SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF SOIL EROSION IN SWAZILAND.

A.M. Manyatsi

ABSTRACT
In this paper a spatial analysis was undertaken to identify the impact of the factors controlling soil erosion: land management systems, stocking pressure, soil erodibility, average slope of the land, and mean annual rainfall. A binary classification was applied to a broad land cover classes map produced from image classification to separate the land cover classes into “eroded lands” and “non-eroded lands” in the country. The relationships between the proportions of land eroded in each dip-tank area and the five factors controlling erosion were investigated. A case study site was selected to determine the distribution of soil erosion in relation to proximity to dip-tanks, watering points, and homesteads.

1 Department of Land Use and Mechanization, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Swaziland, Private Bag Luyengo, Luyengo M205, Swaziland. Email address: Manyatsi@uniswa.sz