

Name: _____

Geography

Case study: agriculture as a contributor to erosion

Agriculture is the greatest contributor to erosion. Both crop and cattle farming can lead to extensive soil erosion if proper farming techniques are not followed.

Monoculture is a farming technique that leads to soil erosion. When a single crop is planted repeatedly, the soil is leached of specific nutrients. When farmers do not revitalise the soil by growing crops that add nutrients to the soil, such as legumes, the crops eventually cannot grow. The soil lays bare and begins to erode.



Tillage is when the soil is aggravated by machinery or by hand. The soil is broken up and turned, making it loose. If vegetation is not planted quickly, the soil may easily be eroded. When farmers till the soil they must be prepared to plant their crops soon after. If there are no windbreaks or the tilling happens on a slope, the soil will erode quicker.

