Soil Eluviation Encyclopedia Article

Soil Eluviation

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Soil Eluviation

When water moves through the **soil**, it also moves small colloidal-sized materials. This movement or **leaching** of materials like clay, iron, or calcium carbonate is called eluviation. The area where the materials have been removed is the zone of eluviation and is called the E **horizon**. Zones of eluviation contain fewer nutrients for plant growth. E horizons are often found in forested soils.