

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

HOT NEWS

Issue 03, 2018



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WASWAC Website: www.waswac.org



The deadline of full paper submission for attending 2nd IYFSWC is 31, May









Very Important information:

(1) about the Outstanding Youth Paper Award:



The WASWAC Youth Outstanding Paper Award (DATUM) 2018 will be continued in this forum, the application for the award is open from now. Anyone wants to apply for the award, should submit an online registration and application form by April 10, and **should submit the full paper before May 31, 2018**. Please always be remembered the two key dates!

http://www.eng.geogr.msu.ru/IYFSWC/registration/

The description and related form for the award:

http://www.eng.geogr.msu.ru/IYFSWC/youth paper award/

And also, for the participants who will not apply for the WASWAC Youth Outstanding Paper Award (DATUM), but hope the abstract will be inclusive in the Springer proceeding book, please also extend your abstract up to 600 words plus table and figure, and send it back to the conference email <u>iyfswc-2018@geogr.msu.ru</u>

(2) about the Visa application

We accept visa applications for invitation letters for ALL countries until June 30. Application for visa invitation submitted by participants from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Denmark, Germany, France, Netherlands, Italy, China etc. will be proceed by Moscow State University international office (within 1-2 weeks).



Applications for visa invitation submitted by participants from most of non-Shengen countries (including USA, Canada, UK etc.) will be transferred to Russian Migration Service who prepare an invitation letter (within the expected period of 1 month after submission the application). Please submit your applications in time.

For the participants from some of non-Shengen countries including USA, Canada, UK according to the requirements of the Russian Federal Migration Service, to proceed with your invitation LOC will have to pay tax (state duty) which costs 800 Rubles (approximately 12 EUR) (IMPORTANT: obtaining invitation for citizens of China is free of charge). As far as these expenses are not included into registration fee, we kindly ask you to get ready to reimburse us this cost in Moscow. You can do it on the registration desk by cash in Rubles (you will get the receipt of payment).

After submitting your application for visa invitation please guarantee this reimbursement by short e-mail to <u>iyfswc-2018@geogr.msu.ru</u>.

Application for visa invitation will be processed after receiving registration fee payment via <u>http://www.eng.geogr.msu.ru/IYFSWC/payment/</u>

Visa application form available here:

http://www.eng.geogr.msu.ru/IYFSWC/visa/

REMEMBER to submit your full paper or extended abstract by the end of May, 2018

Any further questions please contact: <u>iyfswc-2018@geogr.msu.ru</u> Details here: <u>http://www.eng.geogr.msu.ru/IYFSWC/home.php</u>



WASWAC World Conference IV will be held in 2019

Managing Soil and Water Resources for Climate-Smart Agriculture Toward Global Food and Livelihood Security

At New Delhi, India, November 5th-9th, 2019



The conference will focus on the protection and conservation of land and natural resources for sustainable use and development. The target groups include scientists, researchers and academicians with multidisciplinary expertise, outreach and extension professionals, engineers, land users including farmers, planners and policy makers, students, NGO's, and other stakeholders who are active or interested in the states of art and science of natural resources management. We feel proud in inviting your active participation and valued deliberations to make this international conference a successful event.

Welcome to be New Delhi to attend The WASWAC World Conference IV in November 2019

US soil property maps released

USDA/NRCS National Soil Survey Center announces the release of US soil property maps that meet the GlobalSoilMap standards for Tier 2 requirements by providing estimated soil properties on block average (100x100m) grid cell size. The estimated soil properties are organic carbon, pH 1:5 water, clay, silt, sand, coarse fragments, ECEC, bulk density (for < than 2 mm soil fraction and whole soil), available water capacity, and soil depth.

Each soil property is represented by mean or representative values (R), with upper (H) and lower (L) limit values also considered as 90% Confidence Intervals (90% CI). The estimated soil properties are provided for 6 standard soil thickness layers (0-5 cm, 5-15cm, 15-30 cm, 30-60 cm, 60-100 cm and 100-200 cm).

