

Soils: A renewable resource?

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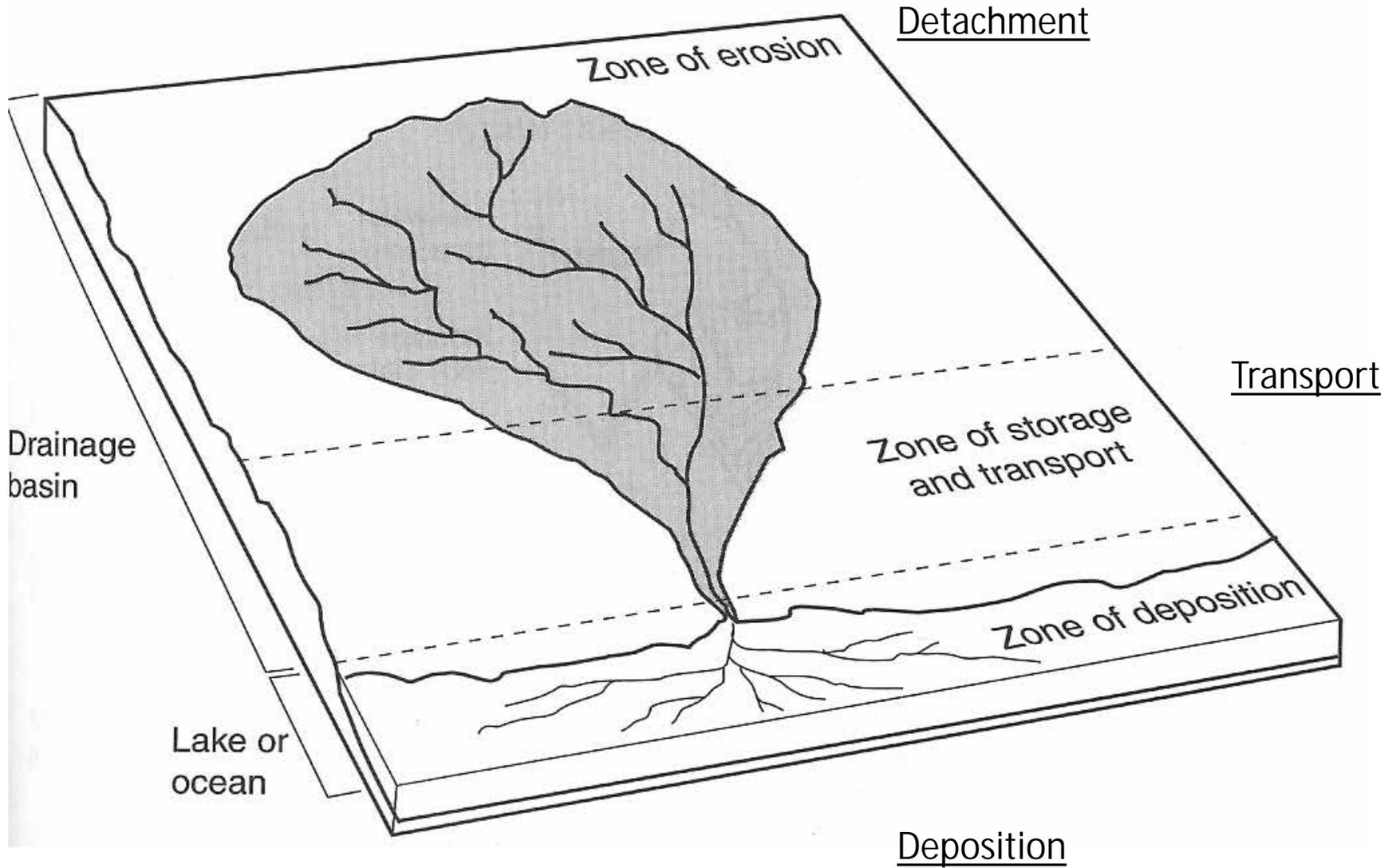
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Soils: A renewable resource.



Soils: A renewable resource.



Arial Photos: STATE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Soils: A renewable resource.



Zones of erosion & deposition in Guilin, China

Soils: A renewable resource.



