Web Soil Survey

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What is the Web Soil Survey?

- The Web Soil Survey (WSS) provides the most current official soil data information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey.
- Soil survey information is provided through maps.
- The site is updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information.

How do I access the Web Soil Survey?

- You can access the web soil survey by going to:
 - http://soils.usda.gov/
 - http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/
 - http://www.pr.nrcs.usda.gov/
- You can access the WSS brochure at:
 - <u>ftp://ftp-fc.sc.egov.usda.gov/NSSC/pub/WSS_brochure.pdf</u>

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Search Caribbean Ares V Enter Keywords 60 Quick Access	2007 Caribbean Area Caribbean Area Caribbean Area NRCS Highly Erodible Land NRCS "The Caribbea	Natural Resources Inventory now available! Sis Proud to Celebrate USDA's 150th Anniversary! (an Español) (PDF, 92 KB) Conservation and Wetland Conservation Compliance Factsheet (PDF, 163 KB) - NEW! an" Newsletter - March 2012 Issue now available! (PDF, 647 KB)	Information About: Soils Water Air			
 Earth Team Volunteers 	1.51	NRCS Announces National Water Quality Initiative Conserva	Plants			
 Electronic Government Employment Employee Directory Farm Bill Hurricane Preparedness Legislative 		NRCS Caribbean Area Director, Edwin Almodóvar, announces the launch of a new National Water Quality Initiative committed to improving impaired waterways in western Puerto Rico. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will manage the initiative by making funds available to farmers, ranchers and forest landowners in the Rio Grande de Añasco watershed. All applications for funding consideration during this fiscal year must be received by June 15, 2012. More Info on NWQI (an Español)				
 NRCS en Español Photo Gallery Publications Site Map USDA en Español Find a Service Center 		NRCS Funds Emergency Watershed Protection in Puerto Rico (en Español) NRCS Caribbean Area Director, Edwin Almodóvar, announces that the Caribbean Area NRCS has been allocated \$1,800,000 in Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) funds to help nine (9) communities in Puerto Rico recover from damages caused by Hurricane Irene in August 2011.	 Homeowners CB NRCS Employees Policy Makers Teachers and Students Technical Service Providers (en Español) Volunteers 			
		New CRP Highly Erodible Cropland Conservation Initiative USDA announces a new Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) initiative to protect up to 750,000 acres nationwide by helping producers identify their most highly erodible cropland (HEL). CRP provides resources to enable producers to plant wildlife-friendly cover on their land. Producers can enroll land on a continuous basis, beginning this summer, with their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county office, FSA local staff will be able to quickly determine a producer's eligibility in the initiative. For more information, <u>contact your local FSA office</u> . 	Web Soil Survey			
	2008 Farm Bill	for cost share funding for the EQIP Organic and On-Farm Energy Initiatives.				

...More Info on EQIP

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 Agronomy Biology 	Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) is a nationwide partnership of federal, regional,	s, is part of the National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) program. The National state, and local agencies and institutions. This partnership works together to	
► Ecology	cooperatively investigate, inventory, document, classify, and interpret soils and to	disseminate, publish, and promote the use of information about the soils of the l	United
▶ eFOTG	States and its trust territories. The activities of the NCSS are carried out on nation	al, regional, and state levels.	
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	Soil Data Mart - The most current official soil information. Determin	e and download soil tabular and spatial data for one soil survey area at the.	
	Web Soil Survey - Access to soil survey information is provided through m	aps. All text and tables relate to the map symbols and the	
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DsF	Descalabrado clay, 20 to 60 percent slopes	5.7	4.6%	
FrA	Fraternidad clay, 0 to 2 percent slopes	21.4	17.4%	
FrB	Fraternidad clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes	13.4	10.9%	
JaB	Jacana clay, 0 to 5 percent slopes	6.7	5.4%	
JaC	Jacana clay, 5 to 12 percent slopes	18.8	15.3%	
ScA	San Anton clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded	12.2	9.9%	0 828ft
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SdF	San German cobbly clay loam, 20 to 60 percent slopes	34.6	28.2%	A Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale. You have zoomed in beyond the scale at which the soil map for this area is intended to be used. Mapping

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FrB	Fraternidad clay, 2 to 5 percent slopes	13.4	10.9%	
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How Soil Surveys Are Made

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Soil surveys are made to provide information about the soils and miscellaneous areas in a specific area. They include a description of the soils and miscellaneous areas and their location on the landscape and tables that show soil properties and limitations affecting various uses. Soil scientists observed the steepness, length, and shape of the slopes; the general pattern of drainage; the kinds of crops and native plants; and the kinds of bedrock. They observed and described many soil profiles. A soil profile is the sequence of natural layers, or horizons, in a soil. The profile extends from the surface down into the unconsolidated material in which the soil formed or from the surface down to bedrock. The unconsolidated material is devoid of roots and other living organisms and has not been changed by other biological activity.

Currently, soils are mapped according to the boundaries of major land resource areas (MLRAs). MLRAs are geographically associated land resource units that share common characteristics related to physiography, geology, climate, water resources, soils, biological resources, and land uses (USDA, 2006). Soil survey areas typically consist of parts of one or more MLRA.

The soils and miscellaneous areas in a survey area occur in an orderly pattern that is related to the geology, landforms, relief, climate, and natural vegetation of the area. Each kind of soil and miscellaneous area is associated with a particular kind of landform or with a segment of the landform. By observing the soils and miscellaneous areas in the survey area and relating their position to specific segments of the landform, a soil scientist develops a concept, or model, of how they were formed. Thus, during mapping, this model enables the soil scientist to predict with a considerable degree of accuracy the kind of soil or miscellaneous area at a specific location on the landscape.

Commonly, individual soils on the landscape merge into one another as their characteristics gradually change. To construct an accurate soil map, however, soil scientists must determine the boundaries between the soils. They can observe only a limited number of soil profiles. Nevertheless, these observations, supplemented by an understanding of the soil-vegetation-landscape relationship, are sufficient to verify predictions of the kinds of soil in an area and to determine the boundaries.

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