The released products are based on U.S. Soil General Map – STATSGO2 (Version 0.1) and Soil Survey geographic database – SSURGO filled in with STATSGO2 (Version 0.5). The support data for GSM V0.1 and V0.5 is the same as those for gridded STATSGO2 and gridded SSURGO respectively. However, the data processing for GSM versions follows the GSM specifications and differs from gSTATSGO2 and gSSURGO with respect to standardized soil thickness that are derived from spline function, grid resolution, soil property units, and projections. The use of this data is subject to the same limitations as those specified for STASGO2 and SSURGO. The data is available at:

https://nrcsgeoservices.sc.egov.usda.gov/arcgis/rest/services/GlobalSoilMap_v01 ________STATSGO2

https://nrcsgeoservices.sc.egov.usda.gov/arcgis/rest/services/GlobalSoilMap_v05 The raster map layers can be viewed in several online web service platforms that are WMS, which allows use from a broader range of client applications such as QGIS, ArcGIS Java Script Arc Map, Arc GIS Explorer, AutoCad Civil 3D, Google Earth, Geoportal Map Viewer, and ERDAS Apollo. The raster map layer data can be readily combined with other national regional and local raster layers, e.g. National Land



Cover Database (NLCD), the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Crop Data Layer, or National Elevation Dataset (NED).

Scientists from the NSSC in Lincoln, Nebraska; Geospatial Data Unit and the West Virginia University in Morgantown; and USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science Center (EROS) in Sioux Fall, South Dakota developed the database while USDA-NRCS National Geospatial Center of Excellence (NGCE) in Ft. Worth, Texas compiled and released the database suitable for various delivery platforms.



International Union of Soil Sciences

Election of President of the IUSS Position

As its Senior Officer, the President of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) will provide leadership, focus and direction both within and outside of the Union. Within the Union, the President, working together with the President's Committee and with the Executive Committee and Council, will be expected to develop and implement strategic directions and actions that take the Union forward and ensure that it is recognized as the pre-eminent international body in the field of soil science. The President will Chair meetings of Council, the Executive Committee and the President's Committee and will be responsible for the proper conduct of the business of the Union.

Externally, the President will represent the Union in international forums, such as the International Council of Science, and will act as its spokesperson in dealings with; the media, National Members of the Union, sister organizations, United Nations entities and government departments as required.

It is important that the person appointed should be an outstanding soil scientist of high international stature and have very strong interpersonal skills to carry out these duties in an exemplary manner. It should also be understood that appointment represents a total of six (6) years commitment to the Union by serving two (2) years each as President-Elect (2019/20), President (2021/22) and Past President (2023/24).

The request experience and qualifications and nomination information, please see details at:

https://iuss.boku.ac.at/files/president_election_full_info_2018.pdf

In summary, the full nomination package will consist of:

- A covering letter from two Nominators including joint or individual statement(s) of support
- The full 'Nomination Information' as listed above and in the format requested to be provided by the nominee
- The Nominee's CV
- A Letter from the Nominee's employer indicating their approval and ongoing support for the nominee
- ↓ Documents indicating financial support for the Nominee, if elected.

Indicative Timetable for the Presidential Election Process

The projected timetable for the Presidential Election process is as follows:

- Announcements and Call for nominations early March 2018 using the IUSS Alerts, plus emails to all National Members for onward distribution to individual member plus posting on the web and any other communication avenues.
- 4 Nomination close 30 June, 2018
- Shortlist of Candidates prepared by Presidential Election Committee by the end of July,
 2018 and presented to President
- Shortlist voted on by Council (1 vote per National Member in good financial standing in IUSS) by end of September, 2018
- Result of Election presented to President and Executive Committee following the conclusion of the vote and subsequently announced to members by email and on the IUSS website
- Report on the process and any issues arising will be presented to Council and Executive
 Committee before the end of 2018
- **4** The schedule outlined above may be amended if unforeseen circumstances arise.

Emeritus Professor Roger S Swift, Chair, IUSS Presidential Election Standing Committee



Richard Webster Medal 2018 -- Call for nominations

You are encouraged -- individually or as a group -- to nominate candidates for the Richard Webster Medal of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS), to be awarded at the 21st World Congress of Soil Science (WCSS) in Rio de Janeiro (Brasil) in August 2018

(https://www.21wcss.org/). This medal recognizes the person who has most advanced pedometrics in the period between the IUSS WCSS of 2014 and 2018, while also considering achievements prior to that period.