Coastal deposition: South Shore Moloka'i

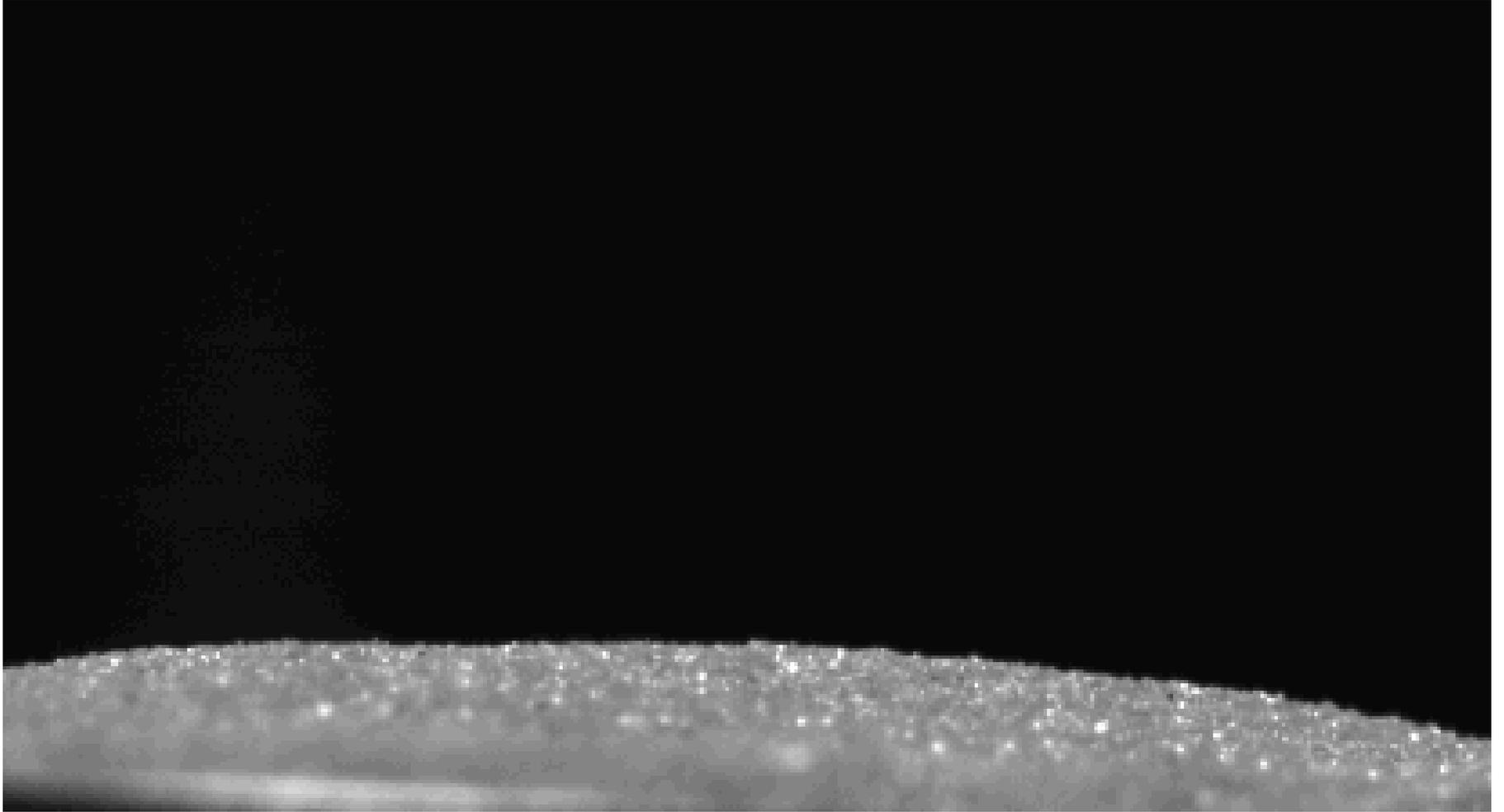
http://cramp.wcc.hawaii.edu/Watershed_Files/Molokai/WS_Molokai_molokai_SouthMolokai.htm

Water Erosion



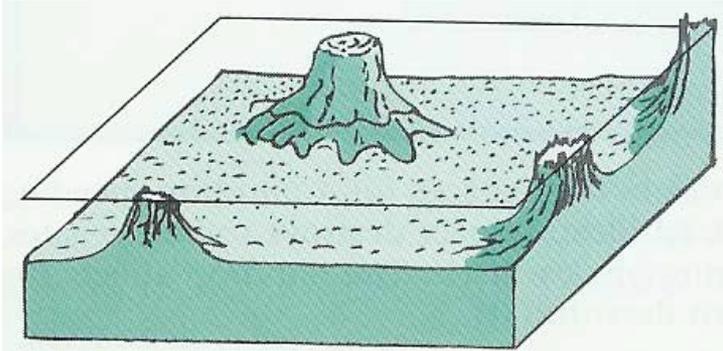
Photo courtesy of USDA NRCS

Soils: A renewable resource.

