Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada — Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

Rural Municipality of Siglunes

Information Bulletin 99-20

Soils and Terrain

An introduction
to the land resource

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre

Canada

Rural Municipality of Siglunes

Information Bulletin 99-20

Prepared by:

Land Resource Unit,
Brandon Research Centre, Research Branch,
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Department of Soil Science, University of Manitoba.

Manitoba Soil Resource Section,
Soils and Crops Branch, Manitoba Agriculture.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada   Research Branch   Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science   Manitoba Agriculture

PREFACE

This is one of a new series of information bulletins for individual rural municipalities of Manitoba. They serve to introduce the newly developed digital soil databases and illustrate several typical derived and interpretive map products for agricultural land use planning applications. The bulletins will also be available in diskette format for each rural municipality.

Information contained in this bulletin may be quoted and utilized with appropriate reference to the originating agencies. The authors and originating agencies assume no responsibility for the misuse, alteration, re-packaging, or re-interpretation of the information.

This information bulletin serves as an introduction to the land resource information available for the municipality. More detailed information, including copies of the primary soil and terrain maps at larger scales, may be obtained by contacting

Land Resource Unit
Room 360 Ellis Bldg, University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2
Phone: 204-474-6118 FAX: 204-474-7633

CITATION
Land Resource Unit, 1999. Soils and Terrain. An Introduction to the Land Resource. Rural Municipality of Siglunes. Information Bulletin 99-20, Brandon Research Centre, Research Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Figure 1. Rural municipalities of southern Manitoba.

INTRODUCTION

The location of the Rural Municipality of Siglunes is shown in Figure 1. A brief overview of the database information, and general environmental conditions for the municipality are presented. A set of maps derived from the data for typical agricultural land use and planning applications are also included.

The soil map and database were compiled and registered using the Geographic Information System (PAMAP GIS) facilities of the Land Resource Unit. These databases were used in the GIS to create the generalized, derived and interpretive maps and statistics in this report. The final maps were compiled and printed using Coreldraw.

This bulletin is available in printed or digital format. The digital bulletin is a Windows based executable file which offers additional display options, including the capability to print any portion of the bulletin.

LAND RESOURCE DATA

The soil and terrain information presented in this bulletin was compiled as part of a larger project to provide a uniform level of land resource information for agricultural and regional planning purposes throughout Agro-Manitoba.   This information was compiled and analysed in two distinct layers as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Soil and Base Map data.

Base Layer

Digital base map information includes the municipality and township boundaries, along with major streams, roads and highways. Major rivers and lakes from the base layer were also used as common boundaries for the soil map layer. Water bodies larger than 25 ha in size were digitized as separate polygons.
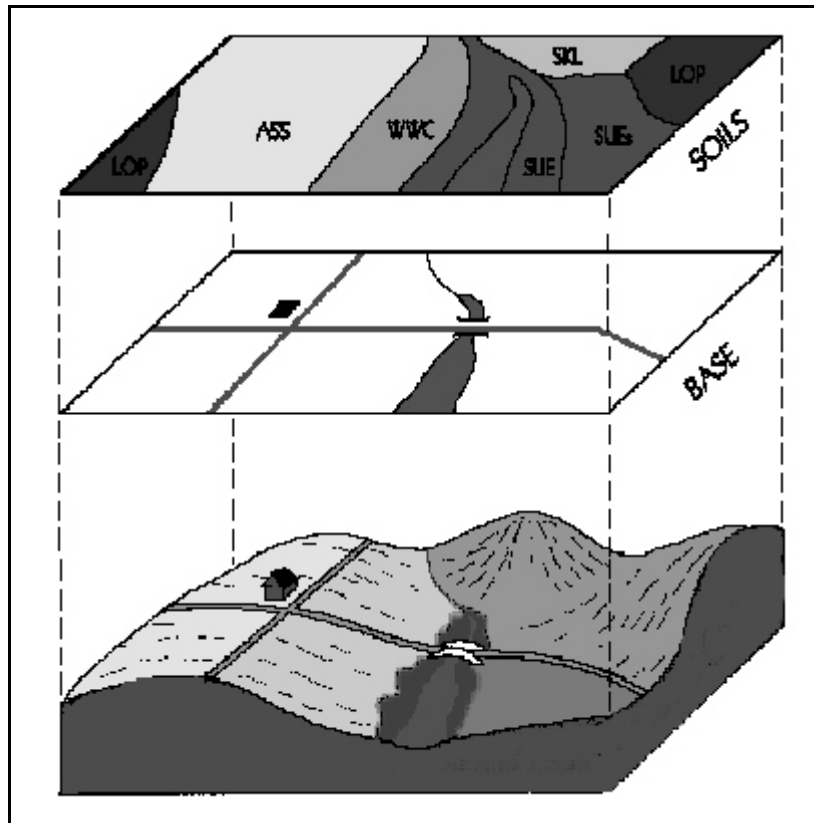
Soil Layer

The most detailed soil information currently available was selected as the data source for the digital soil layer for each rural municipality.

Comprehensive detailed soil maps (1:20 000 to 1:50 000 scale) have been published for many rural municipalities. Where they were available, the individual soil map sheets were digitized and compiled as a single georeferenced layer to match the digital RM base. Map polygons have one or more soil series components, as well as slope and stoniness classes. Soil database information was produced for each polygon, to meet national standards (MacDonald and Valentine, 1992). Slope length classes were also added, based on photo-interpretation.

Older, reconnaissance scale soil maps (1:126 720 scale) represented the only available soil data source for many rural municipalities. These maps were compiled on a **soil association** basis, in which soil landscape patterns were identified with unique surficial geological deposits and textures. Each soil association consists of a range of different soils ("associates") each of which occurs in a repetitive position in the landscape. Modern soil series that best represent the soil association were identified for each soil polygon. The soil and modifier codes provide a link to additional databases of soil properties. In this way, both detailed and reconnaissance soil map polygons were related to soil drainage, surface texture, and other soil properties to produce various interpretive maps. Slope length classes were also added, based on photo-interpretation.

SOIL AND TERRAIN OVERVIEW

The Rural Municipality (RM) of Siglunes covers an area of 99 422 ha (approximately 10.8 townships) located east of the Lake Manitoba Narrows in the central Interlake district of southern Manitoba (page 3). Ashern is the largest population and service centre in the municipality. Most of the area is sparsely populated although a slightly greater rural population density resides on the Dog Creek Indian Reserve situated along the southern boundary of the municipality.

The climate in the area can be related to weather data from Ashern located in the northern part of the municipality. The mean annual temperature is 1.1˚C and the mean annual precipitation is 483 mm (Environment Canada, 1993). The average frost-free period is 82 days and degree-days above 5˚C accumulated from May to September average 1527 (Environment Canada, 1982). An evaluation of growing conditions in this region of Manitoba can be related to estimates of seasonal moisture deficit and effective growing degree-days (EGDD) above 5˚C. The seasonal moisture deficit calculated between May and September falls between 250 mm and 200 mm with lower average deficits tending to occur to the north. The estimated effective growing degree-days accumulated from May to September range from 1400 in the south to about 1350 to the north (Agronomic Interpretations Working Group, 1995). These parameters provide an indication of moisture and heat energy available for crop growth and are generally adequate to support a wide range of crops adapted to western Canada.

Physiographically, the municipality is located entirely in the Interlake Plain section of the Manitoba Plain (Canada-Manitoba Soil Survey, 1980). Elevation of the land surface varies from 277 metres above sea level (m asl) in the northeast corner falling gradually (at a rate of about 0.8 m/km or 4.5 ft/mi) to 247 m on Lake Manitoba along the western side of the municipality. Although isolated areas exceed 270 m asl, local relief is generally under 3 metres and slopes are dominantly less than 2 percent. Terrain in the western part of the municipality has slightly greater local relief and slopes up to 5 percent (page 9). Surface drainage throughout the municipality is poorly developed as there are no continuous waterways in this portion of the Interlake district. Runoff from the ridges collects in

adjoining swales or in larger swamps, small water bodies or in Dog Lake. These surface waters gradually infiltrate to the groundwater or evaporate over time. As a result, much of the municipality is characterized by high groundwater levels.

Soil materials in the municipality were deposited during the last glaciation and during the time of glacial Lake Agassiz. The Interlake Plain is characterized by extremely calcareous, very stony, waterworked, loamy glacial till (page 11). The Lake Manitoba shoreline is marked by cobbly and bouldery beaches and very poorly drained areas of marsh and mineral soils with a thin peaty surface. The terrain surrounding Dog Lake is very flat and poorly drained and characterized by marsh and saline mineral soils. As a result of the gently sloping land surface and the ridge and swale relief pattern throughout the municipality, the majority of soils are imperfectly to poorly drained. Natural drainage through portions of the area has been enhanced by ditches to assist in removal of surface waters for agricultural purposes. Well drained soils generally occur in landscapes with slightly greater relief and are most common in the western portion of the area (page 13).