According to the IUSS, "Pedometrics" is defined as "the application of mathematical and statistical methods for the study of the distribution and genesis of soils"; see however an extended discussion of "what is pedometrics?" at <u>http://pedometrics.org/?page_id=26</u> The eligibility criteria are (1) membership in the IUSS via their national society, (2) to be willing to be a keynote speaker at the next biannual conference of the IUSS Pedometrics Commission, to be held in Guelph (CA) in June 2019.

Scientists eligible for the award will have shown a combination of the following:

(a) distinction in the application of mathematics or statistics in soil science through their published works;

(b) innovative research in the field of pedometrics;

(c) leadership qualities in pedometrics research, for example, by leading a strong research team;

(d) contributions to various aspects of education in pedometrics (e.g., supervision of doctoral students, teaching of pedometrics courses in higher education, the development of courses for broader professional needs); and

(e) service to pedometrics (e.g., by serving on a committee of the Pedometrics Commission, promoting pedometrics to the IUSS, serving as meeting organizer or editor of an important Pedometrics journal).

Nominations procedure

1) Nominations for the Richard Webster Medal should be made by a colleague or colleagues who know the person's work well. The nomination should include a curriculum vitae and a short statement (a maximum of 750 words) summarizing the relevant qualifications of the



nominee with respect to the conditions outlined in the section, requirements and eligibility, above.

2) The proposer(s) should submit the following on behalf of their nominee two months before the next WCSS (i.e., deadline is 12-June-2018).

- (a) their published work for the four-year period between
- (b) a suitable curriculum vitae that gives one or more the following, always showing clear relevance to pedometrics:
 - i. all previous scientific publications,
 - ii. positions held,
 - iii. research undertaken,
 - iv. education of others,
 - v. teaching courses developed,
 - vi. leadership and management of research projects.

Nominations should be sent before 12-June-2018 to the Chairman of the Pedometrics award committee: David G. Rossiter (ISRIC-World Soil Information (NL), Cornell University (USA); <u>david.rossiter@wur.nl</u> or <u>d.g.rossiter@cornell.edu</u>, with the subject line "Webster medal 2018"

The nominations will be evaluated on the five criteria by the award committee members:

David G. Rossiter (ISRIC-World Soil Information (NL), Cornell University (USA)

Sabine Grunwald (University of Florida, USA)

Alex McBratney (University of Sydney, Australia)

Margaret Oliver (University of Reading, UK)

Lin Yang (Chinese Academy of Sciences, State Key Laboratory of Resources and Environmental Information Systems, PRC)

This committee was appointed by the IUSS Pedometrics Commission advisory board in January 2014 and will serve until the 2018 Congress.

Details at:

https://iuss.boku.ac.at/files/webstercall2018.pdf

Soil erosion costs European farmers €1.25 billion a year

Soil erosion is the biggest threat to soil fertility and productivity, but the consequences do not stop there. A recent JRC study combined biophysical and macroeconomic models to determine direct and macroeconomic costs of soil erosion, and the results are striking.

At EU level, soil erosion affects over 12 million hectares of land – about 7.2% of the total agricultural land – and leads to €1.25 billion loss in crop productivity.

"The cost of soil erosion is something that does not yet actively figure in economic impact assessments. But our land resources are not infinite and we have to start valuing our soils more because they provide the majority of the food we eat. We have to make more efforts to protect these soils so that they are able to cope with the increasing demand for food," said Panos Panagos, lead author of the JRC study.

Soil erosion has direct and indirect costs. Direct costs hit mainly farmers through losses in production, damage to plantations, a decrease of the planting area and the cost of additional nutrients needed to balance the loss of the upper, fertile part of soil. Indirect costs of soil erosion are felt by various sectors of the economy and society at large. They include the loss of wildlife habitat and biodiversity, land abandonment, damages to railways, roads and other public infrastructures.

On country level, Italy pays the highest bill with an annual loss of &619 million and 33% of its total agricultural area suffering from severe erosion. In the Baltic States, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium and Ireland land erosion is a lesser problem and hence these countries have incurred smaller economic losses.

Using a Computational General Equilibrium (CGE) model simulation, the study also calculates the macroeconomic costs of soil erosion.

The net cost of soil erosion in the agricultural sector is about 300 million and in GDP about 155 million. In monetary terms the crop productivity loss is much higher than the loss in agricultural sector and GDP.