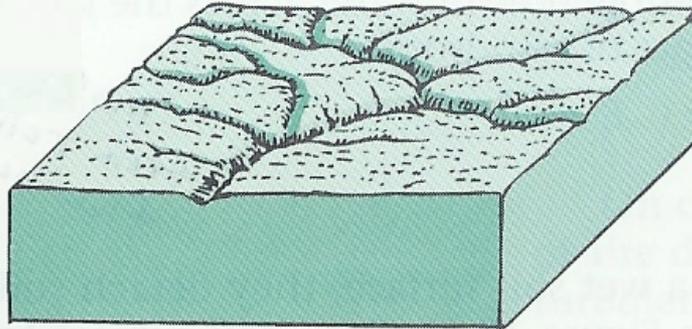


http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/visualization/collections/soil_erosion.html

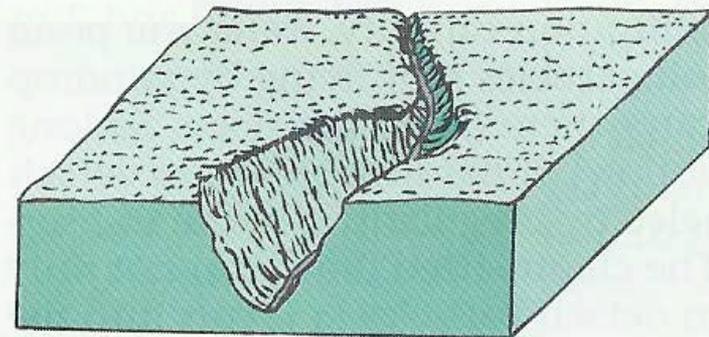
Soils: A renewable resource.



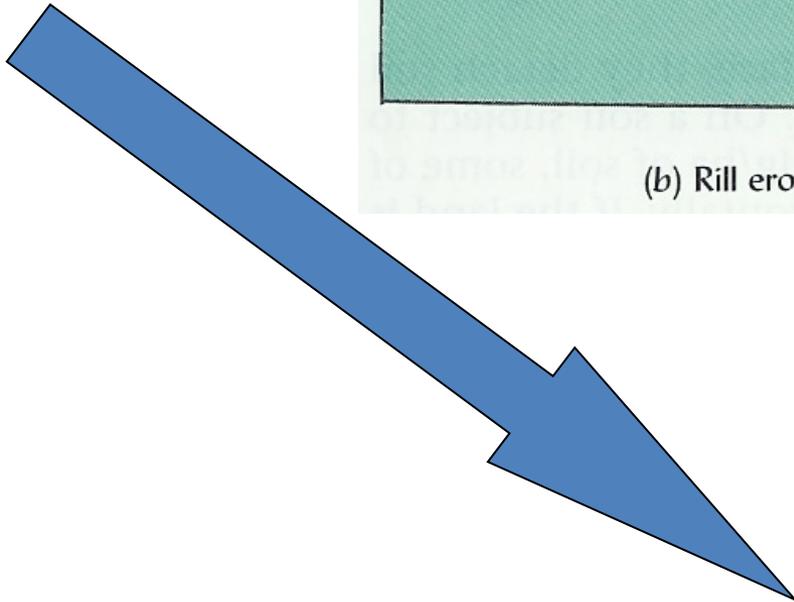
(a) Sheet erosion



(b) Rill erosion



(c) Gully erosion





Universal Soil Loss Equation

or
USLE

$$A = R \times K \times LS \times C \times P$$

Where:

A = Estimated Avg. Annual Soil Loss (ton/ac• yr)

R = Rainfall Erosivity (ft-ton/ac• yr)

K = Soil Erodibility (ton• ac/ac• ft-ton)

LS = Slope Length & Steepness

C = Cover-Management

P = Supporting-Practice

Rainfall Erosivity Factor (R)

$$A = R \times K \times LS \times C \times P$$

(Troeh et al. 2004)

