

# 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

#### Calcic 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