

Map Unit Description

Las Animas County Area, Colorado, Parts of Huerfano and Las Animas Counties

Us Aridic Calciustolls, 15 to 35 percent slopes

Setting

Landscape: Lava plateaus
Elevation: 5000 to 7000 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 14 to 17 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 48 to 54 degrees F
Frost-free period: 120 to 145 days

Composition

Aridic calciustolls and similar soils: 60 percent
Minor components: 40 percent

Description of Aridic calciustolls

Setting

Landform: Hills, hogbacks
Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope
Down-slope shape: Convex
Across-slope shape: Convex
Parent material: Colluvium derived from basalt over residuum weathered from sandstone and shale

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 15 to 35 percent
Surface area covered with stones and boulders: 30.0 percent
Depth to restrictive feature: 20 to 71 inches to Paralithic bedrock
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low or moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 50 percent
Gypsum maximum: 2 percent
Sodium adsorption ratio maximum: 5.0
Available water capacity: Moderate (about 6.1 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability (non irrigated): 7e
Ecological site: Basalt Breaks (R070XY070CO)
Other vegetative classification: Basalt breaks #70 (070XY070CO_2)

Typical Profile

0 to 1 inches: slightly decomposed plant material
1 to 6 inches: very stony loam
6 to 14 inches: very cobbly clay loam
14 to 19 inches: cobbly clay loam
19 to 42 inches: silt loam
42 to 60 inches: bedrock

Minor Components

Calcidic argiustolls soils

Percent of map unit: 25 percent
Landform: Hills
Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope
Down-slope shape: Convex
Across-slope shape: Convex
Ecological site: Basalt Breaks (R070XY070CO)
Other vegetative classification: Basalt breaks #70 (070XY070CO_2)

Ritoazul soils

Percent of map unit: 10 percent
Landform: Hills, pediments
Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope, shoulder, summit
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Ecological site: Clayey Plains (R067BY042CO)
Other vegetative classification: Clayey Plains #42 (067XY042CO_2)

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Rock outcrop

Percent of map unit: 5 percent

Landform: Scarps