# The Impact of Land Degradation on Food Productivity

Case studies of Uruguay, Argentina and Kenya

**Volume 2: Appendices** 

S. Mantel V.W.P. van Engelen





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# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

APPENDICES	1
Appendix 1: Maps of Argentina	1
Appendix 2: Maps of Kenya	14
Appendix 3: Pedo-Transfer Function Development	28
1 Bulk density using SOTER data of Kenya	28
2 Continuous PTFs for the estimation bulk density (by N.H. Batjes)	. 29

### LIST OF TABLES

1.	Ranges of bulk density and their texture	28
3.	Standard error of coefficients	28
4.	Range in silt, clay, organic carbon and bulk density in data set	30
5.	Best subset regression for bulk density (N= 4326)	30
6.	Linear regression of bulk density against measured silt, clay and organic carbon content	31
7.	Linear regression of bulk density against measured silt and clay content	31

## LIST OF MAPS

# Argentina

1. 2.	Suitability for wheat Erosion risk under wheat	2 3
3.	Loss of topsoil after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	4
4.	Constraint-free wheat yield	5
5.	Potential water-limited wheat yield	6
6.	Relative water-limited wheat yield	7
7.	Potential nutrient-limited wheat yield	8
8.	Relative nutrient-limited wheat yield	9
9.	Potential water-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	10
10.	Relative water-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	11
11.	Potential nutrient-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	12
12.	Relative nutrient-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	13

# Kenya

1. Suitability for maize	15
2. Erosion risk under maize	
3. Loss of topsoil after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	17
4. Constraint-free maize yield	
5. Potential water-limited maize yield	19
6. Relative water-limited maize yield	20
7. Potential nutrient-limited maize yield	21
8. Relative nutrient-limited maize yield	22
9. Potential water-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	23
10. Relative water-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	24
11. Potential nutrient-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	25
12. Relative nutrient-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion	
13. Soil components with estimated data	27

# **APPENDICES**

## **Appendix 1: Maps of Argentina**

1 Suitability for wheat

2 Erosion risk under wheat

3 Loss of topsoil after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

4 Constraint-free wheat yield

5 Potential water-limited wheat yield

6 Relative water-limited wheat yield

7 Potential nutrient-limited wheat yield

8 Relative nutrient-limited wheat yield

9 Potential water-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

10 Relative water-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

11 Potential nutrient-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

12 Relative nutrient-limited wheat yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion



SUITABILITY FOR WHEAT

Map 1.



EROSION RISK UNDER WHEAT

Map 2.





Map 3.



CONSTRAINT-FREE WHEAT YIELD

Map 4.



POTENTIAL WATER-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD

Map 5.



RELATIVE WATER-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD

Map 6.



POTENTIAL NUTRIENT-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD

Map 7.



RELATIVE NUTRIENT-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD

Map 8.



### POTENTIAL WATER-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 9.



RELATIVE WATER-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 10.



POTENTIAL NUTRIENT-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 11.



### RELATIVE NUTRIENT-LIMITED WHEAT YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 12.

## Appendix 2: Maps of Kenya

- 1 Suitability for maize
- 2 Erosion risk under maize
- 3 Loss of topsoil after simulated 20 years of soiL erosion
- 4 Constraint-free maize yield
- 5 Potential water-limited maize yield
- 6 Relative water-limited maize yield
- 7 Potential nutrient-limited maize yield
- 8 Relative nutrient-limited maize yield
- 9 Potential water-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion
- 10 Relative water-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion
- 11 Potential nutrient-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion
- 12 Relative nutrient-limited maize yield after simulated 20 years of soil erosion
- 13 Soil components with estimated data



SUITABILITY FOR MAIZE

Map 1.



EROSION RISK UNDER MAIZE

Map 2.



LOSS OF TOPSOIL after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 3.



CONSTRAINT-FREE MAIZE YIELD

Map 4.



POTENTIAL WATER-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD

Map 5.



RELATIVE WATER-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD

Map 6.



POTENTIAL NUTRIENT-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD

Map 7.



RELATIVE NUTRIENT-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD

Map 8.



POTENTIAL WATER-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 9.



RELATIVE WATER-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 10.



POTENTIAL NUTRIENT-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 11.



RELATIVE NUTRIENT-LIMITED MAIZE YIELD after simulated 20 years of soil erosion

Map 12.



SOIL COMPONENTS WITH ESTIMATED DATA

Map 13.

# **Appendix 3: Pedo-Transfer Function Development**

### 1 Bulk density using SOTER data of Kenya

A Pedo-Transfer Function (PTF) was developed on the basis of measured bulk density values and texture data in the SOTER database of Kenya (KENSOTER). This PTF was used to fill the gaps for bulk density in the same database. The ranges in the KENSOTER database for measured bulk density and sand and clay contents are given in table 1.

	sand%	Silt%	clay%	B.D.	N
mean	39.4	20.6	40.6	1.3	181
median	36.0	16.0	41.0	1.3	181
min	2	0	4	0.95	181
max	96	72	86	1.80	181

Table 1. Ranges of bulk density and their texture.

B.D.= Bulk density (kg.dm<sup>-3</sup>); N= number of samples

Table 2. Means and standard deviation of selected samples.

