


A close-up photograph showing a cross-section of dark, rich soil. The top layer is covered with green grass and some dry, brown plant matter. The soil below is dark brown and appears to be composed of organic matter and small roots. The text "Human Impact on Soil" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

# Human Impact on Soil



A close-up photograph showing a cross-section of the soil surface. The top layer consists of green grass and other low-lying plants. Below the surface, the soil is dark brown and rich, with numerous plant roots visible extending downwards. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image, centered horizontally.

**Human activities can  
increase soil erosion which  
washes away the nutrients  
that make soil fertile**

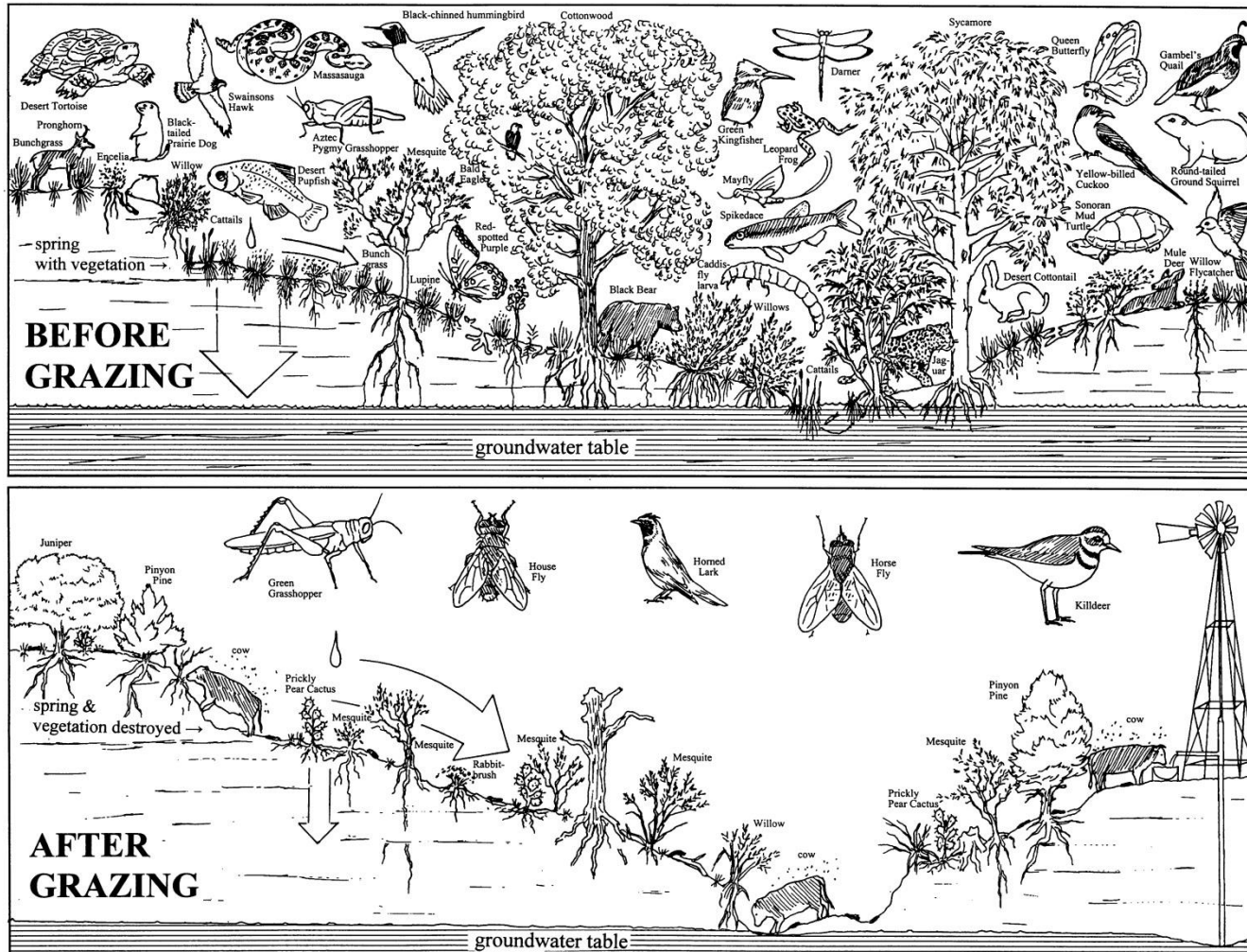
A faint, dark blue world map is visible in the background of the top section of the slide.


# **Human Activities that Increase Soil Erosion:**

- **Developing land for agriculture**
- **Cutting down forests (deforestation) for logging or land development (business, industry, homes, etc.)**
- **Overgrazing by cattle or livestock**



# How does overgrazing impact the soil?



A photograph showing a cross-section of the ground. The top layer consists of green grass and other vegetation. Below the surface, the soil is dark brown and appears moist, with some roots visible. The text is overlaid on the soil portion of the image.