Soils in the municipality have been mapped at a reconnaissance level (1:100 000 scale) and published in the soil survey report for the Fisher-Teulon map sheet areas (Pratt et al., 1961) and at a 1:126 720 scale for the Grahamdale area (Mills et al., 1971). Detailed 1:20 000 scale map information is available around Ashern and for selected areas along the Lake Manitoba shoreline (Podolsky, 1981). According to the Canadian System of Soil Classification (Soil Classification Working Group, 1998), the dominant soils are Dark Gray Chernozems in imperfectly drained sites (Inwood series) occurring in close association with Humic Gleysol soils (Meleb series) in poorly drained sites and Eutric Brunisols (Fairford series) and thin Luvisols (Garson series and Stonewall complex) in better drained portions of the landscape (page 11).

Major management considerations are related to stoniness, topographic pattern, wetness and shallow organic soils. Several areas at slightly higher elevation are underlain by limestone rock at shallow depths and are usually excessively stony and bouldery (page 15). Seasonal high water tables (at 1 to 2 metres) and saturated soils are common. Surface water ponds in poorly drained swales and

organic terrain throughout the area. Excess wetness associated with the swales and depressions in the landscape is difficult to drain as the ridge pattern is generally oriented perpendicular to the slope of the land surface. Although well to imperfectly drained mineral soils are generally non-saline, many of the poorly drained soils surrounding Dog Lake are weakly to strongly saline.

Just over 48 percent of the soils are rated in **Class 4** for agricultural capability, primarily due to stoniness. **Class 6** soils affected by excessive stoniness and wetness occupy 16 percent of the area and organic soils which have very limited capability for agriculture in their native state cover 4 percent of the area (page 17). The irrigation suitability of soils in this municipality is dominantly **Fair** (55 percent) and **Poor** (26 percent). The organic soils (5 percent of area) are not rated for irrigation (page 19).

One of the issues currently receiving considerable attention is the sustainability of agricultural practices and their potential impact on the soil and groundwater environment. To assist in highlighting this concern to land planners and agricultural producers, an assessment of potential environmental impact (EI) under irrigation is shown on page 21. Just over 72 percent of the soils in the municipality are estimated to have a **Low** potential risk for adverse impact on the environment under irrigation. However, local soil areas underlain by limestone bedrock at shallow depths and areas of very poorly drained Marsh soils are considered to have a **High** potential. This EI map is intended to be used in association with the irrigation suitability map.

Another issue of concern to producers, soil conservationists and land use specialists is soil erosion caused by agricultural cropping and tillage practices. Areas with potential for water erosion are shown on page 23. About 81 percent of the land in the municipality is at a **Negligible** risk of degradation due to water erosion. A few local areas with slightly steeper slopes are estimated to have a **Low** potential for erosion by water. Current management practices for cultivated soils focus on maintaining sufficient crop residues on the soil surface to adequately protect the soils from both wind and water erosion.

The dominant land use in the RM of Siglunes is agriculture consisting mainly of ranching and feedlot operations for raising cattle. An assessment of the status of land use in 1994, obtained through analysis of satellite imagery, showed forage crops occupying 2 percent and annual crops just over 2 percent of the land in the municipality. A high proportion of land held in farms remains in grassland and woodland. The extensive areas of grassland and woodland (41 percent and 28 percent of the municipality respectively) provide forage and grazing capacity as well as wildlife habitat. Small wetland areas are widely distributed throughout the municipality occupying about 10 percent of the area. They provide wildlife habitat and are utilized for production of native hay in dry years. Various non-agricultural uses such as infrastructure for urban areas, transportation and recreation occupy nearly 2 percent of the municipality (page 25)

The majority of soils in the RM of Siglunes have moderately severe to very severe limitations for arable agriculture. Stony conditions on many of the till soils may be improved by stone clearing enabling cultivation on an annual basis. Till soils characterized by excessive stones and cobbles are best managed as native pasture. A major portion of the municipality has low relief and a dominance of imperfectly and poorly drained soils which are frequently saturated and subject to surface ponding, particularly during spring runoff or following heavy rains. In addition, the ridge and swale topography throughout the area impedes drainage improvement. Where the land pattern permits, improvement and maintenance of water management infrastructure is required to reduce surface ponding while maintaining adequate soil moisture for crop growth.

DERIVED AND INTERPRETIVE MAPS

A large variety of computer derived and interpretive maps can be generated from the digital soil and landscape databases. These maps are based on selected combinations of database values and assumptions.

Derived maps show information that is given in one or more columns in the computer map legend (such as soil drainage or slope class).

Interpretive maps portray more complex land evaluations based on a combination of soil and landscape information. Interpretations are based on soil and landscape conditions in each polygon. Interpretative maps typically show land capabilities, suitabilities, or risks related to sustainability.

Several examples of derived and interpretive maps are included in this information bulletin:

> Derived Maps
> Slope
> Generalized Soil
> Drainage
> Management Considerations
>
> Interpretative Maps
> Agricultural Capability
> Irrigation Suitability
> Potential Environmental Impact
> Water Erosion Risk
> Land Use

The maps have all been reduced in size and generalized (simplified) in order to portray conditions for an entire rural municipality on one page. These generalized maps provide a useful overview of conditions within a municipality, but are not intended to apply to site specific land parcels. On-site evaluations are recommended for localized site specific land use suitability requirements.

Digital databases derived from recent detailed soil inventories contain additional detailed information about significant inclusions of differing soil and slope conditions in each map polygon. This information can be portrayed at larger map scale than shown in this bulletin.

Information concerning particular interpretive maps, and the primary soil and terrain map data, can be obtained by contacting the Manitoba Soil Resource Section of Manitoba Agriculture, the local PFRA office, or the Land Resource Unit.

Slope Map.

Slope describes the steepness of the landscape surface. The slope classes shown on this map are derived from the digital soil and terrain layer database. Specific colours are used to indicate the dominant slope class for each polygon in the RM. Additional slope classes may occur in each polygon area, but cannot be portrayed at this reduced map scale.

Table 1. Slope Classes[1]

Slope Class	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
0 - 2 %	57594	57.9
2 - 5 %	27243	27.4
5 - 9 %	0	0.0
9 - 15 %	0	0.0
15 - 30 %	0	0.0
> 30 %	0	0.0
Unclassified	120	0.1
Water	14465	14.5
Total	99422	100.0

[1] Area has been assigned to the dominant slope in each soil polygon.

