



Factsheet series

Path Erosion

Farmer Challenges

Erosion on paths and roads bordering farms is a major contributor of sediment to streams (Figure 1). Small roads and paths channel sediment directly to the streams.

Fact

Local MaMaSe studies have shown that sediment loss on Mara River Basin (Nyangores Catchment) farm footpaths was 3 times higher than on Maize fields, and 6 times higher than Napier Grass plots.

Farmer Solutions

Control - Erosion Control can be easily done by farmers using simple farm tools (pick, shovel) with an angled (10x10) 'dig & mound' technique at regular intervals (Figure 2).

Store More Water - Water from paths and roads can be directed onto farms to increase soil moisture in fields, or directed into small reservoirs for later use.



Figure 1. Path erosion channels sediment to the stream. Left untreated it can eventually form deep gullies.

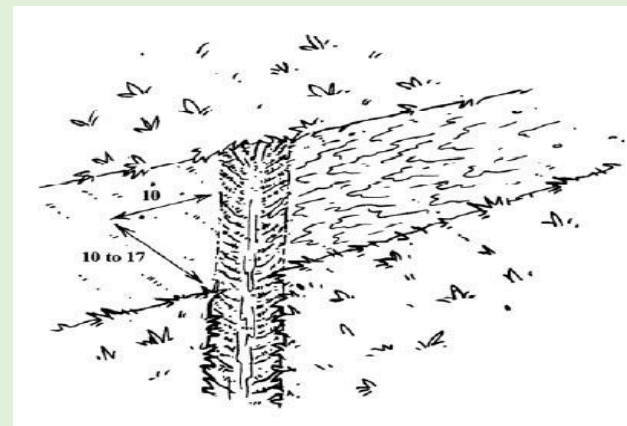


Figure 2. Drain to suitable area where water can soak in or flow away. Drainage dip cut at angle across path intercepts flow of water along path.