

under rainfed conditions.

52. **Pratap Narain, Ram Babu, Rama Mohan Rao, M.S., Sehgal, J.L., Batta, R.K., Sarkar, D. and Thampi, C.J. 1993.** Soil Erosion Map of West Bengal. *Indian J. Soil Conserv.*, 21(2): 6-10.

Soil loss was estimated from 800 points at 10 km² grid distributed over entire state of West Bengal using Universal Soil Loss Equation. Estimated and observed data points were transferred on to 1:250,000 scale map and erosion rates were processed using SPANS-GIS System reclassifying the map in six suitable soil loss classes. The soil erosion rates in West Bengal ranged from less than 5 t/ha/yr in western parts of Chhotanagpur plateau and hilly regions having open forest in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Kooch Bihar. About 10 per cent of the area of the state revealed severe erosion (> 20 t/ha/yr) needing immediate attention to treat the area with soil conservation measures on priority. The areas under moderately severe (15-20 t/ha/yr) and moderate erosion classes (10-15 t/ha/yr) are about 6 and 13 per cent, respectively. About 70 per cent area of West Bengal lies under slight to moderate erosion classes depicting (< 10 t/ha/yr).