The study was recently published in Land Degradation and Development Journal.

For more information, please visit:

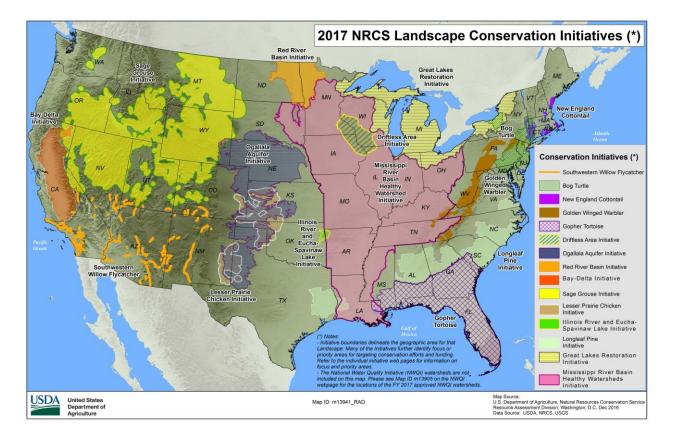
https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/news/soil-erosion-costs-european-farmers-125-billion-year



2017 NRCS Landscape Conservation Initiatives



NRCS uses Landscape Conservation Initiatives to accelerate the benefits of voluntary conservation programs, such as cleaner water and air, healthier soil and enhanced wildlife habitat. NRCS conservation programs help agricultural producers improve the environment while maintaining a vibrant agricultural sector.



These initiatives enhance the locally driven process to better address nationally and

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regionally important conservation goals that transcend localities. They build on locally led efforts and partnerships, and they're based on science. Through the initiatives, NRCS and its partners coordinate the delivery of assistance where it can have the most impact. Where applicable, NRCS works with regulators to help producers get predictability for their use of voluntary conservation systems or practices, giving them peace of mind they can sustain agricultural production in the future.

These landscape-level efforts have seen success across the country. From the removal of streams from federal impaired streams list to the determination not to list the greater sage-grouse and New England cottontail, NRCS' work with producers benefits wildlife, natural resources and agricultural operations across the country.

Since establishing the initiatives under the 2008 Farm Bill, NRCS has used successes and lessons learned to enhance the delivery of the initiatives. With tools like the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, the 2014 Farm Bill further emphasizes the focus on building effective partnerships and obtaining meaningful results for key natural resource concerns.

The Landscape Conservation Initiatives include:

🖊 Water-Based Initiatives

- ♦ Bay Delta Initiative
- ♦ Driftless Area Landscape Conservation Initiative
- ♦ Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
- ♦ Gulf of Mexico Initiative
- ♦ Illinois Rive/Eucha-Spavinaw Watersheds Initiative
- ♦ Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
- ♦ National water Quality Initiative
- ♦ Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
- ♦ Red River Basin Initiative
- Wildlife- and Ecosystem-Based InitiativesBay Delta Initiative
 - ♦ Lesser Prairie-Chicken Initiative
 - ♦ Longleaf Pine Initiative

- ♦ Sage Grouse Initiative
- ♦ Working Lands for Wildlife
- **4** Regional Pollinator Efforts
 - ♦ Monarch Butterflies
 - ♦ Honey Bees
- - ♦ Chesapeake Bay
 - ♦ The Everglades
 - ♦ Migratory Birds
 - ♦ Prairie Pothole
 - ♦ Targeted Forestry Efforts

Details at: <u>https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/initiatives/</u>

How to Prevent Soil Erosion

Erosion is the loss of soil. As soil erodes, it loses nutrients, clogs rivers with dirt, and eventually turns the area into a desert. Although erosion happens naturally, human activities can make it much worse.



✤ Plant grass and shrubs

Bare soil is easily swept away by wind and water, the two main causes of erosion. Plant roots hold the soil together, while their leaves block rain and stop it breaking the soil apart. Turf, ornamental grass, and low, spreading shrubs work best since they cover the soil completely.

- ✤ If you have any bare ground, try to establish plant cover as soon as possible to limit erosion.
- ♦ If the ground is mostly flat (slope of 3:1 or less), this might be enough to solve the problem. Steep slopes erode faster, so they need more protection.



Add mulch or rocks

This will weigh down the soil and protect the seeds and young plants underneath from getting washed away. It also slows the absorption of water to reduce runoff. Grass clippings or bark chips work especially well.