Slope Map

Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

R 10   R 9

Ashern

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

R 8   R 7

R 6W

6

325

6

325

514

235

235

514

235
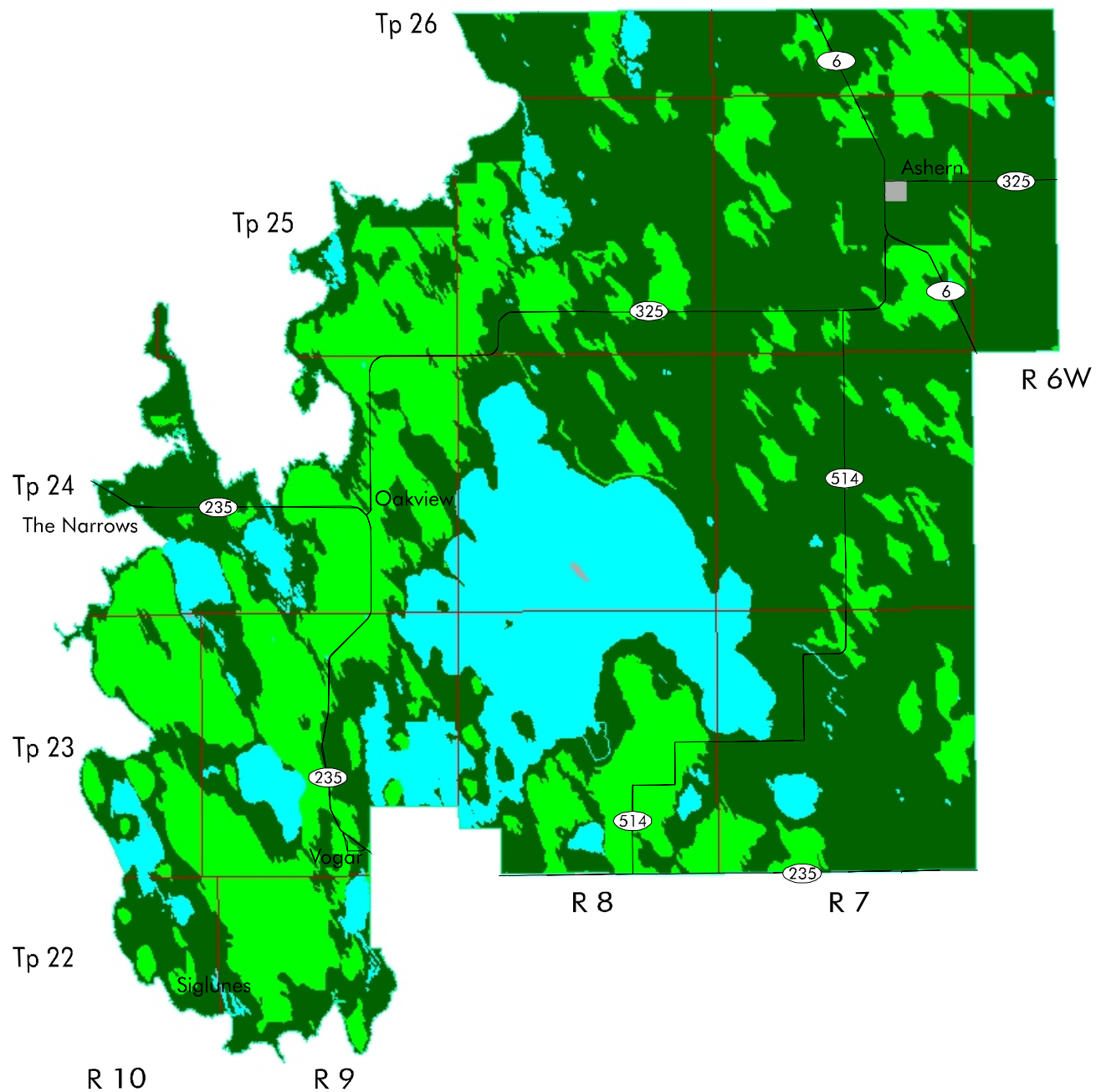
Slope Classes

■	0 - 2 %
■	2 - 5 %
■	5 - 9 %
■	9 - 15 %
■	15 - 30 %
■	> 30 %
■	Water
■	Unclassified
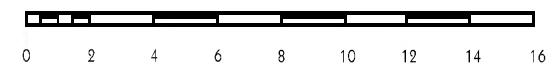
Scale

```
0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16
```

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
December 1999

Generalized Soil Map.

The most recently available soil maps were digitized to produce the new digital soil map. For older reconnaissance soil maps, areas of overprinted symbols or significant differences in topography have been delineated as new polygons. All soil polygons have been digitized and translated into modern soil series equivalents.

The general soil groups provide a very simplified overview of the soil information contained in the digital soil map. The hundreds of individual soil polygons have been simplified into broad groups of soils with similar parent material origins, textures, and drainage classes. The dominant soil in each polygon determines the soil group, area, and colour for the generalized soil map. Gleysolic soils groups have poor to very poor drainage, while other mineral soil groups typically have a range of rapid, well, or imperfectly drained soils.

More detailed maps showing the dominant and subdominant soils in each polygon can also be produced at larger map scales.

Table 2. Generalized Soil Groups[1]

Soil Groups	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Limestone Bedrock	69	0.1
Highly Calcareous Loamy Till (Gleysols)	17539	17.6
Extremely Calcareous Loamy Till (Black Chernozems)	2683	2.7
Extremely Calcareous Loamy Till (Brunisols and Dark Gray Chernozems)	54564	54.9
Highly Calcareous Loamy Till (Black Chernozems)	16	0.0
Marsh	4016	4.0
Shallow Organic Fen Peat	4561	4.6
Loamy Lacustrine	179	0.2
Sandy Loam Lacustrine	520	0.5
Sandy Lacustrine	9	0.0
Sand and Gravel	642	0.6
Salt Flats	39	0.0
Water	14465	14.5
Unclassified	120	0.1
Total	**99422**	**100.0**

[1] Based on the **dominant** soil series for each soil polygon.

Generalized Soil Map
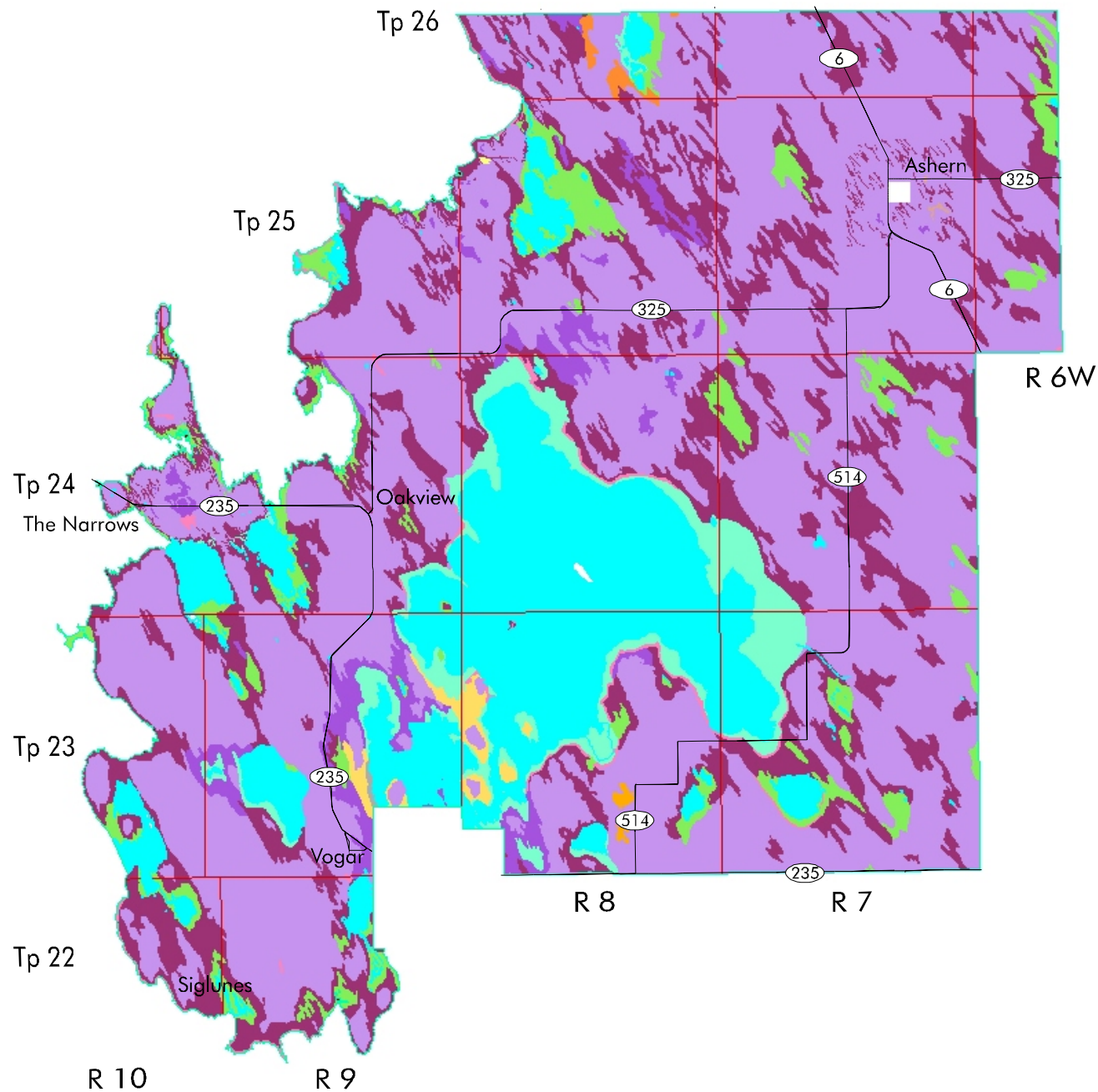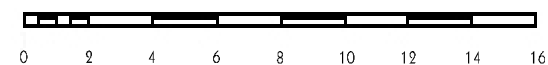
Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

Ashern

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

R 10   R 9   R 8   R 7   R 6W

Soil Associations

- Limestone Bedrock
- Highly Calcareous Loamy Till (Gleysols)
- Extremely Calcareous Loamy Till (Black Chernozems)
- Extremely Calcareous Loamy Till (Brunisols & Dark Gray Chernozems)
- Highly Calcareous Loamy Till (Black Chernozems)
- Marsh
- Shallow Organic Fen Peat
- Loamy Lacustrine
- Sandy Loam Lacustrine
- Sandy Lacustrine
- Sand & Gravel
- Salt Flats
- Water
- Unclassified

Scale

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
December 1999

Soil Drainage Map.

Drainage is described on the basis of actual moisture content in excess of field capacity, and the length of the saturation period within the plant root zone. Five drainage classes plus three land classes are shown on this map.

Very Poor - Water is removed from the soil so slowly that the water table remains at or on the soil surface for the greater part of the time the soil is not frozen. Excess water is present in the soil throughout most of the year.

