

# Map Unit Description

Weld County, Colorado, Southern Part

## 16 Colby loam, 3 to 5 percent slopes

### Setting

Elevation: 4850 to 5050 feet  
Mean annual precipitation: 12 to 16 inches  
Mean annual air temperature: 48 to 50 degrees F  
Frost-free period: 135 to 155 days

### Composition

Colby and similar soils: 85 percent  
Minor components: 15 percent

### Description of Colby

#### Setting

Landform: Ridges, hills  
Down-slope shape: Linear  
Across-slope shape: Linear  
Parent material: Calcareous eolian deposits

#### Properties and Qualities

Slope: 3 to 5 percent  
Drainage class: Well drained  
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high or high (0.57 to 2.00 in/hr)  
Frequency of flooding: None  
Frequency of ponding: None  
Calcium carbonate maximum: 15 percent  
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent  
Available water capacity: High (about 10.6 inches)

#### Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3e  
Land capability (non irrigated): 4e  
Ecological site: Loamy Plains (R067BY002CO)

#### Typical Profile

0 to 7 inches: loam  
7 to 60 inches: silt loam

### Minor Components

#### Wiley

Percent of map unit: 8 percent

#### Keith

Percent of map unit: 7 percent