

Table of Contents

In Press

Online First

Article Archive

SWR (13) 2018

SWR (12) 2017

SWR (11) 2016

SWR (10) 2015

SWR (9) 2014

SWR (8) 2013

SWR (7) 2012

Issue No. 1 (1-44)

Issue No. 2 (45-83)

Issue No. 3 (85-123)

Issue No. 4 (125-173)

SWR (6) 2011

SWR (5) 2010

SWR (4) 2009

SWR (3) 2008

SWR (2) 2007

SWR (1) 2006

Editorial Board

Ethical Standards

For Authors

Author Declaration

Instruction for Authors

Submission Templates

Copyright

Guide for Authors

Fees

Submission/Login

For Reviewers

Guide for Reviewers

Reviewers Login

Subscription

Surface runoff simulation to mitigate the impact of soil erosion, case study of Třebsín (Czech Republic)

P. Kovář, D. Vaššová, M. Janeček

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The relation between soil erosion and its redistribution on land strictly depends on the process of surface runoff formation during intensive rainfall. Therefore, interrupting and reducing continuous surface runoff, using adequate conservation measures, may be implemented in order to reduce the shear stress of flowing water. This paper describes the outcomes of the KINFIL model simulation in assessing the runoff from extreme rainfall on hill slopes. The model is a physically based and parameter distributed 3D model that was applied at the Třebsín experimental station in the Czech Republic. This model was used for the first time to simulate the impact of surface runoff caused by natural or sprinkler-made intensive rains on four of the seven different experimental plots. The plots involved in the analysis contain a variety of soils which are covered with different field crops. At this stage, the model parameters comprise saturated hydraulic conductivity, field capacity, sorptivity, plot geometry and surface roughness reflecting the Třebsín experimental plots. These parameters were verified on observed data. All seven plots had the same slope angle, but two of them were vulnerable to surface runoff due to their soil hydraulic parameters. There were rapidly increasing depths and velocities which consequently caused a higher shear stress for splashing soil particles downstream. The paper provides further information and data concerning the relationships between the depth of water and its velocity on the slopes of certain roughness. It also provides information concerning shear stress and shear velocity values, compared with their critical values depending on the soil particle distribution. This approach is more physically based than the traditional method of Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE).

Keywords:

hydrological model; shear stress; shear velocity; soil loss

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Ing. Markéta Knížková
Executive Editor
phone: + 420 227 010 373
e-mail: swr@cazv.cz

Address

Soil and Water Research
Czech Academy of Agricultural
Sciences
Slezská 7, 120 00 Praha 2,
Republic

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