

Physicochemical parameters affecting the perception of borehole water quality in Ghana

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Table S1. Spearman's rank correlation matrix for measured water quality parameters. Correlation coefficients are shown in the top and p-values in bottom portions of the matrix. Statistically significant values ($p < 0.05$) are bolded.

	pH	TDS	Turb	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	TotH	TotA	Cl ⁻	Na ⁺	K ⁺	NO ₃ -N	NO ₂ -N	NH ₃ -H	F ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻	PO ₄ ³⁻	Mn	Fe
pH	--	0.60	0.03	0.72	0.66	0.70	0.82	0.27	0.42	0.28	-0.15	0.17	0.60	0.42	0.41	0.09	0.47	0.35
TDS	<0.001	--	0.01	0.76	0.76	0.85	0.69	0.72	0.81	0.62	-0.08	0.17	0.41	0.21	0.67	-0.10	0.49	0.03
Turb	0.620	0.851	--	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.21	-0.21	0.05	0.07	-0.38	-0.01	-0.01	-0.05	-0.10	0.05	0.21	0.45
Ca ²⁺	<0.001	<0.001	0.297	--	0.71	0.84	0.77	0.45	0.54	0.41	-0.13	0.20	0.47	0.26	0.47	0.09	0.51	0.26
Mg ²⁺	<0.001	<0.001	0.871	<0.001	--	0.88	0.71	0.54	0.57	0.43	-0.11	0.36	0.41	0.21	0.55	-0.04	0.49	0.18
TotH	<0.001	<0.001	0.643	<0.001	<0.001	--	0.75	0.52	0.58	0.42	-0.07	0.26	0.41	0.21	0.57	-0.04	0.54	0.23
TotA	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	--	0.30	0.61	0.43	-0.29	0.23	0.39	0.34	0.31	0.12	0.49	0.32
Cl ⁻	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	--	0.71	0.66	0.11	0.34	0.31	0.07	0.66	-0.28	0.23	-0.33
Na ⁺	<0.001	<0.001	0.361	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	--	0.78	-0.15	0.27	0.30	0.22	0.57	-0.06	0.36	-0.13
K ⁺	<0.001	<0.001	0.257	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	--	-0.20	0.27	0.20	0.16	0.54	-0.22	0.22	-0.23
NO ₃ -N	0.010	0.187	<0.001	0.030	0.057	0.241	<0.001	0.054	0.009	<0.001	--	-0.03	-0.01	-0.07	0.04	-0.10	-0.19	-0.24
NO ₂ -N	0.003	<0.001	0.822	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.631	--	0.14	-0.08	0.24	-0.23	0.16	0.03
NH ₃ -H	<0.001	<0.001	0.889	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.923	0.016	--	0.21	0.42	0.16	0.42	0.29
F ⁻	<0.001	<0.001	0.378	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.259	<0.001	0.007	0.242	0.149	<0.001	--	0.22	-0.02	0.21	0.17
SO ₄ ²⁻	<0.001	<0.001	0.081	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.470	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	--	-0.14	0.32	-0.09
PO ₄ ³⁻	0.11	0.070	0.386	0.103	0.475	0.535	0.033	<0.001	0.329	<0.001	0.086	<0.001	0.007	0.764	0.019	--	0.18	0.19
Mn	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	0.005	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.003	--	0.51
Fe	<0.001	0.577	<0.001	<0.001	0.002	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.029	<0.001	<0.001	0.565	<0.001	0.003	0.135	<0.001	<0.001	--

Table S2. Kendall's Tau correlation matrix for reported water quality problems. Correlation coefficients are shown in the top and p-values in bottom portions of the matrix. Statistically significant values ($p < 0.05$) are bolded.