Poor - Water is removed so slowly in relation to supply that the soil remains wet for a large part of the time the soil is not frozen. Excess water is available within the soil for a large part of the time.

Poor, drained - Water is removed slowly in relation to supply and the soil remains wet for a significant portion of the growing season. Although these soils may retain characteristics of poor internal drainage, extensive surface drainage improvements enable these soils to be used for annual crop production.

Imperfect - Water is removed from the soil sufficiently slowly in relation to supply to keep the soil wet for a significant part of the growing season. Excess water moves slowly down the profile if precipitation is the major source.

Well - Water is removed from the soil readily but not rapidly. Excess water flows downward readily into underlying materials or laterally as subsurface flow.

Rapid - Water is removed from the soil rapidly in relation to supply. Excess water flows downward if underlying material is pervious. Subsurface flow may occur on steep slopes during heavy rainfall.

Drainage classification is based on the dominant soil series within each individual soil polygon.

Table 3. Drainage Classes[1]

Drainage Class	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Very Poor	21342	21.5
Poor	796	0.8
Poor, drained	0	0.0
Imperfect	29722	29.9
Well	28786	29.0
Rapid	105	0.1
Rock	69	0.1
Marsh	4016	4.0
Unclassified	120	0.1
Water	14465	14.5
Total	99422	100.0

[1] Area has been assigned to the dominant drainage class for each soil polygon.

Soil Drainage Map
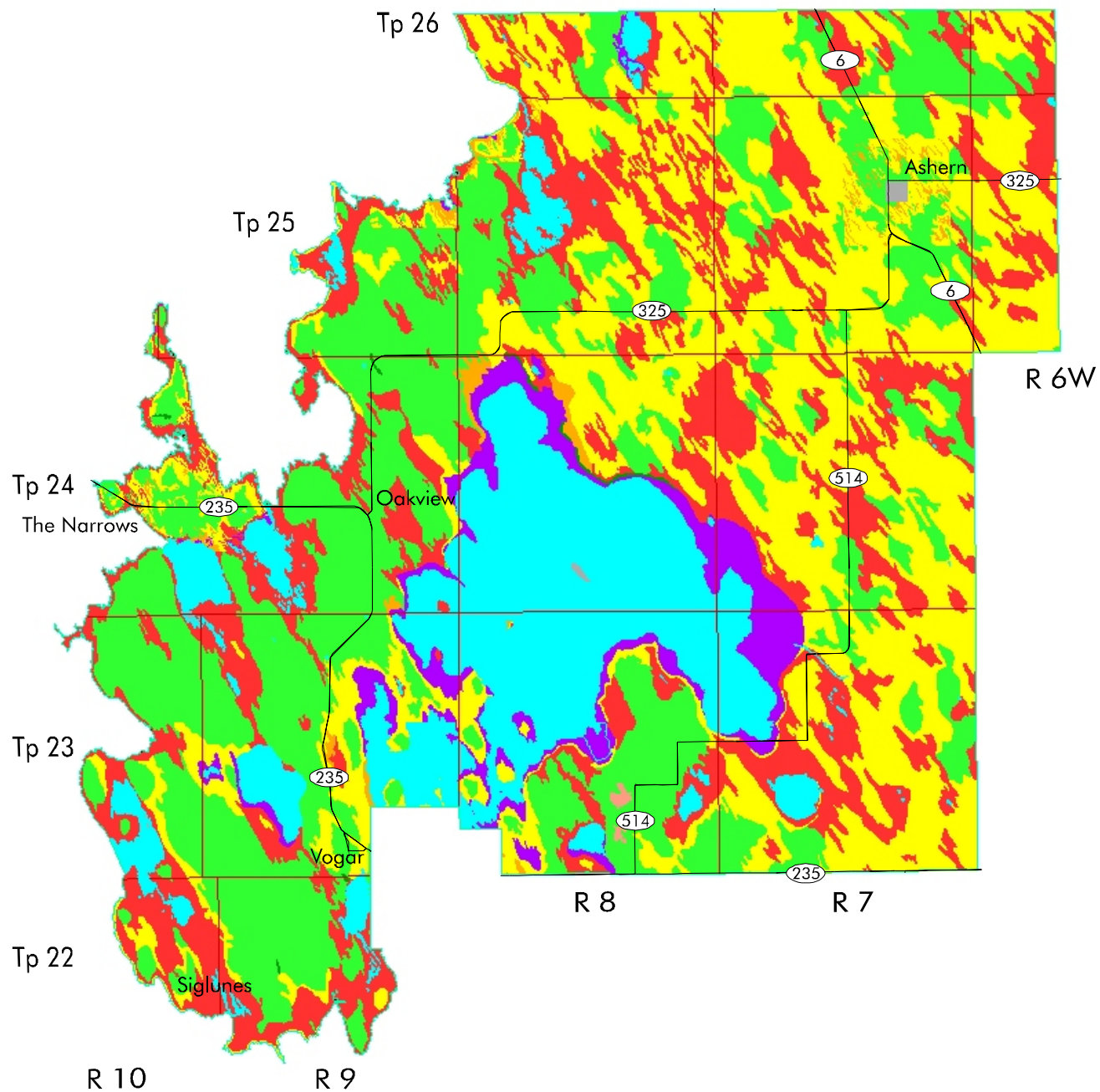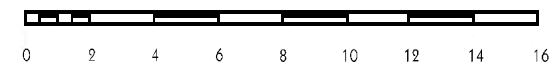
Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

R 10   R 9

R 8   R 7

R 6W

Ashern

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

6

325

514

235

Drainage Classes

- Rapid
- Well
- Imperfect
- Poor, drained
- Poor
- Very poor
- Rock
- Unclassified
- Marsh
- Water

Scale

0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
December 1999

Management Considerations Map.

Management consideration maps are provided to focus on awareness of land resource characteristics important to land use. This map does not presume a specific land use. Rather it portrays the most common and wide spread attributes that apply to most soil landscapes in the province.

These maps **highlight attributes** of soil-landscapes that the land manager must consider for any intended land use.

- **Fine texture**
- **Medium texture**
- **Coarse texture**
- **Topography**
- **Wetness**
- **Organic**
- **Bedrock**

F = Fine texture - soil landscapes with **fine textured soils (clays and silty clays)**, and thus low infiltration and internal permeability rates. These require special considerations to mitigate surface ponding (water logging), runoff, and trafficability. Timing and type of tillage practices used may be restricted.

M = Medium texture - soil landscapes with medium to moderately fine textures **(loams to clay loams)**, and good water and nutrient retention properties. Good management and cropping practices are required to minimize leaching and the risk of erosion.

C = Coarse texture - soil landscapes with **coarse to very coarse textured soils (loamy sands, sands and gravels)**, have a high permeability throughout the profile, and require special management practices related to application of agricultural chemicals, animal wastes, and municipal effluent to protect and sustain the long term quality of the soil and water resources. The risk of soil erosion can be minimized through the use of shelterbelts and maintenance of crop residues.

T = Topography - soil landscapes with **slopes greater than 5 %** are steep enough to require special management practices to minimize the risk of erosion.

W = Wetness - soil landscapes that have **poorly drained soils and/or >50 % wetlands** (due to seasonal and annual flooding, surface ponding, permanent water bodies (sloughs), and/or high water tables), require special management practices to mitigate adverse impact on water quality, protect subsurface aquifers, and sustain crop production during periods of high risk of water logging.

O = Organic - soil landscapes with organic soils, requiring special management considerations of drainage, tillage, and cropping to sustain productivity and minimize subsidence and erosion.

R = Bedrock - soil landscapes that have shallow depth to bedrock ($\leq$ 50 cm) and/or exposed bedrock which may prevent the use of some or all tillage practices as well as the range of potential crops. They require special cropping and management practices to sustain agricultural production.

Table 4. Management Considerations[1]

Land Resource Characteristics	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Fine Texture	**0**	**0.0**
Fine Texture and Wetness	**0**	**0.0**
Fine Texture and Topography	**0**	**0.0**
Medium Texture	**54367**	**54.7**
Coarse Texture	**643**	**0.6**
Coarse Texture and Wetness	**0**	**0.0**
Coarse Texture and Topography	**0**	**0.0**
Topography	**0**	**0.0**
Bedrock	**3673**	**3.7**
Wetness	**17578**	**17.7**
Organic	**4561**	**4.6**
Marsh	**4016**	**4.0**
Unclassified	**120**	**0.1**
Water	**14465**	**14.5**
Total	**99422**	**100.0**

[1] Based on the **dominant** soil series and slope gradient within each polygon.