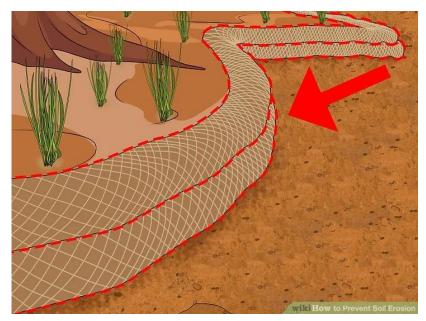
- ◇ If you plant something in the soil, the plant's roots can hold the soil together, and you may not need mulch or rocks.
- ♦ If you don't plant anything, keep the soil covered with mulch. You can also add mulch around plants to add another layer of protection or to keep the soil warm.



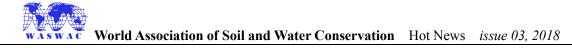
↓ Use mulch matting to hold vegetation on slopes

Simply lay the mat over your seeds or young plants. On steep slopes, dig a small trench at the top of the hill first. Lay the top of the mat in the trench, fill it up with soil, then fold the mat back over the top. This helps water run over the top of the mat, where the mat will slow it down, instead of traveling underneath it.

 ◇ Fiber mulch mats or erosion control mats are a layer of mulch held together in a fiber mesh. This structure holds the mulch together in areas where normal mulch would be washed or blown away.

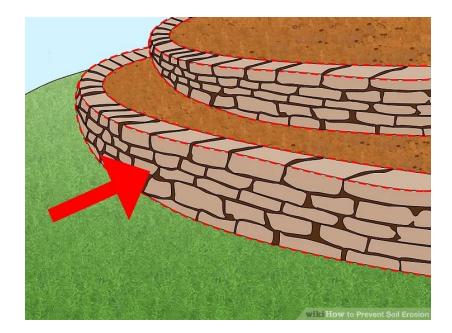


Put down fiber logs



Another option for erosion control on steep slopes is a series of rolled up logs or "wattles" made from fibrous material (like straw). Water running down the slope will slow down when it hits the logs, soaking into the soil instead of carrying mud downhill. Put the logs down across the slope, 10 to 25 feet (3–8m) apart. Hold them in place with wooden stakes or sturdy, living plants.

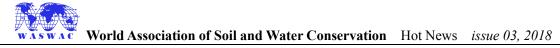
- \diamond You can plant seeds directly in the logs to protect them while they grow.
- ◇ If you do plant seeds directly into the logs, you should still use stakes to hold the logs in place, at least until the seeds develop sturdy roots that go into the soil.

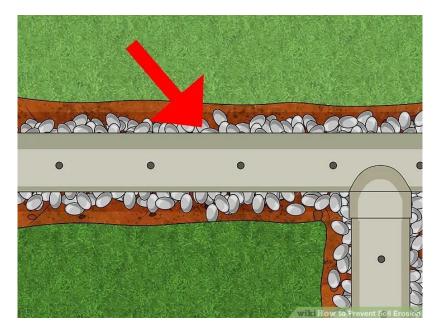


🖊 Build retaining walls

Badly eroded slopes will continue to collapse downhill until they are stabilized. A retaining wall at the base of the slope will block the soil and slow down the collapse. This gives grass or other plants time to grow and help the soil hold together.

- ♦ Give the wall a 2% slope on the side (perpendicular to the incline) so that water flows off to the side instead of pooling.
- ♦ You may build the wall from concrete blocks, rock, or wood. Only use wood treated with a preservative to prevent rot.
- \diamond Use retaining walls around flowerbeds and other raised soil areas as well.
- ♦ You may need local government approval to build these structures.

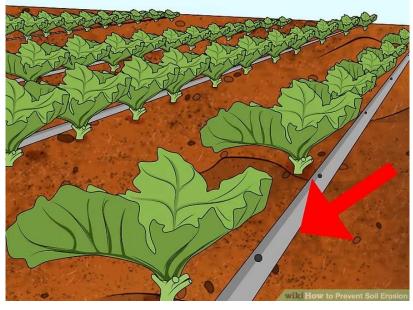




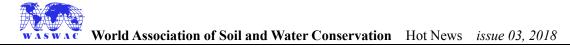
👃 Improve drainage

All buildings should have gutters or pipes that can drain water effectively out of your garden and into water collection systems. Without adequate drainage, heavy rain could wash away a whole layer of topsoil.