	Scent	Salty taste	Particles	Oily sheen	Food staining
Scent	--	0.09	0.27	0.47	0.44
Salty taste	0.14	--	0.06	0.15	0.24
Particles	<0.001	0.34	--	0.18	0.17
Oily sheen	<0.001	0.01	0.002	--	0.60
Food staining	<0.001	<0.001	0.004	<0.001	--

Table S3. Logistic regression models stratified by season

<i>Complaint</i>	<i>WQ</i>	<i>Unit Δ (mg/L)</i>	<i>OR (CI_{95%})</i>	<i>p-value</i>	<i>R²</i>
Dry season					
Salty taste	TDS	100	2.53 (1.64, 3.89)	<0.001	0.29
Scent	Iron	1.00	4.93 (2.03, 11.9)	<0.001	0.19
Oily sheen	Iron	1.00	9.39 (3.21, 27.4)	<0.001	0.33
Food staining	Iron	1.00	4.25 (1.98, 9.12)	<0.001	0.21
Rainy season					
Salty taste	TDS	100	1.68 (1.35, 2.10)	<0.001	0.12
Scent	Iron	1.00	2.47 (1.63, 3.73)	<0.001	0.09
Oily sheen	Iron	1.00	24.7 (8.06, 75.5)	<0.001	0.33
Food staining	Iron	1.00	5.91 (3.21, 10.9)	<0.001	0.23

Fig. S1. Boxplots comparing the distribution of water quality values (y-axis) by presence or absence of the salty taste complaint (x-axis) in the dry (red) and rainy (blue) season samples.