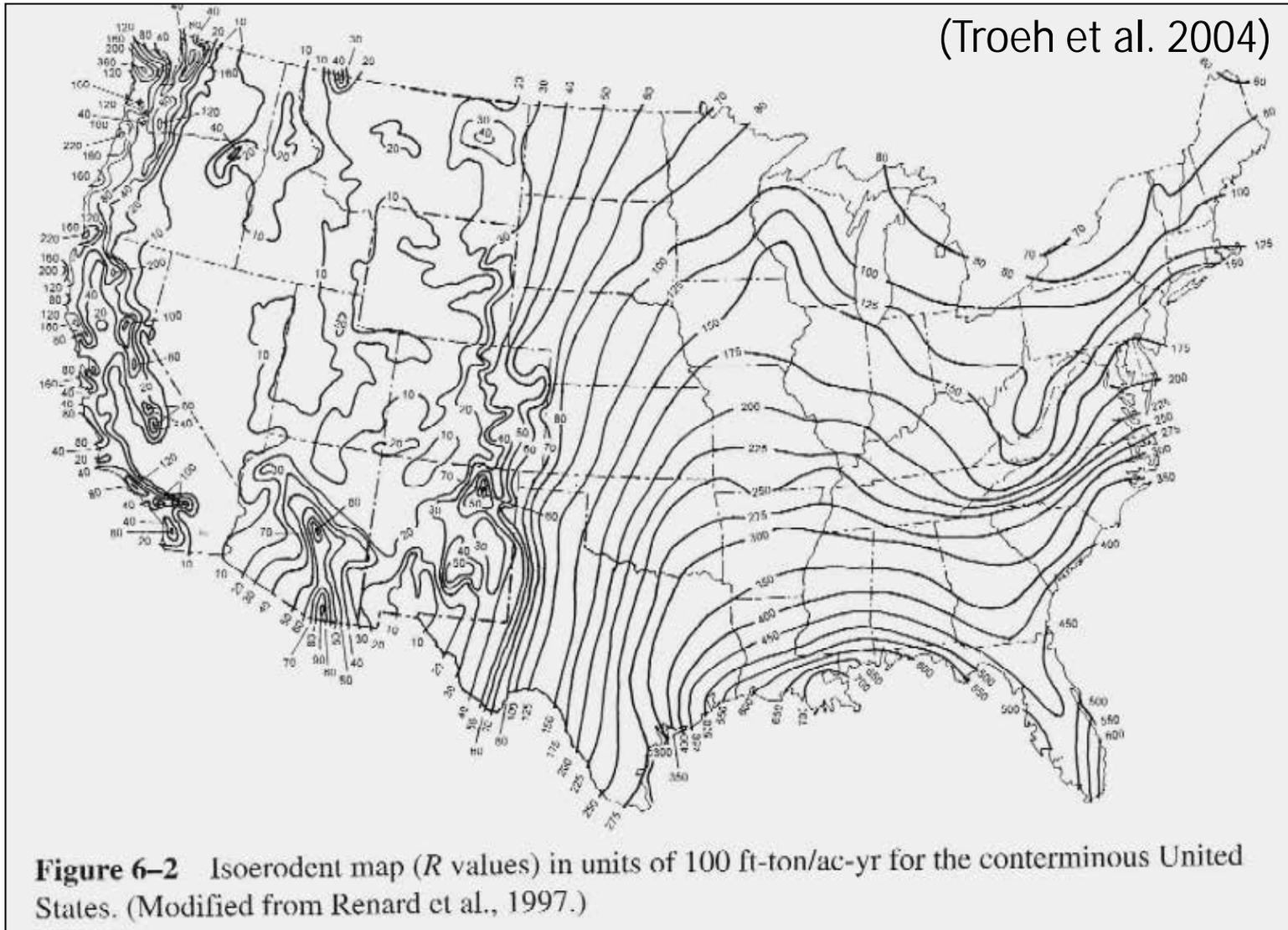


Figure 6-2 Isoerodent map (*R* values) in units of 100 ft-ton/ac-yr for the conterminous United States. (Modified from Renard et al., 1997.)

Soil Erodibility Factor (K)

$$A = R \times K \times LS \times C \times P$$

- Inherent soil erodibility
- Rate of soil loss on a standard plot (72.6 ft long on a 9% slope)



Soil Erodibility Factor (K)

SOIL SURVEY OF
**Islands of Kauai, Oahu, Maui,
Molokai, and Lanai,
State of Hawaii**



United States Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation Service
in cooperation with
The University of Hawaii
Agricultural Experiment Station