Management Considerations Map
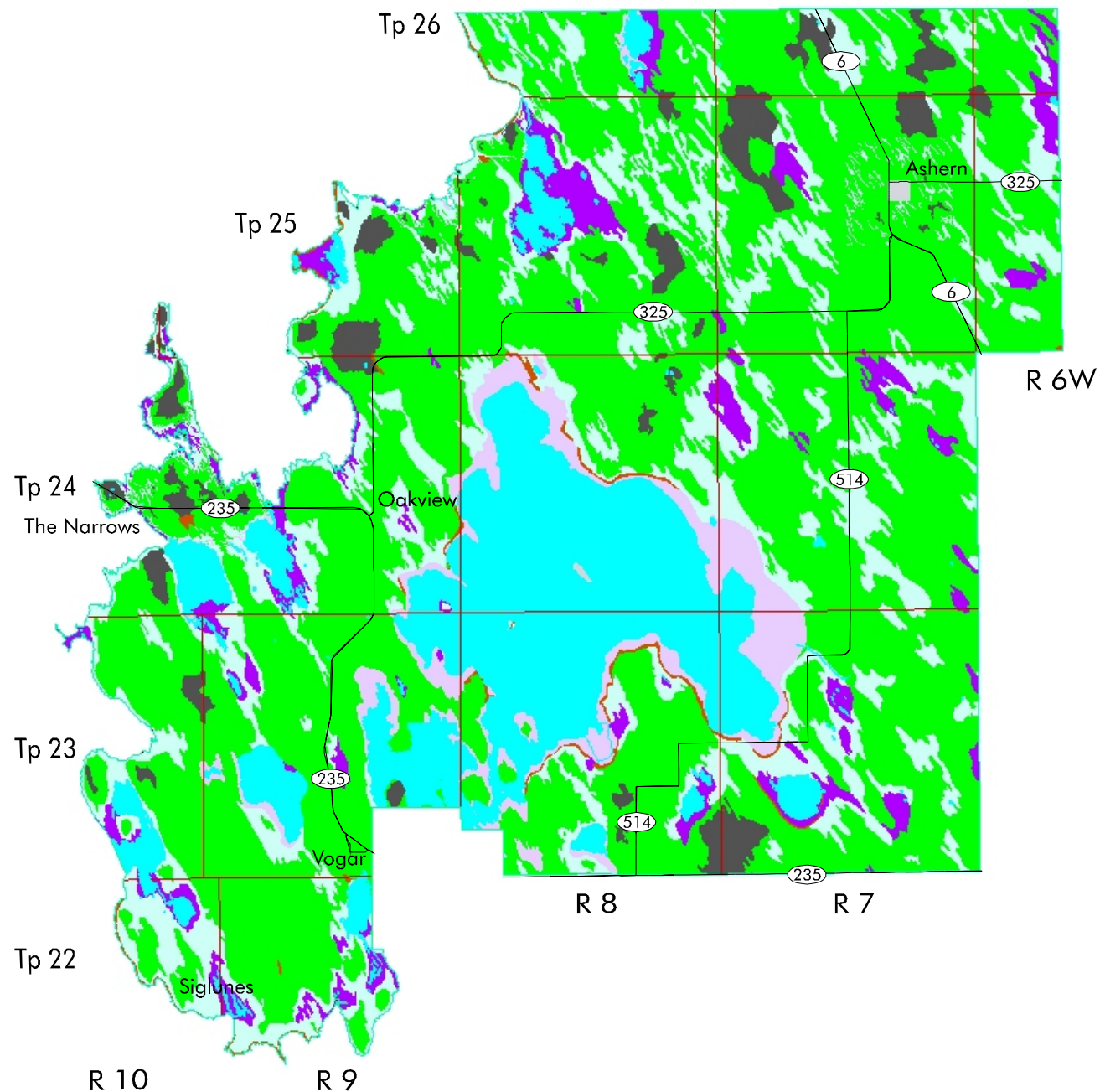
Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

R 10   R 9

R 8   R 7

R 6W

Ashern

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

6
325
6
325
514
235
235
514
235

Land Resource Characteristics

- Medium Texture
- Coarse Texture
- Coarse Texture and Topography
- Coarse Texture and Wetness
- Bedrock
- Topography
- Fine Texture
- Fine Texture and Wetness
- Organic
- Marsh
- Wetness
- Unclassified
- Water

Scale

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
November 1999

Agricultural Capability Map.

This evaluation utilizes the 7 class Canada Land Inventory system (CLI, 1965). Classes 1 to 3 represent the prime agricultural land, class 4 land is marginal for sustained cultivation, class 5 land is capable of perennial forages and improvement is feasible, class 6 land is capable of producing native forages and pasture but improvement is not feasible, and class 7 land is considered unsuitable for dryland agriculture. Subclass modifers include structure and/or permeability (D), erosion (E), inundation (I), moisture limitation (M), salinity (N), stoniness (P), consolidated bedrock (R), topography (T), excess water (W) and cumulative minor adverse characteristics (X).

This generalized interpretive map is based on the dominant soil series and phases for each soil polygon. The CLI subclass limitations cannot be portrayed at this generalized map scale.

Table 5. Agricultural Capability[1]

Class Subclass	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
2	**697**	**0.7**
2M	521	0.5
2W	176	0.2
3	**349**	**0.3**
3D	349	0.3
4	**49777**	**48.2**
4DP	49706	48.1
4M	16	0.0
4P	8	0.0
4R	39	0.0
4RP	8	0.0

Table 5. Agricultural Capability[1](cont.)

Class Subclass	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
5	**7927**	**7.7**
5M	124	0.1
5P	6497	6.3
5R	13	0.0
5RP	537	0.5
5W	757	0.7
6	**16835**	**16.3**
6P	61	0.1
6RM	8	0.0
6W	16767	16.2
7	**4616**	**4.5**
7M	493	0.5
7N	39	0.5
7R	69	0.1
7W	4016	3.9
Unclassified	**4031**	**3.9**
Water	**144682**	**14.0**
Organic	**4559**	**4.4**
Total	**103273**	**100.0**

[1] Based on the **dominant** soil series and slope gradient within each polygon.

Agriculture Capability Map
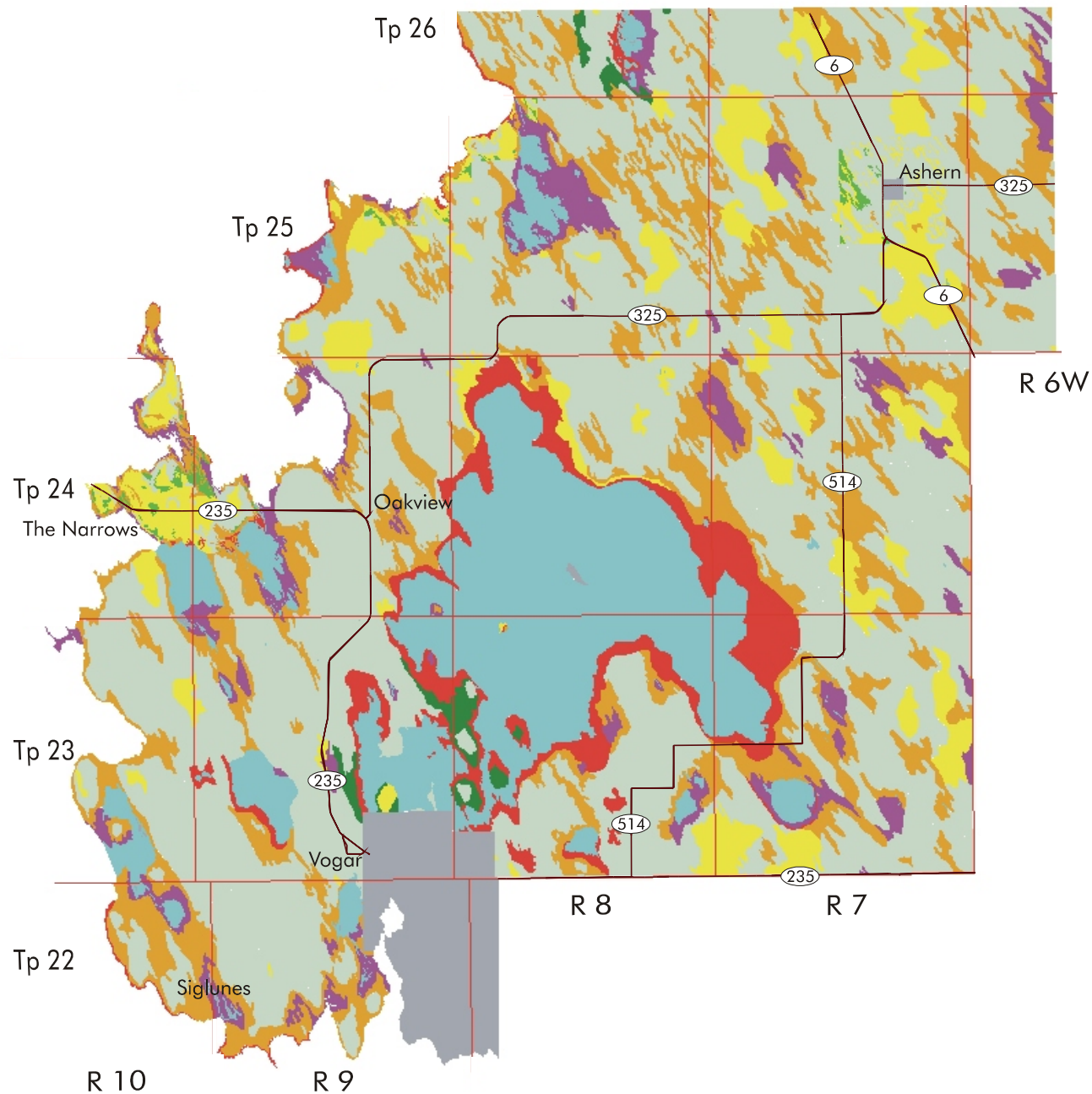
Canada Land Inventory Classes

- Class 1
- Class 2
- Class 3
- Class 4
- Class 5
- Class 6
- Class 7
- Organic
- Unclassified
- Water

Scale

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Winnipeg Manitoba
June 2003

Irrigation Suitability Map.