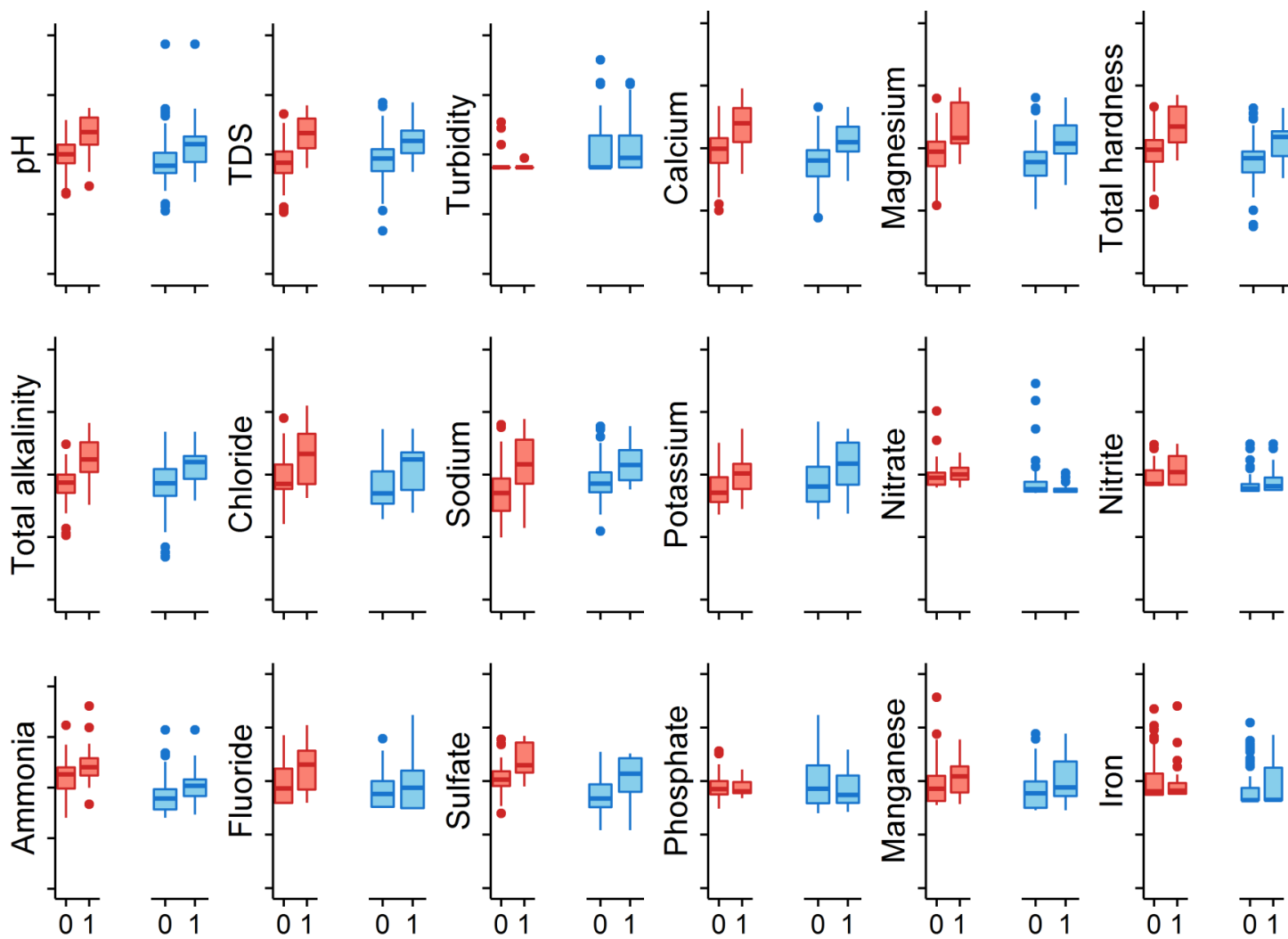


Fig. S2. Boxplots comparing the distribution of water quality values (y-axis) by presence or absence of the particles complaint (x-axis) in the dry (red) and rainy (blue) season samples.

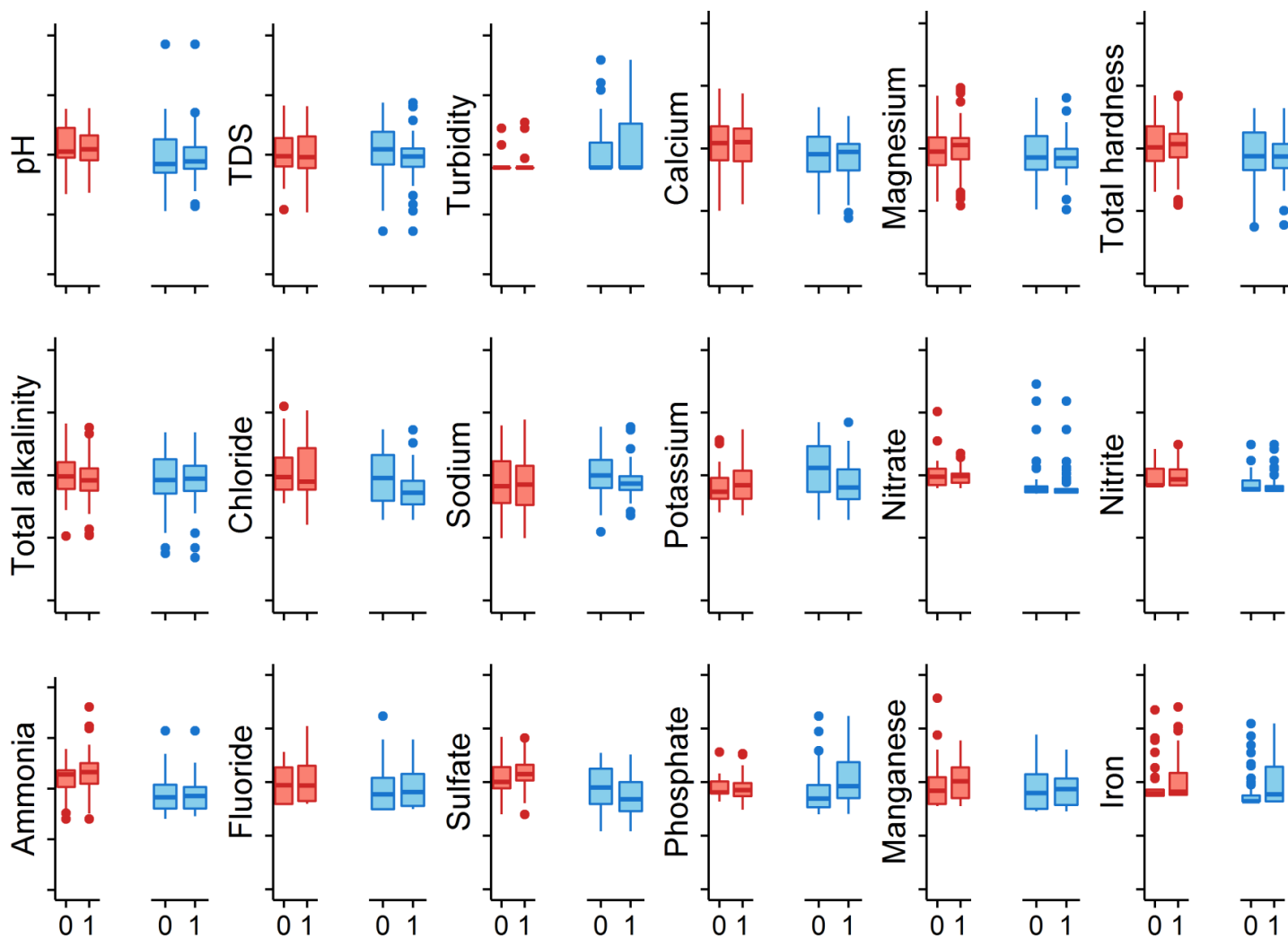


Fig. S3. Boxplots comparing the distribution of water quality values (y-axis) by presence or absence of the scent complaint (x-axis) in the dry (red) and rainy (blue) season samples.