**Human activities can  
also increase  
pollutants that get  
into soil.**










# Soil Conservation

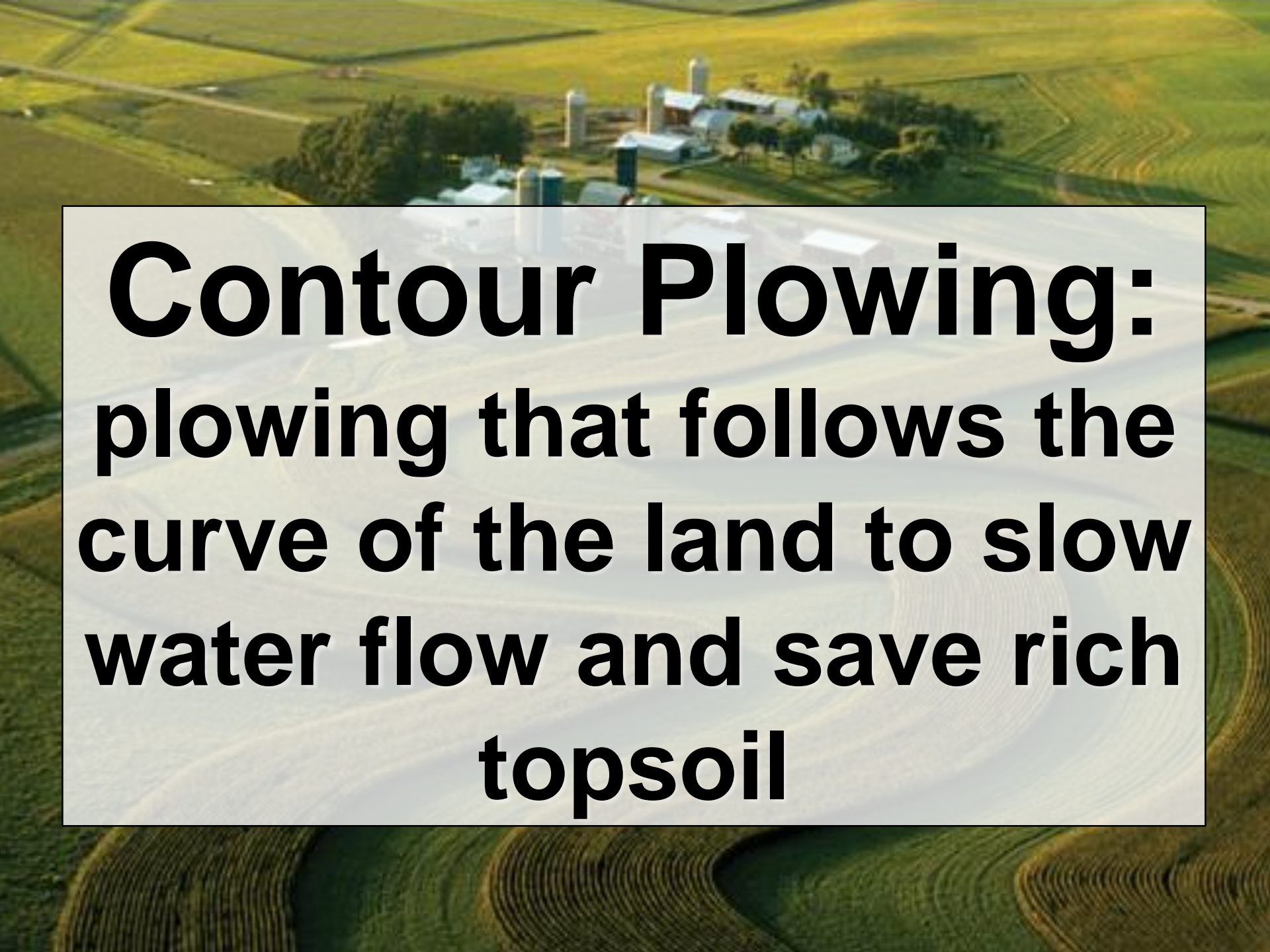
Nature is Speaking: I am Soil



An aerial photograph of a lush green hillside covered in terraced rice fields. The terraces are built into the slope, creating a series of flat, rectangular areas separated by low stone or concrete walls. The fields are filled with vibrant green rice plants, and the overall pattern resembles a series of steps or a staircase. The terracing follows the natural contours of the land, maximizing the use of the sloping terrain for agriculture.


**Terracing:**  
**make sloping land into**  
**a number of level flat**  
**areas resembling a**  
**series of steps.**






**Contour Plowing:**  
plowing that follows the  
curve of the land to slow  
water flow and save rich  
topsoil



An aerial photograph of a large agricultural field. The field is divided into alternating strips of yellow corn and green cover crops, illustrating the concept of strip planting. In the background, there are some farm buildings and trees under a clear sky. A person is visible in the lower right corner, standing in the green strip.

