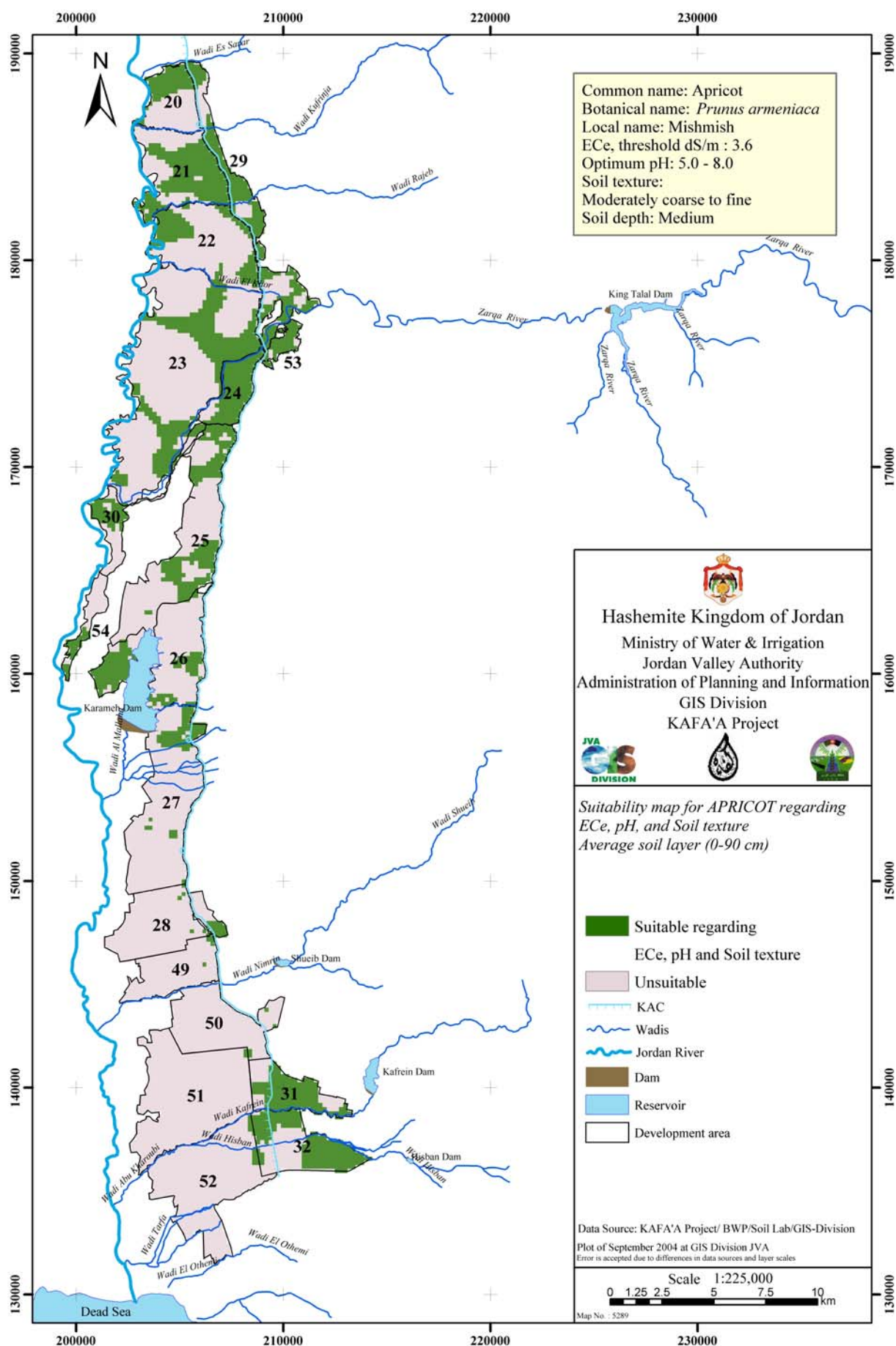
<b>Crop</b>				
<b>Common name</b>	<b>Climate zone</b>	<b>Main use</b>	<b>Detailed use</b>	<b>Used part</b>
Mango	tropical wet & dry (Aw), tropical wet (Ar), desert or arid (Bw), steppe or semiarid (Bs), subtropical dry summer (Cs)	food & beverage, animal food (feed), fuels, material, medicinal	vitamins, minerals, fuelwood, charcoal, timber wood, dye/tannin, applications	fruits, seeds, leaves, stems, bark
Nectarine	subtropical humid (Cf), subtropical dry summer (Cs)	food & beverage, environmental	vitamins, minerals, agroforestry, ornamental/turf	fruits, entire plant
Peach	subtropical humid (Cf), subtropical dry summer (Cs)	food & beverage, environmental	vitamins, minerals, agroforestry, ornamental/turf	fruits, entire plant
Pistachio	steppe or semiarid (Bs), subtropical dry summer (Cs), temperate oceanic (Do)	food & beverage, material, medicinal	vitamins, minerals, lipids, dye/tannin, gums?resins, lipids/oil & fats	seeds, galls, fruits, bark
Sweet potato	tropical wet & dry (Aw), tropical wet (Ar), steppe or semiarid (Bs), subtropical humid (Cf)	food & beverage, animal food (feed)	starch, vitamins, minerals	roots, leaves, stems

<sup>1</sup>Main source: <http://ecocorp.fao.org>

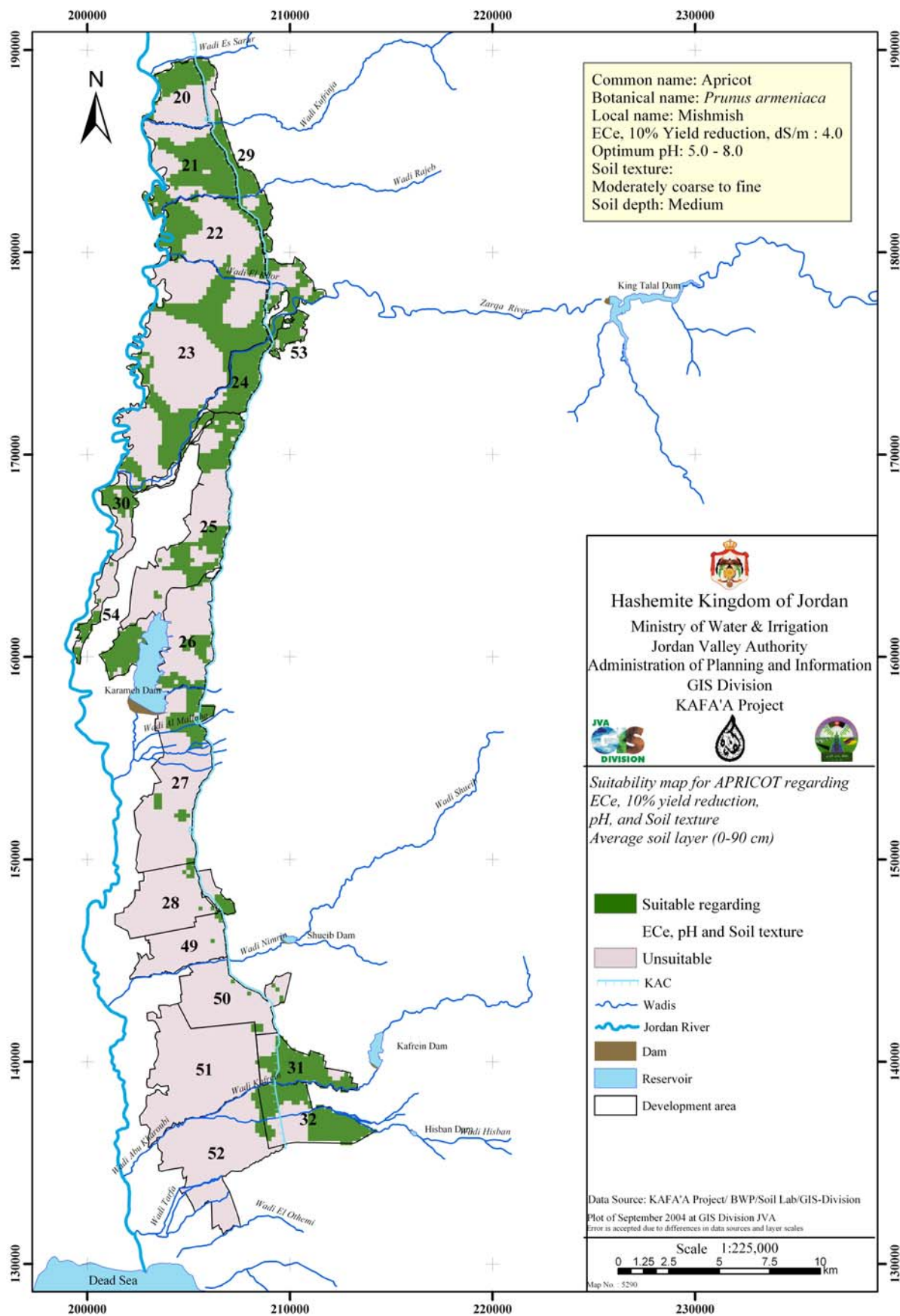
## **Appendix II**

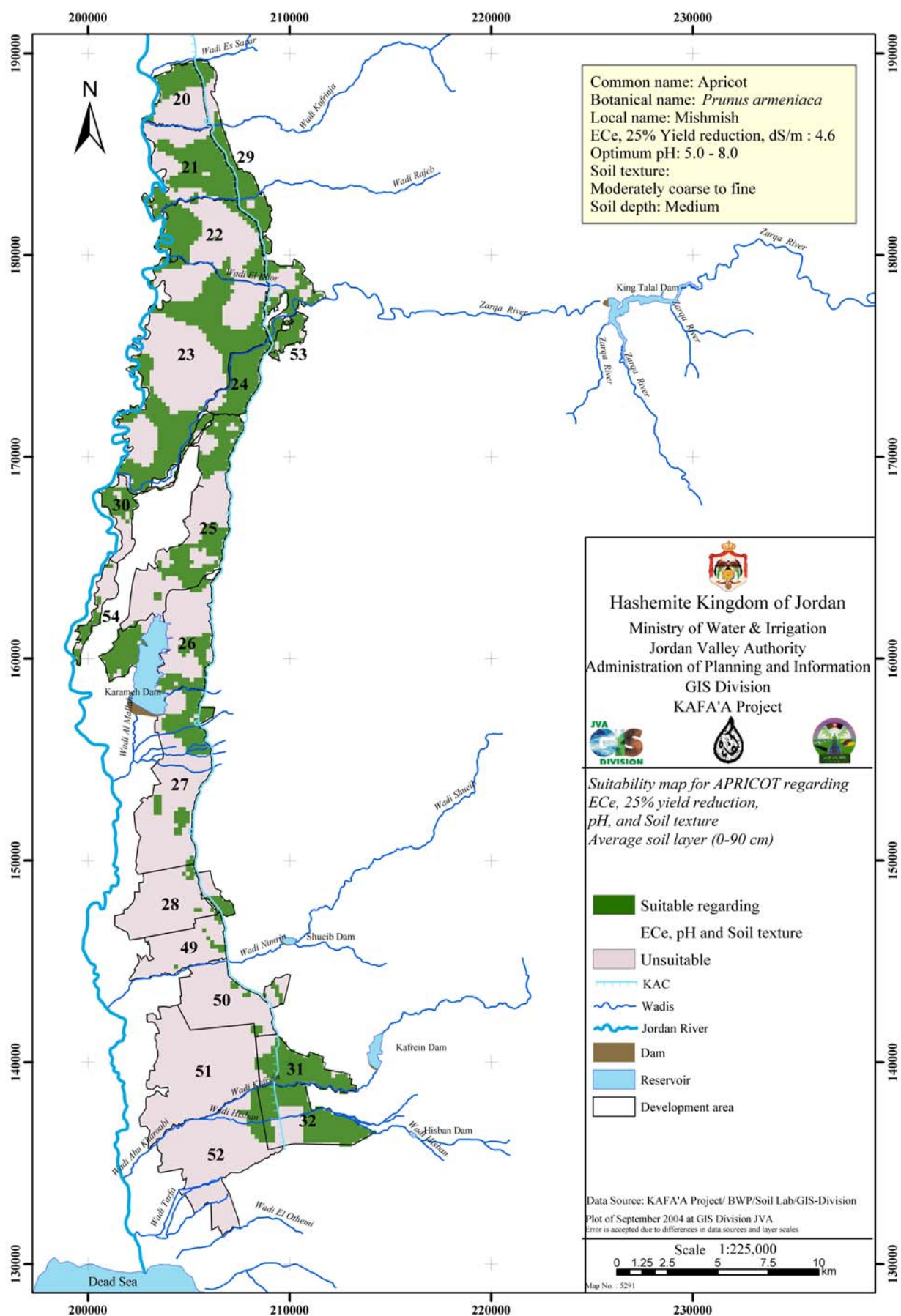
### **Crop Suitability Maps**

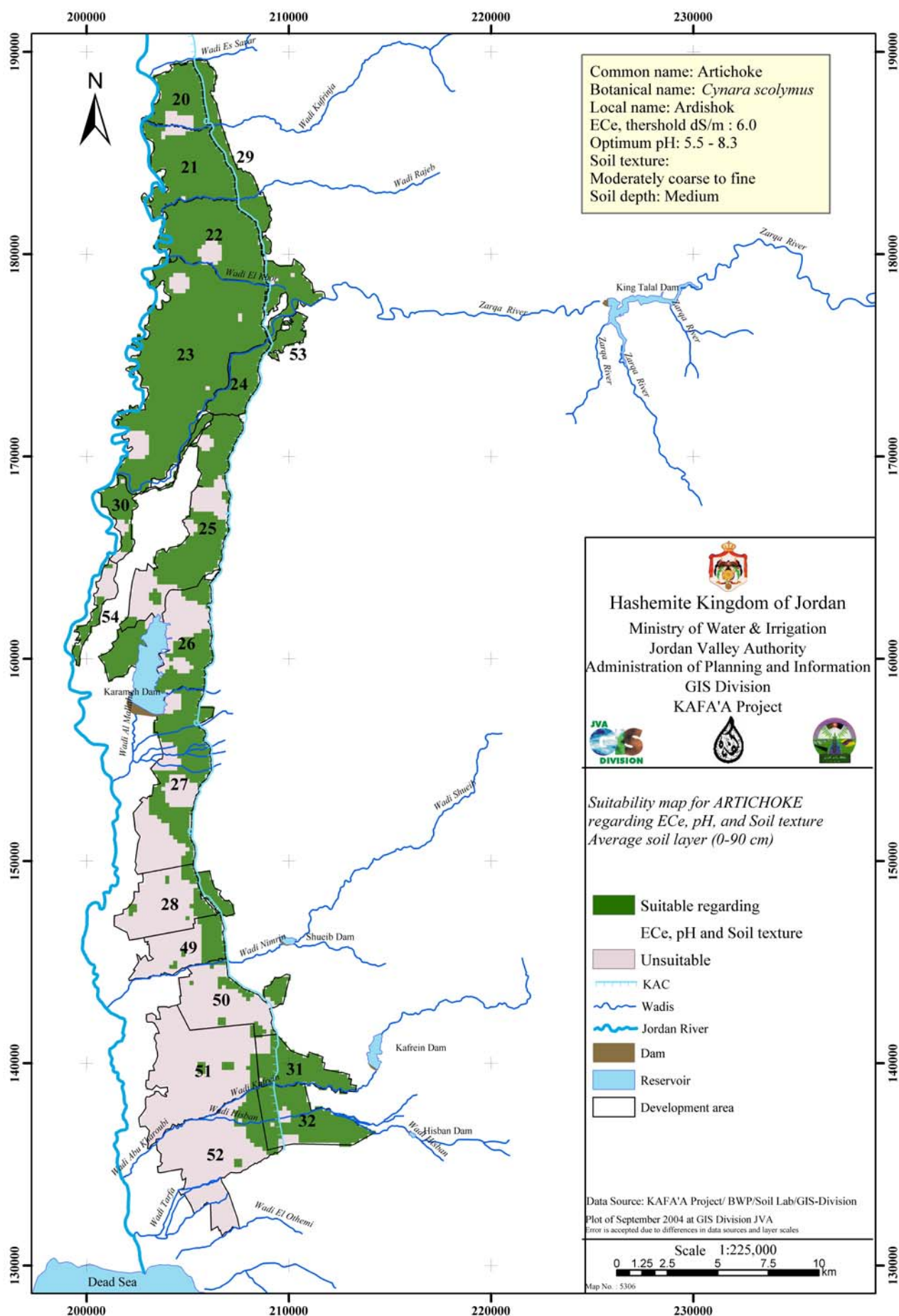
**CROP SUITABILITY MAPS REGARDING  
ECe, pH, and SOIL TEXTURE**