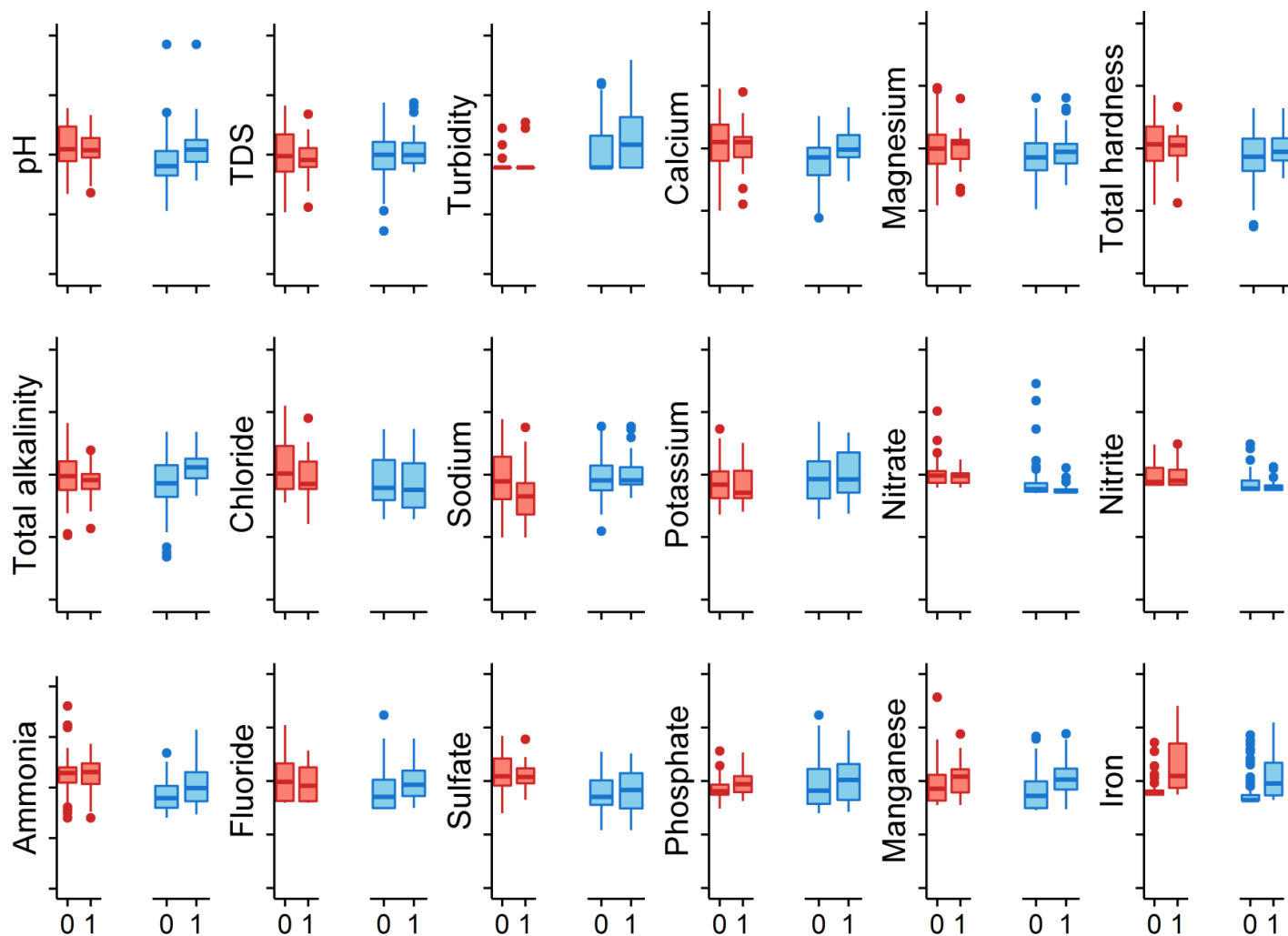


Fig. S4. Boxplots comparing the distribution of water quality values (y-axis) by presence or absence of the oily sheen complaint (x-axis) in the dry (red) and rainy (blue) season samples.