Irrigation ratings are based on an assessment of the most limiting combination of soil and landscape conditions. Soils in the same class have a similar relative suitability or degree of limitation for irrigation use, although the specific limiting factors may differ. These limiting factors are described by subclass symbols at detailed map scales. The irrigation rating system does not consider water availability, method of application, water quality, or economics of irrigated land use.

Irrigation suitability is a four class rating system. Areas with no or slight soil and/or landscape limitations are rated **Excellent** to **Good** and can be considered irrigable. Areas with moderate soil and/or landscape limitations are rated as **Fair** and considered marginal for irrigation providing adequate management exists so that the soil and adjacent areas are not adversely affected by water application. Soil and landscape areas rated as **Poor** have severe limitations for irrigation.

This generalized interpretive map is based on the dominant soil series for each soil polygon, in combination with the dominant slope class. The nature of the subclass limitations and the classification of subdominant components is not shown at this generalized map scale.

Table 6. Irrigation Suitability[1]

Class	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Excellent	0	0.0
Good	0	0.0
Fair	54392	54.7
Poor	25885	26.0
Organic	4561	4.6
Unclassified	120	0.1
Water	14465	14.5
Total	99422	100.0

[1] Based on the **dominant** soil series and slope gradient within each polygon.

Irrigation Suitability Map
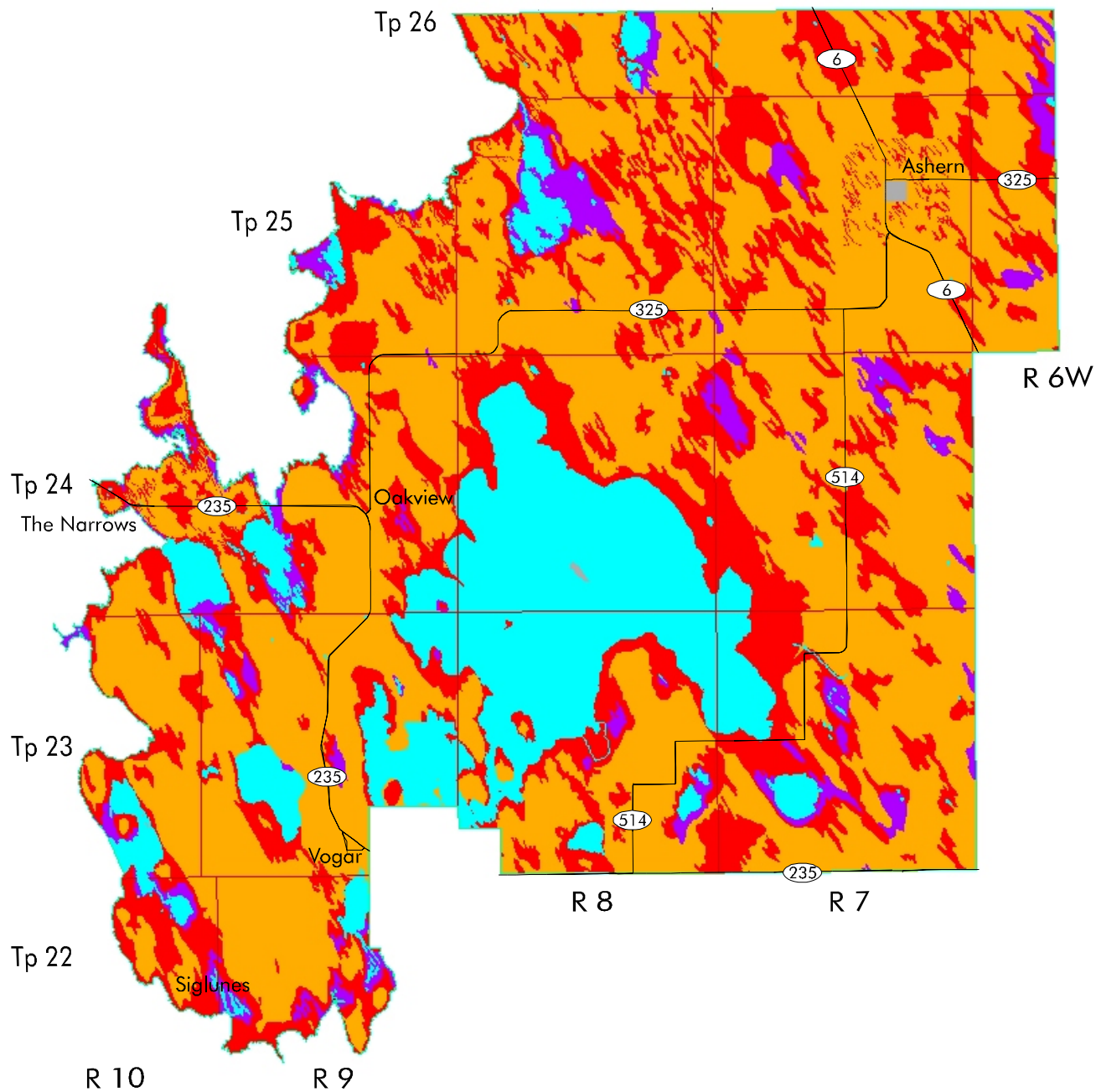
Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

R 10   R 9

R 8   R 7

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

Ashern

6

325

325

6

514

514

235

235

235

R 6W

Irrigation Suitability Classes

🟩	Excellent
🟨	Good
🟧	Fair
🟥	Poor
🟪	Organic
⬜	Unclassified
🟦	Water

Scale

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
December 1999

Potential Environmental Impact Under Irrigation Map.

A major environmental concern for land under irrigated crop production is the possibility that surface and/or ground water may be impacted. The potential environmental impact assessment provides a relative rating of land into 4 classes (minimal, low, moderate and high) based on an evaluation of specific soil factors and landscape conditions that determine the impact potential.

Soil factors considered are those properties that determine water retention and movement through the soil; topographic features are those that affect runoff and redistribution of moisture in the landscape. Several factors are specifically considered: soil texture, hydraulic conductivity, salinity, geological uniformity, depth to water table and topography. The risk of altering surface and subsurface soil drainage regimes, soil salinity, potential for runoff, erosion and flooding is determined by specific criteria for each property.

Use of this rating is intended to serve as a warning of potential environmental concern. It may be possible to design and/or give special consideration to soil-water-crop management practices that will mitigate any adverse impact.

This generalized interpretive map is based on the dominant soil series and slope class for each soil polygon. The nature of the subclass limitations, and the classification of subdominant components is not shown at this generalized map scale.

