

Soil

Land Use

Soils help plants grow



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Bad soil means no food for villages



Dry soil



Peanut crops



Peanut Crops



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Potato Farmers



Farming Steep Slopes



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This baobab tree in western Sudan can store water in its massive, corky, fire resistant trunk. Although soils might be fertile here, water limits agricultural production in many regions of the world. Photograph was included on the cover of *Soils, Society, and the Environment*, American Geological Institute, 2005.

Bad soil means no food for villages



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Soils must not be depleted because local food production is critical in some parts of the world as in this village in southern Sudan. Photograph included in *Soils, Society, and the Environment*, American Geological Institute, 2005.

Dry soil



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Both the climate and the type of soil must be considered when preparing a food plot in the dry, sandy soils of western Sudan. Photograph included on the cover of *Soils, Society, and the Environment*, American Geological Institute, 2005.

Peanut crops



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Irrigated groundnut (peanut) shown growing near Wad Medani, Sudan. This is the heartland of the central clay plains where the great Gezira scheme for irrigation was developed. Photograph was included in *Soils, Society, and the Environment*, American Geological Institute, 2005.

Peanut Crops



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Potato Farmers



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These potato farmers in the highlands of Ecuador harvest a crop that is suited to soil and climate. Photograph was included in *Soils, Society, and the Environment*, American Geological Institute, 2005.

Farming Steep Slopes



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Farming steep slopes as here in Costa Rica could lead to soil degradation and erosion. Photograph was included in *Soils, Society, and the Environment*, American Geological Institute, 2005.