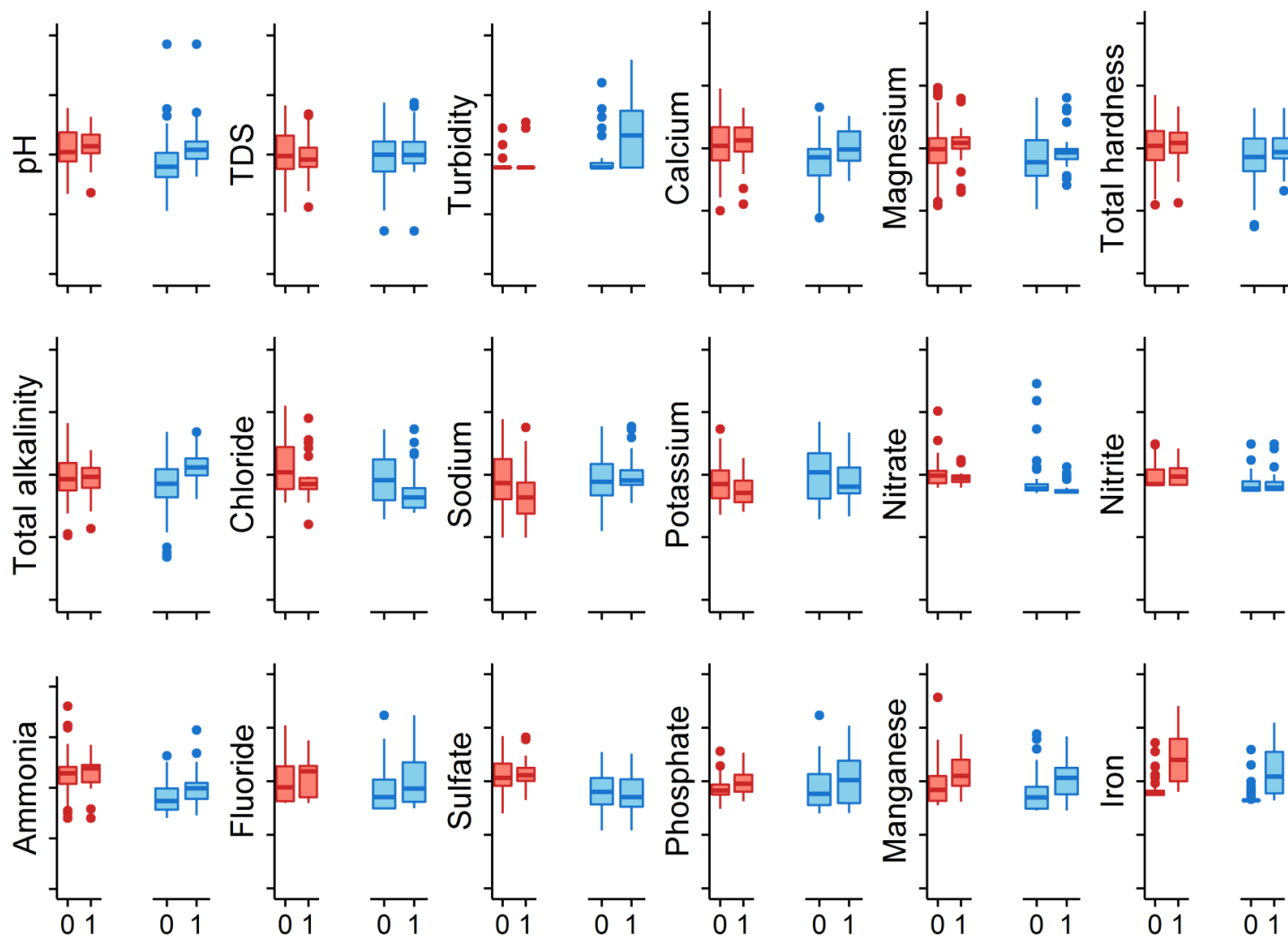


Fig. S5. Boxplots comparing the distribution of water quality values (y-axis) by presence or absence of the food staining complaint (x-axis) in the dry (red) and rainy (blue) season samples.