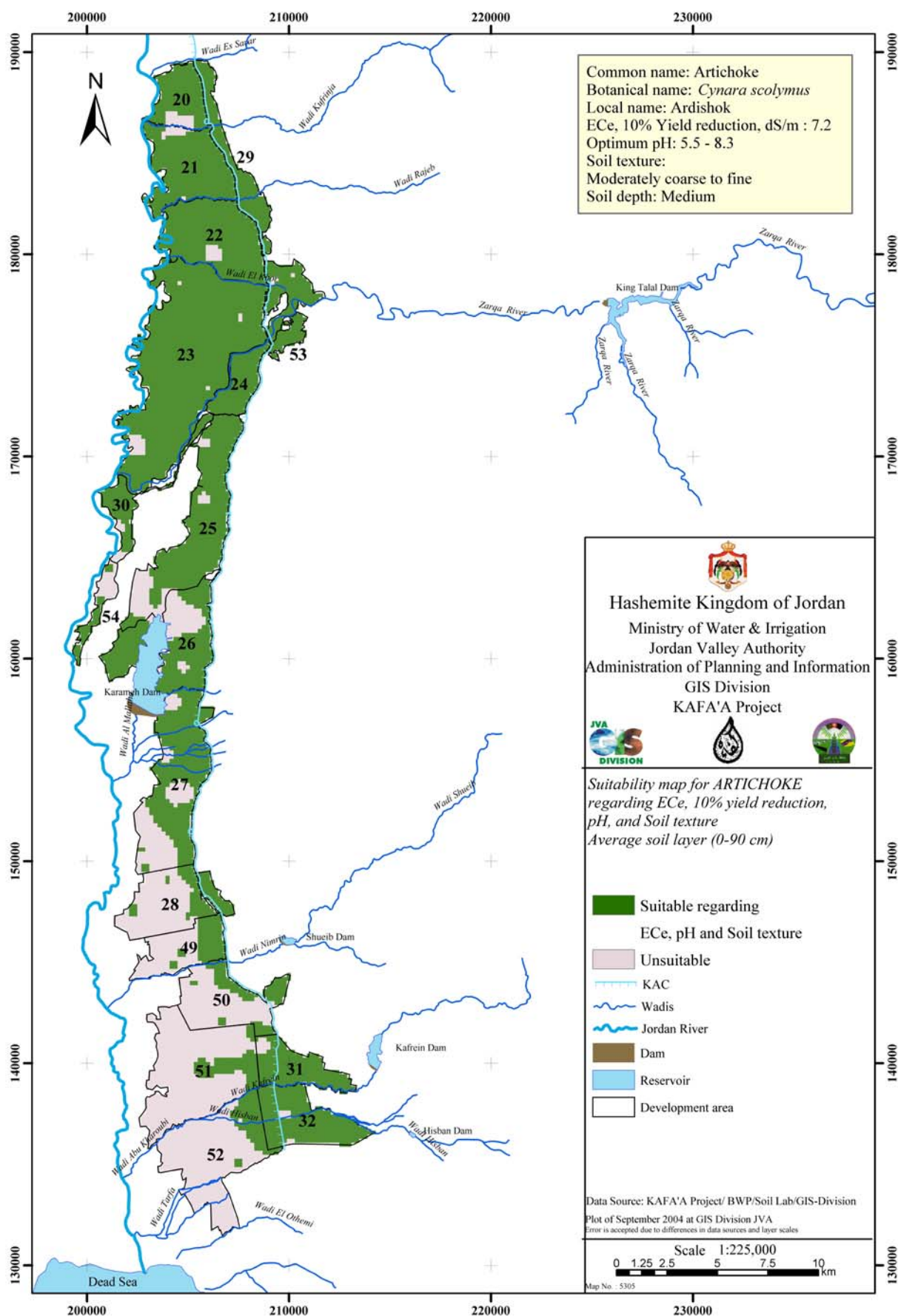


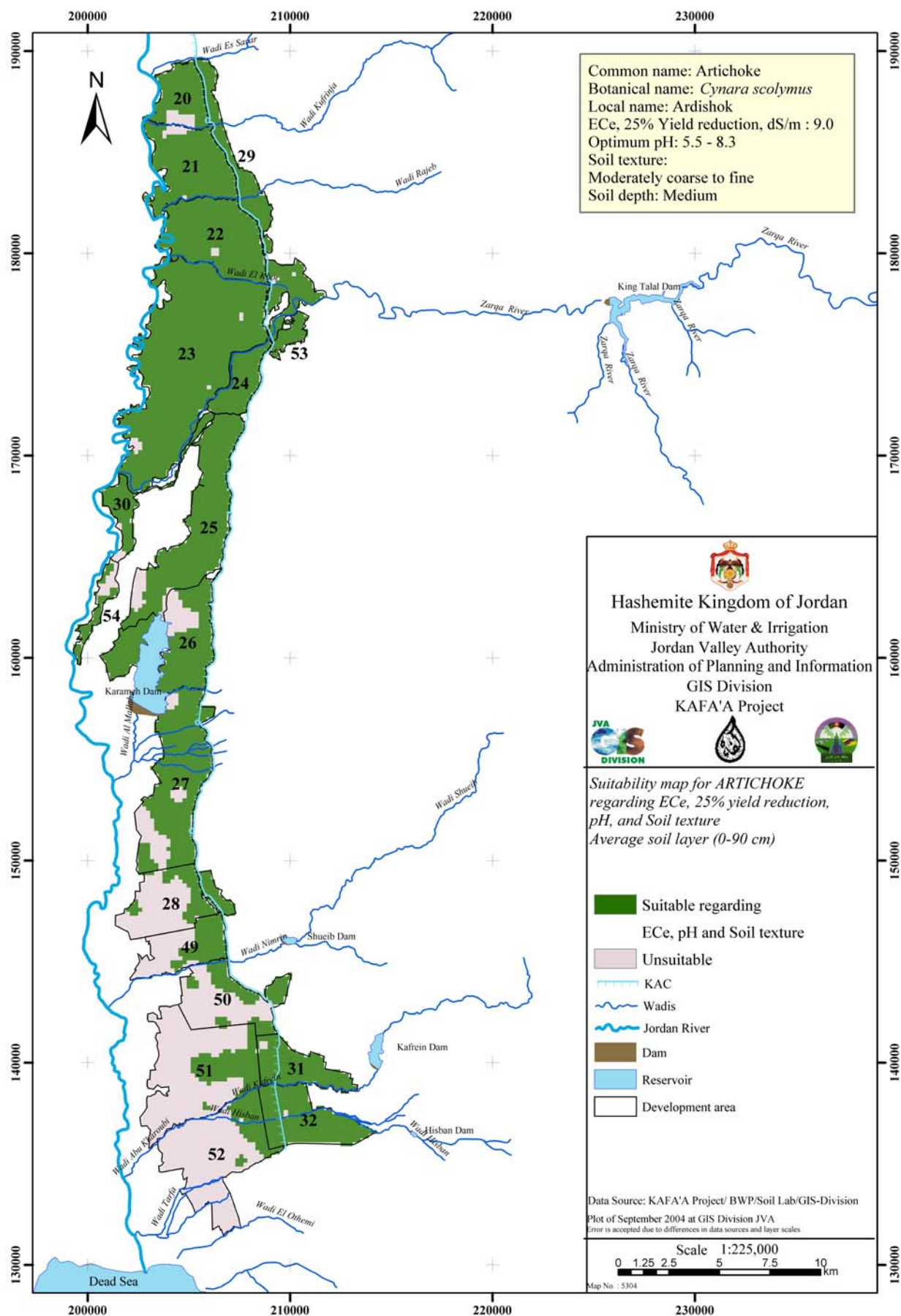


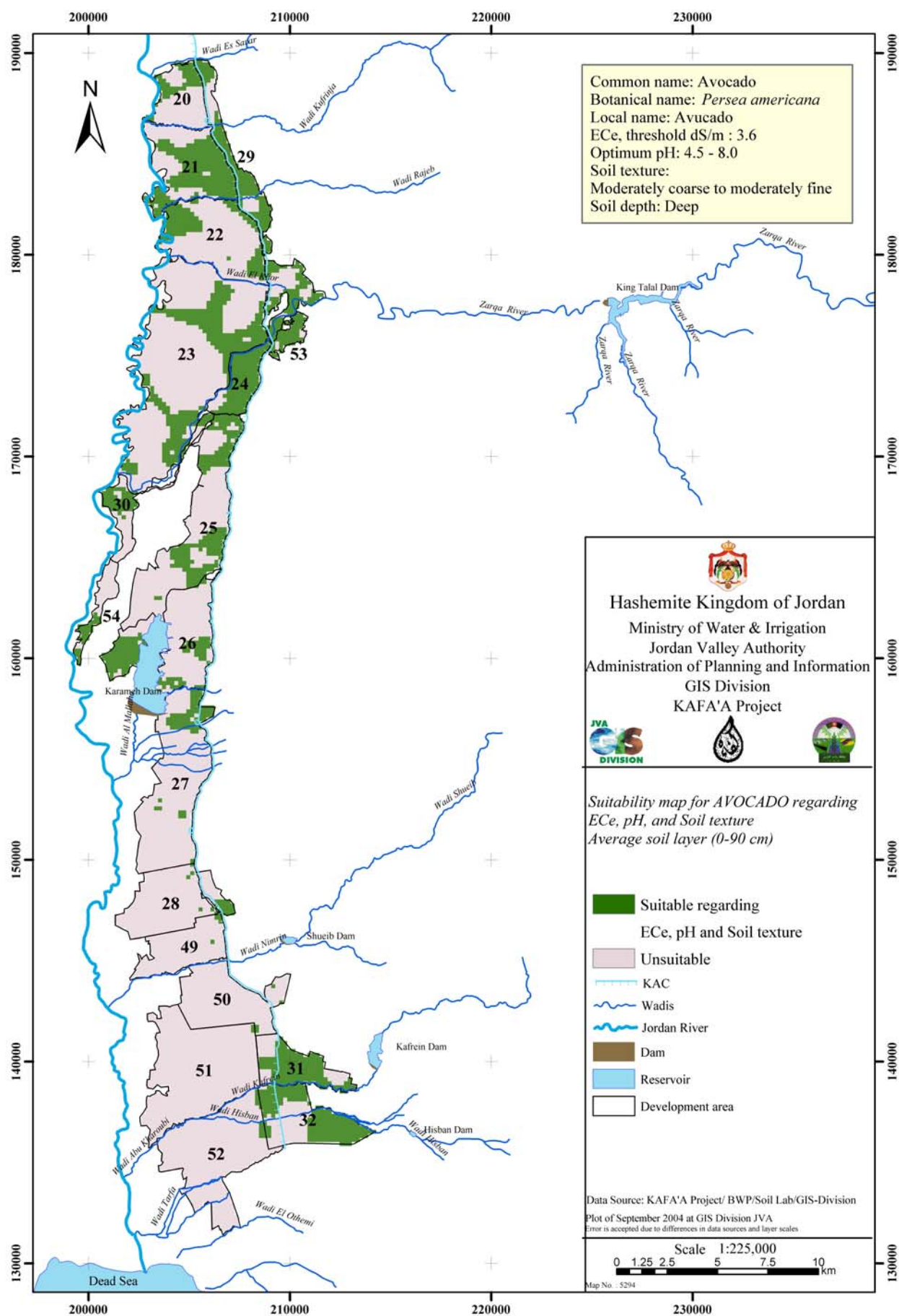




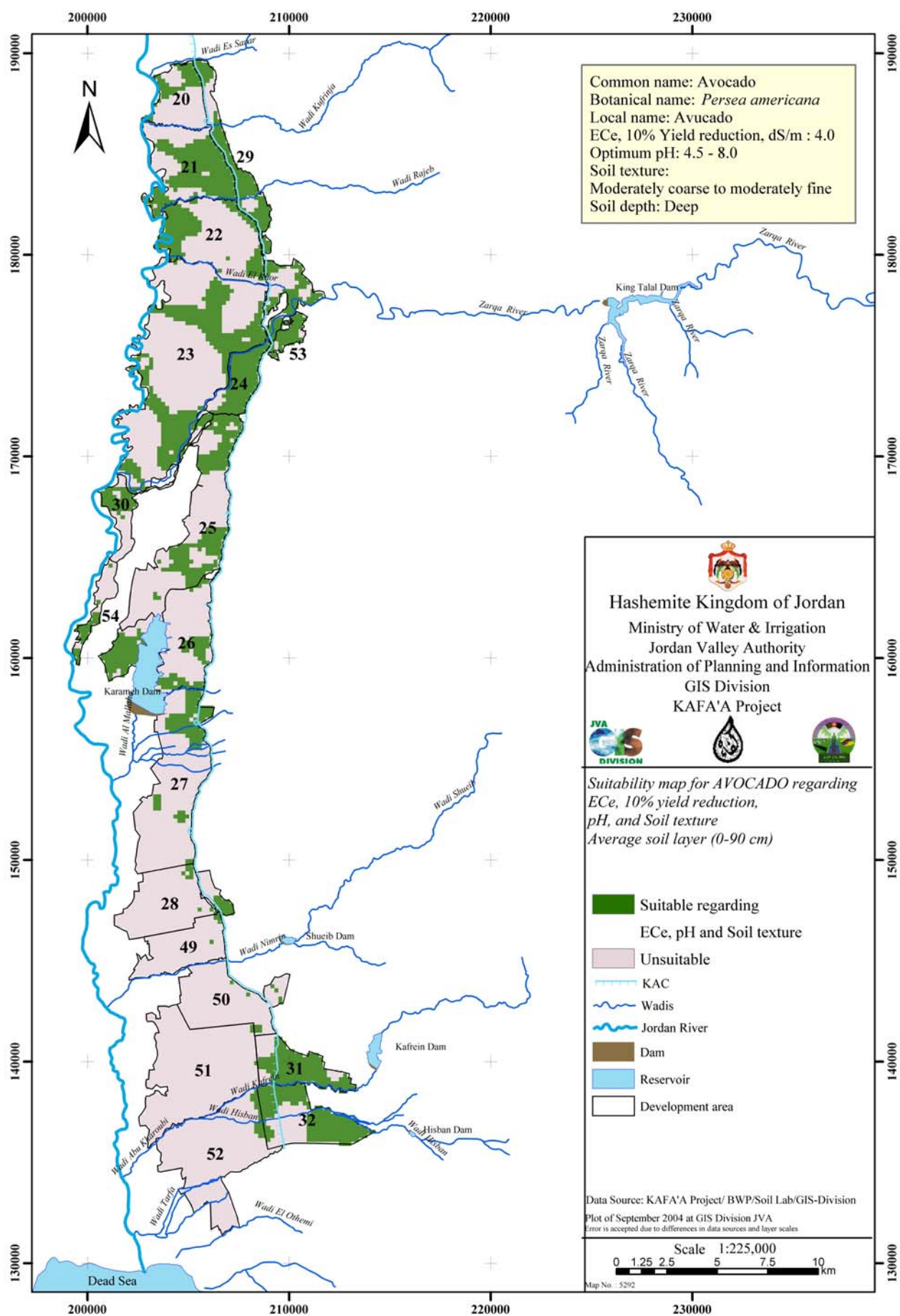


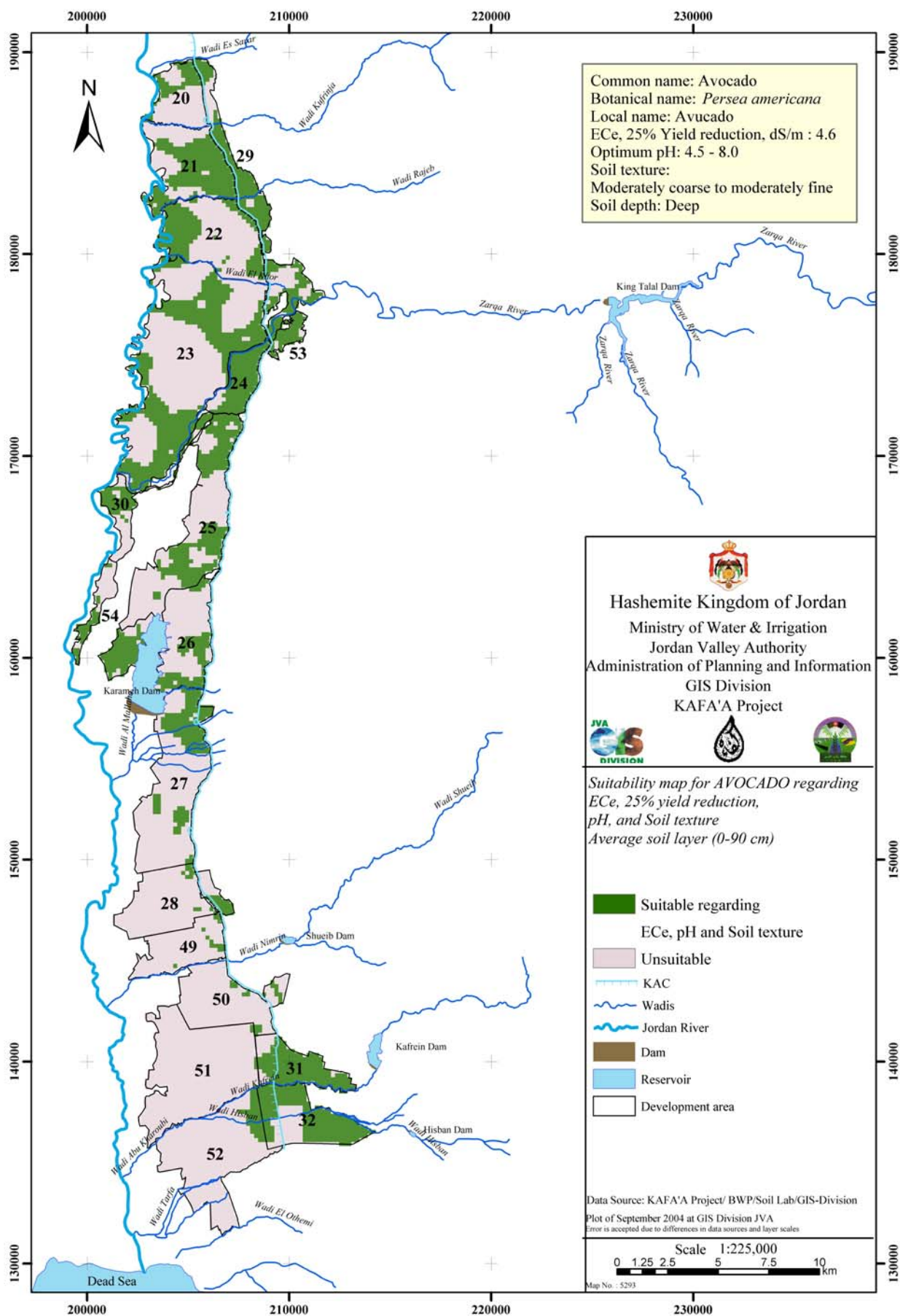




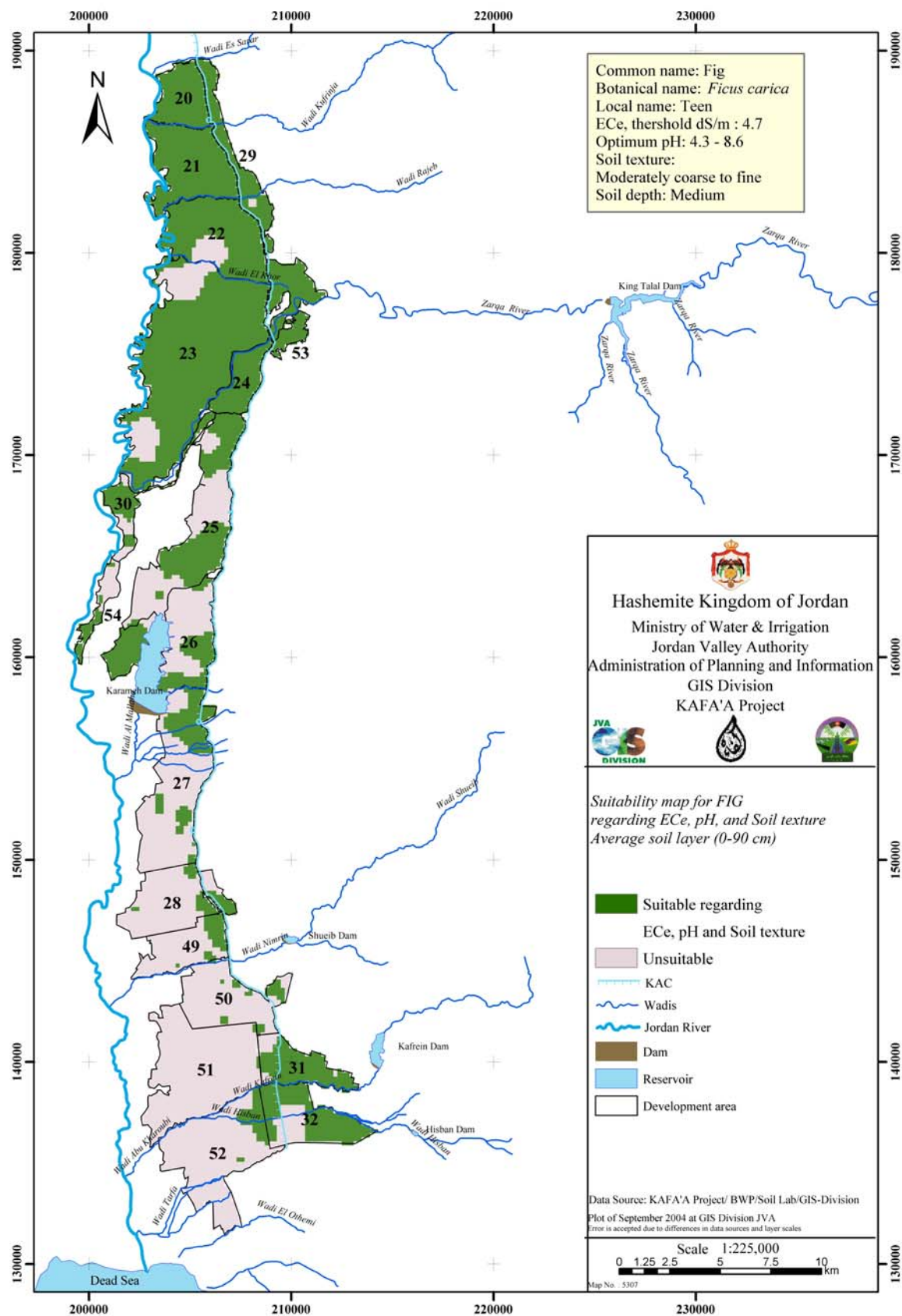


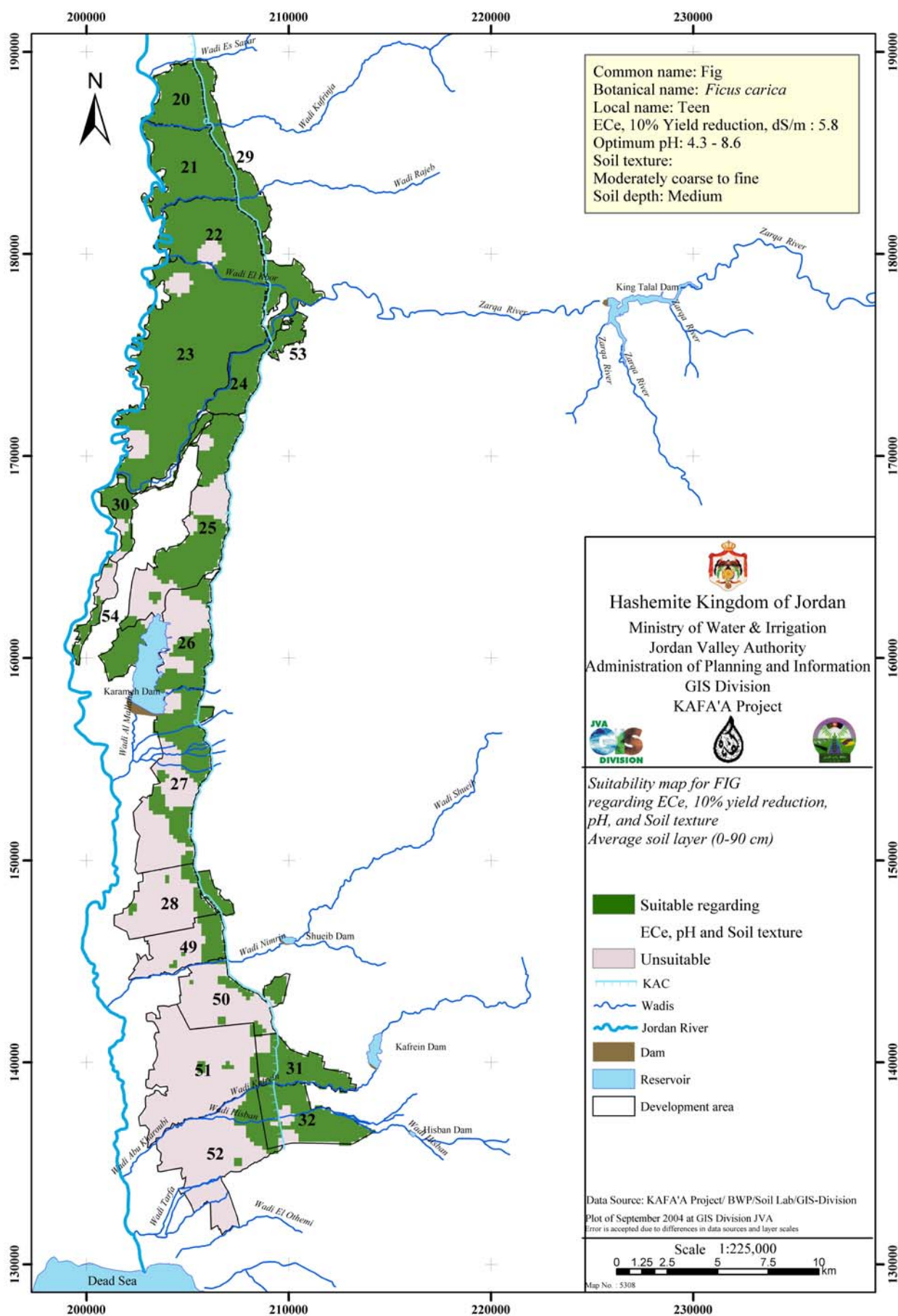


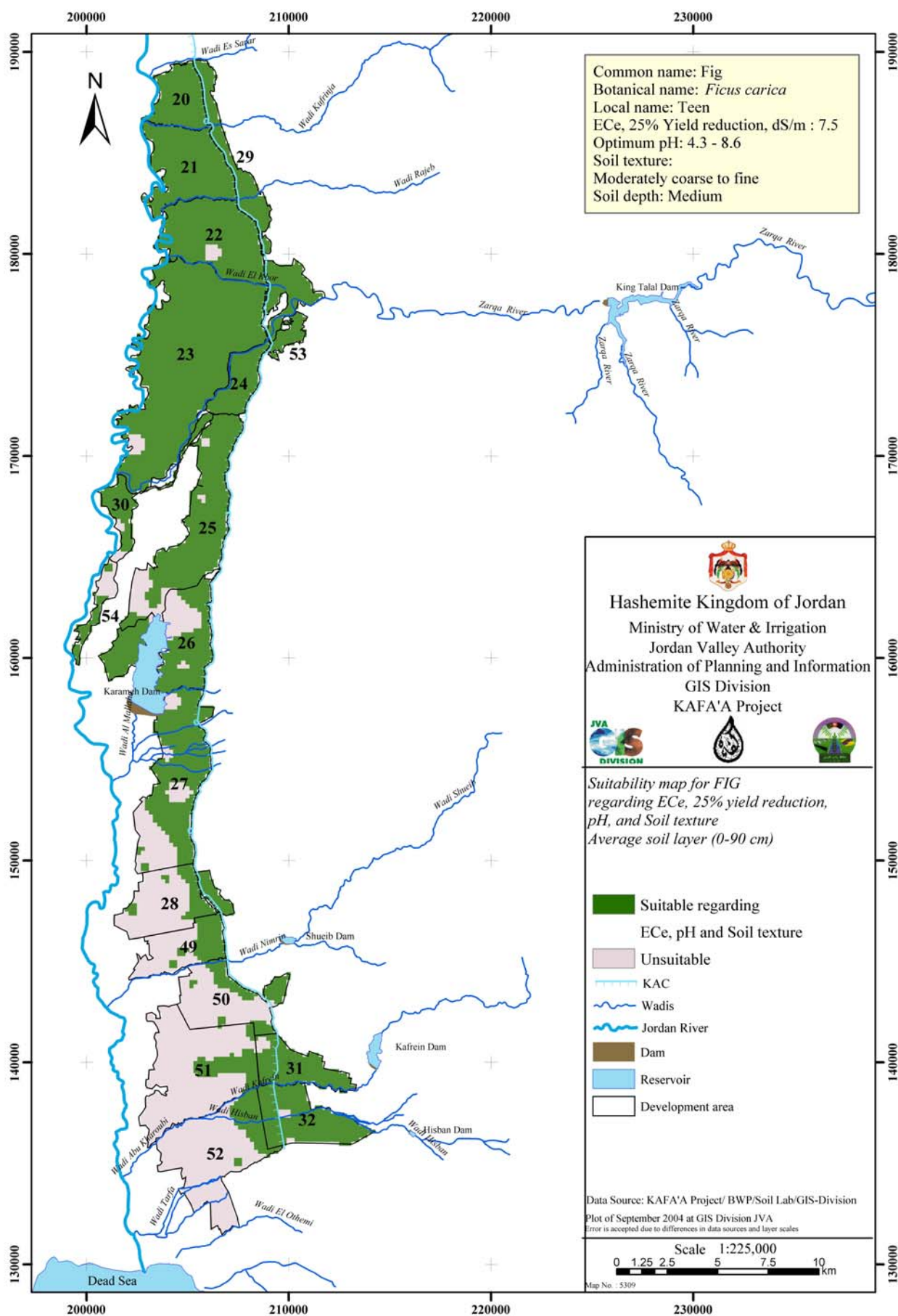




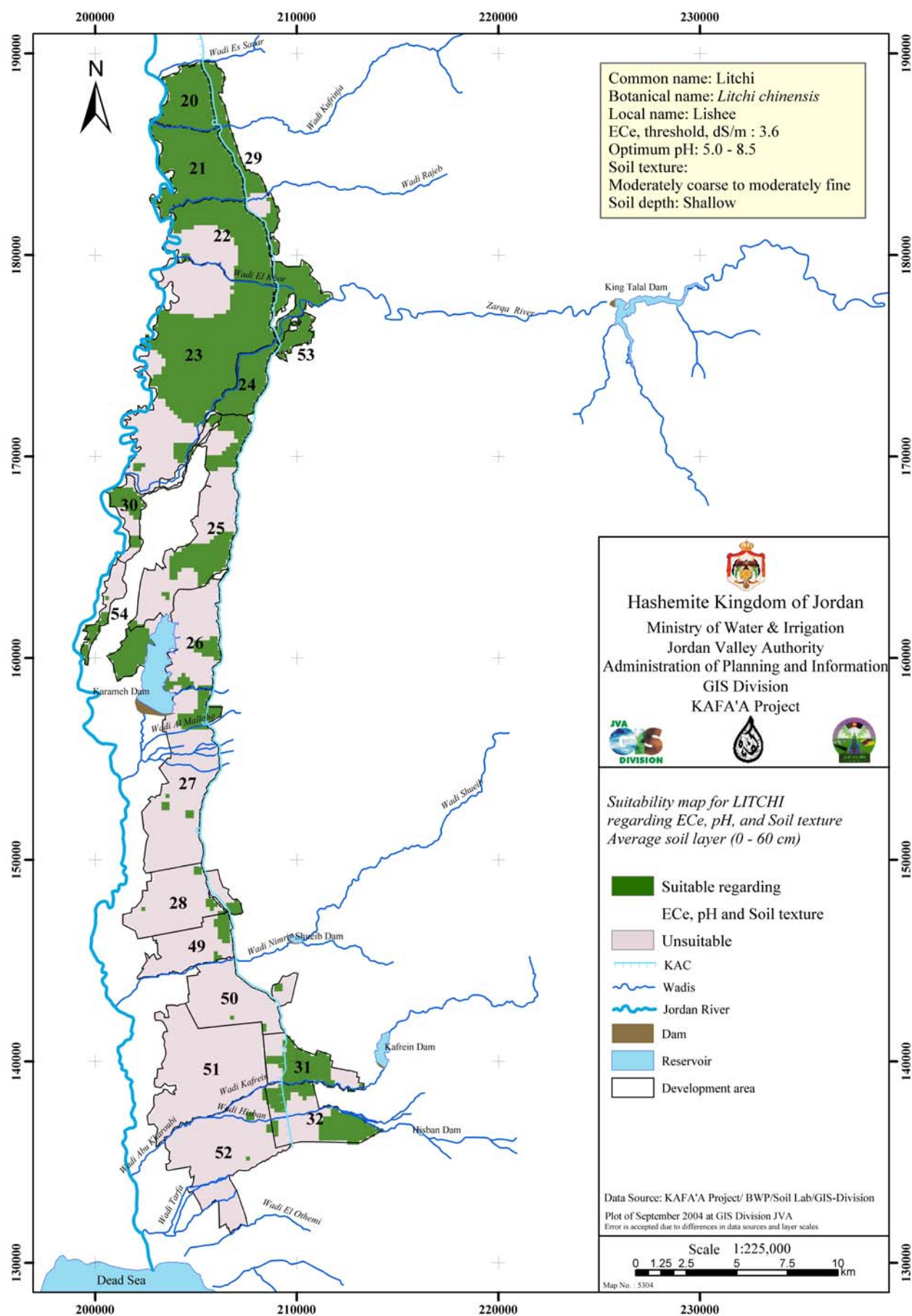


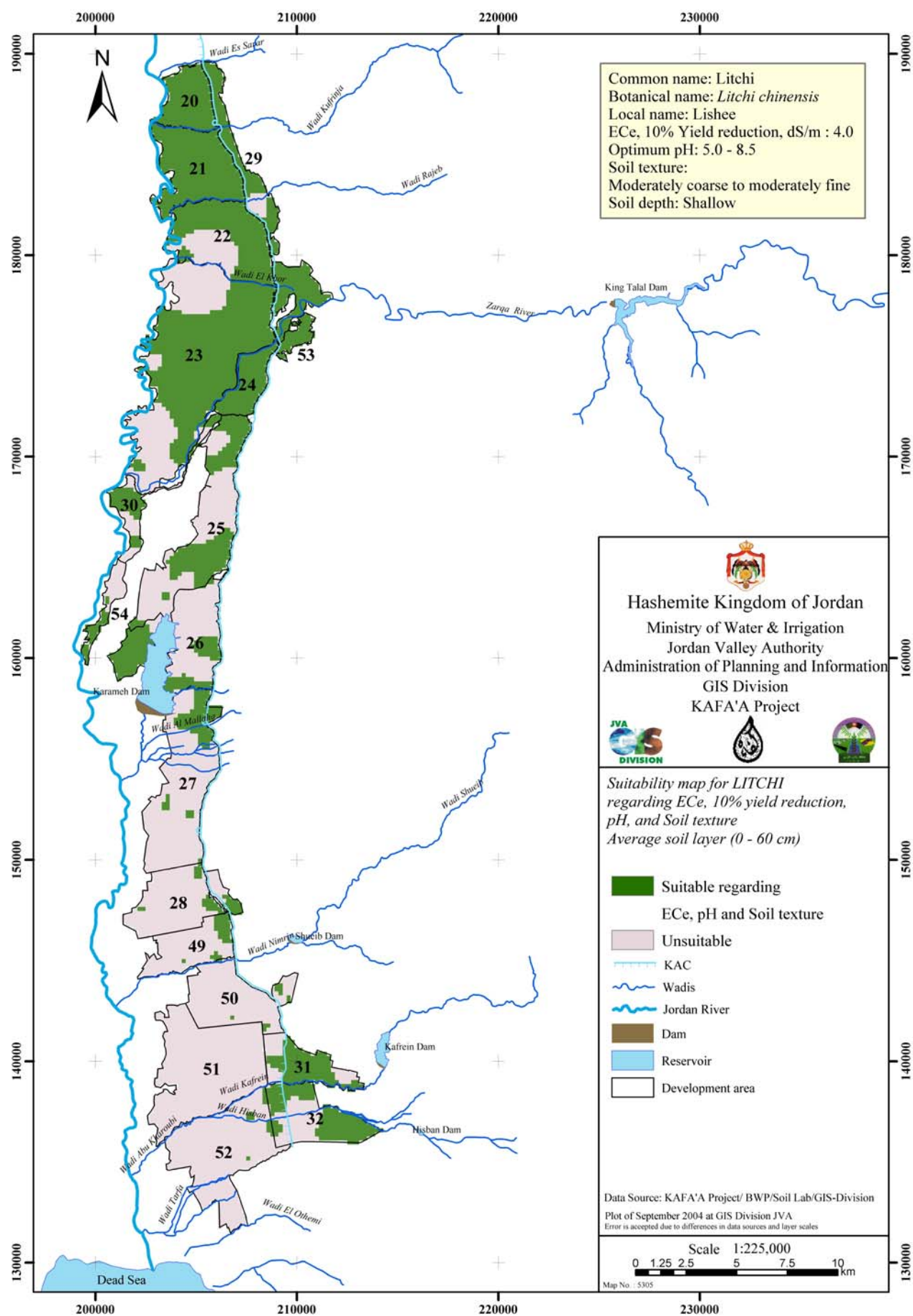


