Theory And Practice Of Soil Loss Control In Eastern China

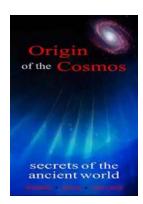


Soil erosion is a significant issue that threatens agricultural productivity and environmental sustainability worldwide. In Eastern China, a region known for its fertile lands, the theory and practice of soil loss control have been crucial in

maintaining the integrity of the soil and ensuring sustainable agricultural practices.

The Importance of Soil Loss Control

Soil loss refers to the removal of the top layer of soil due to natural factors like wind and water erosion, as well as human activities such as improper land management and deforestation. Eastern China heavily relies on agriculture, making it vital to implement effective soil loss control measures to minimize the negative impacts on crop yield and the environment.



Theory and Practice of Soil Loss Control in

Eastern China by J.C. Zhang(2011th Edition)

★ ★ ★ ★ 4 out of 5 Language : English File size : 750 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 190 pages Lending : Enabled

Hardcover : 300 pages Item Weight : 1.37 pounds

Dimensions : 6.14 x 0.69 x 9.21 inches



The Theory of Soil Loss Control

Various theories and models have been developed to understand and predict soil loss. One well-known model is the Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE), which estimates soil erosion primarily caused by rainfall and runoff. The USLE takes into account factors like soil erodibility, slope length and steepness, rainfall

erosivity, and land cover. By analyzing these parameters, experts can design strategies to combat soil loss effectively.

Practice of Soil Loss Control in Eastern China

In Eastern China, several practical soil loss control measures have been implemented with great success. One widespread practice is the construction of terraces on sloping farmland to reduce the velocity of runoff, thereby preventing soil erosion. Terraces are often combined with contour plowing techniques to further enhance protection against erosion.



Additionally, farmers have adopted agroforestry systems, integrating trees and shrubs with crop production. The planting of shelterbelt forests effectively reduces wind speed, which minimizes wind erosion and stabilizes the soil. These systems

also improve soil fertility, enhance biodiversity, and provide additional income streams for farmers.

Another prevalent technique used in Eastern China is the implementation of cover crops. Farmers sow fast-growing and erosion-resistant crops (e.g., legumes) during the fallow period to create a protective cover over the soil. These cover crops prevent raindrop impact, increase water infiltration, and enhance soil structure, thereby reducing erosion.

The Role of Government Policies

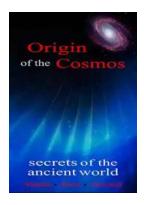
The Chinese government plays a crucial role in promoting soil loss control practices in Eastern China. Through initiatives like the National Soil and Water Conservation Program, policymakers provide financial support, technical assistance, and training to encourage farmers to adopt soil conservation practices. Additionally, a certification system has been established to reward farmers who implement effective erosion control methods.

Soil loss control in Eastern China is both a theoretical and practical endeavor. By understanding the underlying theories and implementing effective practices, the region has successfully protected its agricultural lands from erosion. With ongoing government support and increased awareness, Eastern China sets a positive example for other regions facing similar challenges, showcasing the importance of sustainable soil management for the future of agriculture.

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After the 1998 flood of the Yangtze River, one of the world's most important rivers, environmental experts realized that, to control flooding, much more attention must be paid to vegetation cover on bare lands, thin forest land, and shrub-covered land in mountain areas. In 1999, an environmental monitoring project of the forests in 11 provinces of the Yangtze River basin was undertaken. This book reports on soil loss prediction and the successful practices of soil loss control in eastern China in recent years.



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