Table 7. Potential Environmental Impact Under Irrigation[1]

Class	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Minimal	**0**	**0.0**
Low	**71915**	**72.3**
Moderate	**41**	**0.0**
High	**8320**	**8.4**
Organic	**4561**	**4.6**
Unclassified	**120**	**0.1**
Water	**14465**	**14.5**
Total	**99422**	**100.0**

[1] Based on the **dominant** soil series and slope gradient within each polygon.
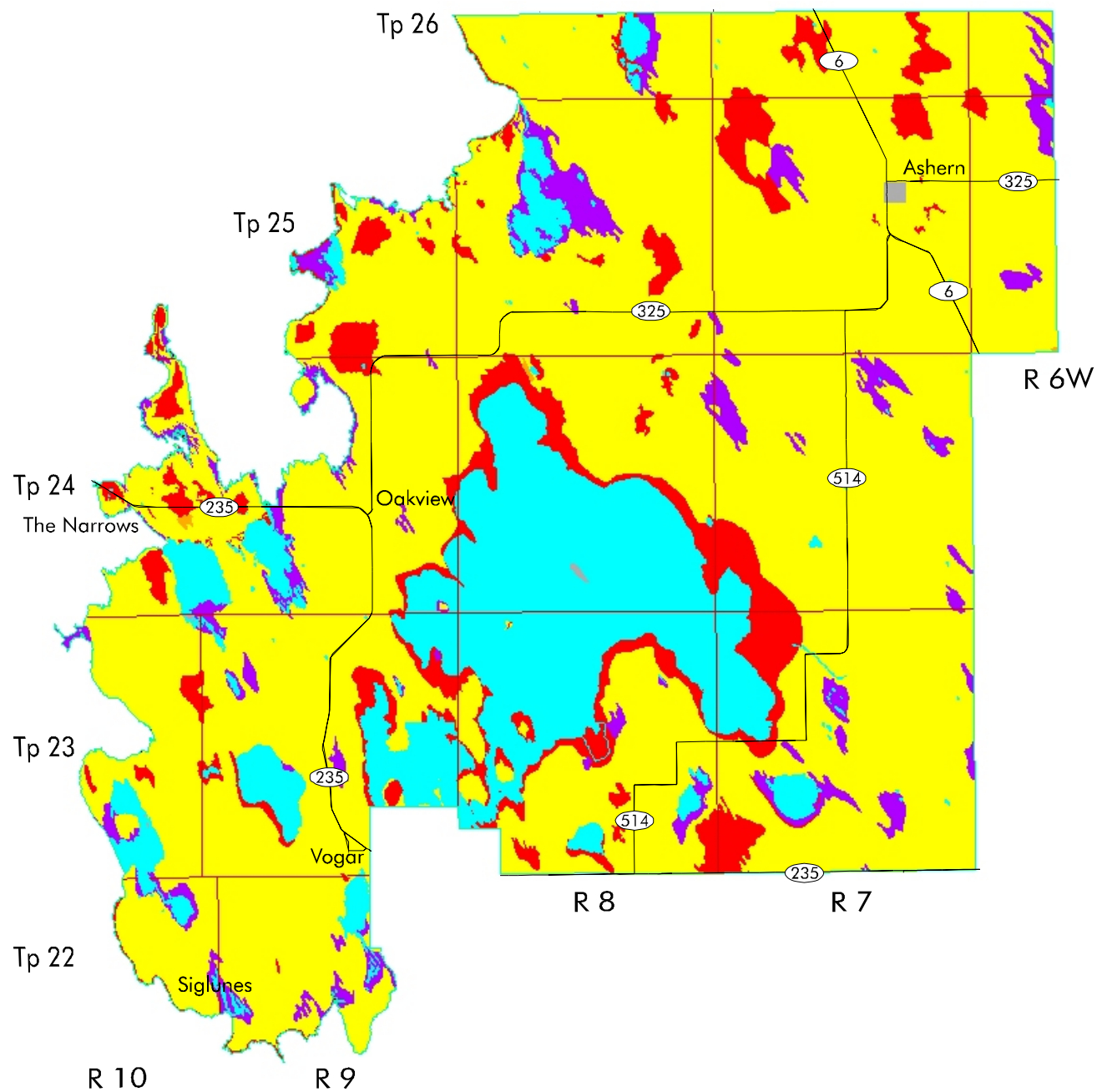
Potential Environmental Impact Under Irrigation

Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

R 10   R 9

R 8   R 7

Ashern

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

6

325

325

6

514

235

235

514

235

R 6W

Potential Impact Classes
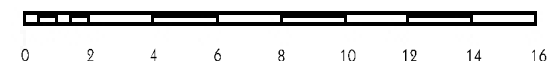
- Minimal
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Organic
- Unclassified
- Water

Scale

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
November 1999

Water Erosion Risk Map.

The risk of water erosion was estimated using the universal soil loss equation (USLE) developed by Wischmeier and Smith (1965). The USLE predicted soil loss (tons/hectare/year) is calculated for each soil component in each soil map polygon. Erosion risk classes are assigned based on the weighted average soil loss for each map polygon. Water erosion risk factors include mean annual rainfall, average and maximum rainfall intensity, slope length, slope gradient, vegetation cover, management practices, and soil erodibility. The map shows 5 classes of soil erosion risk based on bare unprotected soil:
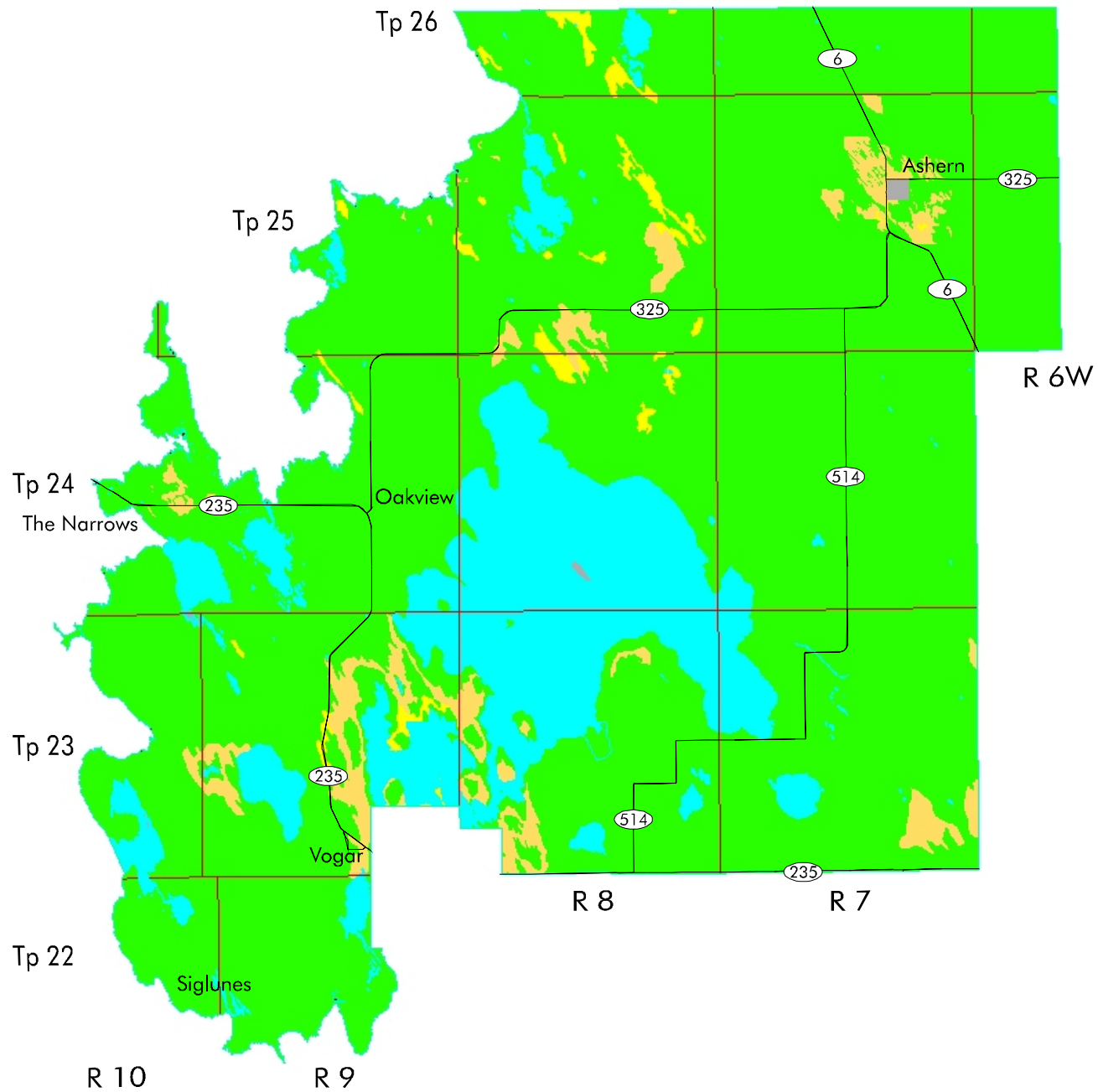
**negligible
low
moderate
high
severe**

Cropping and residue management practices will significantly reduce this risk depending on crop rotation program, soil type, and landscape features.

Table 8. Water Erosion Risk[1]

Class	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Negligible	**80174**	**80.6**
Low	**3530**	**3.6**
Moderate	**1132**	**1.1**
High	**0**	**0.0**
Severe	**0**	**0.0**
Unclassified	**120**	**0.1**
Water	**14465**	**14.5**
Total	**99422**	**100.0**

[1] Based on the **weighted average** USLE predicted soil loss within each polygon, assuming a bare unprotected soil.