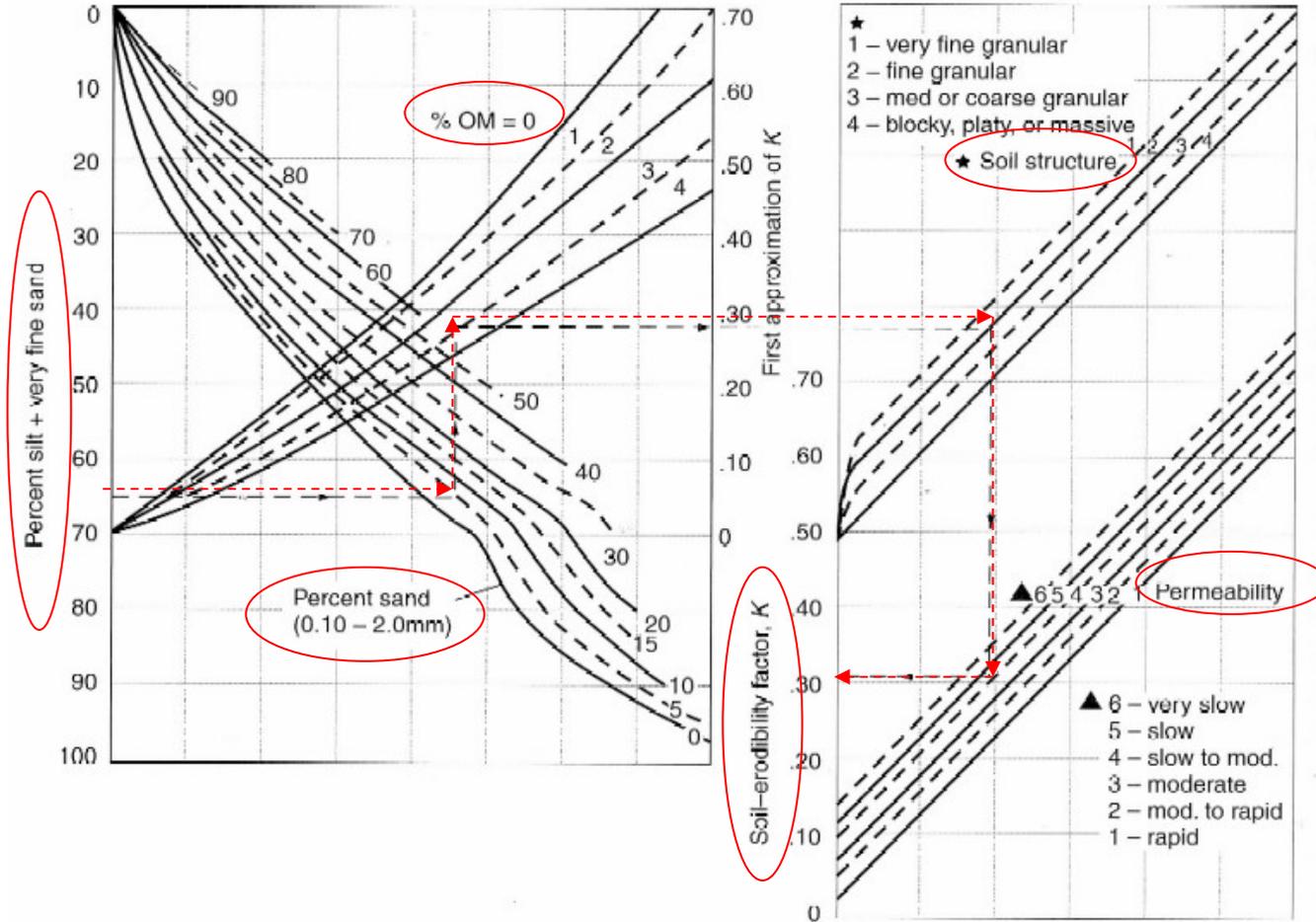
Issued August 1972

K factors are tabulated for each soil map unit in County Soil Surveys, also available on Web Soil Survey

Soil Erodibility Factor (K)

