

WATER EROSION PREDICTION AND CONTROL

The Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE) is used to estimate interrill (sheet) and rill erosion caused by water. RUSLE is an erosion model designed to predict the long time average annual soil loss carried by runoff from specific field slopes in specified cropping management systems. RUSLE provides a method for determining the right combination of land use and conservation practices that will result in satisfactory water erosion control on each specific site.

Sheet and rill erosion can be controlled by using one or more conservation practice. In Nebraska, the following practices are applicable: conservation cropping system, conservation tillage system, contour farming, contour stripcropping, cover and green manure crop, critical area planting, crop residue management, diversions, terraces or a change in land use.

The computer version (1.05) of RUSLE was used to develop many of the erosion prediction tables. RUSLE is available and distributed from the Soil and Water Conservation Society, Inc. under a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with USDA-ARS.