

Cortez Area, Colorado, Parts of Dolores and Montezuma Counties

144—Wetherill loam, 3 to 6 percent slopes

Map Unit Setting

Elevation: 6,200 to 7,400 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 13 to 16 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 46 to 50 degrees F

Frost-free period: 100 to 120 days

Map Unit Composition

Wetherill and similar soils: 85 percent

Minor components: 3 percent

Description of Wetherill

Setting

Landform: Hills, mesas

Landform position (three-dimensional): Base slope, side slope

Down-slope shape: Linear

Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Eolian deposits derived from sandstone

Properties and qualities

Slope: 3 to 6 percent

Depth to restrictive feature: More than 80 inches

Drainage class: Well drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high (0.20 to 0.60 in/hr)

Depth to water table: More than 80 inches

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate, maximum content: 30 percent

Maximum salinity: Nonsaline (0.0 to 2.0 mmhos/cm)

Sodium adsorption ratio, maximum: 4.0

Available water capacity: High (about 11.0 inches)

Interpretive groups

Farmland classification: Prime farmland if irrigated

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3e

Land capability (nonirrigated): 3e

Hydrologic Soil Group: B

Ecological site: Loamy Foothills (R036XY284CO)

Typical profile

0 to 3 inches: Loam

3 to 7 inches: Loam

7 to 48 inches: Clay loam

48 to 60 inches: Loam

Minor Components

Aquents

Percent of map unit: 3 percent

Landform: Drainageways