Water Erosion Risk Map

Tp 26

Tp 25

Tp 24

The Narrows

Tp 23

Tp 22

Ashern

Oakview

Vogar

Siglunes

R 6W

R 10   R 9   R 8   R 7

Mean Risk Values

- Negligible
- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Severe
- Water
- Unclassified

Scale

0   2   4   6   8   10   12   14   16

(Km.)

Universal Transverse Mercator
(NAD27) Projection

Land Resource Unit
Brandon Research Centre
December 1999

Land Use Map.

The land use classification of the RM has been interpreted from LANDSAT satellite imagery, using supervised computer classification techniques. Many individual spectral signatures were classified and grouped into the seven general land use classes shown here. Although land use changes over time, and some land use practices on individual parcels may occasionally result in similar spectral signatures, this map provides a general representation of the current land use in the RM.

The following is a brief description of the land use classes:

Annual Crop Land - land that is normally cultivated on an annual basis.

Forage - perennial forages, generally alfalfa or clover with blends of tame grasses.

Grasslands - areas of native or tame grasses, may contain scattered stands of shrubs.

Trees - lands that are primarily in tree cover.

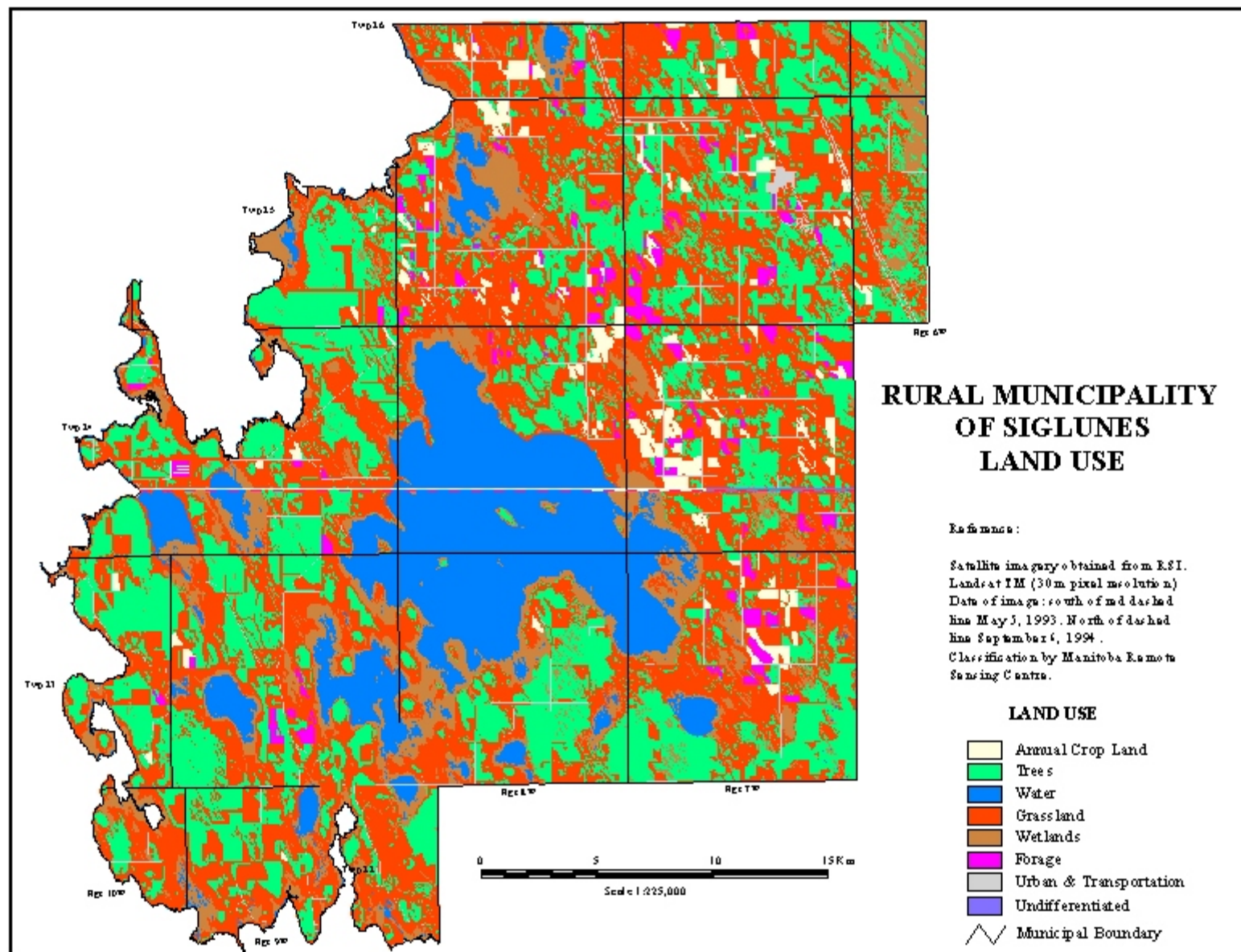**Wetlands** - areas that are wet, often with sedges, cattails, and rushes.

Water - open water - lakes, rivers streams, ponds, and lagoons.

Urban and Transportation - towns, roads, railways, quarries.

Table 9. Land Use[1]

Class	Area (ha)	Percent of RM
Annual Crop Land	**2510**	**2.4**
Forage	**2018**	**2.0**
Grasslands	42619	41.4
Trees	28782	27.8
Wetlands	10416	10.1
Water	14711	14.3
Urban and transportation	1954	1.9
Undifferentiated	57	0.1
Total	103067	100.0

[1] Land use information (1994) and map supplied by Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration. Areas may vary from previous maps due to differences in analytical procedures.

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF SIGLUNES LAND USE

Reference:

Satellite imagery obtained from RSI. Landsat TM (30 m pixel resolution) Date of image: south of red dashed line May 5, 1993. North of dashed line September 6, 1994. Classification by Manitoba Remote Sensing Centre.

LAND USE

- Annual Crop Land
- Trees
- Water
- Grassland
- Wetlands
- Forage
- Urban & Transportation
- Undifferentiated
- Municipal Boundary

Scale 1:225,000

REFERENCES

Agronomic Interpretations Working Group. 1995. Land Suitability Rating System for Agricultural Crops: 1. Spring-seeded Small Grains. Edited by W.W. Pettapiece. Tech. Bull. 1995-6E. Centre for Land and Biological Resources Research, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa. 90 pages, 2 maps.

Ash, G.H.B. 1991. An Agroclimatic Risk Assessment of Southern Manitoba and Southeastern Saskatchewan. M.A. Thesis. Department of Geography, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.

Canada Land Inventory. 1965. Soil Capability Classification for Agriculture. Canada Land Inventory Report No. 2. ARDA, Dept. of Forestry, Canada, Ottawa.

Canada-Manitoba Soil Survey. 1980. Physiographic Regions of Manitoba. Ellis Bldg., University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. Revised. Unpublished Report.

Canada-Manitoba Soil Survey. 1979. Ecological Regions and Subregions in Manitoba. Ellis Bldg., University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. Revised. Unpublished Report.

Environment Canada. 1982. Canadian Climatic Normals 1951-1980. Frost, Vol. 6; Atmospheric Environment, Downsview, Ontario.

Environment Canada. 1993. Canadian Climatic Normals 1961-1990. Prairie Provinces. Atmospheric Environment, Downsview, Ontario.

Irrigation Suitability Classification Working Group. 1987. An Irrigation Suitability Classification System for the Canadian Prairies. LRRC contribution no. 87-83, Land Resource Research Centre, Research Branch, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa

Land Resource Unit. 1999. Soil and Terrain Classification System Manual. In preparation. Ellis Bldg. University of Manitoba. Winnipeg.

MacDonald, K.B., and Valentine, K.W.G. 1992. CanSIS Manual 1 CanSIS/NSDB: A General Description. Land Resource Division, Centre for Land and Biological Resources Research, Research Branch, Agriculture Canada, Ottawa.

Mills, G.F., Smith, R.E. 1971. Soils of the Grahamdale Area. Soils Report No. 16. Manitoba Soil Survey. Winnipeg. 132 pp and 1 map.

Podolsky, G. 1981. Soils of the West-Interlake Area. Soils Report No. D36. Canada-Manitoba Soil Survey. Winnipeg. 84 pp and 1 map.

Pratt, L.E. Ehrlich, W.A., LeClaire, F.P., Barr, J.A. 1961 Report of Detailed-Reconnaissance Soil Survey of Fisher and Teulon Map Sheet Areas. Soils Report No. 12. Manitoba Soil Survey. Winnipeg. 80 pp and 2 maps.

Soil Classification Working Group. 1998. The Canadian System of Soil Classification. Third Edition. Publ. No. 1646. Research Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Wischmeier, W.H. and Smith, D.D. 1965. Predicting Rainfall-erosion Loss from Cropland East of the Rocky Mountains. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Handbook No. 282, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.