| Map symbol and soil name | Depth | Clay | Moist bulk density | Permeability | Available water capacity | Soil reaction | Salinity | Shrink-swell potential | Erosion factors | | Wind erodibility group | Organic matter |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|----------|------------------------|-----------------|-----|------------------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | K | T | | |
| | In | Pct | G/cm ³ | In/hr | In/in | pH | Mmhos/cm | | | | | Pct |
| 48----- Myukka | 0-24 | <2 | 1.35-1.55 | 6.0-20 | 0.02-0.05 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | 5 | 2 | <2 |
| | 24-30 | 1-8 | 1.45-1.60 | 0.6-6.0 | 0.10-0.20 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | | | |
| | 30-82 | <2 | 1.48-1.70 | 6.0-20 | 0.02-0.10 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | | | |
| 49A----- Lochloosa | 0-34 | 2-12 | 1.35-1.65 | 2.0-20 | 0.05-0.20 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | 5 | 2 | 1-4 |
| | 34-44 | 13-20 | 1.55-1.70 | 0.6-6.0 | 0.10-0.15 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.24 | | | |
| | 44-57 | 15-35 | 1.55-1.70 | 0.6-0.2 | 0.12-0.15 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.28 | | | |
| | 57-80 | 20-45 | 1.60-1.70 | 0.06-0.2 | 0.13-0.18 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.28 | | | |
| 50----- Sparr | 0-8 | 1-5 | 1.20-1.50 | 6.0-20 | 0.08-0.12 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | 5 | 2 | <3 |
| | 8-48 | 1-5 | 1.45-1.70 | 6.0-20 | 0.05-0.08 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | | | |
| | 48-56 | 15-32 | 1.55-1.80 | 0.6-2.0 | 0.10-0.15 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.20 | | | |
| | 56-84 | 15-30 | 1.55-1.70 | 0.06-0.6 | 0.10-0.15 | 3.6-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.24 | | | |
| 51----- Plummer | 0-42 | 1-7 | 1.35-1.65 | 2.0-20.0 | 0.03-0.20 | 3.6-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | 5 | 2 | 1-3 |
| | 42-81 | 15-30 | 1.50-1.70 | 0.6-2.0 | 0.07-0.15 | 3.6-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | | | |
| 52----- Ledwith | 0-9 | --- | 0.12-0.35 | >6.0 | 0.25-0.40 | 3.6-4.4 | <2 | Low----- | --- | --- | 2 | 30-90 |
| | 9-15 | 5-18 | 1.10-1.25 | 0.6-6.0 | 0.10-0.18 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.20 | | | |
| | 15-17 | 1-10 | 1.10-1.65 | 0.6-20.0 | 0.10-0.15 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.17 | | | |
| | 17-44 | 35-55 | 1.20-1.65 | <0.2 | 0.04-0.15 | 5.1-7.3 | <2 | High----- | 0.24 | | | |
| 53----- Shenka | 0-21 | --- | 0.10-0.40 | >6.0 | 0.25-0.40 | 3.6-4.4 | <2 | Low----- | --- | --- | 2 | >20 |
| | 21-28 | 29-50 | 0.85-1.30 | 0.06-0.6 | 0.18-0.30 | 5.1-6.5 | <2 | Moderate | 0.32 | | | |
| | 28-82 | 38-65 | 1.10-1.35 | <0.06 | 0.10-0.20 | 5.6-7.8 | <2 | High----- | 0.28 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 54----- Emeralda | 0-10 | 6-12 | 0.70-1.50 | 6.0-20 | 0.15-0.20 | 3.6-6.0 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | 5 | 2 | 3-10 |
| | 10-18 | 4-12 | 1.40-1.70 | 6.0-20 | 0.05-0.10 | 3.6-6.0 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | | | |
| | 18-56 | 38-60 | 1.60-1.85 | <0.2 | 0.10-0.20 | 4.5-6.5 | <2 | High----- | 0.24 | | | |
| | 56-80 | 38-60 | 1.60-1.85 | <0.2 | 0.10-0.20 | 4.5-7.3 | <2 | High----- | 0.24 | | | |
| 55B----- Lake | 0-82 | 1-3 | 1.45-1.65 | >6.0 | 0.03-0.08 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | 5 | 2 | .5-1 |
| 56----- Wauberg | 0-9 | 1-12 | 1.05-1.55 | >6.0 | 0.05-0.15 | 4.5-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | 5 | 2 | 1-4 |
| | 9-24 | 1-10 | 1.30-1.60 | >6.0 | 0.03-0.10 | 4.5-6.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | | | |
| | 24-40 | 24-35 | 1.50-1.70 | <0.2 | 0.07-0.13 | 5.1-7.3 | <2 | Moderate | 0.28 | | | |
| | 40-63 | 18-35 | 1.50-1.90 | <0.2 | 0.05-0.13 | 5.1-7.3 | <2 | Low----- | 0.24 | | | |
| | 63-81 | 36-50 | 1.60-1.70 | <0.2 | 0.08-0.15 | 5.1-7.3 | <2 | High----- | 0.24 | | | |
| 57D----- Micanopy | 0-6 | 3-12 | 1.50-1.65 | 6.0-20 | 0.05-0.10 | 3.6-6.0 | <2 | Low----- | 0.15 | 5 | 2 | 1-5 |
| | 6-12 | 20-38 | 1.50-1.65 | 0.6-2.0 | 0.10-0.15 | 3.6-6.0 | <2 | Moderate | 0.32 | | | |
| | 12-55 | 40-60 | 1.55-1.70 | <0.0-0.2 | 0.10-0.18 | 3.6-6.0 | <2 | High----- | 0.28 | | | |
| | 55-85 | 25-38 | 1.55-1.70 | <0.0-0.2 | 0.10-0.15 | 3.6-6.0 | <2 | High----- | 0.32 | | | |
| 58B----- | 0-82 | 1-3 | 1.45-1.65 | >6.0 | 0.03-0.08 | 4.5-5.5 | <2 | Low----- | 0.10 | 5 | 2 | .5-1 |

