

Bio. 463

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR:

Montgomery 2007

What are limitations associated with using sediment yield studies to estimate soil erosion? And how is one of the limitations related to a violent conflict that occurred on the island of Mangaia?

What is a “T” value and why have some expressed concern over their use in assessing the current risk of areas to soil erosion?

What does this study compare in order to evaluate potentially sustainable erosion rates? And what is meant by a sustainable erosion rate?

Describe the calculation they use to support the claim that “... it was not the axe that cleared forests but the plow that followed that undermined many ancient societies”.

If their analysis is correct, are conventionally plowed agricultural fields sustainable?