 Areas with heavy water runoff may require installing an underground perforated drainage pipe.

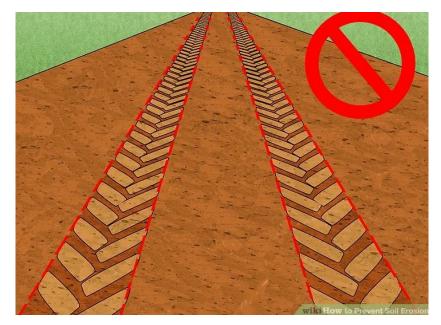


4 Reduce watering if possible.



Over-watering your garden can speed up erosion by washing away soil. Use less water if you can, or install a drip irrigation system. Since a drip system only delivers small amounts of water at a time, there is no water flooding across the surface to carry topsoil.

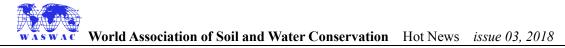
♦ You can also install drip lines underground to deliver water directly to the roots.

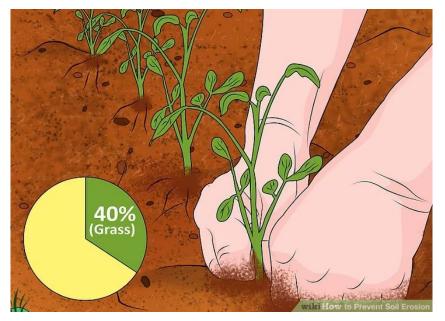


When people, animals, or machines travel over soil, they press it down, compacting the soil into a dense layer. Since there is less space between dirt particles in compacted soil, water has a hard time draining through, and carries soil on the surface downhill instead. Walk on paving stones or cleared paths instead of trampling the soil, especially when it is wet. Adding compost or manure can also help by attracting earthworms, which break the soil into looser clumps.

- ♦ Compacted soil also makes it harder for plants to become established, since the roots have trouble breaking through.
- ♦ Compaction always lead to net erosion. The water may run off of compacted soil, but as it runs off it generates more force, which can increase the erosion in other areas.

2 Preventing Farmland Erosion





↓ Keep soil covered year-round

Bare soil is far more vulnerable to erosion than soil with ground cover. Aim for at least 30% ground cover on all grazing land, ideally 40% or more.

☆ After you harvest your crops, leave the residue on the soil as mulch. Alternatively, plant hardy winter crops.

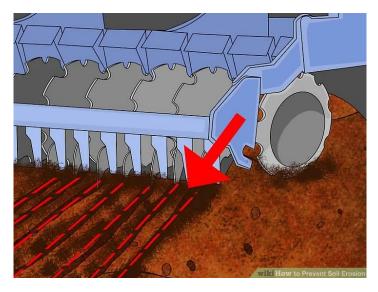


✤ Plant trees to prevent landslides.

Tree roots are powerful tools when soil is too eroded or steep to plant. Plant native trees on steep slopes and riverbanks to reduce soil loss.

♦ Bare ground around the tress still needs to be covered in mulch or grass for best results.

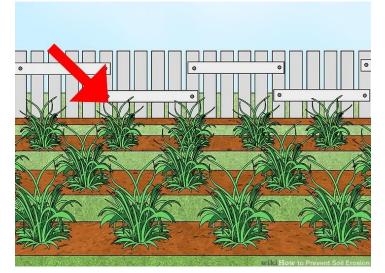
♦ Keep in mind that older trees will be more effective at preventing landslides than new saplings. It may take some time before your tree develops roots that are strong enough.



 Reduce tillage.

Deep, frequent tillage creates a layer of compact soil vulnerable to water erosion, topped by loose soil easily removed by wind. Consider a zero-tillage approach using a coulter or other deep planting device.

- ✤ If this is not feasible, try a ridge-till or mulch-till system that leaves the lower soil levels untouched.
- ♦ These conservation tillage techniques also reduce the amount of vehicle traffic, and therefore soil compaction.



