

EROSIVE PROCESSES IN SOILS IN THE WEST OF SÃO PAULO STATE, BRAZIL.

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It was chosen an approach centrated in field observations to evaluate erosive processes. Such observations, in the form of photographic registers and field trips including flights over the area, were faced with cartographic and bibliographic information to reach at a comprehensive and realistic view of degrading processes related to erosion. The studied area is the basin of contribution to the lake of Sérgio Mota Hydroelectric Plant in the left margin of the Paraná River, in the west of the State of São Paulo, with approximately 28.000km². The soils degradation state in this region is generally considered a matter of inappropriate use, habitually examined by classical evaluating systems, as soil capability or suitability and application of USLE. It's considerate that alarming soil losses by erosion in the West of the São Paulo State are consequence of uses that does not match with the land capability. This also would be the reason for inefficiency of conservationist practices adopted. It was demonstrated that, for the considered area, such methods can be not enough or even inappropriate for orientation towards the control of erosive processes. Very often, these processes begin and grow up despite the disciplined soil use, as well they were noted in areas defined as not critical, like oxysoils in terrain gently undulating (large hills). The linear erosion, very common in the area, is probably related to the wearing back and the deepening of the fluvial channels phenomena. Such phenomena should have their origin in consequence of subsidence or neo-tectonic block movements.