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LAND EROSION

Land erosion or soil erosion is a naturally occuring process that affect all landforms. It is also said that in agriculture soil erosion is the wearing away of the top soil of a field by the natural forces of water or through forces of farm related activities

Soil erosion can be caused by heavy rainfall, wind and agricultural activities which may including using of certain fertilizers and pesticides, over tilling of the soil and also poor irrigation of the soil, acidification with ~~aci~~ aluminium contamination of surface waters, salinisation of the soil and human made activities like construction of roads, buildings, etc.

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Soil erosion has caused alot of problems in our society which has affect a vast number of people. The consequences of soil erosion occur both on and off-site. On-site effects are particularly important on agricultural land where the redistribution of soil within a field, the loss of soil from a field, the break-down of soil structure and the decline ~~of~~ in organic matter and nutrient result in a reduction of cultivable soil dept and decline in soil fertility. Erosion also reduces availability of soil moisture, resulting in more drought-prone conditions.

The net effect is a loss of productivity which cause a major problem, which they try to fix by using fertilizers to matian ~~the~~ yield, but later threatens food production and leads ultimately to land abandonment.

Soil Conservation design most logically follows a sequence of events beginning with a thorough assessment of erosion risk, followed by designing a sound land use plan based on what the land is best suited for under present or proposed economic and social conditions, land tenure agreements and production technology and what is compatible with the maintenance of environmental stability, however the approach of soil conservation varies from place to place and also based on type of land use.

There are a number of mechanical field practi used to control the soil erosion, which may include contouring which is carrying out ploughing, planting and cultivation on the contour can reduce soil loss, another one is contour bund and then Terrace which are embankments constructed across th slope to intercept surface runoff and convey it to a stable outlet. Other are waterways and stabilisation structures.