

# Rangeland Productivity and Plant Composition

Douglas-Plateau Area, Colorado, Parts of Garfield and Mesa Counties

Map symbol and soil name	Ecological site	Total dry-weight production			Characteristic vegetation	Rangeland composition	
		Favorable year Lb/Ac	Normal year Lb/Ac	Unfavorable year Lb/Ac			
56: Parachute	Brushy Loam	3,000	2,000	1,500	Saskatoon serviceberry	15	
					Elk sedge	10	
					Mountain brome	10	
					Western wheatgrass	10	
					Columbia needlegrass	5	
	Irigul	Loamy Slopes	1,200	900	500	Letterman's needlegrass	5
						Mountain big sagebrush	5
						Mountain snowberry	5
						Bluebunch wheatgrass	10
						Bottlebrush squirreltail	10
	Rhone	Brushy Loam	3,000	2,000	1,500	Mountain big sagebrush	10
						Prairie Junegrass	10
						Saskatoon serviceberry	10
						Western wheatgrass	10
						Saskatoon serviceberry	15
			Elk sedge	10			
			Mountain brome	10			
			Nodding brome	10			
			Slender wheatgrass	10			
			Letterman's needlegrass	5			
			Mountain snowberry	5			
			Rose	5			

This report shows only the major soils in each map unit. Others may exist.

## Map Unit Description

Douglas-Plateau Area, Colorado, Parts of Garfield and Mesa Counties

### 56 Parachute-Irigul-Rhone association, 25 to 50 percent slopes

#### Setting

Elevation: 7600 to 8800 feet  
Mean annual precipitation: 18 to 22 inches  
Mean annual air temperature: 36 to 40 degrees F  
Frost-free period: 65 to 80 days

#### Composition

Parachute and similar soils: 35 percent  
Irigul and similar soils: 30 percent  
Rhone and similar soils: 20 percent

#### Description of Parachute

##### Setting

Landform: Mountains  
Landform position (two-dimensional): Shoulder, summit  
Down-slope shape: Linear  
Across-slope shape: Convex  
Parent material: Colluvium derived from sandstone and shale and/or residuum weathered from siltstone

##### Properties and Qualities

Slope: 25 to 50 percent  
Depth to restrictive feature: 20 to 40 inches to Paralithic bedrock  
Drainage class: Well drained  
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low or moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)  
Frequency of flooding: None  
Frequency of ponding: None  
Calcium carbonate maximum: 0 percent  
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent  
Available water capacity: Very low (about 2.8 inches)

##### Interpretive Groups

Land capability (non irrigated): 7e  
Ecological site: Brushy Loam (R048AY238CO)

##### Typical Profile

0 to 10 inches: loam  
10 to 25 inches: very channery loam, extremely channery loam  
25 to 29 inches: unweathered bedrock

#### Description of Irigul

##### Setting

Landform: Hills  
Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope, footslope, shoulder, summit, toeslope  
Down-slope shape: Convex  
Across-slope shape: Convex  
Parent material: Residuum weathered from sandstone and shale

##### Properties and Qualities

Slope: 25 to 50 percent  
Depth to restrictive feature: 5 to 20 inches to Lithic bedrock  
Drainage class: Well drained  
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low or moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)  
Frequency of flooding: None  
Frequency of ponding: None  
Calcium carbonate maximum: 0 percent  
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent  
Available water capacity: Very low (about 1.3 inches)

##### Interpretive Groups

Land capability (non irrigated): 7e  
Ecological site: Loamy Slopes (R048AY303CO)

##### Typical Profile

# Map Unit Description

Douglas-Plateau Area, Colorado, Parts of Garfield and Mesa Counties

0 to 6 inches: channery loam  
6 to 13 inches: very channery loam  
13 to 17 inches: unweathered bedrock

## Description of Rhone

### Setting

Landform: Hills, mountains  
Landform position (two-dimensional): Backslope, footslope, shoulder, summit  
Down-slope shape: Concave  
Across-slope shape: Concave  
Parent material: Colluvium derived from sandstone and shale and/or residuum weathered from sandstone and shale

### Properties and Qualities

Slope: 25 to 50 percent  
Depth to restrictive feature: 40 to 60 inches to Paralithic bedrock  
Drainage class: Well drained  
Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately low or moderately high (0.06 to 0.20 in/hr)  
Frequency of flooding: None  
Frequency of ponding: None  
Calcium carbonate maximum: 0 percent  
Gypsum maximum: 0 percent  
Available water capacity: Moderate (about 7.5 inches)

### Interpretive Groups

Land capability (non irrigated): 7e  
Ecological site: Brushy Loam (R048AY238CO)

### Typical Profile

0 to 10 inches: loam  
10 to 39 inches: channery loam  
39 to 55 inches: very channery loam  
55 to 59 inches: unweathered bedrock