Protect weak crops with strip cropping



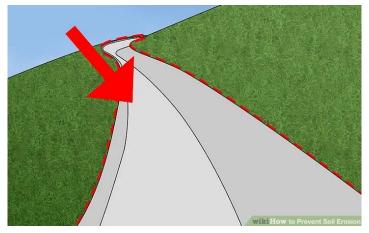
Crops with weak roots or that need to be sparsely planted are more vulnerable to erosion. Plant these in strips, alternating with strips of an erosion-resistant crop such as dense grass or legumes.

- \diamond Plant the crops so they contour the slope.
- ♦ Plant these crops perpendicular to the prevailing wind if possible.

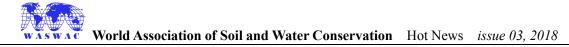


Grazing land cannot remain healthy and erosion-resistant if cattle are allowed to graze yearround. For best results, close off a paddock for the entire wet season to allow grasses to reestablish themselves.

- \diamond This may not be effective if the other paddocks cannot support the spelled cattle.
- \diamond If possible, keep cattle away from riverbanks and heavily eroded soil at all times.



4 Control downhill runoff with flumes.



Runoff is concentrated into a narrower area as it travels across lands. The points where the concentrated runoff reaches a slope are particularly vulnerable to erosion. You can build a paved flume, or lined channel, to lead the water to a safe drainage system. Build these at gully heads as well.

- ♦ Another option is to build a swale to re-direct the runoff into a pond. Building several swales along a hillside can greatly reduce runoff volume and eliminate the need for a paved channel.
- \diamond Do not build flumes on slopes steeper than 1.5:1.

✤ Turn a hillside into terraces.

The steepest slopes are almost impossible to farm on. Turn the hill into terraces instead by building retaining walls running across the slope. In between the walls, grade the soil level to create a flat area resistant to erosion.

More details please visit: <u>https://www.wikihow.com/Prevent-Soil-Erosion</u>



WASWAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM (Issued 120501) (For applicants from all countries)

Name: (Ms./Mrs./Mr./Prof./Dr.)			Gender: $\Box F \Box M$
Institution:			
Postal address:			
State/Province:			
Phone:	Faz	x:	
Emails (Please give at least 2 addresses to ens	ure uninterrupted contact): ((1)	
(2)	(3)		
My specialized field(s):			
Please sign me up for the WASWAC mer	nbership in category*: □	1(IM)□2(L	M)□3(OM)□4(SM&GM)
Membership for the year(s)	@US\$	=	US\$
Donation for developing country n	nembership, etc.		US\$
Donation to the Moldenhauer Fun	d		US\$
		Total	US\$

*Membership categories & rates from July 18, 2005, amended March 3, 2007 and March 4, 2010.

1. IM (Individual membership): US\$20 for 5 years for developing countries (In China, members pay 130 yuan RMB); US\$40 for 5 years for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide.

2. LM (Life membership): US\$80 for developing countries (In China, members pay 520 yuan RMB); US\$160 for developed countries and persons working in international organizations worldwide. Persons who have passed their 60th birthday pay only half of these LM rates.

3. OM (Organization membership): For universities, research and implemental institutions, government agencies, NGOs, societies, associations and international organizations, etc. Persons belonging to an Organization member will receive the same online products and services as the other two above categories: \$100/year for an organization with up to 150 persons; \$150/year for an organization with up to 300 persons: \$200/year for an organization with up to 500 persons; and \$10/year for an additional 100 persons or part thereof.

4. SM&GM (Student membership & Gift membership): US\$5/year worldwide, to be purchased to give to colleagues, friends, students, etc.

For sending money by foreign wires through a bank, please give the following information to your bank:

Name of Receiver (A/C Holder's Name): World Association of Soil and Water Conservation

Bank Name and Address: China Construction Bank, Shoutinanlu Branch, Beijing, China, No. 9 Shoutinanlu Street, Haidian District, Beijing, P R China

A/C NO.: 1100 1042 7000 5301 6996

Message to write on the Bank Sheet: WASWAC Membership due for Ms./Mrs./Mr./Prof./Dr., Country **NOTE: 1.** Do not deduct the bank fee from the amount of money to send. **2.** For sending money by wire/bank transfer or check please add US\$7 per transaction to compensate for the charge at the receiving bank in Beijing. This additional charge does not apply for **WESTERN UNION** or any payment of US\$50 or more.