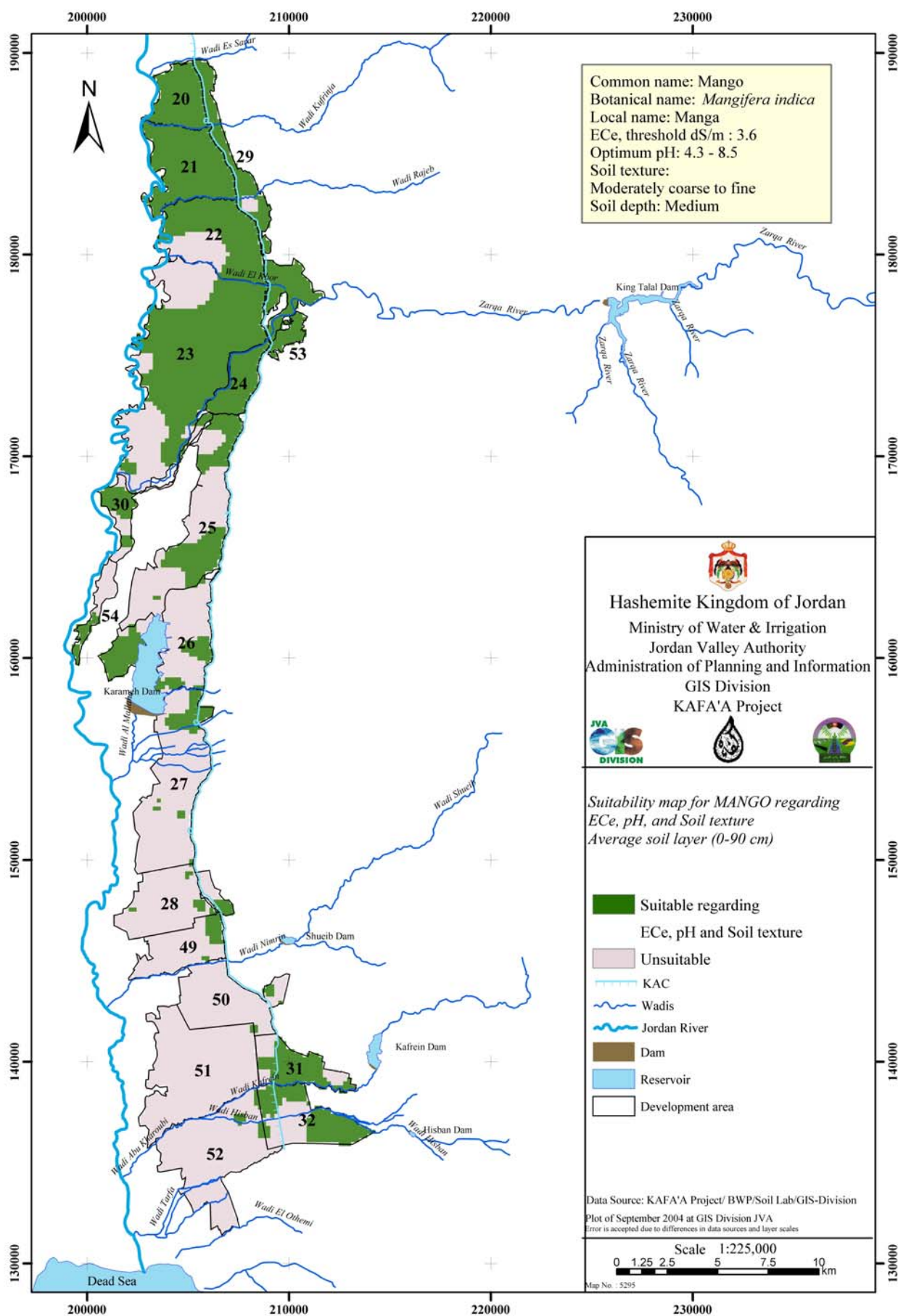




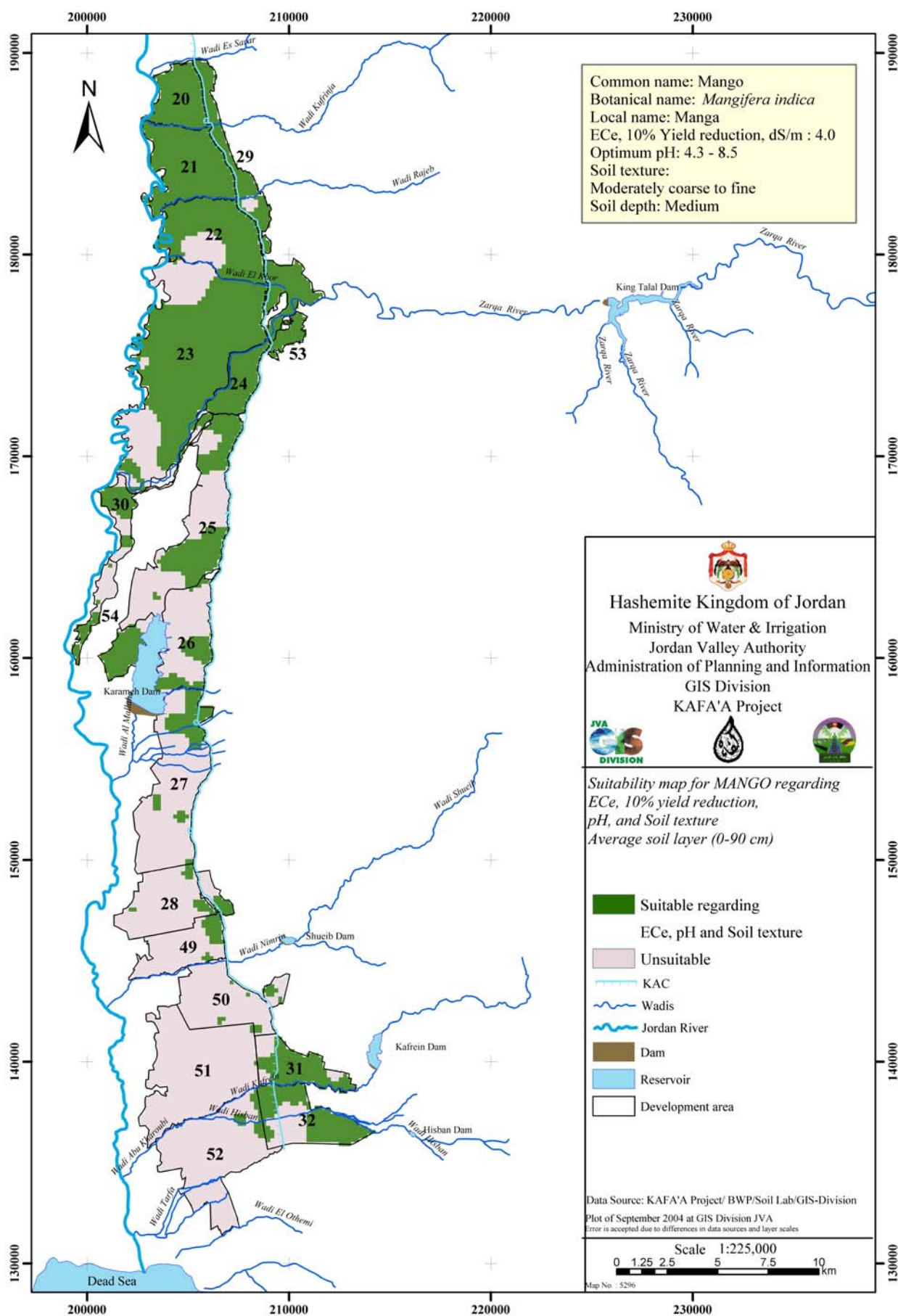


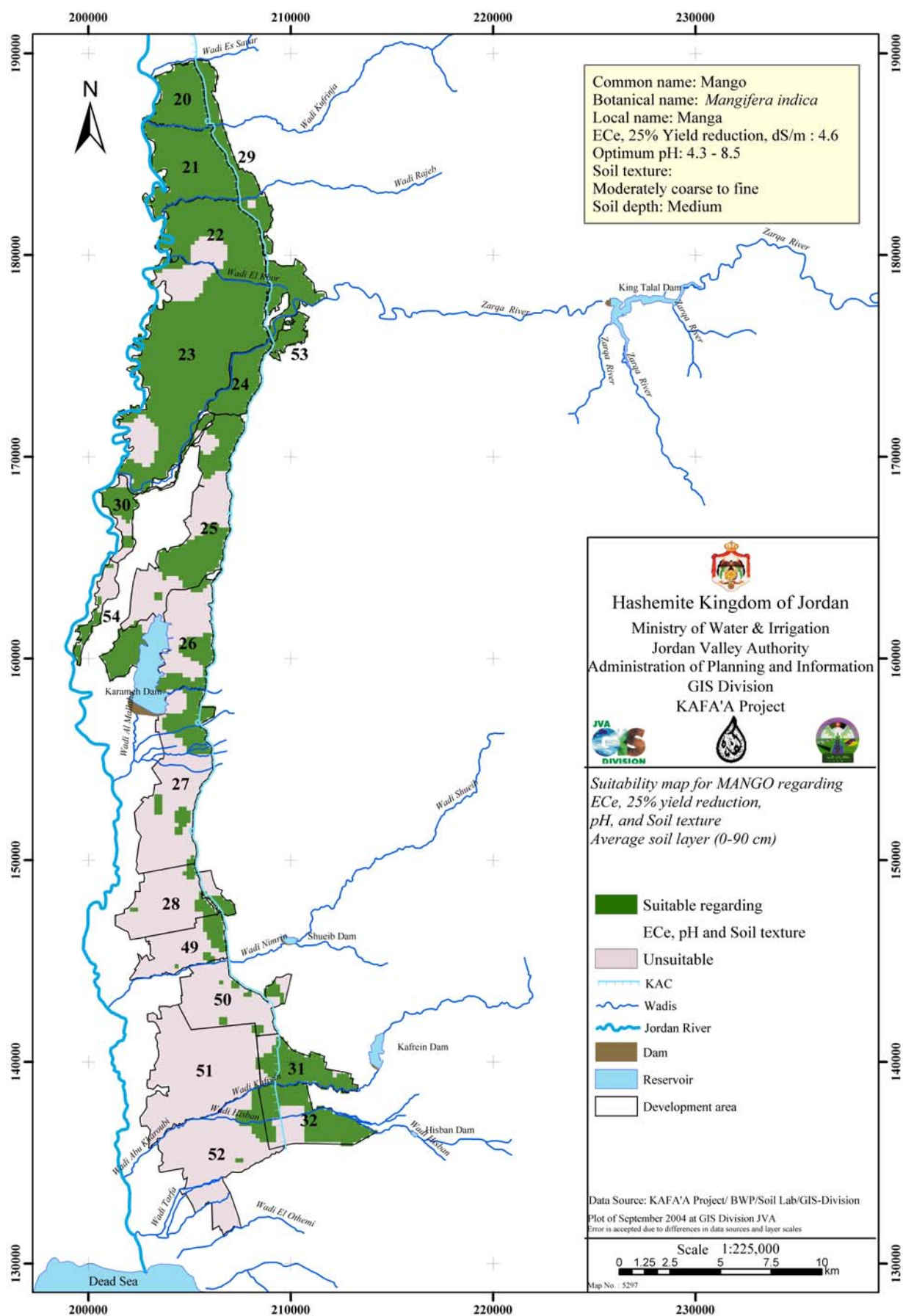




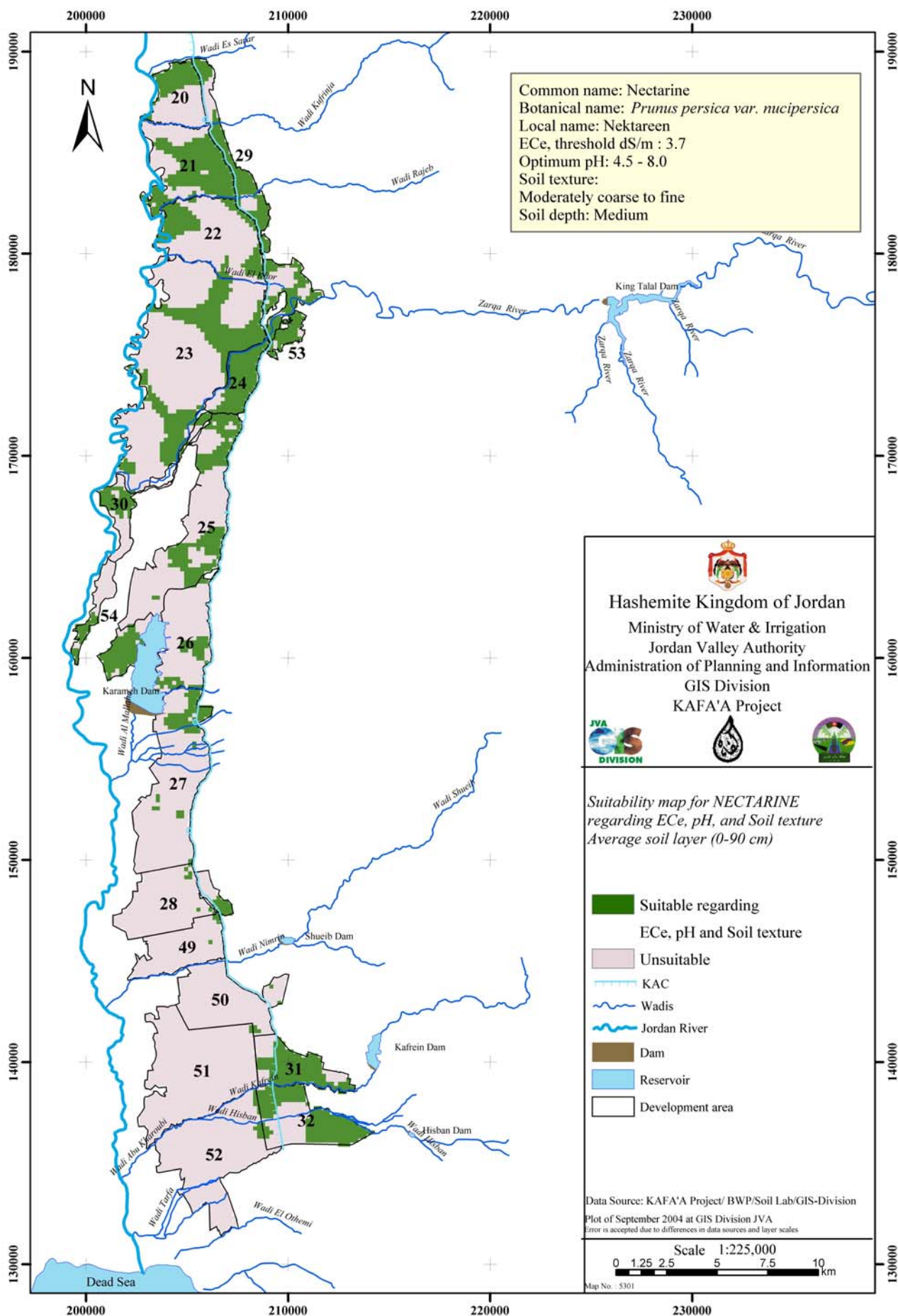


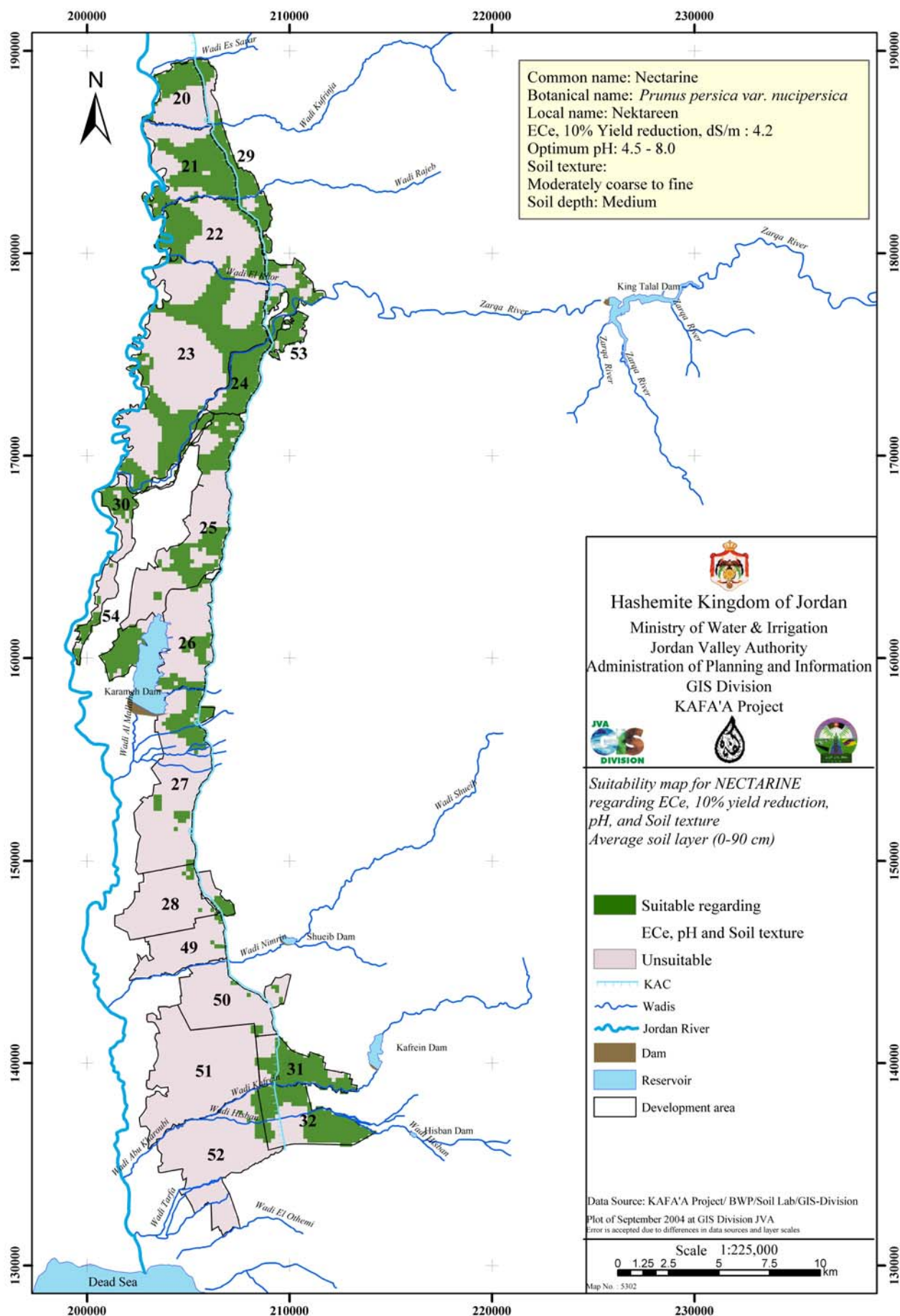


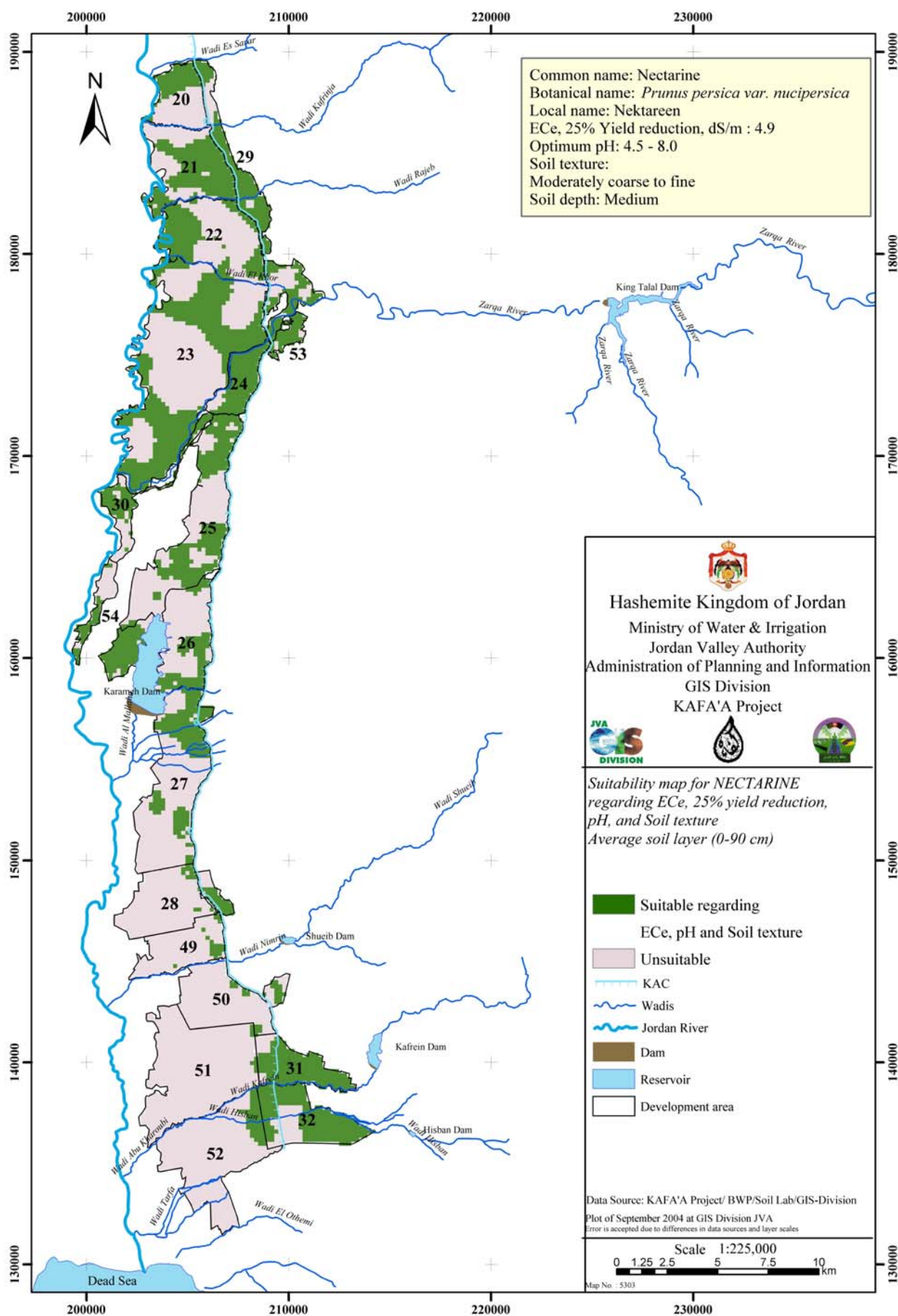




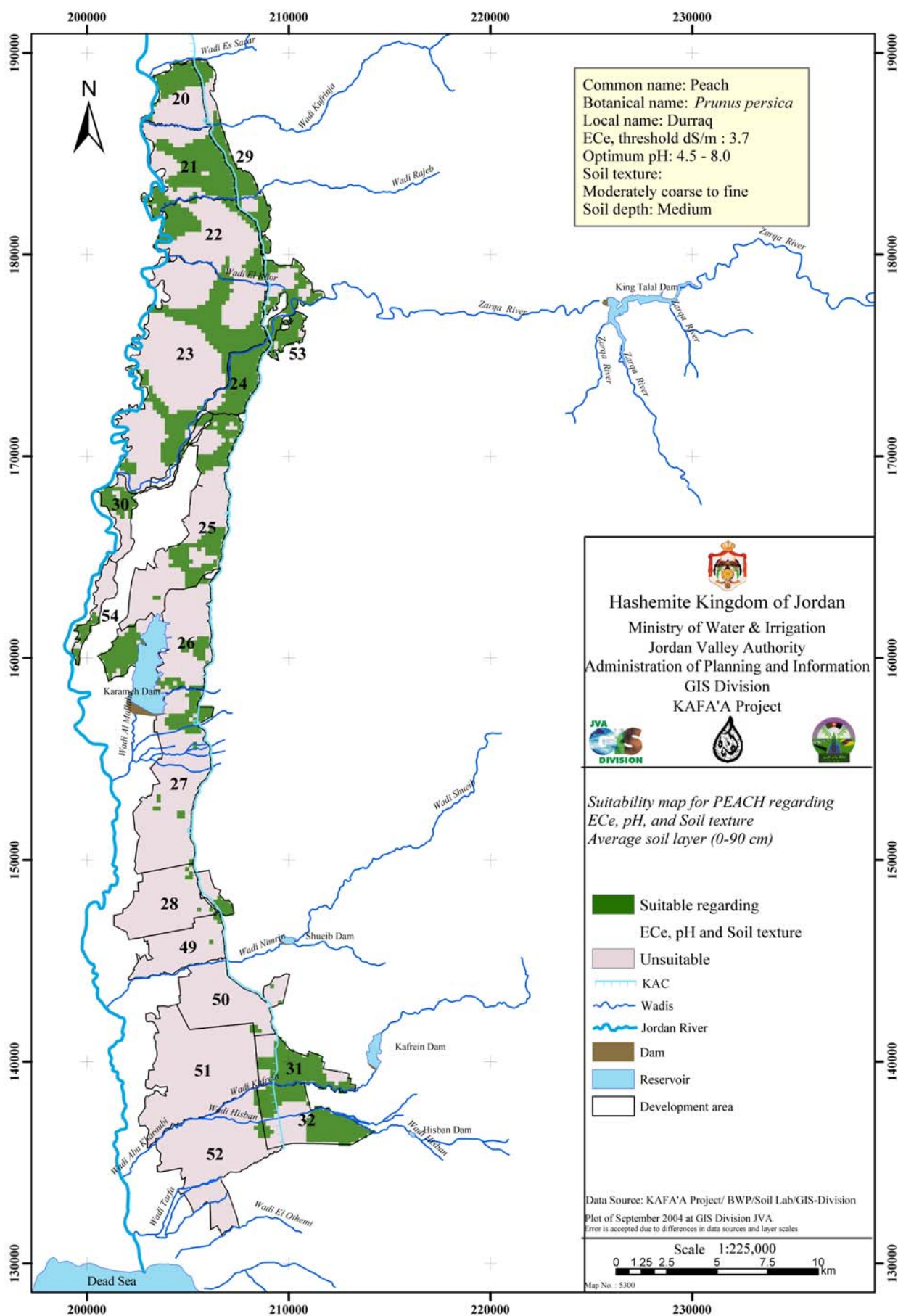


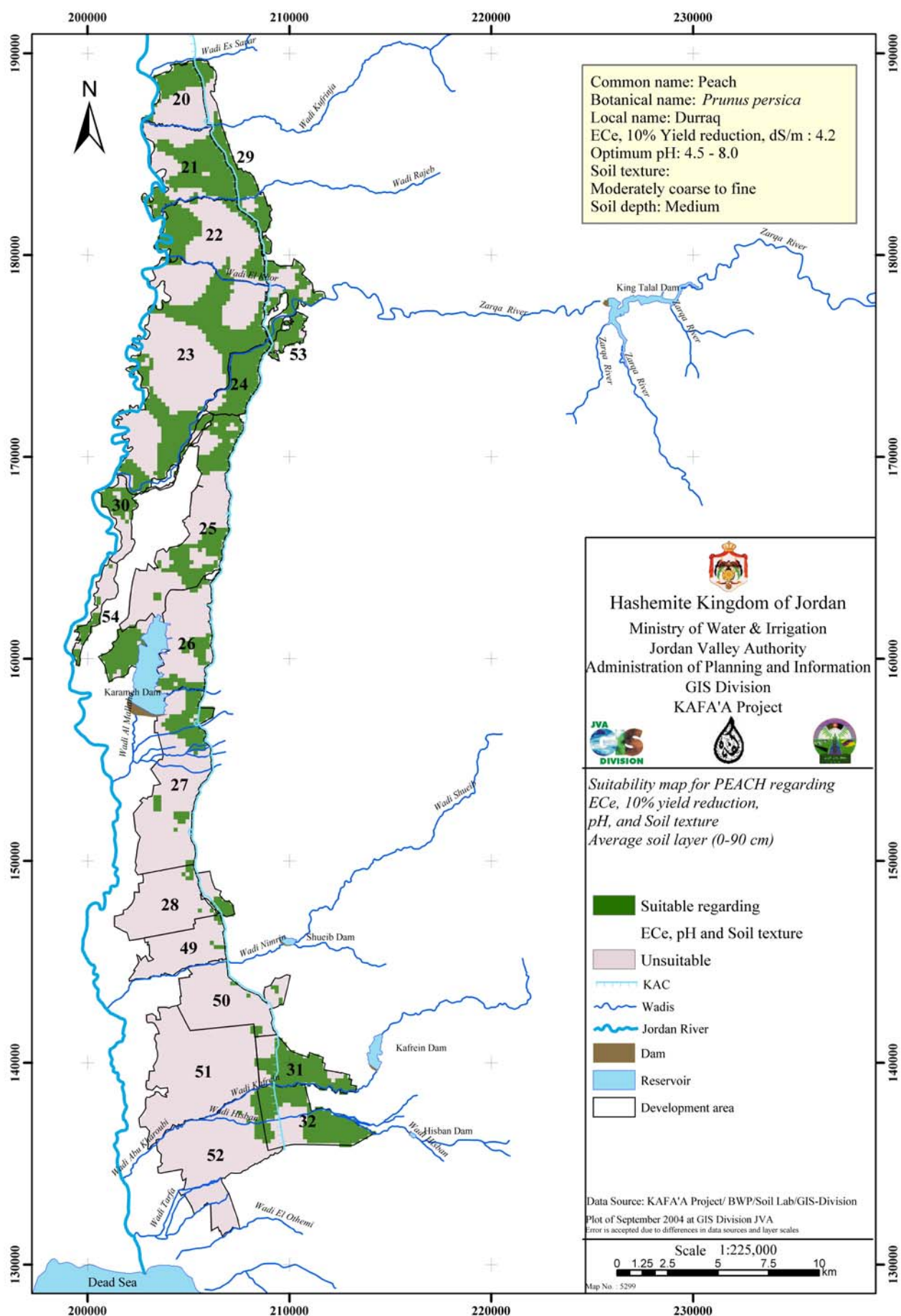


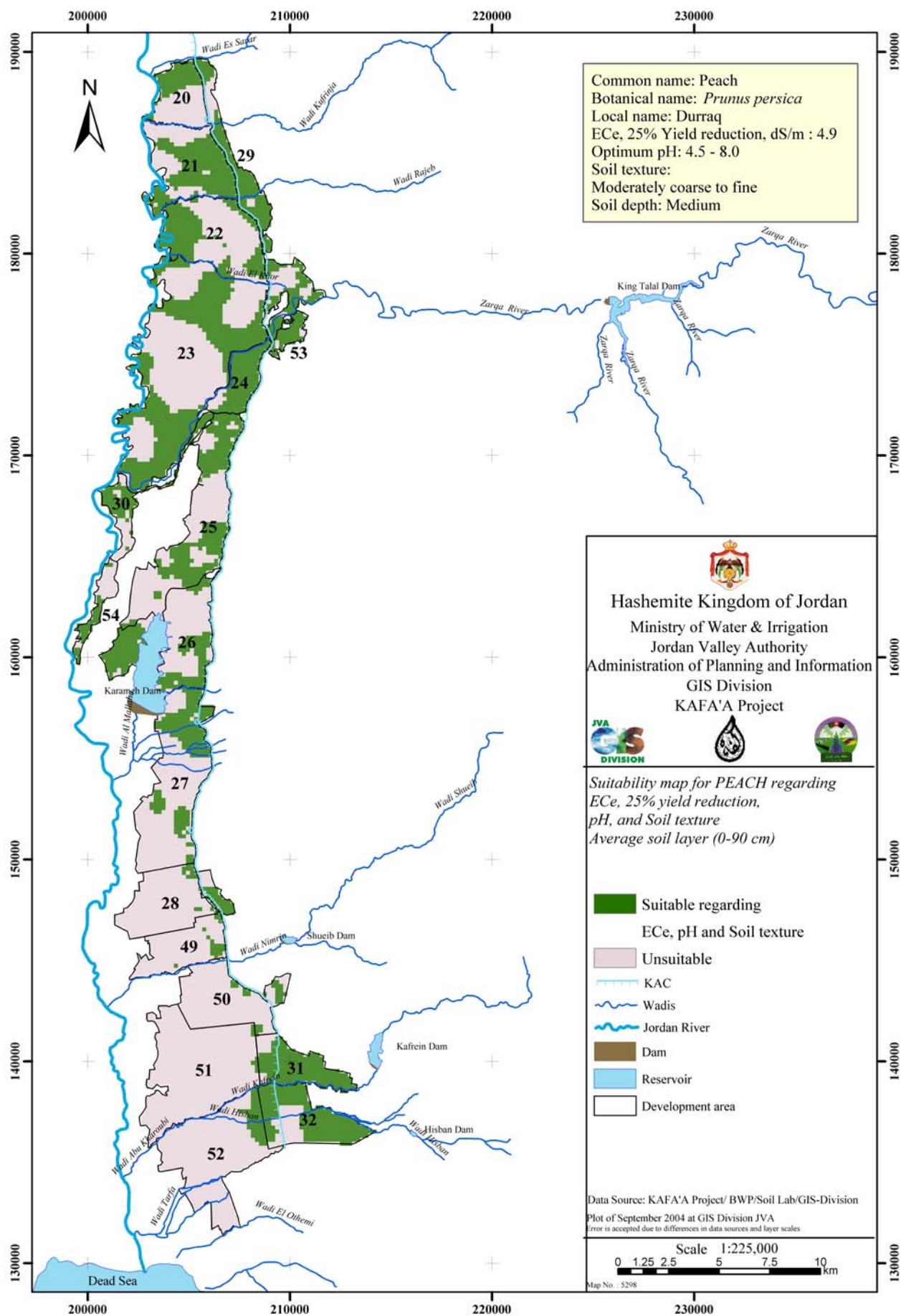




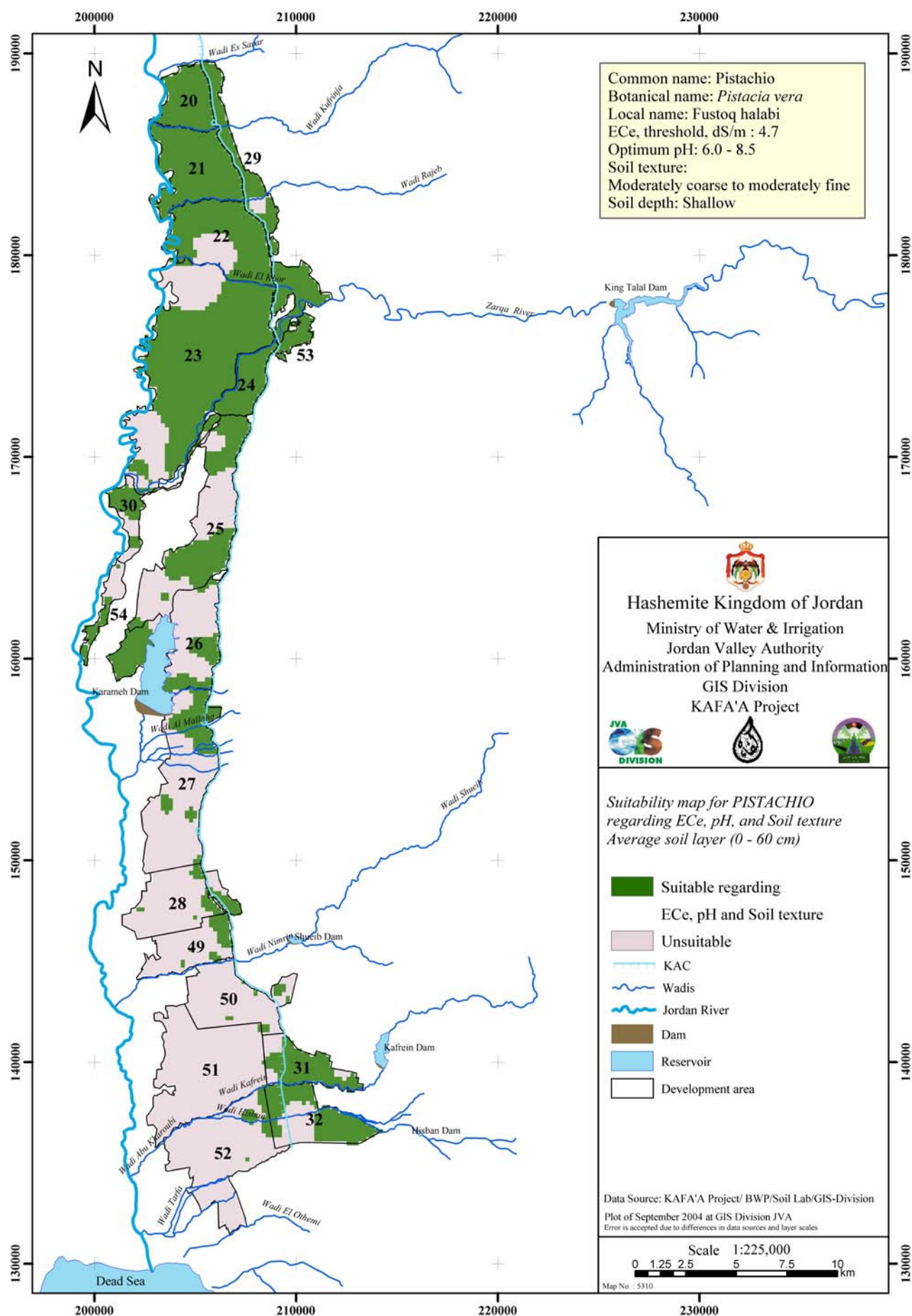


