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Results of a study conducted at Dehradun during 1986-91 on runoff and soil loss on 1.86 x 22.13 m runoff plots at 8 per cent slope have been presented. Methodology to estimate USLE-parameters is described. The average rainfall erosion index (R) for Dehradun is 1048 and soil-erodibility factor (k) is 124 kg/ha/unit of R. Cowpea cover effectively reduced runoff and soil loss by providing cover near the land surface and at early stages of crop growth. Similarly, *mandua* and *jhingora*, the native hill region crops, are efficient in respect of soil and water conservation. The crop management factor 'C' for cowpea was 0.31 and for *mandua* and *jhingora* was 0.17 and 0.18, respectively, which is close to the 'C' factor for grass species. The information on canopy of different crops and their combination is also presented.