

*Cartografía de la distribución espacial de la cobertura vegetal en sistemas arenosos áridos: análisis comparado de métodos y ejemplo en La Graciosa (Islas Canarias, España)*

**Mapping of the spatial distribution of vegetation coverage in sand arids systems: comparative analysis of methods and example in La Graciosa (Canary Islands, Spain)**

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This paper presents a comparative of methods to establish the distribution of vegetation cover in arid sandy systems. Framed in an I+D+i project in the island called La Graciosa (Canary Islands). Among the objectives is to analyze the recent evolution of the vegetation cover of the sandy island systems, because the changes are an excellent indicator of both natural and antropic environmental changes. First, the characterization of vegetation cover using photo interpretation 1:5000 scale for similar coverage areas addressed. Furthermor, for the same purpose through an automatic procedure using visible bands of multispectral aerial images. Comparison of the results agree in 64% . These results are discussed with issues such as subjectivity, time and scale factor. We conclude that the automatic method is useful for characterizing vegetation in arid sandy systems.

**Key words:** Methods; vegetation coverage; Sand arids system; Geographic Information Technologies; La Graciosa.