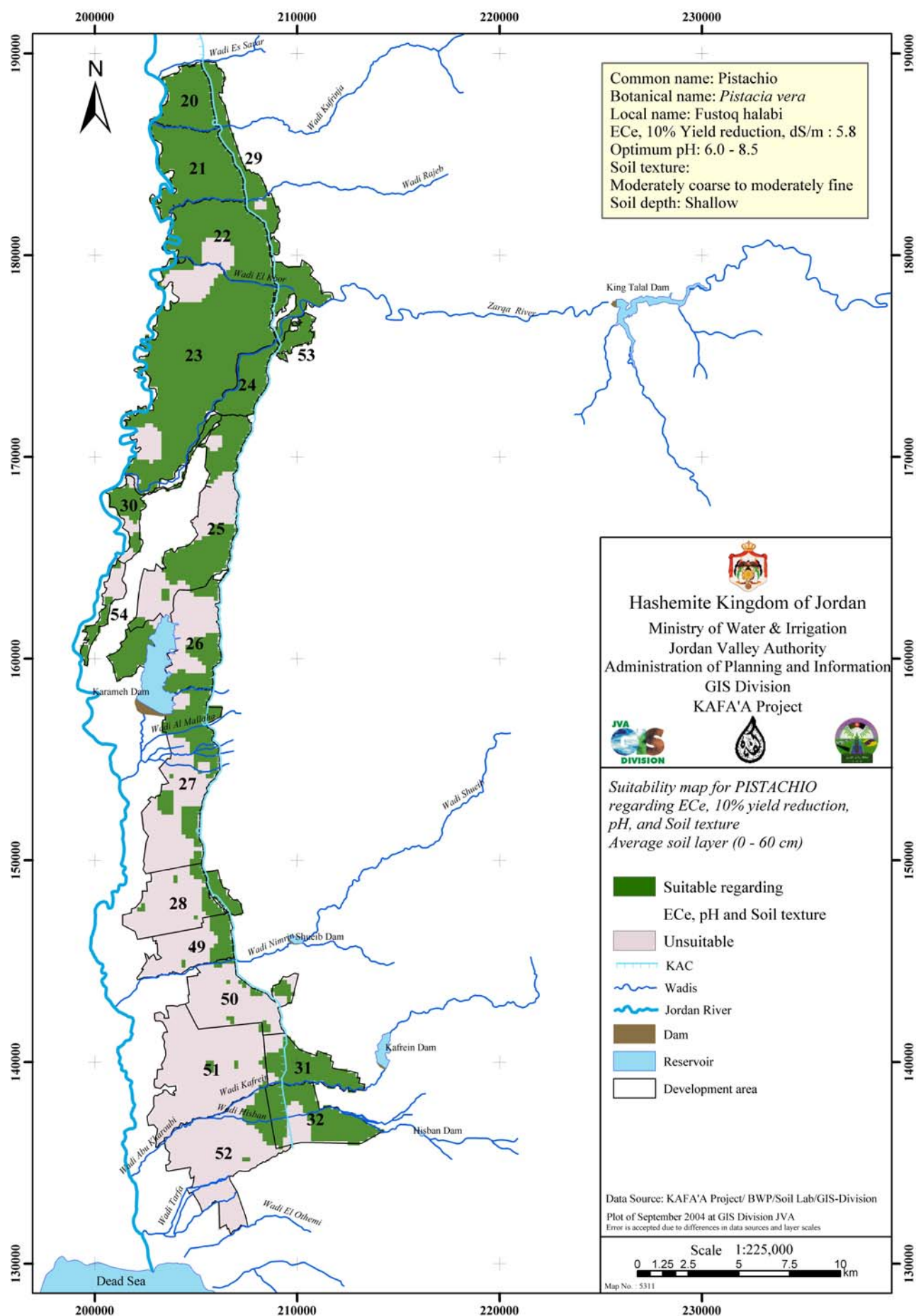




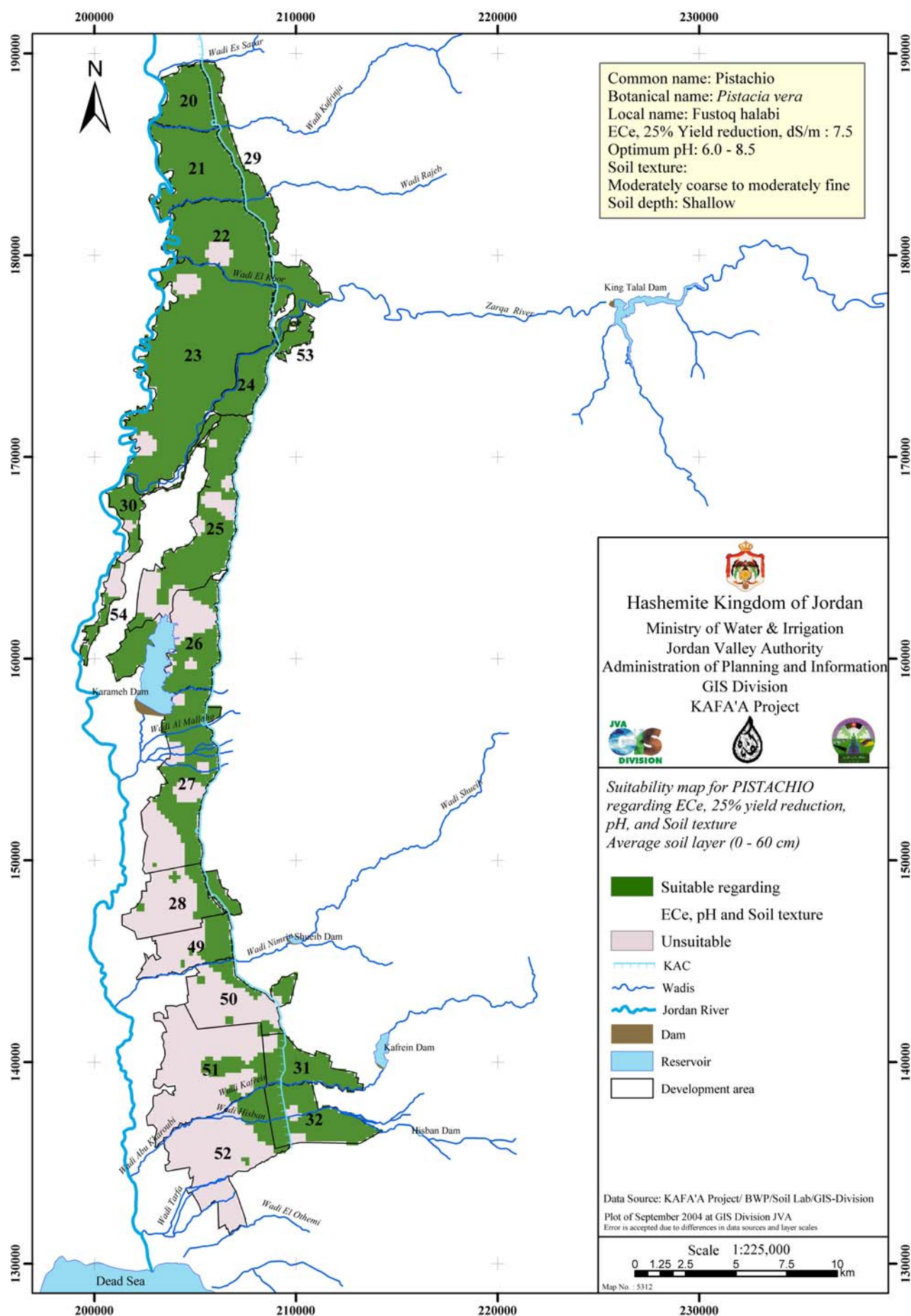


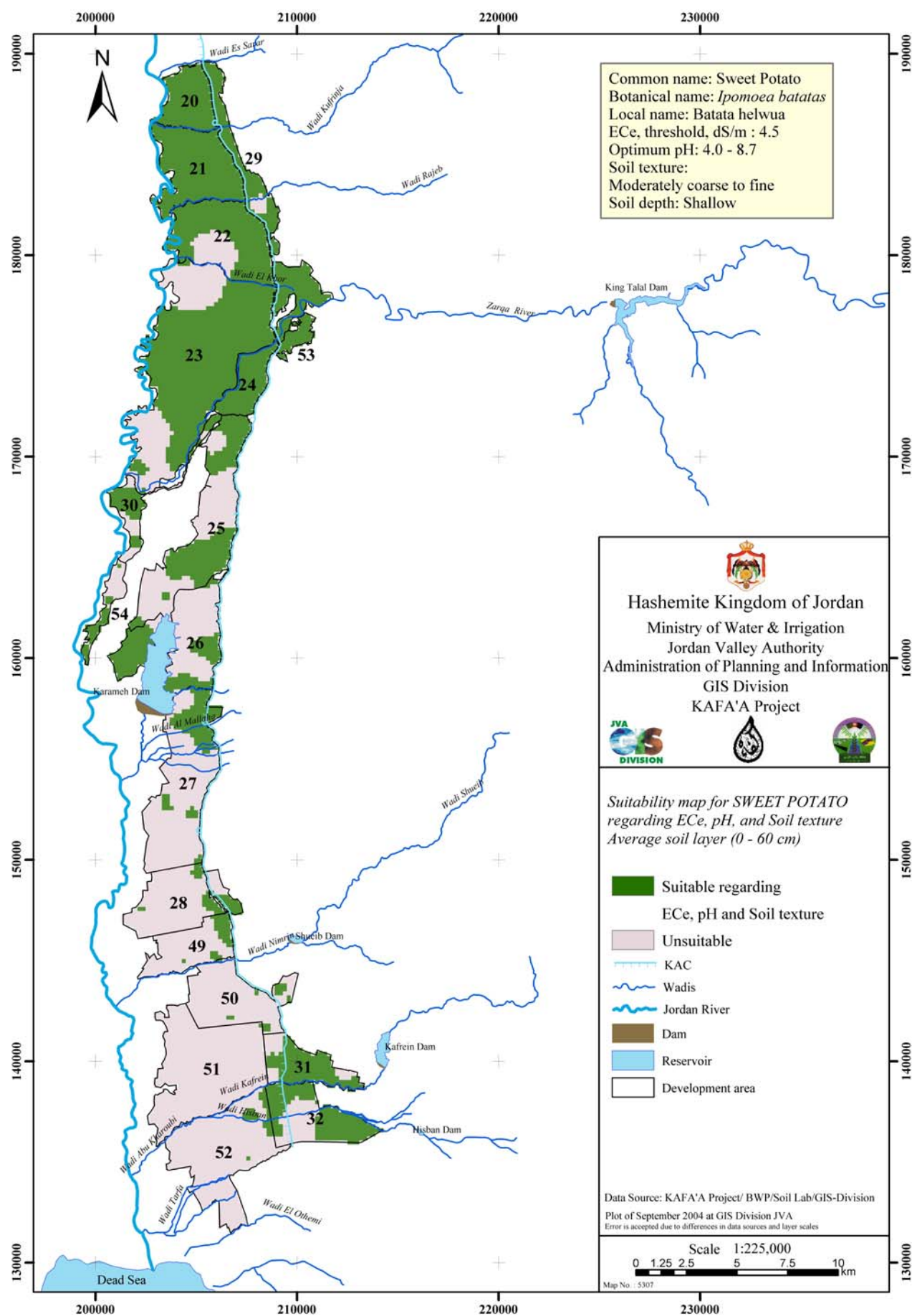


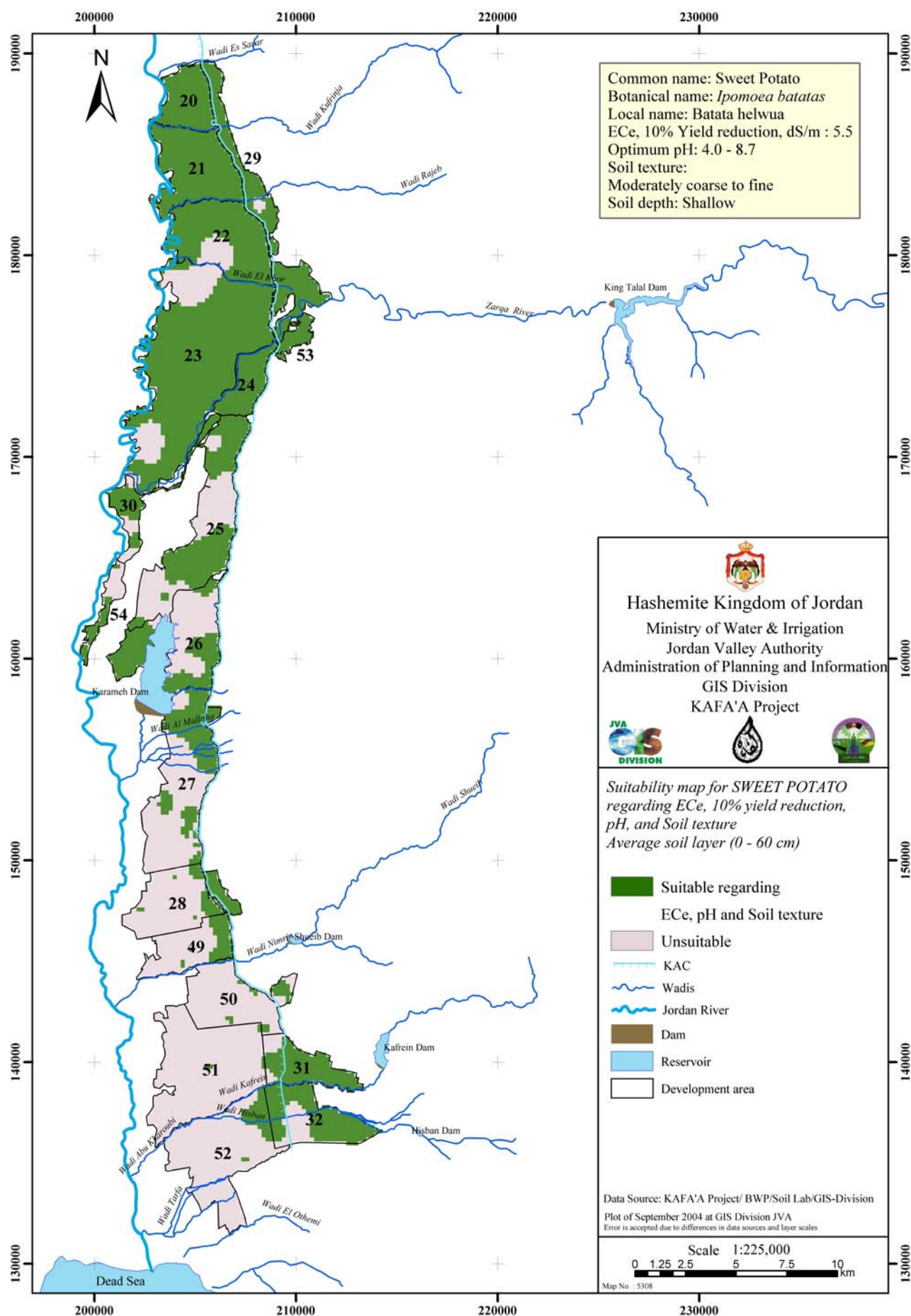




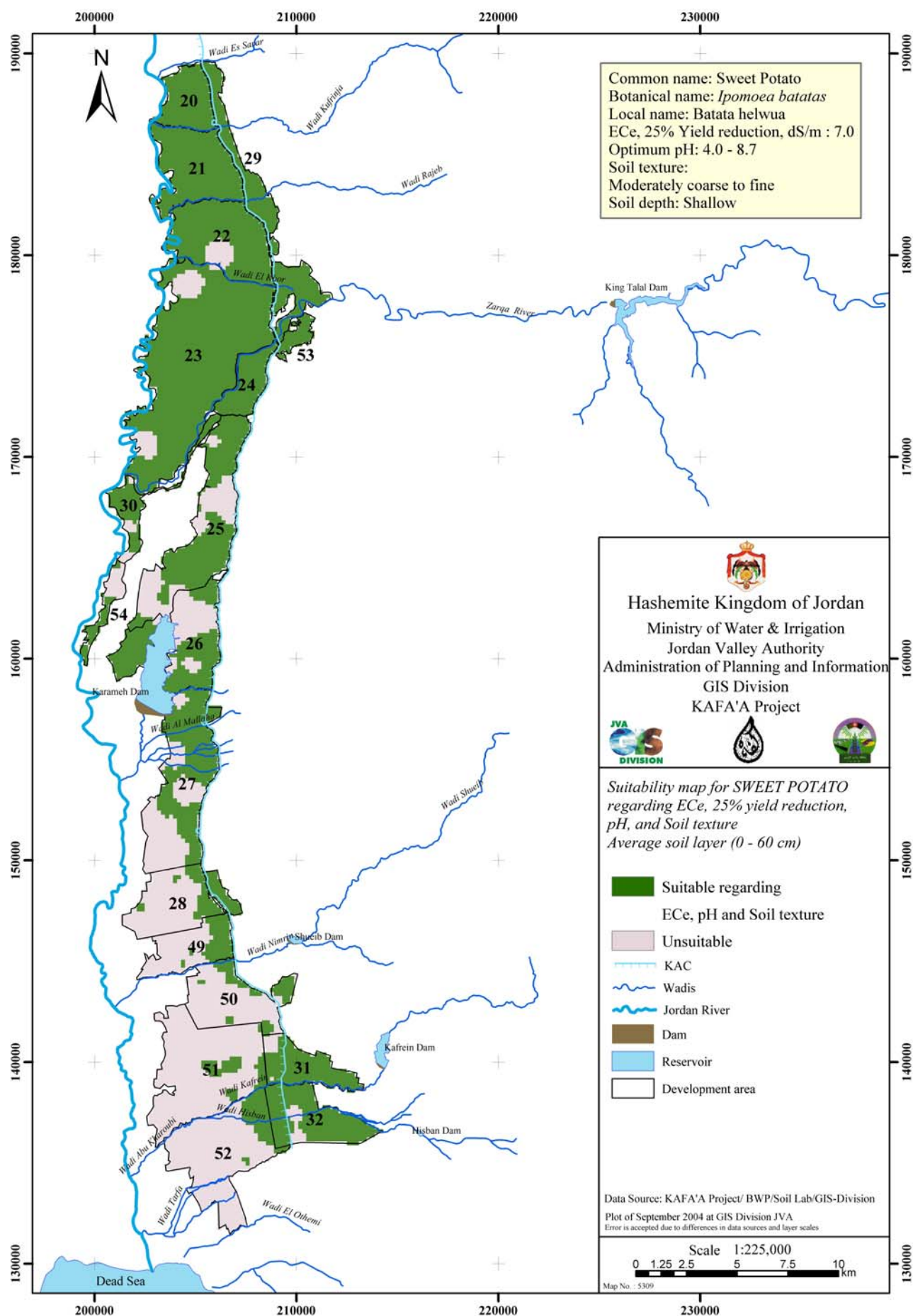












**Appendix III**  
**Tables to determine the quality of water for irrigation <sup>1</sup>**

Table 1. Terms, units, and useful conversions for understanding water quality analysis reports.			
Symbol	Meaning		Units
Total Salinity			