Soil Erodibility Factor (K)



K factor
nomograph:

$K = f(5 \text{ soil properties})$

(Troeh et al. 2004)

Figure 6-1 A nomograph to determine the soil erodibility factor, K , from percent silt plus very fine sand (0.002 to 0.1 mm), percent sand (0.1 to 2.0 mm), percent organic matter, soil structure, and soil permeability. The dashed line shows how the nomograph is used to obtain a K value of 0.31 for a soil having 65% silt + very fine sand, 5% sand, 2.8% organic matter, fine granular structure, and slow-to-moderate permeability. This same sequence of properties must always be used to obtain K values from the nomograph. (From the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation*, Volume 26, p. 189-193, 1971 [Wischmeier et al.]).

Slope Length & Steepness Factor (LS)

$$A = R \times K \times \mathbf{LS} \times C \times P$$

LS is the ratio of expected soil loss per unit area of a particular field segment compared to what would be lost from a 9%, 72.6-ft-long slope with no cover.

Slope Length & Steepness Factor (LS)

LS Lookup Tables

Example: Determine LS for ag field w/ slope of 5% & length of 400 ft.

Table 4-2.
Values for topographic factor, LS, for moderate ratio of rill to interrill erosion.¹

| Slope (%) | Horizontal slope length (ft) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 25 | 50 | 75 | 100 | 150 | 200 | 250 | 300 | 400 | 600 | 800 | 1000 |
| 0.2 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 |
| 0.5 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| 1.0 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.11 | 0.12 | 0.13 | 0.14 | 0.14 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.18 | 0.19 | 0.20 | 0.20 |
| 2.0 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.19 | 0.22 | 0.25 | 0.27 | 0.29 | 0.31 | 0.33 | 0.35 | 0.37 | 0.41 | 0.44 | 0.47 |
| 3.0 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.25 | 0.32 | 0.36 | 0.39 | 0.44 | 0.48 | 0.52 | 0.55 | 0.60 | 0.68 | 0.75 | 0.80 |
| 4.0 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.31 | 0.40 | 0.47 | 0.52 | 0.60 | 0.67 | 0.72 | 0.77 | 0.86 | 0.99 | 1.10 | 1.19 |
| 5.0 | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.30 | 0.37 | 0.49 | 0.58 | 0.65 | 0.76 | 0.85 | 0.93 | 1.01 | 1.13 | 1.33 | 1.49 | 1.63 |
| 6.0 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.43 | 0.58 | 0.69 | 0.78 | 0.93 | 1.05 | 1.16 | 1.25 | 1.42 | 1.69 | 1.91 | 2.11 |
| 8.0 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 0.53 | 0.74 | 0.91 | 1.04 | 1.26 | 1.45 | 1.62 | 1.77 | 2.03 | 2.47 | 2.83 | 3.15 |
| 10.0 | 0.46 | 0.48 | 0.50 | 0.51 | 0.52 | 0.67 | 0.97 | 1.19 | 1.38 | 1.71 | 1.98 | 2.22 | 2.44 | 2.84 | 3.50 | 4.06 | 4.56 |
| 12.0 | 0.47 | 0.53 | 0.58 | 0.61 | 0.64 | 0.84 | 1.23 | 1.53 | 1.79 | 2.23 | 2.61 | 2.95 | 3.26 | 3.81 | 4.75 | 5.56 | 6.28 |
| 14.0 | 0.48 | 0.58 | 0.65 | 0.70 | 0.75 | 1.00 | 1.48 | 1.86 | 2.19 | 2.76 | 3.25 | 3.69 | 4.09 | 4.82 | 6.07 | 7.15 | 8.11 |
| 16.0 | 0.49 | 0.63 | 0.72 | 0.79 | 0.85 | 1.15 | 1.73 | 2.20 | 2.60 | 3.30 | 3.90 | 4.45 | 4.95 | 5.86 | 7.43 | 8.79 | 10.02 |
| 20.0 | 0.52 | 0.71 | 0.85 | 0.96 | 1.06 | 1.45 | 2.22 | 2.85 | 3.40 | 4.36 | 5.21 | 5.97 | 6.68 | 7.97 | 10.23 | 12.20 | 13.99 |
| 25.0 | 0.56 | 0.80 | 1.00 | 1.16 | 1.30 | 1.81 | 2.82 | 3.65 | 4.39 | 5.69 | 6.83 | 7.88 | 8.86 | 10.65 | 13.80 | 16.58 | 19.13 |
| 30.0 | 0.59 | 0.89 | 1.13 | 1.34 | 1.53 | 2.15 | 3.39 | 4.42 | 5.34 | 6.98 | 8.43 | 9.76 | 11.01 | 13.30 | 17.37 | 20.99 | 24.31 |
| 40.0 | 0.65 | 1.05 | 1.38 | 1.68 | 1.95 | 2.77 | 4.45 | 5.87 | 7.14 | 9.43 | 11.47 | 13.37 | 15.14 | 18.43 | 24.32 | 29.60 | 34.48 |
| 50.0 | 0.71 | 1.18 | 1.59 | 1.97 | 2.32 | 3.32 | 5.40 | 7.17 | 8.78 | 11.66 | 14.26 | 16.67 | 18.94 | 23.17 | 30.78 | 37.65 | 44.02 |
| 60.0 | 0.76 | 1.30 | 1.78 | 2.23 | 2.65 | 3.81 | 6.24 | 8.33 | 10.23 | 13.65 | 16.76 | 19.64 | 22.36 | 27.45 | 36.63 | 44.96 | 52.70 |

