

Type III Insensitive to further reductions in pH. Percolating water is not buffered, and chronic or pulse acid discharge to streams and lakes occurs. Often found in combination with bedrock lithologies having low base status, resulting in significant acid input into the aquatic systems.

Type IV Acidification of these soils is unlikely due to their high buffering capacity.

Evaluation

Although sufficient for a regional perspective, the small scale of mapping removes highly sensitive (or insensitive) localized areas from analysis.

By comparing potentially sensitive soils with H^+ ion input, critical areas are highlighted. This is the only published sensitivity map to attempt this. When (if) specific H^+ ion loadings can be associated with particular effects, this procedure should prove effective in the final analysis.

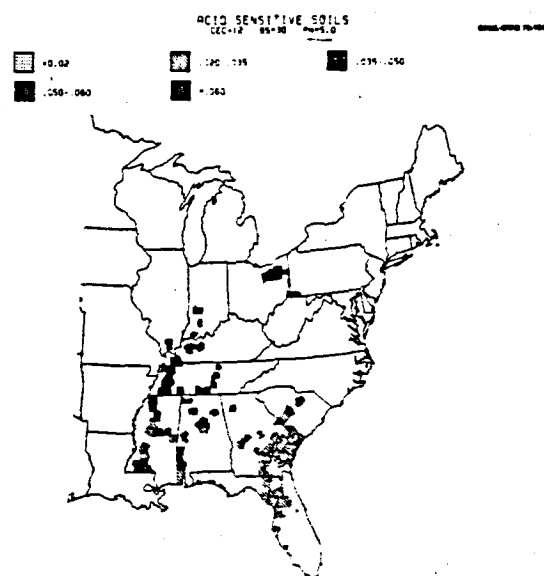


Fig. A4. Map of counties with soils judged to be sensitive to acid precipitation in the eastern United States. The average soil characteristics of these counties are low CEC (less than 12 meq per 100 g), medium to high base saturation (30-50%), and pH above 5. Sensitive counties are overlain with hydrogen ion loading rates.