**Strip Planting:  
alternates strips of  
plants to reduce erosion  
by creating natural  
dams for water**





**No-Till Farming:  
way of growing plants  
from year to year  
without disturbing  
the soil**





**Crop Rotation:**  
**changing of crops in a**  
**sequence; it protects**  
**soil and decreases the**  
**population level of pests**

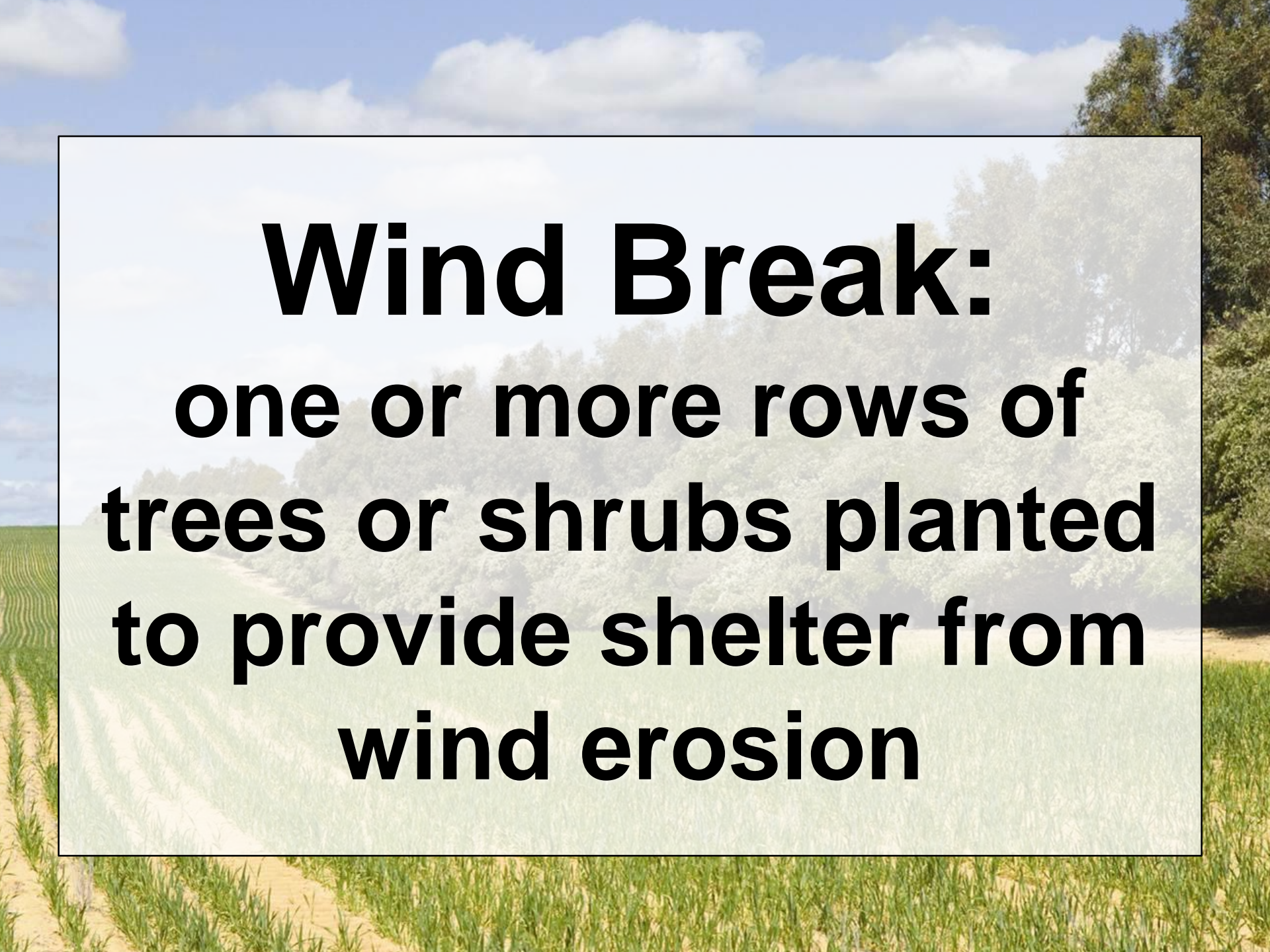






**Cover Crop:**  
**crop planted mainly to**  
**manage soil erosion,**  
**soil fertility, soil quality,**  
**water, weeds, pests, and**  
**diseases**





**Wind Break:**  
**one or more rows of**  
**trees or shrubs planted**  
**to provide shelter from**  
**wind erosion**





**Mulching:**  
**a layer of material put**  
**on the soil's surface to**  
**maintain moisture and**  
**health of the soil, and**  
**reduce weeds**



Which land use diagram below  
best illustrates soil conservation?  
Why?