¹Such as for row-cropped agricultural and other moderately consolidated soil conditions with little-to-moderate cover (not applicable to thawing soil)

Cover Management Factor (C)

$$A = R \times K \times LS \times C \times P$$

$$C = \{ (5 \text{ subfactors})$$

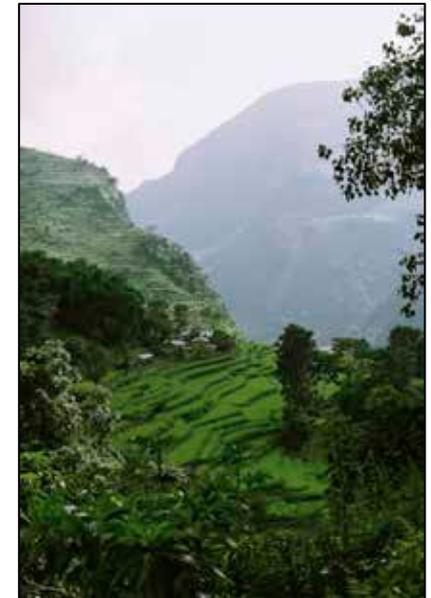
$$C = PLU * CC * SC * SR * SM$$



Supporting-Practice Factor (P)

$$A = R \times K \times LS \times C \times P$$

The fractional amount of erosion that occurs when “special practices,” e.g., contour cultivation, contoured strip cropping, & terracing, are used compared with erosion that would occur without them.



Soils: A sustainable resource.

With conventional tillage:

$$A = 170 \times 0.26 \times 1.62 \times 0.20 \times 1.0 = 14.3 \text{ t/a/y}$$

With conservation tillage:

$$A = 170 \times 0.26 \times 1.62 \times 0.11 \times 1.0 = 7.9 \text{ t/a/y}$$

With contour cultivation:

$$A = 170 \times 0.26 \times 1.62 \times 0.20 \times 0.61 = 8.6 \text{ t/a/y}$$

With cons. tillage & contour cult.:

$$A = 170 \times 0.26 \times 1.62 \times 0.11 \times 0.61 = 4.8 \text{ t/a/y}$$

Soils: A sustainable resource.

Table 1. USLE Assessment at 3 Sites in the Kaiaka Bay Watershed
($A = R * K * LS * C * P$)

| Site | HCG | | | TCB | | | PES | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------|-------|------------------|------|-------|------------------|------|-------|
| R | 250 ⁴ | 250 | 250 | 280 ⁴ | 280 | 280 | 400 ⁴ | 400 | 400 |
| K | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 |
| LS | 0.091 | 0.091 | 0.091 | 2.95 | 2.95 | 2.95 | 1.19 | 1.19 | 1.19 |
| Bare | 0.45 | | | 0.45 | | | 0.45 | | |
| 40 % Cover | | 0.15 | | | 0.15 | | | 0.15 | |
| 95 % Cover | | | 0.011 | | | 0.011 | | | 0.011 |
| P | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| July '05 ⁵ | 1.74 | | | 63.2 | | | 32.1 | | |
| Jan '06 ⁵ | | 0.58 | | | 21.1 | | | 10.7 | |
| July '06 ⁵ | | | 0.04 | | | 1.54 | | | 0.78 |

¹HCA = Haleiwa Community Gardens site; ²TCB = Thompson Corner Bridge site; ³PES = Poamoho Experiment Station site

⁴July 2005 calculation; ⁵Tons per acre per year

Wind Erosion