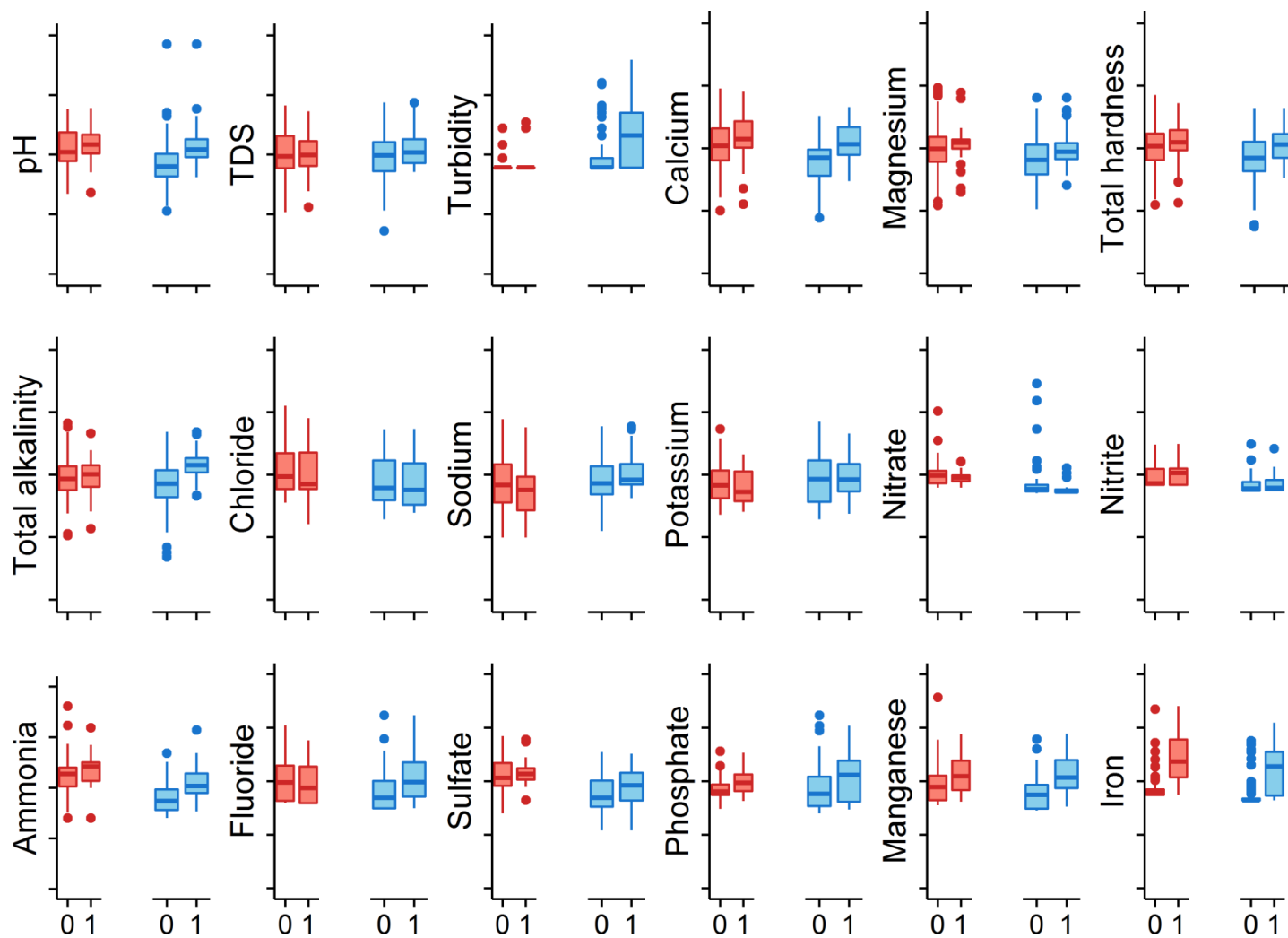


Fig. S6. Map of geological formations (A) and interpolated surfaces for iron (B) and TDS (C); map of Ghana is shown in the bottom right corner with the insets specified. Geological formations were digitized from maps in Schluter, 2008.

