

Map Unit Description

Cortez Area, Colorado, Parts of Dolores and Montezuma Counties

143 Wetherill loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes

Setting

Elevation: 6200 to 7400 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 13 to 16 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 46 to 50 degrees F
Frost-free period: 100 to 120 days

Composition

Wetherill and similar soils: 90 percent
Minor components: 1 percent

Description of Wetherill

Setting

Landform: Hills, mesas
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Eolian deposits derived from sandstone

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 1 to 3 percent
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 30 percent
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent
Sodium adsorption ratio maximum: 4.0
Available water capacity: High (about 11.0 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3c
Land capability (non irrigated): 3c
Ecological site: Loamy Foothills (R036XY284CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 3 inches: loam
3 to 7 inches: loam
7 to 48 inches: clay loam
48 to 60 inches: loam

Minor Components

Aquents

Percent of map unit: 1 percent
Landform: Drainageways