

Map Unit Description

Cortez Area, Colorado, Parts of Dolores and Montezuma Counties

116 Sharps-Cahona complex, 6 to 12 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

Sharps and similar soils: 45 percent
Cahona and similar soils: 40 percent
Minor components: 2 percent

Description of Sharps

Setting

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

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 6 to 12 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: 20 to 40 inches to Paralithic bedrock
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Very low or moderately high (0.00 to 0.20 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 15 percent
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent
Available water capacity: Low (about 4.5 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 4e
Land capability (non irrigated): 4e
Ecological site: Loamy Foothills (R036XY284CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 9 inches: loam
9 to 19 inches: clay loam
19 to 30 inches: loam
30 to 40 inches: weathered bedrock

Description of Cahona

Setting

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

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 6 to 12 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: 50 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): 4e
Land capability (non irrigated): 4e
Ecological site: Loamy Foothills (R036XY284CO)

Map Unit Description

Cortez Area, Colorado, Parts of Dolores and Montezuma Counties

Typical Profile

0 to 5 inches: loam
5 to 25 inches: clay loam
25 to 60 inches: loam

Minor Components

Aquents

Percent of map unit: 2 percent
Landform: Drainageways