	Mean	std	Ν
sand%	39.4	24.5	181
clay%	40.6	20.6	181
B.D.	1.3	0.2	181

B.D.= Bulk density (kg.dm<sup>-3</sup>); N= number of samples

	Beta	std. error of Beta	В	st. error of B	P-level	
sand%	0.581590	0.013761	0.016456	0.000389	0.0000	
clay%	0.536607	0.013761	0.015458	0.000396	0.0000	
R R <sup>2</sup> adj. R <sup>2</sup> F(2 179)	= 0.98 = 0.97 = 0.97 = 376	383 767 766 80				

Table 3. Standard error of coefficients.

< 0.001

р

The general formula is as follows:

Y = bX + cZ

In which:

Y = predicted bulk density

- b, c = the Beta values for sand and clay
- X,Z = sand and clay percentages

For soils with silt contents higher than 40-50% often too low bulk density values were predicted. Predicted bulk density values < 0.95 were excluded and samples with sum of sand, silt and clay < 98% or > 103% were not used for estimation of bulk density. For those units, and for the units for which no texture data were available, bulk density values were taken from the WISE subset, based on taxonomic units. Some soils with high silt content were Luvic Phaeozems, Eutric Fluvisol, Chromic Fluvisol and Eutric Cambisol. The units that had no textural data were: some Ferralsols, Nitisols and a Vertisol.

### 2 Continuous PTFs for the estimation bulk density

### Introduction

Bulk density data are seldom measured on a routine basis during soil surveys and as such are often under-represented in databases, including the WISE and SOTER databases. However, bulk density data are critical for a wide range of analyses, e.g. to compute soil nutrient content or soil water content on a volumetric basis. In the context of the present study, which is based on the 1:1 M and 1:5 M SOTER data, it has become necessary to develop simple PTFs for the estimation of bulk density where measured data are lacking.

### Materials and methods

The general structure of the continuous PTF tested is:

Y = a.S + b.C + d.OC

in which:

- Y = bulk density, the dependent variable (g cm<sup>-3</sup>)
- S = silt content (wt %)
- C = clay content (wt %)

OC = organic carbon content (wt %)

a, b and c are parameters

The basic data were derived from the WISE database. First, possible outliers were removed from the data set as follows:

- silt <2 % or >98%
- clay <2% or >98%
- organic carbon <0.2% or >30%
- bulk density <0.9 g cm<sup>-3</sup> or >1.8 g cm<sup>-3</sup> (to exclude Histosols, Andosols and very compact soils)

The range in measured characteristics for this data set (N=4326) is shown in table 4.

	Silt	clay	orgC	bulk density
mean	31.6	34.3	1.12	1.40
st. dev.	18.4	20.1	1.4	0.22
covariance	58.4	58.3	119.65	15.44
minimum	2.00	2.0	0.20	0.90
1st quartile	16.0	18.0	0.38	1.25
median	29.0	32.0	0.66	1.42
3rd quartile	44.0	48.0	1.34	1.56
maximum	90.0	96.0	25.00	1.80

Table 4. Range in silt, clay, organic carbon and bulk density in data set.

#### Results

First, a best subset regression was made for bulk density, giving the 3 "best" models from each subset size listed. Table 6 shows that the regressions that consider either silt and clay *or* silt, clay and organic carbon gave the highest coefficients of determination ( $r^2$ ) for the considered data set (P<0.001). Based on this finding, full regression functions were then determined for these two combinations of dependent variables.

Table 5. B	est subset	regression	for bulk	density	(N= 4326)
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Р	СР	r² adj.	r <sup>2</sup>	resid. ss	model variables
1	3637.4	0.7229	0.7230	2411.57	A (silt)
1	3800.9	0.7173	0.7173	2461.08	B (clay)
1	14386.1	0.3489	0.3490	5667.43	C (org. C)
2	49.3	0.8478	0.8479	1324.10	AB
2	2968.0	0.7462	0.7464	2208.21	BC
2	3292.1	0.7350	0.7351	2306.38	AC
3	0.3	0.8495	0.8496	1309.47	ABC

The unweighed least squares linear regression of bulk density against silt, clay and organic carbon content is shown in table 6, giving an adjusted  $r^2$  of 0.850 (P<0.0001), with a standard error of the estimate of 0.55 and a residual mean square of 0.30.

predictor variables	coefficient	std. error	student's T	Р
silt	0.01870	3.433E-04	54.47	0.0000
clay	0.01723	3.003E-04	57.37	0.0000
org. C	0.04204	0.00605	6.95	0.0000

Table 6. Linear regression of bulk density against measured silt, clay and organic carbon content.

The unweighed least squares linear regression of bulk density against silt and clay content is shown in table 7, giving an adjusted  $r^2$  of 0.848 (P<0.0001), with a standard error of the estimate of 0.55 and a residual mean square of 0.31.

Table 7. Linear regression of bulk density against measured silt and clay content.

predictor variables	coefficient	std. error	student's T	Р
silt	0.01957	3.212E-04	60.93	0.0000
clay	0.01764	2.960E-04	59.59	0.0000

### Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be observed that the PTFs in tables 6 and 7 can be used to fill-in missing data in (derived) data bases which contain measured data on particle size analysis and organic carbon, keeping in mind the still large scatter (figure 1). Consideration of organic carbon in the model as a dependent variable did not markedly influence the model's predictive capability.



Figure1. Regression residual plot for bulk density as a function of clay and silt content.