a. EC	Electric conductivity		mmhos/cm, μmhos/cm, dS/m
b. TDS	Total dissolved solids		mg/l, ppm
Sodium Hazard			
a. SAR	Sodium adsorption ratio		--
b. SSP	Soluble sodium percentage		--
Determination	Symbol	Unit of measure	Atomic weight
Constituents			
(1) cations			
calcium	Ca	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	40.1
magnesium	Mg	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	24.3
sodium	Na	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	23.0
potassium	K	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	39.1
(2) anions			
bicarbonate	HCO3	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	61.0
sulphate	SO4	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	96.1
chloride	Cl	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	35.5
carbonate	CO3	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	60.0
nitrate	NO3	mg/L	62.0
Trace Elements			
boron	B	mg/L	10.8
Conversions			
1 dS/m = 1 mmhos/cm = 1000 μmhos/cm			
1 mg/l = 1 ppm			
TDS (mg/l) % EC (dS/m) x 640 for EC < 5 dS/m			
TDS (mg/l % EC (dS/m) x 800 for EC > 5 dS/m			
TDS (lbs/ac-ft) % TDS (mg/l) x 2.72			
Concentration (ppm) = Concentration (mol/m3) times the atomic weight			
Sum of cations/anions			
(meq/l) % EC (dS/m) x 10			
Key mg/l = milligrams per liter ppm = parts per million dS/m = deci Siemens per meter, 25°C			

