

Map Unit Description

Weld County, Colorado, Northern Part

4 Ascalon fine sandy loam, 0 to 6 percent slopes

Setting

Elevation: 4500 to 6500 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 13 to 17 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 46 to 57 degrees F
Frost-free period: 130 to 160 days

Composition

Ascalon and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent

Description of Ascalon

Setting

Landform: Plains
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous loamy alluvium

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 0 to 6 percent
Drainage class: Well drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high or high (0.60 to 2.00 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 10 percent
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent
Available water capacity: Moderate (about 6.9 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability classification (irrigated): 3e
Land capability (non irrigated): 3e
Ecological site: Loamy Plains (R067BY002CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 8 inches: fine sandy loam
8 to 22 inches: sandy clay loam
22 to 60 inches: sandy loam

Minor Components

Olney

Percent of map unit: 8 percent

Otero

Percent of map unit: 7 percent

Rangeland Productivity and Plant Composition

Weld County, Colorado, Northern Part

| Map symbol and soil name | Ecological site | Total dry-weight production | | | Characteristic vegetation | Rangeland composition |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Favorable year | Normal year | Unfavorable year | | |
| | | Lb/Ac | Lb/Ac | Lb/Ac | | Pct |
| 4: | | | | | | |
| Ascalon | Loamy Plains | 1,700 | 1,200 | 750 | Western wheatgrass | 20 |
| | | | | | Needleandthread | 5 |
| | | | | | Sideoats grama | 3 |

Map Unit Description

Weld County, Colorado, Northern Part

20 Cascajo gravelly sandy loam, 5 to 20 percent slopes

Setting

Elevation: 4000 to 5000 feet
Mean annual precipitation: 11 to 13 inches
Mean annual air temperature: 52 to 54 degrees F
Frost-free period: 120 to 160 days

Composition

Cascajo and similar soils: 85 percent
Minor components: 15 percent

Description of Cascajo

Setting

Landform: Breaks, ridges
Down-slope shape: Linear
Across-slope shape: Linear
Parent material: Calcareous gravelly alluvium

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 5 to 20 percent
Drainage class: Excessively drained
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): High (2.00 to 6.00 in/hr)
Frequency of flooding: None
Frequency of ponding: None
Calcium carbonate maximum: 25 percent
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent
Available water capacity: Low (about 3.9 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability (non irrigated): 7s
Ecological site: Gravel Breaks (R067BY063CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 3 inches: gravelly sandy loam
3 to 24 inches: very gravelly loamy sand
24 to 60 inches: very gravelly sand

Minor Components

Stoneham

Percent of map unit: 14 percent

Otero

Percent of map unit: 1 percent

Rangeland Productivity and Plant Composition

Weld County, Colorado, Northern Part

| Map symbol and soil name | Ecological site | Total dry-weight production | | | Characteristic vegetation | Rangeland composition |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | Favorable year | Normal year | Unfavorable year | | |
| | | Lb/Ac | Lb/Ac | Lb/Ac | | Pct |
| 20: | | | | | | |
| Cascajo | Gravel Breaks | 1,500 | 1,000 | 700 | Sideoats grama | 25 |
| | | | | | Little bluestem | 15 |
| | | | | | Needleandthread | 10 |
| | | | | | Other perennial grasses | 10 |
| | | | | | Wheatgrass | 5 |
| | | | | | Other perennial forbs | 4 |
| | | | | | Other shrubs | 4 |
| | | | | | Sand dropseed | 3 |
| | | | | | Fendler threeawn | 2 |
| | | | | | Indian ricegrass | 2 |