**Table 2. Recommended limits for constituents in reclaimed water for irrigation. (Adapted from Rowe and Abdel-Magid, 1995)**

Constituent	Long-term use (mg/L)	Short-term use (mg/L)	Remarks
Aluminum (Al)	5.0	20	Can cause nonproductivity in acid soils, but soils at pH 5.5 to 8.0 will precipitate the ion and eliminate toxicity.
Arsenic (As)	0.10	2.0	Toxicity to plants varies widely, ranging from 12 mg/L for Sudan grass to less than 0.05 mg/L for rice.
Beryllium (Be)	0.10	0.5	Toxicity to plants varies widely, ranging from 5 mg/L for kale to 0.5 mg/L for bush beans.
Boron (B)	0.75	2.0	Essential to plant growth, with optimum yields for many obtained at a few-tenths mg/L in nutrient solutions. Toxic to many sensitive plants (e.g., citrus) at 1 mg/L. Most grasses relatively tolerant at 2.0 to 10 mg/L.
Cadmium (Cd)	0.01	0.05	Toxic to beans, beets, and turnips at concentrations as low as 0.1 mg/L in nutrient solution. Conservative limits recommended.
Chromium (Cr)	0.1	1.0	Not generally recognized as essential growth element. Conservative limits recommended due to lack of knowledge on toxicity to plants.
Cobalt (Co)	0.05	5.0	Toxic to tomato plants at 0.1 mg/L in nutrient solution. Tends to be inactivated by neutral and alkaline soils.
Copper (Cu)	0.2	5.0	Toxic to a number of plants at 0.1 to 1.0 mg/L in nutrient solution.
Fluoride (F)	1.0	15.0	Inactivated by neutral and alkaline soils.
Iron (Fe)	5.0	20.0	Not toxic to plants in aerated soils, but can contribute to soil acidification and loss of essential phosphorus and molybdenum.
Lead	5.0	10.0	Can inhibit plant cell growth at very high concentrations.
Lithium (Li)	2.5	2.5	Tolerated by most crops at up to 5 mg/L; mobile in soil. Toxic to citrus at low doses < recommended limit is 0.075 mg/L.
Manganese (Mg)	0.2	10.0	Toxic to a number of crops at a few-tenths to a few mg/L in acid soils.
Molybdenum (Mo)	0.01	0.05	Nontoxic to plants at normal concentrations in soil and water. Can be toxic to livestock if forage is grown in soils with high levels of available molybdenum.

**Table 3. Recommended limits for constituents in reclaimed water for irrigation.**  
(Adapted from Rowe and Abdel-Magid, 1995)

Nickel (Ni)	0.2	2.0	Toxic to a number of plants at 0.5 to 1.0 mg/L; reduced toxicity at neutral or alkaline pH.
Selenium (Se)	0.02	0.02	Toxic to plants at low concentrations and to livestock if forage is grown in soils with low levels of added selenium.
Vanadium (V)	0.1	1.0	Toxic to many plants at relatively low concentrations.
Zinc (Zn)	2.0	10.0	Toxic to many plants at widely varying concentrations; reduced toxicity at increased pH (6 or above) and in fine-textured or organic soils

**Table 4. Permissible limits for classes of irrigation water.**  
(From James et al., 1982)

Classes of water	Concentration, total dissolved solids			Concentration	
	Electrical conductivity $\mu$ mhos*	Gravimetric ppm	Sodium %	Chloride (Cl) mg/1	Sulfates (SO <sub>4</sub> ) me/1
Class 1, Excellent	250	175	20	4	4
Class 2, Good	250-750	175-525	20-40	4-7	4-7
Class 3, Permissible <sup>1</sup>	750-2000	525-1400	40-60	7-12	7-12
Class 4, Doubtful <sup>2</sup>	2000-3000	1400-2100	60-80	12-20	12-20
Class 5, Unsuitable <sup>2</sup>	3000	2100	80	20	20
* Micromhos/cm at 25 degrees C. <sup>1</sup> Leaching needed if used <sup>2</sup> Good drainage needed and sensitive plants will have difficulty obtaining stands					

**Table 5. The sodium hazard of water based on SAR Values.**

SAR values	Sodium hazard of water	Comments
1-10	Low	Use on sodium sensitive crops such as avocados must be cautioned.
10 - 18	Medium	Amendments (such as Gypsum) and leaching needed.
18 - 26	High	Generally unsuitable for continuous use.
> 26	Very High	Generally unsuitable for use.



**Table 6. Irrigation water salinity tolerances for different crops. (Adapted from Ayers and Westcot, 1976)**

Crop	Yield potential, EC <sub>iw</sub>			
	100%	90%	75%	50%
<u>Field crops</u>				
Barley	5.0	6.7	8.7	12.0
Beans (field)	0.7	1.0	1.5	2.4
Broad beans	1.1	1.8	2.0	4.5
Corn	1.1	1.7	2.5	3.9
Cotton	5.1	6.4	8.4	12.0
Cowpeas	0.9	1.3	2.1	3.2
Flax	1.1	1.7	2.5	3.9
Groundnut	2.1	2.4	2.7	3.3
Rice (paddy)	2.0	2.6	3.4	4.8
Safflower	3.5	4.1	5.0	6.6
Sesbania	1.5	2.5	3.9	6.3
Sorghum	2.7	3.4	4.8	7.2
Soybean	3.3	3.7	4.2	5.0
Sugarbeet	4.7	5.8	7.5	10.0
Wheat	4.0	4.9	6.4	8.7
<u>Vegetable crops</u>				
Beans	0.7	1.0	1.5	2.4
Beets	2.7	3.4	4.5	6.4
Broccoli	1.9	2.6	3.7	5.5
Cabbage	1.2	1.9	2.9	4.6
Cantaloupe	1.5	2.4	3.8	6.1
Carrot	0.7	1.1	1.9	3.1
Cucumber	1.7	2.2	2.9	4.2
Lettuce	0.9	1.4	2.1	3.4
Onion	0.8	1.2	1.8	2.9
Pepper	1.0	1.5	2.2	3.4
Potato	1.1	1.7	2.5	3.9
Radish	0.8	1.3	2.1	3.4
Spinach	1.3	2.2	3.5	5.7
Sweet corn	1.1	1.7	2.5	3.9
Sweet potato	1.0	1.6	2.5	4.0

<b>Crop</b>	<b>Yield potential, EC<sub>iw</sub></b>			
Tomato	1.7	2.3	3.4	5.0
<u>Forage crops</u>				
Alfalfa	1.3	2.2	3.6	5.9
Barley hay	4.0	4.9	6.3	8.7
Bermuda grass	4.6	5.7	7.2	9.8
Clover, berseem	1.0	2.1	3.9	6.8
Corn (forage)	1.2	2.1	3.5	5.7
Harding grass	3.1	3.9	5.3	7.4
Orchard grass	1.0	2.1	3.7	6.4
Perennial rye	3.7	4.6	5.9	8.1
Soudan grass	1.9	3.4	5.7	9.6
Tall fescue	2.6	3.9	5.7	8.9
Tall wheat grass	5.0	6.6	9.0	13.0
Trefoil, big	1.5	1.9	2.4	3.3
Trefoil, small	3.3	4.0	5.0	6.7
Wheat grass	5.0	6.0	7.4	9.8
<u>Fruit crops</u>				
Almond	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.7
Apple, pear	1.0	1.6	2.2	3.2
Apricot	1.1	1.3	1.8	2.5
Avocado	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.4
Date Palm	2.7	4.5	7.3	12.0
Fig, olive, pomegranate	1.8	2.6	3.7	5.6
Grape	1.0	1.7	2.7	4.5
Grapefruit	1.2	1.6	2.2	3.3
Lemon	1.1	1.6	2.2	3.2
Orange	1.1	1.6	2.2	3.2
Peach	1.1	1.4	1.9	2.7
Plum	1.0	1.4	1.9	2.8
Strawberry	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.7
Walnut	1.1	1.6	2.2	3.2
<sup>1</sup> Based on the electrical conductivity of the irrigation water (EC <sub>iw</sub> ) measured in mmhos/cm.				

**Table 7. Chloride tolerance of agricultural crops. Listed in order of tolerance.  
(Adapted from Tanji, KK. 1990)**

Crop	Maximum Cl <sup>-</sup> concentration <sup>b</sup> without loss in yield	
	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm
Strawberry	10	350
Bean	10	350
Onion	10	350
Carrot	10	350
Radish	10	350
Lettuce	10	350
Turnip	10	350
Rice, paddy	30d	1,050
Pepper	15	525
Clover, strawberry	15	525
Clover, red	15	525
Clover, alsike	15	525
Clover, ladino	15	525
Corn	15	525
Flax	15	525
Potato	15	525
Sweet Potato	15	525
Broad bean	15	525
Cabbage	15	525
Foxtail, meadow	15	525
Celery	15	525
Clover, Berseem	15	525
Orchardgrass	15	525
Sugarcane	15	525
Trefoil, big	20	700
Lovegras	20	700
Spinach	20	700
Alfalfa	20	700
Sesbania	20	700
Cucumber	25	875
Tomato	25	875
Broccoli	25	875

Crop	Maximum Cl <sup>-</sup> concentration without loss in yield	
	mol/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm
Squash, scallop	30	1,050
Vetch, common	30	1,050
Wild rye, beardless	30	1,050
Sudan grass	30	1,050
Wheat grass, standard crested	35	1,225
Beet, red <sup>c</sup>	40	1,400
Fescue, tall	40	1,400
Squash, zucchini	45	1,575
Hardinggrass	45	1,575
Cowpea	50	1,750
Trefoil, narrow-leaf bird's foot	50	1,750
Ryegrass, perennial	55	1,925
Wheat, Durum	55	1,925
Barley (forage) <sup>c</sup>	60	2,100
Wheat <sup>c</sup>	60	2,100
Sorghum	70	2,450
Bermuda grass	70	2,450
Sugar beet <sup>c</sup>	70	2,450
Wheat grass, fairway crested	75	2,625
Cotton	75	1,625
Wheat grass, tall	75	2,625
Barley <sup>c</sup>	80	2,800
<p><sup>a</sup> These data serve only as a guideline to relative tolerances among crops. Absolute tolerances vary, depending upon climate, soil conditions and cultural practices.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Cl<sup>-</sup> concentrations in saturated-soil extracts sampled in the rootzone.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> Less tolerant during emergence and seedling stage.</p> <p><sup>d</sup> Values for paddy rice refer to the Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration in the soil water during the flooded growing conditions.</p>		

<b>Table 8. Hazardous chloride levels in soils based on saturation extracts for various fruit varieties and rootstocks. (Adapted from Cuena, 1989)</b>	
<b>Variety of Rootstock</b>	<b>Chloride (meq/l) Saturation Extract</b>
Citrus rootstocks	
Rungpur lime, Cleopatra mandarin	25
Rough lemon, Tangelo. Sour orange	15
Sweet Orange, Citrange	10
Stone fruits rootstocks	
Marina	25
Lovel, Shalil	10
Yunnan	7
Avocado rootstocks	
West Indian	8
Mexican	5
Grape varieties	
Thompson seedless, Perlette	25
Cardinal, Black Rose	10
Strawberry	5-8



**Table 9. Limits of boron in irrigation water. (Leeden, et al., 1990)**

<b>A. Permissible Limits (Boron in parts per million)</b>			
<b>Class of water</b>	<b>Crop group</b>		
	<b>Sensitive</b>	<b>Semi tolerant</b>	<b>Tolerant</b>
Excellent	<0.33	<0.67	<1.00
Good	0.33 to 0.67	0.67 to 1.33	1.00 to 2.00
Permissible	0.67 to 1.00	1.33 to 2.00	2.00 to 3.00
Doubtful	1.00 to 1.25	2.00 to 2.50	3.00 to 3.75
Unsuitable	>1.25	>2.50	>3.75
<b>B. Crop groups of boron tolerance (in each group, the plants first names are considered as being more tolerant; the last names, more sensitive.)</b>			
<b>Sensitive</b>	<b>Semi tolerant</b>	<b>Tolerant</b>	
Pecan	Sunflower (native)	Athel (Tamarix	
Walnut (Black, Persian, or English)	Potato	aphylla)	
Jerusalem-artichoke	Cotton (Acala and Pima)	Asparagus	
Navy bean	Tomato	Palm (Phoenix canariensis)	
American elm	Sweetpea	Date palm (P. dactylifera)	
Plum	Radish	Sugar beet	
Pear	Field pea	Mangel	
Apple	Ragged Robin rose	Garden beet	
Grape (Sultania and Malaga)	Olive	Alfalfa	
Kadota fig	Barley	Gladiolus	
Persimmon	Wheat	Broadbean	
Cherry	Corn	Onion	
Peach	Milo	Turnip	
Apricot	Oat	Cabbage	
Thornless blackberry	Zinnia	Lettuce	
Orange	Pumpkin	Carrot	
Avocado	Bell pepper		
Grapefruit	Sweet potato		
Lemon	Lima bean		

**Table 10. Relative susceptibility of crops to foliar injury from saline sprinkling waters. (Tanji, 1990)**

Na or Cl concentration (mol/m <sup>3</sup> ) causing foliar injury			
<5	5-10	10-20	>20
Almond Apricot Citrus Plum	Grape Pepper Potato Tomato	Alfalfa Barley Corn Cucumber Safflower Sesame Sorghum	Cauliflower Cotton Sugar beet Sunflower
a Foliar injury is influenced by cultural and environmental conditions. These data are presented only as general guidelines for daytime sprinkling.			

**Table 11. Leaching requirement\* as related to the electrical conductivities of the irrigation and drainage water.**

Electrical conductivity of irrigation water (mmhos/cm)	Leaching requirement based on the indicated maximum values for the conductivity of the drainage water at the bottom of the root zone			
	4	8	12	16
	mmhos/cm	mmhos/cm	mmhos/cm	mmhos/cm
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0.75	13.3	9.4	6.3	4.7
1.00	25.0	12.5	8.3	6.3
1.25	31.3	15.6	10.4	7.8
1.50	37.5	18.7	12.5	9.4
2.00	50.0	25.0	16.7	12.5
2.50	62.5	31.3	20.8	15.6
3.00	75.0	37.5	25.0	18.7
5.00	--	62.5	41.7	31.2

\* Fraction of the applied irrigation water that must be leached through the root zone expressed as percent.

<sup>1</sup><http://agnews.tamu.edu/drought/DRGHTPAK/SALINITY.HTM>